

EDMONTON NEWS

DONATION TO LIBRARY.

Premier Butherford has received an intimation from the government of Quebec that 757 volumes of Quebec literature is being forwarded by express for the library of the University of Alberta.

EXHIBITION DIRECTORS MEET.

Honorary directors were appointed at the meeting of the directors of the Edmonton Exhibition association as follows: The mayors of Edmonton and Strathcona, the presidents of the boards of trade of the two cities, the Edmonton commissioners, the city engineers and superintendent of the street railway, the president of the United Farmers of Alberta and the five stock commissionaires of the province.

CALAMITY AVERTED.

An alarm was turned in yesterday morning from the C.N.R. station. The chemical engine was quickly on the scene and the trouble located in a heated car that was sidetracked between Third and Fourth streets. Smoke was pouring out of the end of the car but a few minutes work with the chemical extinguished the blaze which originated from a coal oil heater being turned to high.

SENATE MEETS NEXT FRIDAY.

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Alberta will be held on Friday next, February 18th in the Collegiate Institute building, Strathcona. The principal business to come up for discussion will be the interior plans of the \$500,000 arts building, which is now in course of construction.

FINED \$200 AND COSTS.

On the prosecution of the license branch of the Attorney General's department, Elmer Williams was yesterday fined \$200 and costs before Magistrate Downes of Strathcona. The woman kept a small tent at the top of the hill on the corner between Edmonton and Strathcona. The prosecution will likely result in the house being closed up for a year and the authorities are of the opinion that the inmates of that house had some knowledge of the crime.

DEATH OF C. S. WEBB.

The death occurred after a brief illness from pneumonia, at the Misericordia Hospital, at 10:30 Sunday evening, C. S. Webb, 421 West 10th street, of Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Webb, 421 West 10th street. The funeral was held from the family residence at 9:30 o'clock Thursday at the Edmonton cemetery. The late Mr. Webb, who is survived by a wife and three children in Strathcona, was on a visit to his parents here when he contracted pneumonia. He was formerly a resident of Edmonton. He was a successful commercial traveler and held an excellent position in Strathcona.

ALBERTA ACQUIRES A POET.

R. J. C. Stead, the Manitoban, says the Winnipeg Telegram, who wrote the book of verse "The Earth Builders," which made such a decided hit recently, has moved from Manitoba to Alberta. Mr. Stead has been editor of the Cartwright Review for some ten odd years, and although he was born in Ontario, he has lived most of his life in Manitoba and in Southern Manitoba. He has accepted the secretaryship of a company in High River, Alta. His entering into business, however, does not mean that he intends to drop out of literary work. On the contrary, Mr. Stead figures that he will have more time to devote to the world of letters than at present.

WAINWRIGHT AS A TOWN.

With the object of taking steps to secure the incorporation of Wainwright as a town, the public works department of the province has taken the following steps: The village has grown considerably since then however, and Mayor J. Wainwright has been so successful in his efforts that an incorporation measure will carry. He is also taking up with the educational department the question of the best manner of extending the village. At the present time there are two temporary rooms but the trustees are contemplating the erection of a four-room brick building in the near future. Mayor Dawson is an optimistic man and he looks to be the best town along the line of the G.T.P. between Edmonton and Saskatoon.

STREET RAILWAY SUPT. BACK.

Street Railway Superintendent Taylor returned on Saturday from his eastern trip, where he was looking over car barns in a number of cities in order to get out the best possible plans for the new barns that are to be erected here this spring. Mr. Taylor got some good ideas and these will be incorporated into the details of the local structure. What impressed Mr. Taylor most on his trip was the excellence of the local equipment. The cars of Edmonton and Calgary, he said, are as good as any I have seen in the larger cities.

PROSPERITY ALONG C.N.R.

