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PLOT TO DEFEAT RECIPROcity

Annexation Bogey Being Worked by Its Opponents

SOME STRAIGHT TALK

Open Charge is Made in Washington—Bennet's Fool Speech First Move in Campaign—Tory Toronto Stands by its Traditions

(Canadian Press) Washington, Feb. 17.—That the opponents of the reciprocity agreement between the U. S. and Canada are plotting to defeat the measure by stirring up bitter opposition to the measure in Canada and Great Britain, based upon fears of annexation, was openly charged today by friends of the administration.

They declared that the resolution presented yesterday by representative Bennett of New York, calling upon the president to take steps relative to annexation, was the first move in the campaign to have the reciprocity agreement null and void.

Representative Bennett is one of the chief anti-reciprocity leaders in the house and students of politics claim to see in his tactics the full scope of his campaign against the agreement. The agreement's chief opponents evidently concluding that the agreement will pass the senate, are determined to use every means to prevent its passage in Canada.

Mr. Bennett is trying to defeat this bill by indirect methods, he declared. "The Canadian negotiators of the reciprocity agreement will naturally be handicapped in their efforts to have the measure enacted at Ottawa as a result of this absurd talk of annexation."

(Continued on page 3, sixth column)

STEAMERS IN COLLISION; 13 DROWNED

(Canadian Press) London, Feb. 17.—A collision on the east coast resulted in the sinking of the steamer Montpark from Cadiz for Yarmouth. Thirteen of the crew are reported drowned.

KING NICHOLAS SINKING

(Canadian Press) Kettling, Montenegro, Feb. 17.—(Canadian Press)—The family of King Nicholas was summoned to the royal palace today. Specialists from Vienna arrived last night and attempted to stop the flow of blood on Monday. A slight cessation was noticed, but the king steadily grew weaker and because of his advanced years no hope was held out for his recovery.

WEATHER BULLETIN

Issued by authority of the department of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa, Feb. 17, 1911.

9 A. M. WEATHER REPORTS

Temperatures Past 24 Hours.

Forecast—Fresh to strong southerly winds, milder, Saturday, southerly winds, mild with light local rains.

Saint John Observatory.

The time ball on Customs building is hoisted half its elevation at 12:55, full elevation at 1:20, and drops at 1 p. m.

Local Weather Report at Noon.

Highest temperature during last 24 hrs. 32

Lowest temperature during last 24 hrs. 12

MEN FOUND GUILTY; THE WOMAN FREE

Sensational Russian Murder Case Ends; Two Are Sentenced

LIFE FOR DELASSY

Pantchenko Given Fifteen Years in Prison—Count Breaks Down as He Hears Doom Pronounced—Trial Had Aroused Tremendous Interest

(Canadian Press) St. Petersburg, Feb. 17.—The sensational trial of Count Patrick De Lassey, Dr. Pantchenko and Mme. Muraviev, charged with the murder of Count Vassili Boutourin, came to an end last night when a verdict of guilty was returned by the jury in the case of De Lassey and Pantchenko and not guilty in the case of the woman.

De Lassey was sentenced to penal servitude for life and Pantchenko to fifteen years' imprisonment. The jury noted extenuating circumstances in the case of the woman.

The trial aroused enormous interest and developed some startling testimony. Prior to the beginning of the proceedings Pantchenko made a confession to which he accused De Lassey of luring him to poison Count Vassili who was heir to General Boutourin's millions.

On the witness stand Pantchenko denied the confession and made no further statements that he came to be thought of as a man of nerve.

Count Overcome At the end of the trial De Lassey was quite overcome. He spoke in a broken voice to the jury but ended abruptly by saying, "I cannot talk. I leave the fate of myself and relatives to your minds and your hearts."

Pantchenko, in an incoherent speech, said that he did not repudiate his confession but wished to specify the degree of his guilt.

Mme. Muraviev, who had been charged with the poisoning of the victim, was acquitted.

DECIDE AGAINST CLOSE SEASON FOR MOOSE

Committee of Maine Legislature Recommends Against Proposal But Favors Extension of Caribou Close Season

Augusta, Me., Feb. 17.—The proposition to put a four year close time on bull moose is already illegal to kill cow moose in Maine—came up before the fish and game committee of the Maine legislature and the advisability of enacting such a law was heatedly argued by hunters, fishermen, guides, hotel men, sporting camp proprietors and sportsmen from all over the state.

The bill had its chief support from the Maine Sportsmen's Club and Game association and from the William Tell club.

