

CONVICT SWEARS GUARD HIT HIM WHILE IN THE TUB

Prisoner Says He Was Brutally Used Because He Asked For New Job.

HAD SEEN GUARDS DRUNK

Declares Keepers Make Money Out of the Sale of Tobacco.

[Canadian Press.] Kingston, Dec. 11.—When the prison reform commission resumed its sessions today after adjournment of a week, it was announced that more convicts' evidence would be taken, as well as the evidence of some ex-convicts. A number of ex-convicts from Toronto, Hamilton and Brockville have been summoned, and will be heard during the day.

Convict 15883 was recalled, having asked to be allowed to make a further statement.

Convict 15883 had complained about something that happened to him in August, 1912. He had asked the deputy to be given another job as he did not like the work on the stone pile. Witness was given no change, and refused to go on the stone pile.

For this he was sent to the asylum and afterwards was "tubbed." One witness said he saw him while he was in the tub, and he was black and blue for weeks from the treatment he received. Witness said he knew that tobacco was brought into the penitentiary. There were certain convicts who secured tobacco and distributed it.

Mr. Whiting said the witness had told an extraordinary story the other day which had been denied, and he did not think it was right to be taking convict evidence. The commission would be in session for a few days, and it would be well, he thought, for the commission to see the convicts privately, and ascertain if they really had important evidence.

Only Seven Picked. Dr. Etherington said he and the chairman had seen 30 convicts, and out of this number had picked seven to give evidence.

Witness declared that he had seen guards drunk, and had also seen guards give convicts tobacco. He gave the names of two dozen or more convicts who bought tobacco from the guards.

Witness stated last week that he knew five guards who were engaged in the tobacco traffic. He did not want to give the names of the guards. They did him service and he did not want to disclose their names. Guards made him swear on his prayer book that he would not give the names of the guards. Two names—Hogan and Hampshire—but neither of these men were guards named. Witness claimed that he still had \$1 of his money as the result of a sale of tobacco.

MURDERER'S AGED FATHER WEEPS IN COURT ROOM

Hans Schmidt Refuses to See Him, But Wants His Sister.

[Canadian Press.] New York, Dec. 11.—The aged father of Hans Schmidt, who came from Germany to help his son now on trial for the murder of Anna Ammiller, wept today when Hans appeared. When the elder Schmidt called at the Tombs Prison today, the prisoner would not receive him. Hans, however, said he would like to talk with his sister, who accompanied her father from the family home in Germany, and it was said she might be allowed to visit him later in the day.

The prisoner's father was in the courtroom when the trial was resumed. After gazing at his son a few minutes, he walked out with the tears rolling down his cheeks.

The prosecution continued the presentation of evidence to show that when Schmidt killed the girl, cut up her body and threw it in the Hudson River, he followed a carefully premeditated plan and acted in a way that proved him sane. Schmidt's counsel, against his will, is said to be trying to prove that he was mentally irresponsible for these acts, which he has confessed.

FIFTEEN BILLION DOLLARS REPRESENTED AT MEETING

Life Insurance Presidents Hold Seventh Annual Session in New York.

[Canadian Press.] New York, Dec. 11.—Fifteen billion dollars of life insurance protection was represented today at the seventh annual meeting of the Association of Life Insurance Presidents. Executive heads from as far west as Los Angeles and from many parts of Canada attended.

President Taft was expected to make an informal address this afternoon. A problem considered at today's session was the increasing practice of policyholders of mortgaging their life insurance. Investigation has revealed that half a billion and one-half million dollars held by the companies as a reserve fund has been loaned to policyholders. Arthur F. Childs, of Boston, president of the Columbia National Life Insurance Company, instructed the members to warn companies against the danger. Such loans, he said, increased from 3.13 per cent of the reserve fund in 1888 to 16 per cent in 1912, and probably will approach 18 per cent this year.

250 PERISHED IN TORNADO

Natives in Frail Canoes Were Blown Out Into Rough Seas.

HEAVY DAMAGE ON COAST

[Canadian Press.] Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa, Dec. 11.—Over 250 natives are believed to have perished today when a terrific tornado blew twenty canoes, with some 400 natives on board out to sea. The cable ship Sentinel rescued 136 of them, but no trace of the remainder can be found.

The storm swept the town and port and did much damage.

HELP THE FREE PRESS CHRISTMAS FUND

Citizens Should Join in Bringing Subscriptions to the \$1,000 Mark.

The Christmas subscription lists of the Free Press should meet with a response from all classes of citizens.

The fund is now at the \$400 mark, and the newspaper is anxious that the sum of \$1,000 should be reached before the 20th of the month.

There is good reason to believe that the fund will be filled in this time, and The Advertiser urges its readers to send their subscriptions to its contemporary.

DECLARES YOUNG GIRLS TRY TO ATTRACT MEN

Rev. Dr. French Would Teach Them to Care For Their Dignity.

[Canadian Press.] Montreal, Dec. 11.—The renting of a dancing hall by the churches was the cure formulated by Rev. Dr. McManus during a discussion at the annual meeting of the Women's National Immigration Society, on the facility with which young immigrant girls become familiar with picture theatres, dance halls and undesirable young men.