The broad smile of prosperity seems to be spreading over the northern part of Alberta and with a solid growth taking place in every new town on the C.N.R. the business people feel at a bright and profitable season is before them. In an interview with J. Lawson, representing Gault's Limited, who have a permanent sample room in this city, he stated that merchants were feeling very well satisfied with their prospects. The stocks in the various business houses were well cleaned up and wholesale accounts were with very few exceptions in the most healthy condition. Mr. Lawson said that the question of most importance affecting the towns was the question of publicity. Each district had its special features and felt that with a good advertising medium, it would be a very short time until the most desirable settlers would be pouring into these districts. The municipalities have caught the spirit of the government and in each town the idea of public ownership is a very live one. With the steps that have been taken to promote telephone and rural mail delivery the farmer has entered into these ideas with a feeling that everything that can be done is being done for his benefit.

Business in farm implements has seen a wonderful increase. Implement men report a phenomenal growth in their business and in some cases their companies will be taxed to their fullest capacity to produce the goods in time for the spring business.

COLIN FRASER IN FROM NORTH.

Colin Fraser, of Fort Chipewyan, arrived in the city yesterday accompanied by his son, James. Mr. Fraser has 100 marks and a silver fox and his own, and 30 marks and 20 mink for Ben Hurrell, another trader of Fort Chipewyan. The two Frasers were travelling light and just brought their best furs. The trip from Fort Chipewyan to Lac La Biche was accomplished by dog train and took days at the regular time allowed for the trip. Heavy snow was met with at Fort McMurray but the trap party had good weather during the whole trip. Mr. Fraser stated that the weather has been exceptionally fine at Fort Chipewyan this winter and only about four inches of snow has fallen. He met two parties of surveyors of the Great Waterways railway and they were not standing the snow very well. Travelling on snow shoes continuously had stiffened their legs so that they walked with difficulty.

SHOT UP KILLAM HOTEL.

Killam was the scene of considerable excitement for a few minutes on Thursday last when Bud Loftus, a former Mexican gun and fencer, fired several shots in the Killam hotel. Loftus had been drinking with another customer and decided to settle a dispute in the Mexican way. He pulled a gun and his companion believed that the argument was sufficiently advanced, and when the excitement had calmed down Bud proceeded to empty his gun at the Mexican. The hotel was cleared in a few seconds, but Bud had no intention of injuring anybody. When the excitement had calmed down Bud was sobered and gave himself up. In view of a previous good character he was fined \$25 and bound over to keep the peace. There was nobody hurt.

ARCHITECTS ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Alberta Association of Architects closed Saturday forenoon in the Windsor Hotel. There was a very interesting attendance, those present from the south including J. A. McDonald, of Lethbridge. The president, J. A. McDonald, and the following officers elected: President, E. C. Hopkins, Edmonton. First vice-president, J. A. McDonald, Lethbridge. Second vice-president, F. J. Lawson, Edmonton. Secretary, H. M. Whiddington, Strathcona. Treasurer, C. L. Gibbs, Edmonton. Council - R. Percy Barnes (Edmonton), James Henderson (Edmonton), H. B. Johnson, Edmonton, W. Lines (Edmonton), J. E. Wise (Edmonton), G. Fordyce (Calgary).

75 FAMILIES FOR HOLDEN.

Reliable information from Holden states that seventy-five Eastern Canadian families have been invited to Holden their destination within the next two months. "These families," said the man from Holden, "are not merely homeseekers; they are practical farmers, who recognize in Northern Alberta the best American farming country in the world and are coming prepared to commence farming operations on a large scale." The frontier of Alberta is moving north with rapid strides, and the fact that settlers with large outfits are taking the country makes a step that means considerable for the province.

ONTOARIO DIVISION OF DEFENCE LEAGUE.

Toronto, Feb. 11.—A start towards the organization of an Ontario division of the Canadian Defence League was made at a fine meeting tonight. Stirring patriotic addresses were made by Canadians of national reputation, including Byron E. Walker, George Tate Blackstock, K.C., Chancellor Burwash, Rev. Dr. Carman, Canon McNabb and Professor Baker. The league was supported by 1,000 members. Mr. Walker explained the object of the league was to awaken the public mind to the importance of national defence and the necessity of a strong military and naval superintendency of the Methodist church, declared "Canadian youths should have a training to fit them for the country's defence. He returned to form an Ontario division of the league was supported by 1,000 members. Mr. Walker explained the object of the league was to awaken the public mind to the importance of national defence and the necessity of a strong military and naval superintendency of the Methodist church, declared "Canadian youths should have a training to fit them for the country's defence. He returned to form an Ontario division of the league was supported by 1,000 members.