The committee voted to report "ought to pass" on the bill extending the close time on caribou six years.

HIGHER SALARIES FOR JUDGES IN THE STATES

Washington, Feb. 17.—On motion of Representative Mann (Rep., Ill.), the House has increased the salary of the chief justice of the United States from \$12,000 to \$15,000, and the salaries of the associate justices of the supreme court from \$12,500 to \$14,000.

TURO MARRIAGE OFFENSE REMEMBERED

(Special to Times) Turro, N. S., Feb. 17.—George Higgins was given two months in jail yesterday for a minor breach of the peace following a promise by the court on a previous occasion to deal vigorously with him in case he again came up for trial and conviction.

SUITS ARISE OVER COLLISION IN THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER

C. P. R. Sued By Owner of Kronprinz Olaf and in Turn Sues—Likely to Privy Council

(Special to Times)

Montreal, Feb. 16.—Hearing in the admiralty court in the legal disputes between the C. P. R. and Johann Bryde, over the collision between the Kronprinz Olaf and the Montcalm in the St. Lawrence last season, were started here yesterday.

This is the beginning of a series of actions which is expected to end only when the privy council has dealt with it as the issue as to who was responsible for the collision is considerably clouded.

The collision occurred last September, some sixty miles below Quebec. The officers of each declared those of the other responsible. The Kronprinz Olaf was not very seriously damaged, and as a result its owner, Johann Bryde, is taking action against the C. P. R. in the amount of \$25,000.

The Montcalm suffered more severe injuries, and the C. P. R. is suing Bryde and the underwriters for \$25,000.

In the wreck commissioners' court the Kronprinz Olaf was held responsible for the collision, but this proceeding was simply a government investigation, and quite separate from the present actions.

Owing to the difficulty of getting the witnesses who are employed on the two vessels, and therefore liable to be in any part of the world, it will be arranged between the parties that the action be argued on the evidence produced before the wreck commissioners' court.

H. Mallish of the New Scotia bar, argued the case of the Montcalm owners. No decision was rendered.

IN BOXING BOUT, HON. ROBT. BERESFORD BEATS A. J. DREXEL

Husband of Margerie Gould and Brother of Lord Decies Meet in Ring—Hit in McFarland-Moran Match

(Canadian Press) New York, Feb. 17.—The much talked of boxing bout between Anthony J. Drexel, of Philadelphia, husband of Margerie Gould, and Hon. Robt. Beresford, of England, a brother of Lord Decies, took place on Saturday night last in a private club in Manhattan.

The fight was a private one, and the Goulds' country home at Lakewood, N. J. was the scene of the bout. The fight was a private one, and the Goulds' country home at Lakewood, N. J. was the scene of the bout.

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LEFT A MILLION

John Lahey Could Not Read or Write, But He Could Make Money

(Canadian Press) New York, Feb. 17.—Although John Lahey, a farmer of Lakewood, N. J., could neither read nor write, his will, as filed this week, disposes of an estate estimated to be worth \$1,000,000.

Lahey was born in county Tipperary, Ireland. As a young man he settled on Long Island and became a truck farmer on a very large scale. He married twice and had 23 children.

MARRIED 91 YEARS

Mrs. Esper, Aged 108, Dies in the Arms of Her Husband Aged 111

Florence, Colo., Feb. 17.—Mrs. Francis Esper, 108 years of age, said to be the oldest woman in Colorado, died in the arms of her 111-year-old husband on Wednesday night from burns received when her clothing caught fire from an open grate.

MAYOR'S ELECTION ILLEGAL

Cobalt, Ont., Feb. 17.—(Canadian Press) Judge Vining of North Bay, yesterday said the election of Mayor Cook of this town, as the lists were not legal. The judge said that half the towns in Ontario would have the same difficulty if citizens chose to make trouble.

KILLS WIFE TO MARRY ANOTHER

M. E. Vanaman, Youthful Reading Murderer, Confesses His Crime

SLAIN BY SIDE OF HER BABY BOY

Drastic Scene as Girl he Wood is Brought Face to Face With Him—Confession of His Guilt Quickly Follows

Reading, Pa., Feb. 17.—Matthew E. Vanaman has confessed to the murder of his wife, Mary. He killed her that he might marry another.

Mrs. Vanaman, who was only twenty years old, was shot as she lay sleeping by the side of her seven-month-old baby, Francis. The husband denied he started the fire that burned his wife's body and concealed for a time the bullet wound in her head.

