IS IN VICTORIA TO TALK IMMIGRATION

J. Obed Smith, Dominion Commissioner, Will Interview Premier McBride

(From Friday's Daily)

J. Obed Smith, Dominion commissioner of immigration, with headquarters at Winnipeg, has arrived in the city for the purpose of interviewing Premier McBride with regard to the provincial policy regarding immigration.

It is said that the Dominion government intends to act upon the hint of Rudyard Kipling and endeavor to settle the Asiatic question by pumping immigrants into British Columbia, and that Mr. Smith is here to inaugurate the initial steps and to plan the campaign.

The statement attributed to Mr. Smith in the telegraphic report of an interview with him in Vancouver, that the fare from the British Isles to British Columbia was $40, was incorrect. The fare from the Atlantic seaboard, or Montreal, is, of course, $40, and the latter figure does not include Atlantic steamship fare.

There was considerable talk last spring of such a rate being given and the C. P. R. was prepared to fall in with the proposal, but the other Atlantic steamship lines objected, and the matter has not as yet been arranged.

STRUCK BY A ROCK

A. Gibson, Employed on B. C. Electric Work at Lake Buntzen, Meets With Painful Accident

Vancouver, Dec. 5.—Late yesterday afternoon an accident occurred at the workings of the British Columbia Electric Railway company, at Lake Buntzen, whereby A. Gibson suffered serious injuries, the full nature of which have not yet been ascertained. He was working on the pipeline leading through the new tunnel to the powerhouse when a rock fell from the hillside striking him squarely on the back and pinning him to the ground. He was removed from his position by his fellows almost immediately, but was found to be almost helpless, having no power of motion in his lower limbs. A launch was sent up from the city for him, and this morning he was brought here and removed to the General hospital. It is feared that his back is broken.

Mr. Gibson is a brother of Ald. Gibson, of Winnipeg, who arrived in the city this morning, and was greeted at the hotel door with the news of the accident to his relative. The unfortunate man is married and has two children, his family now being in the city. He came here from Winnipeg over a year ago to follow his occupation of structural steel worker on the new post office building, leaving that job recently to take up work on the new plant at Lake Buntzen.

Mr. Gibson was an expert on the erection of structural steel. A feature of the case is that he had become famous in Glasgow on the account of the number of serious accidents which he had sustained and survived. In fact he had become known as the souriquet "The Rubber Man," so marked was his power of recovery from falls and other mishaps. He is 44 years old.

Nickel Plate Foreman Killed

Hedley, Dec. 5.—A fatal accident occurred at Hedley on Tuesday. John McKinnon, the foreman of the Nickel Plate mine being struck on the head by a falling rock which crushed his skull, killing him instantly. Deceased was well known at Fairview and Camp McKinney, where he previously worked in the mines, and was universally respected. He was the sole support of his aged parents, who reside at Hedley.

Chinese Students Organize

New Westminster, Dec. 5.—The Chinese attending the public schools in Canada have organized a Students' alliance. Jack Lamtung, a young but well educated Chinese student, who has attended the public and high schools of this city for over ten years, has been appointed secretary, and will write letters to the press setting forth their side of the Asiatic question.

Ask for Amherst solid leather footwear.

FILTHY HINDU DWELLING

Places Where They Live in Vancouver Declared Unfit for Human Habitation

Vancouver, Dec. 5.—Mr. Bose, the Calcutta journalist, and Mr. Kumar, the evangelist, among the Hindus this morning visited Medical Health Officer Underhill. Mr. Bose said he had made a partial inspection of the quarters of the city occupied by the Hindus, and had seen enough to make a strenuous protest to the health officials as to the manner in which the men were living.

"I went into one room at a boarding house," said Mr. Bose, "and the air was so suffocating that I had to leave within a few minutes. Yet I was told that many more men than occupied the room at that time had been crowded in there."

Dr. Underhill answered that he was thoroughly acquainted with the conditions, and was merely holding his peace on the matter because there was no place for the poor Hindus to go if he turned them out of the place mentioned.

Mr. Bose then said he and his companion were endeavoring to secure better quarters, and hoped soon to make a definite statement as to the location.