ROPE A GOOD FIRE ESCAPE.

Toronto, Feb. 13.—"I could go down a rope, and weighing 200 pounds, if you're in peril, you'll go down a rope all right." This was the report given by Premier Whitney to a disputation of commercial travellers association, who asked the government to compel the country hotels to install patent fire ropes.

FIRE IN TORONTO JAIL.

Toronto, Feb. 11.—Fire broke out tonight in the west wing of the jail from an over heated stove in the laundry. The fire department succeeded in extinguishing the flames. There were in the jail some 234 prisoners, among whom are more than a few desperate criminals.

C.N.R. HAS OPTION ON DUNSMUIR PROPERTIES

For \$100,000 McKenzie & Mann Obtain Option, Good to May 15, on All the Coal Properties of Lieutenant Governor, Valued at \$1,000,000—Other Railways After Land.

Victoria, B.C., February 15.—The story of one of the biggest options for sale ever given in Canada—that respecting the Dunsmuir coal properties on Vancouver Island, for \$1,000,000—is one in which three transcontinental railways figure, two of them American and the third Canadian corporation, and in the race for the prize the Canadian Company is within eight of the finishing line, several lengths in the lead.

Until May 15 William McKenzie and D. B. Mann, of Toronto, respectively president and vice-president of the Canadian Northern Railway, are dominant factors in the situation; if they buy the word is to be that date and put up the necessary cash, the vast coal mining interests of Hon. James Dunsmuir, formerly lieutenant governor of British Columbia, will be theirs. American railways occupying seats in the grand stand are the Great Northern and Northern Pacific.

Besides all the coal lands within the Equinault and Mainline railway belt there are included in the deal all the coal lands in the San Francisco area and Comox, also Vancouver Island, and the coal lands in the San Francisco area and Comox, also Vancouver Island, and the coal lands in the San Francisco area and Comox, also Vancouver Island.

HISTORY OF THE OPTION.

The history of the new famous option on Dunsmuir holdings dates back to January 3, of the present year, when it is reported, Hon. James Dunsmuir gave the option for the sale of interests involved to R. T. Elliott, lawyer of Victoria. At this point there is projected on the scene the personality of G. B. French, a Portland, Oregon, railway contractor, who is reported to be controlling interests of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific railways. It is alleged that French secured a second option, without the payment of any consideration, of the Dunsmuir holdings in his inside pocket. He started for St. Paul, accompanied, so it is said, by a man named Hoyle, when it is reported that French is not given, all interested in the plan to turn the Dunsmuir coal properties into a coal mine. Northern Pacific and Northern Pacific railway officials.

Second Option Cancelled.

About this time news travelled back to Victoria of the movements of G. B. French, who was then in St. Paul, and it is declared to have been by no means discouraging, the result of the visit to the headquarters of J. J. Hill being the securing of transportation to New York, where certain negotiations were being conducted. A heart to heart talk concerning the merits of the property they were offering.

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BOILERS EXPLODE IN TORPEDO DESTROYER

Seven Men Badly Scalded, Two Probably Fatally, When Tube Burst on Board the Hopkins, as Result of Being Plugged by Man for Revenge—Searching Investigation to be Made.

San Diego, Cal., Feb. 15.—As the result of an explosion of a boiler tube in the forward fire room of the torpedo boat destroyer Hopkins about eight o'clock yesterday, seven men were badly scalded, two of them being probably fatally burned. The Hopkins was under Commander L. J. Fredericks. The injured are: R. E. Taylor, first class fireman, fatality; B. Carletto, second class fireman, fatality; J. F. Hunt, C. F. water tender, A. E. Clark, C. F. water tender, G. B. McKel, first class fireman, J. J. Brown, coal passer. All the injured were taken to a hospital in this city, where it was learned tonight, there was little if any hope, for Taylor and Carletto.

The explosion occurred while the vessel was in the harbor getting up steam preparatory to sailing with the other vessels of the fleet for San Pedro. Without warning the boiler exploded, scalding the men who were in the room. The injured were rescued by the crew of the ship.