Vanaman is twenty-two years old. The girl he wanted to marry secretly was Ellen Wisener, a pretty mill girl, whom he met at a dance four months ago. She agreed to his secret marriage with him when he told her that he was going to get a little money soon and they could go west, where he had a chance to go into business.

They were to have been married in Wilmington, Del. When the district attorney, after Vanaman's arrest, asked her to come to his office she was found working on her trousers.

Drastic Methods The confession was made when Miss Wisener was brought before Vanaman. He had denied that he knew her. Then she came hurriedly from an inner room at the assistant district attorney's request. Vanaman almost collapsed when his confession followed quickly.

Vanaman and his wife, Mary, were married only seven months ago. Early in the morning of February 9 Vanaman crossed a road by carrying an oil stove through the window and crying for help. The neighbors found Mrs. Vanaman unconscious in bed, with her right arm and most of the bedclothes burned away.

Vanaman said that the oil stove had exploded and that he had picked up the bullet, crying for his wife to get up. The bullet wound was found until later.

Mrs. Vanaman had died in the hospital and an autopsy was performed by the coroner. Assistant District Attorney Dunn, when told of this, began an investigation which revealed Vanaman's version of Miss Wisener and his plan for a secret marriage.

Vanaman needed money to carry out this plan, the assistant district attorney says. He was arrested when he went to the bank to get the necessary deposit certificate to collect the \$100 life insurance she had secured.

Mr. Dunn is authority for the statement that Mrs. Vanaman's bed had been saturated with kerosene oil. He says further that the stove which Vanaman says exploded, was not damaged at all and was found half full of oil on the ground.

IN FULL RETREAT

Redmond Accepts AND ASTONISHES ALL IN HIS SPEECH

(Canadian Press) London, Feb. 17.—All England is discussing John Redmond's home rule speech in parliament in which, for the first time in the history of the Irish Nationalist movement, an Irish leader has publicly proclaimed his willingness to accept local self-government as a full measure of Irish demands and to acknowledge England's king as the ruler of Ireland.

Hilbert of the Nationalists have consented to accept whatever England granted as a step toward final separation, but the Irish leader in endorsing the prime minister's statement of the measure of home rule to be granted, extended all his hearers by applying the autonomy granted to South Africa by King Edward and expressed the hope that King George would open the Irish parliament and so hasten the day when Ireland, reconciled, would become a loyal unit of the British Empire.

PEOPLE OF NOTE

Times' Gallery of Men and Women of Prominence

P. E. Blenden, M. P.

THE TIMES' NEW REPORTER

THEY DANCED WITH JOY.

NOTICE TO THE POLICE

CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO SCORED

Dominion Alliance Branch President Declares Whitney and Hanna Practically Spat at Them

(Canadian Press)

Toronto, Feb. 17.—President Joseph Gibson of the Ontario branch of the Dominion Alliance, used vigorous language in commenting on the reception given the temperance delegation which waited upon the Ontario government yesterday.

"The answer which Premier Whitney made to us," said Mr. Gibson, "was not worthy of a ten year old school boy. They (the premier and Hon. Mr. Hanna) practically spat in our faces and I shall never be anxious to go back to them. They have not played the game fairly. We have made the progress which they said would entitle us to new legislation but which they have now practically refused. The government is unworthy the support of any person who has at heart the cause of temperance."

The deputation which interviewed the premier and cabinet members yesterday, Premier Whitney and Hon. W. J. Hanna, who replied to the spokesmen who presented the alliance's requests for the repeal of the three-fifths clause and for total prohibition in the province. Mr. Hanna strongly resented the charge that they made against the government by Rev. Ben Spence at Wednesday's session of the convention.

Sir James Whitney flatly stated that there would be no change in the three-fifths clause and that provincial prohibition at present was out of the question.

THE VALLEY RAILWAY SURVEY REPORT READY

Will be Submitted to Government Next Week—Supreme Court at Fredericton

(Special to Times) Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 17.—Engineer Maxwell has received his report on the St. John Valley survey and it will probably be laid before the government next week.

It is understood that the annual meeting of the Farmers and Dairyman's Association will be held here on March 1, 2 and 3.

A hitch has occurred in the case of Balfour and Flowers who elected to be tried before Judge Wilson under Speedy Trials Act. On the order of the attorney general, the case will now go to a jury.

Before Judge Wilson yesterday, J. A. Gustafson, solicitor-general, moved for the dismissal of the case, on the ground that the case had been bungled. Solicitor-General McLeod, however, refused to grant the motion.