Both men promised to assist the medical health officer to the full extent of their powers in remedying existing conditions, and said they were sure their position and knowledge of the people would result in some betterment being noticed almost immediately.

Veteran Navigator Dead

Vancouver, Dec. 5.—Capt. J. P. Patterson, a well known navigator in British Columbia waters for the last thirty-five years died today, aged 82.

Burglars at Kamloops

Kamloops, Dec. 5.—Several burglaries were attempted, two of them successfully, during the small hours of Monday morning. Goods were taken from the clothing stores of L. Blair and Ramsay & Phillips.

OBJECTION OFFERED TO RAT NETTING

The Vancouver Wharf Owners Think it Ineffective and Expensive

A large delegation of wharf-owners among whom were R. H. H. Alexander, F. Busteed, of the C. P. R.; J. G. Scott, B. T. Rogers, Grier Starrett, and P. Evans, appeared before the civic Health Committee yesterday afternoon, asking that the city recede from its demand that wire netting should be placed along the city wharves to a point three feet below low water. It was stated that the demand was absolutely impossible of fulfillment on account of the swift tide of the inlet, which would carry logs and driftwood so that any protection of the kind would be punctured in a few moments. The demand necessitated the netting covering the wharves for at least sixteen feet in height, and would be very expensive. Still, the owners would stand this were the measure to afford any protection.

Mr. Evans also pointed out that as long as the shore line was not protected, all the netting at the wharves was useless.

Ald. Dr. Brydone-Jack said that unofficially he felt there was great justice in the protest, but that the city had acted under direction of the provincial authorities. He advised the delegation to draft a letter to Dr. C. J. Fagan, placing the facts stated before him. This the committee would endorse and send to Victoria.

Superintendent Busteed, of the C. P. R., said he considered that the holding of the vessels six feet from the wharf, the placing of rat guards and the exercising of care in the discharging of cargo would cover the need. On the latter line he said there was as much danger of rats being landed in the cargo as any other way, when the articles included such as were packed in straw, etc.

Dr. Underhill asked the delegation if they would assist him in protecting the wharves at this time. He pointed out the great harm which would be done the city if the bubonic plague should get in here, and said the companies, for their own protection should be careful about the matter. He then alluded to the case of the Katanga, which had not remained six feet from the wharf, with the result that the captain had been fined.

Mr. Evans read a letter from his attorneys, stating that the Katanga case showed that the harbormaster had given the vessel's commander one order and the health authorities another. It was a case of conflict of authority, and the captain had evidently obeyed the wrong man.

Mr. Rogers said the harbormaster had been at his wharf and had directed the captains of vessels there not to mind the commands of the Health Department.

"If he did that he ought to be removed immediately," commented Ald. McSpadden.

Dr. Underhill said the regulations now being enforced at the local wharves had the full approval of Dr. Montizambert, head of the Dominion Health Department.

Mr. Alexander did not see how he could keep vessels six feet from the wharf while they were loading lumber, but Mr. Rogers said that was easy and volunteered to show the method which should be followed.

In the course of routine business Dr. Underhill called attention to the fact that the harbormaster claimed he had authority over the waterfront. Under these circumstances the committee was asked to request his immediate attention to the cleaning up of the garbage and refuse lying under the wharves, and also the cessation of the nuisance resulting from the fish market at the foot of Cook's Slip.

Masons to Build

New Westminster, Dec. 5.—The Masons of this city who recently sold their block on Columbia street, are negotiating to build a new block on the corner of Lorne and Agnes street.

Vancouver's Restricted District

Vancouver, Dec. 5.—The police took a census of the new Canton alley restricted district in Chinatown last night, and found one hundred and eighty sporting women recently settled there. All but five came from the United States. The chief of police and Dr. Monro, immigration inspector, are today arranging to deport at least one hundred and fifty to the American side of the boundary.