Desperate attempts were made to enter the room before the steam cleared. R. E. Bonney, a water tender, was held head downward over the port side by two sailors, from whom the injured were rescued by the crew of the ship. A similar feat was performed on the starboard side, by a mechanic. The injured men were hurried to the hospital, where a corps of doctors and nurses dressed their burns, and did all that was possible to ease their terrible sufferings. After repairs to the boiler, and with a new crew in the forward fire room, the Hopkins sailed with the rest of the fleet at 1.30 for San Pedro, where a court of inquiry will be held to inquire into the cause of the disaster.

It was learned here today that six weeks ago, before the torpedo boat Hopkins sailed for San Pedro, the Constructor Evans received a letter warning him to "look out for the Hopkins."

After receiving this letter, Evans had the Hopkins overhauled and the discovery was made that some of the boiler tubes were stuffed with old iron, metal, wood and other rubbish. The tubes were cleaned out and taken out, but it is believed that some of the following the disastrous explosion in San Diego Bay, today, that one of them may have been overlooked or not entirely cleaned out. Naval engineers, this afternoon said that one of the stuffed tubes might have been used several times without damage before an explosion would have been caused. When the letter was received the constructor was lined up for a heart to heart talk concerning the merits of the property they were offering.

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SERIES OF ACCIDENTS BEFELL PUROQUI PAS

French Antarctic Expedition Steamer Badly Buffeted by Icebergs—Expedition Met Every Obstacle in the Antarctic—Made Careful Operations. Punta Arenas, Chile, Feb. 13.—Further details have been received here of the voyage of the Puroqui Pas, which is now returning with Dr. Jean M. Charcot's Antarctic expedition. The Puroqui Pas on reaching the region of ice on her trip to the south stranded on the coast of Graham Land, but was refloated after three days. On the resumption of the voyage the steamer met with a long series of accidents. She was in collision with a number of icebergs, and lost her rudder, owing to the pressure of the ice. The crew however, managed to construct a jury rudder.

Demand Bureau of Mines.

New York, Feb. 13.—An official announcement was made today by the United Mine Workers of America that it intends bringing pressure to bear on the United States senate for the passage of a bill to establish a bureau of mines. Such a measure has already passed the House. The possibility that such an accident might have been caused by the man seeking vengeance at the risk of the lives of the boiler room crew, caused consternation. Officials declined to discuss the explosion, but it is known that there is a feeling of great anxiety at the navy yard this afternoon.

Most Drunken City in Canada.

Port Arthur, Ont., Feb. 15.—The police commission has decided to refuse in future to allow the chief of police to give out monthly reports of arrests because the figures last time were so large that the papers described Port Arthur as the most drunken city in Canada.

New Nearing Nicaragua Capital.

Bluefields, Nicaragua, Feb. 8, via Galveston.—It is reported that Gen. Chamorro has decided to build a new city. It is also said that President Madriz is sending out large reports of victories in order to encourage his followers, and to induce desertions from the revolutionary ranks. General Estrada is in constant communication with his forces in the interior and has heard of no engagements since Feb. 3.

No Second for Votes for Women.

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 10.—Alban Stedholme, labor member in the legislature, has so far been unable to get a second for his votes for women's bill. A suffrage deputiation is promised for the near future. In addition to the Ontario campaign, the governments of Quebec, Manitoba and Nova Scotia will be approached on the woman suffrage question.

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Canada Remove German Sur

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 16.—A preliminary trade agreement between Canada and Germany was signed today by Karl Laue, Imperial German minister for Canada, and Hon. W. S. E. Minister of Finance. This agreement evidently brings to an end the trade differences between the two countries, which arose in 1898 when the German government cancelled the products of the manufacture of Canada, enumerated upon their importation into Germany or after March 1st, next. It also provides for the termination of the German tariff duties which had been in force since 1898. The question of a general convention for the regulation of commercial relations between Germany and Canada has been discussed for some time to a time that may be mutually convenient. It is also provided that no other higher convention such as is contemplated but not entered into, then either in principle or may terminate the German tariff duties which had been in force since 1898.

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