The case of the St. John river Steamship Company vs. the Star Line Steamship Company was taken up in the supreme court this morning. M. G. Teed, K.C., moved to set aside the verdict for the plaintiff in the case.

REDMOND ACCEPTS AND ASTONISHES ALL IN HIS SPEECH

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A NEW CHAMPION

(Canadian Press) New York, Feb. 17.—Charles F. Conklin, of Chicago, won the world's amateur championship at 182 lbs. in his billiards last night by defeating J. Ferdinand Poggenburg, by a score of 400 to 294.

Poggenburg takes second prize and also two others for the high run of 300 and individual high average of 1016.24, both of which were made during the tourney and the game last night being counted in.

PROBATE COURT

In the probate court today, in the matter of the estate of George E. Barnhill, late of the Parish of Lancaster, lumberman, the petition of the Eastern Trust Company, executor of the last will, passing the accounts, was presented and citation was issued returnable on April 3 at 11 a. m. Messrs. Barnhill, Esting & Sanford, are proctors.

UNIONISTS HOLD SEAT

Horncastle, Eng. Feb. 17.—(Canadian Press)—Captain Weigall, Unionist, was elected to parliament in the by-election here. The district is regularly Unionist.

NATIONS ARE NOT LIKELY TO FIGHT

Russia, However, Sends Troops To Frontier

CHINA'S REPLY

Text Not Given Out But Believed Russia Will Carry Her Point—Talk of Powers Having Whole Matter go to Hague Tribunal

(Canadian Press)

St. Petersburg, Feb. 17.—Without waiting for China's reply to its ultimatum, Russia began preparations for actual warfare today by transporting soldiers to the III district of Northern China for a military demonstration. Among the soldiers sent are several regiments of Cossacks from Southern Russia.

According to instructions Mr. Korotkiy, Russian minister to China, has presented to that government a note bearing the treaty of 1881, which China has seemingly disposed of as obsolete. The note says that Russia in China shall not be infringed; that legal suits involving Russians and Chinese shall be considered by a mixed tribunal.

First—Russia's right to impose import and export duties unlimited except in the fifty years term, which is duty free.

Second—That the extra-territorial rights of Russia in China shall not be infringed; that legal suits involving Russians and Chinese shall be considered by a mixed tribunal.

Third—That Russians shall enjoy special privileges of trade and duty free commerce in Mongolia and the extra-territorial provinces.

Fourth—That Russia consulates can be immediately opened at Kobe, Khami and Gaden.

Fifth—Due respect of the local authorities for Russian consuls.

Sixth—Russians to enjoy the right to acquire real estate and erect structures in Mongolia and the extra-territorial provinces.

A CURE FOR DISEASE OF MIND CLAIMED

Blessing Indeed, if Discovery Made by Member of Glasgow Asylum Staff Proves Effective

(Canadian Press) New York, Feb. 17.—A special cable to the Times from London says: An important discovery which, it is stated, promises to provide a certain cure for mental diseases was announced yesterday.

It was made by Dr. Oswald of the hospital staff of the Glasgow Royal Asylum, who discovered that the substance discovered, when injected into the blood of a patient suffering from madness, not only cures but makes the patient immune against a further attack.

OFFER FOR BIG BLOCK OF STEEL STOCK; BUT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Montreal, Feb. 17.—An important statement was submitted today by Frederick Harris at a annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Company. He said that General Manager Casley on his recent return from abroad submitted a very flattering proposition, made relative to the purchase of a large block of common stock at a price considerably above par, but that he did not recommend its acceptance.

COMMITTED FOR TRIAL

Three men charged with escaping from lawful custody—Andrew Irvine, Wm. McArthur and Charles Smith, were committed for trial this morning before Judge Ritchie in the police court.

HON. MR. ROBINSON AND THE ALBERT SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Moncton, N. B., Feb. 17.—(Special)—Hon. C. W. Robinson, it is understood, is prepared to maintain the accuracy of any statements made at the Kings county annual convention respecting the Albert Southern Railway transaction. The transaction tonight was very interesting.

"A year or so ago the rails on the Albert Southern Railway, according to Mr. C. W. Robinson's statement today, were sold at the instance of Messrs. G. W. Fowler and Joseph, for the benefit of the creditors. So far as can be learned, these rails, fish plates, etc. brought \$22 per ton. It is estimated that the proceeds of \$35,000.

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