Cut in Wages

Grand Forks, Dec. 5.—At Keremeos the word has gone forth from the grading camps of Walsh and Stewart that the wages of the men shall be cut from $2.50 to $2 per day, with the announcement also that on and after December 1, the wages will be still further reduced to $1.80 per day. This is the news that was brought to Grand Forks today by a railway foreman. The railway contractors when they resumed work at Keremeos a few weeks ago started to pay $2.50 per day as wages, but since then the country has been literally flooded with men seeking employment and the contractors are taking advantage of the situation to get cheap labor.

BIG C. P. R. TUNNELS

Work of Driving to Commence at Both Ends in Short Time—Plenty of Labor at Hand

Vancouver, Dec. 5.—Work on the actual driving of the two long tunnels between Field and Hector, which are designed to do away with the famous "Big Hill" on the C. P. R. main line, will be started right away, according to a statement made today by James A. Macdonell, of the engineering and contracting firm of Macdonell & Gzowski, which has the contract for the work.

At present, workmen are engaged in clearing the approaches to the faces of the four ends of the tunnels. It is the intention to drive the two big bores from all four ends at the one time. As soon as the gangs clearing the debris from the approaches have completed their work, which will be in a few days, miners and rock drills will attack the four faces.

Mr. Macdonell states that he had not found any scarcity of labor for the big work, in fact more applications for employment are received than can be entertained. This surplus of labor did not exist when the contract was awarded to Macdonell & Gzowski, and it is therefore a gratifying surprise to the contractors that the work will not be hampered in prosecution by lack of labor.

GRANBY MEN REFUSE LOWER WAGE SCALE

Both Miners and Smeltermen Reject Proposal Made by Company

Grand Forks, B. C., Dec. 5.—No one went to work at the Granby smelter this morning, as the labor union at its meeting last evening decided that as there was no communication from the Granby company for them to deal with, the matter of accepting the lower wage scale could not be officially dealt with by the meeting. The general feeling, however, was against going back to work at a reduction of wages, and smelters at Grand Forks are still at a deadlock, with the prospect of the next few days producing important developments.

Phoenix, B. C., Dec. 5.—The miner's union here has decided not to accept the proposition of the Granby Mining company to return to work at a lower scale of wages. It had been generally understood that the men would agree to the proposal, which the company made on account of the low price of copper. There is now no immediate prospect for the resumption of work at mines and smelter.

NORTH VANCOUVER FERRY

Arrangements for Sale of Service to Suburban City Progressing—Greatly Enlarge Facilities

Vancouver, Dec. 5.—While details have yet to be worked out, the arrangements for the proposed sale of the North Vancouver ferry service to the city across the Inlet are going forward well. It is stated that the three local directors of the ferry are favorable to the scheme and a meeting of the eastern directors is shortly to be held for the purpose of finally submitting the proposition.

The price at which the transfer is to take place if the deal goes through is in the vicinity of $175,000. The valuable waterfront property known as Lonsdale Gardens is to be included. In that event arrangements would be made for the continuing of the use of the Lonsdale gardens wharf as an alternate. On this side of the inlet it is stated that negotiations are going on with Ex-Ald. Cook for the purchase of 280 feet of frontage he has on Alexander street, just east of Evans, Coleman & Evans' wharf.

The proposal is that in the event of the ratification of the purchase bylaw by the ratepayers, one new steamer for fast passenger traffic for the coming season will be immediately constructed. She will be a boat of 14 to 16 miles an hour speed, so that she will be able to make approximately three round trips per hour. This is considerably faster than the present schedule. The small ferry steamer North Vancouver would be used as an alternate. The St. George will be converted into a fast freight boat. Tracks will be placed aboard and light electric freight cars will be run back and forth on her across the inlet. The idea is that freight for North Vancouver can be placed on these electric cars from the C. P. R. tracks in this city, run down to the ferry, transported to North Vancouver and run there to any place desired by the merchants and other importers.

Fernie's Sewer System

Fernie, Dec. 5.—The sewers were completed last week. The installation of this system is the first public work of importance that the city has undertaken and the citizens may congratulate themselves on its consummation.

