

MARINE NEWS FROM EVERY SOURCE

Victoria, B. C.:—The court of enquiry into the disaster to the "Canadian Importer" in the Pacific last year, has severely reprimanded the Captain and chief engineer of the vessel, both of whom are held responsible for the accident. Some strong words were used by the wreck commissioner in speaking of the manner in which the evidence of the captain and chief engineer was given. The report says: "It was obvious that that evidence was given reluctantly with an indifference that almost amounted to defiance, but clearly with the studied object of suppressing the real cause of the disaster."

Toronto:—Captain James Young, who had been retired from service for some years, was found dead in his room at 62 Ascor Avenue recently. The deceased gentleman was of advanced years. Death was due to suffocation by gas, one burner of the gas stove being turned on without being lighted. Suicide was indicated by the circumstances.

Collingwood:—The Collingwood Shipbuilding Co., have secured a contract from the National Sand & Material Co. Ltd., for the construction of a sand and gravel carrier with a capacity of about 2200 cubic yards. This vessel will be the largest of her kind on the Great Lakes. Her capacity will be about four times that of the "Baxter Dick" or the "O'Connor Dick" the present vessels of the fleet. It is interesting to note that according to reports, the vessel could have been built in Scotland at a much less cost, but as she will be used on public works contracts, the company felt in view of the prevailing unemployment she should be built in Canada.

London:—It is stated here that the Canadian Government Merchant Marine will shortly establish a monthly service from Canada to the Mediterranean, in spite of the strenuous competition which is being waged by the U. S. Shipping Board. Mr. E. G. Laing has been sent as special representative to Naples, and offices have been opened in Paris, Antwerp, Hamburg and Rotterdam.

Picton:—As a sequel to the sinking of the "Oliver Mowat" with the loss of three lives by the steamer "Keywest," which took place last September, the captain of the latter steamer has been found guilty of negligence and sentenced to jail for twenty-one days. The captain has also had his master's certificate cancelled. He is but twenty-eight years of age.

Sault Ste Marie:—The car ferry Chief Wawatam recently reached Mackinaw City after a trip which included a thirty hour battle with heavy pack ice in the Straits of Mackinac. The straits had been swept by a northwest gale.

Toronto:—It is stated that the "Turbinia" of the Canada Steamship Lines will be put on her old route between Toronto and Hamilton when the season of 1922 opens up. The "Turbinia" has been absent from her accustomed haunts for quite a while, she having been over to Europe during the war.

Ottawa:—The offer of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., to provide a service between Canada and the British West Indies every fortnight, in consideration of a 7½ per cent guarantee on the capita cost of the ships to be used, has been refused by the Canadian Government. The Government refused on the grounds of the possible heavy cost. The same kind of service as prevails at present will be continued, the subsidy being \$340,666.66 per annum.

Montreal:—It is stated by those in the know that navigation will be late in opening this year. There is much more ice than usual in the river and much less open water. It is not expected to be earlier than April 15th that the official opening will take place.

Toronto:—The Canadian Navigator's Federation held their meeting here early this month, at which nominations for officers for the coming year were received. Ballots will be mailed to the members and the results will be announced at the general meeting to be held early in March. The officers are at present Capt. McIntyre, Collingwood, President. Capt. R. D. Simpson, Owen Sound, Secretary. Capt. F. A. Cook, Treasurer, Toronto.

Washington, D. C.:—In accordance with the convention for safety of life at sea adopted in London in 1914, the U. S. Coast Guard steamer "Seneca" will leave New York some time this month for ice patrol on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland. She will on this duty locate the position of fields and bergs of ice, which might be a danger to vessels in their track.

Port Washington, B.C.:—The Dominion Government have placed a contract with the Vancouver Pile Driving and Contracting Co., Vancouver, for the con-

struction of a wharf on North Pender Island.

Prince Rupert, B. C.:—The Government of the Province of British Columbia have placed a contract with the Prince Rupert Dry Dock Co., for the construction of a ferry, the cost to be \$75,000.

New Glasgow:—Mr. George McDougall read an interesting paper before the Cape Breton branch of the Engineering Institute of Canada at their regular meeting on Feb. 11th, the subject being "Shipbuilding." A good number of members were present, and at the conclusion of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was tendered Mr. McDougall.

Halifax:—Speaking of the rumour that the Halifax Shipyards would be sold M. J. E. McLurg said at Halifax recently "The Halifax Shipyards will not be sold to Henry Ford, the C. P. R. or anybody else. There are no negotiations pending to form the basis for such a rumour. I heard it several weeks ago and do not know from whence it came."

Sault Ste. Marie:—The car ferry "Chief Wawatam" was caught for the third time this season in the ice of the Straits of Mackinac, and rail communication between the upper and lower Michigan peninsulas was interrupted. No discomfort was suffered by the passengers aboard, though no doubt the delay caused inconvenience.

Belleville:—The local Chamber of Commerce are taking steps to interest a Steamboat Company in supplying a service on the Bay of Quinte this season.

Sarnia:—The ferry boat "Louis Philippe," of Montreal, lying in Sarnia Bay, will be used by the Northern Navigation Company as a ferry between Sarnia and Port Huron this season. She will be the first boat of the company's fleet. The Northern Navigation Company are planning to spend in the neighbourhood of \$100,000 on the freight sheds at Point Edward to take care of an additional freight contract secured by them, which will amount to 150,000 tons a year, and give employment to about 300 men.

Montreal:—The cancelling of the contract for the new ice breaker which was to be built by the Canadian Vickers Ltd., and the purchase instead of the ice breaker "John D. Hazen," will mean a saving to the Government of over \$1,000,000, reports from Montreal state.