GRANGERS TO FIGHT ON TARIFF ISSUE

Declare Against Manufacturers' Association High Duty Policy

Toronto, Dec. 5.—The agriculturists comprising the Dominion Grange and the Farmers' Association, which have amalgamated, are up in arms on the tariff issue, and will fight what they declare to be the selfish demands of the manufacturers of this question. They want the tariff reduced to a purely revenue basis.

The report of the legislative committee, which was adopted, stated that the issue raised by the Manufacturers' Association must be fairly met by the Grangers, as representing the farmers of Canada. The demand of the manufacturers that practical prohibition of the importation of goods shall be the permanent policy of this country must be met by the counter demand that the protective principle shall be eliminated and the tariff reduced to a purely revenue basis. Industries that have had the advantage of thirty years of protection, which have the constant advantage of nearness to market, and are promised the future benefits of electric power at a cost much below that produced from coal, should be able to stand alone.

Resolutions were adopted against the proposal to grant a subsidy from the Dominion to the All-Red line, endorsing the action of the government in erecting forest reserves, and the encouragement given to farm forestry, urging the adopting of a parcel post system as a means of relief from extortionate express charges on small parcels, and protesting against members of the legislature holding interests in Cobalt mining enterprise.

Smallpox in Toronto.

Toronto, Dec. 5.—Three more cases of smallpox were reported by Dr. Shepard, medical health officer. Three children were removed from a house on Manning avenue.

Coal at Winnipeg

Winnipeg, Dec. 5.—The railways have carried into Winnipeg this year 225,000 tons of coal thus far, and this is fully 50,000 tons in excess of the amount brought in at this time last year.

Buys Ranch at Penticton

Penticton, Dec. 5.—J. H. Glass, of London, Ont., has bought A. S. Gavin's twenty-acre lot on the bench. The price paid was $7,000 and that Mr. Glass intends coming here to reside. Nine acres of the land have been planted out, and comprise one of the finest looking young orchards in the vicinity.

IS THE DESIGNER OF MANY MARINE ENGINES

J. K. Bebbeck, Surveyor of British Corporation Wins Praise for Sternwheel Machinery

J. K. Bebbeck, the well known local naval architect and surveyor for the British Corporation, is working on the plans for a compound engine which bids fair to improve sternwheel steamship machinery. It is not generally known that Mr. Bebbeck has produced no less than 53 different original designs of steam engines in British Columbia alone to suit various requirements and conditions of their working, as well as improving propellers, in one instance so much that the equivalent of an increase of 30 per cent. of steam power was added to the vessel's speed. It is estimated that at least one of the engines designed by the local engineer has been built for every thousand of the population of this province.

Of the fleet of nineteen steamers of the White Pass & Yukon route operating on the upper Yukon river from White Horse to Dawson, the machinery of which represent many makers of both Canada and the United States, Mr. Bebbeck has designed the engines of three, two of them expansive and one compound. The compound engine, which was built for the fine river steamer White Horse, one of the best of the northern river fleet, while producing over twenty-five per cent. more power than the engine it superseded, also reduced the fuel consumption of the vessel fifteen per cent. One of the engines designed by Mr. Bebbeck is described by its owner, who operates a sternwheeler in the upper country, as being in good condition "after nine years of service and not having cost him five cents for shop repairs."

In British Columbia sixteen sternwheeler steamers have been fitted with engines of the local engineer's design, and economy of fuel and absence of repairs with good working has won praise from their owners.

MUNICIPAL COUNCILS

Burnaby Council Offers Suggestions for Changes to Legislative Committee of Union

Vancouver, Dec. 5.—At the last meeting of the Burnaby municipal council the following recommendations for the consideration of the legislative committee of the Union of Municipalities at the attorney-general's department at Victoria were approved:

"That a council be empowered to charge a fee of $10 for each plan of subdivision of property certified under section 86 of the Land Registry Act.

"That the maximum limit of indemnity to the reeve of a municipality be raised to $300 per year, the council to possess the option of fixing any sum up to this limit.

"That councils be elected upon the same basis as now enacted for the election of members of school boards, but for a period of two instead of three years, one half of the council retiring annually, providing that the election of reeve shall be held annually; and further that each councillor shall be elected upon the suffrage of the entire municipality and not in respect of wards as at present.

"That municipalities be empowered to pass a bylaw, at their discretion, absolutely prohibiting the discharge of firearms, or the carrying of a gun except for the destruction of an injured animal or other necessary purposes, on Sundays.

"That it be a condition that any person claiming for his land to be classed as improved shall have previously forwarded to the assessor, at the commencement of a year, a notice that he has improved his land, and the extent of the improvements, to enable such assessor to visit his property, and assess the improvements, prior to his returning the roll to the council.

"That inasmuch as a large proportion of the land within suburban municipalities has been subdivided into town lots having an area of 1-5 or 1-6 of an acre, and the present provision that improvements to the extent of two and a half dollars per acre shall entitle an owner to claim exemption from wild land tax, and as such provision would entail an expenditure of only 50c. or 42c. upon an 1-5 or 1-6 of an acre, it is essential that a revision be made providing for a reasonable expenditure upon such town lots as the basis of claims to exemption.

"That for the maintenance of main roads passing through more than one municipality it is desirable that county councils should be established to secure the more uniform state of repairs of such roads; the income of such council to be derived from proportionate levies upon the municipalities affected, and also from a proportion of the fees for motor car licenses levied by the province, the damage to roads caused by motor car traffic being a matter of serious importance to municipalities.

"That with regard to areas outside a municipal district, but included in the municipal school district, the duty of collecting the school tax be laid upon the province collector to collect with the provincial taxes, and at the end of every half year the amount so collected be paid over by him to the school treasurer, the present system of collection by the municipal collector, in the case of subdivided property, often entailing an expenditure in postage equal to the amount of the tax."

STEAMER AGROUND

C. P. R. Boat Kuskanook Strikes in Kootenay Lake—One Passenger Drowned

Nelson, Dec. 5.—The C. P. R. steamer Kuskanook ran hard aground 15 miles east of Nelson tonight. The passengers were rescued by another vessel. Geo. Despond became excited jumped overboard and was drowned.

Reverse for Mulai Hafid.

Tangier, Dec. 5.—According to a despatch received here from Mogador, the Anflous tribesmen won a decisive victory over the troops of Mulai Hafid, the so-called Sultan of the South, on November 23. The tribesmen took many prisoners, and the heads of four of Hafid's leaders are now exposed on the gates of Mogadore.

King Oscar's Condition

Stockholm, Dec. 5.—A bulletin issued at 10 o'clock this evening says: "The king had some sleep during the day, but this evening his strength was not so well maintained, although the pain was somewhat diminished.

GOVERNMENT WILL DISTRIBUTE SEED

Dominion Department of Agriculture Makes Present to Farmers of Country

(From Friday's Daily)

By instruction of Dominion minister of agriculture, a distribution is being made this season of samples of superior sorts of grain and potatoes to Canadian farmers for the improvement of seed. The stock for distribution has been secured mainly from the experimental farms at Indian Head, Sask., and Brandon, Man. The samples consist of oats, spring wheat, barley, Indian corn (for ensilage only) and potatoes. The quantity of oats sent is 4 lbs., and of wheat or barley 5 lbs., sufficient in each case to sow one-twentieth of an acre. The samples of Indian corn and potatoes weigh 3 lbs each. A quantity of each of the following varieties has been secured for this distribution.

Oats.—Banner, Wide-Awake, White Giant, Danish Island, Thousand Dollar, Improved Ligowo, all white varieties. Black oats are not recommended for genral cultivation, a few samples, however, are available which can be sent if specially asked for.

Wheat.—Red Fife (beardless); Preston, Pringle's Champlain and Huron (early bearded sorts); Percy and Stanley (early beardless varieties).

Barley. — Six-rowed. — Mensury, Odessa, Mansfield and Claude. Two-rowed.—Standwell, Invincible, Canadian Thorpe and Sidney.

Indian Corn (for ensilage).—Early sorts, Angel of Midnight, Compton's Early and Longfellow; later varieties, Selected Leaming, Early Mastodon, and White Cap Yellow Dent.

Potatoes.— Early varieties, Early White Prize and Rochester Rose. Medium to late varieties, Carman No. 1 and Late Puritan. These later varieties are as a rule more productive than the earlier kinds.

Only one sample can be sent to each applicant, hence if an individual receives a sample of oats he cannot also receive one of wheat, barley, Indian corn or potatoes. Lists of names from one individual, or applications for more than one sample for one household, cannot be entertained. The samples will be sent free of charge through the mail

Applications should be addressed to the director of experimental farms, Ottawa, and may be sent in any time before February 15, after which the lists will be closed, so that samples asked for may be sent out in good time for sowing. Applications will be filled in the order in which they are received, so long as the supply of seed lasts. Farmers are advised to apply early to avoid possible disappointment. Those applying for Indian corn or potatoes should bear in mind that the corn is not usually distributed until April, and that potatoes cannot be mailed from here until danger from frost in transit is over. No postage is required on mail matter addressed to the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

G. N. INTERESTED

Officials of Hill System Look Over the Situation on the Island

(From Friday's Daily)

Among the arrivals in the city yesterday were H. H. Hageland, Charles Mantle and J. R. N. Davis, three engineers of the Great Northern railway, who have been over the Hill system on the mainland on this side of the boundary. In view of the interests which the Great Northern road has in British Columbia both on the mainland and on the island the visit of these three gentlemen is significant. They yesterday inspected the terminals and office establishment of the Victoria & Sidney road. Their call here is said to have been dictated by the head office of the company, which desires a complete report on the present and prospective development of the island. None of the gentlemen would make any statement for publication beyond merely saying they were here on business, and would probably continue their observations in other parts of the island.

GALE TROUBLES STEAMERS

Captains Report Wednesday the Worst Day for Years—Venture Meets Heavy Seas

Vancouver, Dec. 5.—The steamer Venture, which reached port yesterday from Northern British Columbia points, reports continuous southeast gales from the time she left Vancouver till she returned. On Tuesday night she bucked into a mountainous sea which forced the steamer Alaskan to put into Quathiaska cove for shelter.

The Venture brought down a sample shipment of 9,000 feet of spruce lumber from Swanson bay for the Orient, also 13,000 feet of lumber from Alert bay, for Victoria; and 3,500 cases of canned salmon from the Naas and Rivers' Inlet canneries for this port.

A quantity of general freight which had been lying at Port Essington consigned to Hazelton was brought down, owing to the impossibility of getting it up river this season. Forty tons of machinery salved from the steamer Northwest, wrecked in the Skeena was brought down and the boiler will be sent down later.

Forty first and fifteen second class passengers came down on the Venture.

"Wednesday was the worst day for local coast-going shipping that we have experienced for years," said Capt. J. A. Cates, of the steamer Britannia this morning. The Britannia had a very heavy day. The southeast gale blowing sent the water rolling very high off Point Atkinson and twenty feet into the air, and the gale was very heavy. The barometer yesterday stood at 29.35, the lowest since the day of the Clallam disaster, which took place in a great storm three years ago.

Life Insurance Concern.

New York, Dec. 5.—Facts concerning the Provident Savings Life Assurance company, gathered by State Superintendent of Insurance Kelsey and E. R. Rittenhouse, representing the insurance department of Colorado, were today formally laid before the district attorney. This company was recently notified to temporarily cease writing new business in New York and Colorado.

Horseman's Case.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 5.—Attorney-General McKeown has instructed Coroner McDonald, of Salisbury, to exhume the body of Mrs. Horseman, in connection with whose death at Steves Mountain, her husband, Christopher A. Horseman, is under arrest, and have a post mortem examination made. Solicitor-General Jones will represent the crown at Horseman's preliminary examination before Magistrate Kay in Moncton. Horseman was arraigned in the police court before Magistrate Kay and without any evidence being taken the case was adjourned until Saturday. When the prisoner was being taken back to jail he asked that his children be looked after. There are eight children, the youngest three months, the oldest twelve years. The latter, Hattie Horseman, will likely be a witness.

Winnipeg Clearings.

Winnipeg, Dec. 5.—Bank clearings for the week ending today were $15,761,862, for 1906, $15,809,669.

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