Rev. Dr. French complained that newcomers within a month of landing picked up with young men. When he was a young man it was the young man who looked round and noticed the girls. That was not the case now—it was the young girls who attracted the notice of the men in many cases.

Such girls had to be taught to appreciate and care for their dignity.

Dr. McManus said dancing might help to develop the social side of the girls' character, and if it was conducted under the care of church authorities would enable girls to meet the right kind of young men.

ARMS FOR IRISHMEN SEIZED AT FLEETWOOD

Customs Officials Are Keeping Close Watch on all Shipments.

[Canadian Press.] New York, Dec. 11.—A London cable says:

The activity of the customs officials in carrying out effect a proclamation prohibiting the exportation of arms and ammunition to Ireland was followed by a series of large seizures at Fleetwood yesterday. This is the port of embarkation for practically all cargo consigned to Belfast, and not a package is allowed to escape scrutiny.

Steamers arriving at Belfast are asked, "Have you any arms to be carried?" The luggage was searched in many instances, but at this port special staff customs officers did not make a single capture.

Several women were among the passengers suspected of gun-running, and were called upon to declare that they were not carrying a concealed armory with them.

THE WEATHER.

THE LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures for the 24 hours preceding 8 a.m. this morning: Highest, 32°; lowest, 16°.

The official temperature for the 24 hours preceding 8 p.m. Wednesday is as follows: Highest, 26°; lowest, 25°.

TOMORROW—FINE AND MILD.

Today—Fine and cold. Friday—Fine and milder.

Temperatures.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours preceding 8 a.m. today:

Stations. High. Low. Weather. Calgary. 51. 24. Clear. Winnipeg. 32. 26. Clear. Port Arthur. 26. 22. Cloudy. Parry Sound. 32. 6. Cloudy. Toronto. 49. 14. Cloudy. Ottawa. 34. 13. Cloudy. Montreal. 34. 13. Cloudy. Quebec. 32. 16. Cloudy. Father Point. 32. 18. Cloudy.

Weather Notes.

Colder weather from the vicinity of James Bay has spread into Ontario and Quebec, but the temperature promises to rise again almost immediately.

In the West the weather is fine and mild, while in the Maritime Provinces it is rainy.

SHOP EARLY



RAILROADING OF BYLAW CRITICIZED BY CITIZENS

High-Handed Action of Mayor in Putting Through Natural Gas Agreement Without Due Consideration and Without Return for Privileges, Being Opposed.

The manner in which the natural gas bylaw was put through the city council has called forth criticism from many quarters. It was passed at a special meeting of the city council last Friday night, which was the last date for passing it in order that it be submitted to the ratepayers.

The members of the finance committee, with the exception of chairman J. P. Moore and the mayor, did not see the bylaw until 7 o'clock, and as the council met a short time after, the only alternative open to the aldermen was to pass the bylaw or to lay the whole matter over for another year. Several of the aldermen, who did not want to deny the people of the city a reduction in gas rates, were at all times with the idea of rushing the bylaw through without proper consideration.

Impossible to Get Committee. The mayor excused the hasty action by saying that "it had seemed impossible to call the committee together." There had been time, however, for him and the chairman to confer with the city solicitor and to have the bylaw prepared.

A sample of the usual high-handed action of the mayor, who, so far as the procedure, bylaw or the municipal act reveal, has no more rights in the city council than the humblest alderman.

No Return for Franchise. The first point that is being criticized is the granting of a 29-year franchise to a company without receiving any return for the privilege of using the streets.

The street railway that the company got everything from the citizens and gave nothing in return. Yet if an asphalt movement was being laid on Dundas and Richmond streets the proportion paid for it by the street railway would be almost half, and movements of that description cost at least \$45,000 a mile. On ordinary gravel roadways the street railway pays about one-fourth of the cost, or from \$2,000 to \$4,000 a mile. The street railway has 20 miles of pavements in the city of London, on which it pays a share.

No Payment Whatever. The natural gas people will, if the bylaw is passed, receive their franchise without the payment of one cent to the city.

Ingersoll has taken up the question of purification of the gas before it shall be sold to the public. The natural gas promoters state that individual purifiers may be purchased by those who want them. These would cost in the neighborhood of \$7 to \$10.

Means Reduction in Price. The fact remains that natural gas means a reduction in the price of gas to citizens, and for this reason some of the aldermen were loth to object to the bylaw being submitted. At the same time they do not think the natural gas men are in philanthropy as a business, and believe that a provision for some return to the city should have been made in the case of the street railway and the Bell Telephone Company.

BIG BROTHER BRINGS MISSING BOY HOME

Escorts Willie Pitt Back to Home in This City.

Willie Pitt, the 15-year-old son of T. H. Pitt, 372 Simcoe street, who disappeared from home one week ago, and for whom the police of Canadian and American border towns were searching, was brought back to this city this morning in company with his brother, who resides at Longwood.

The youthful wanderer went to his brother's home in that place Wednesday morning, and his mother and father were immediately informed by telegraph of his arrival. They were greatly relieved upon receipt of the comforting news, as they had commenced to fear that something serious had befallen their boy.

When Willie got home today, he was penitent and sorry for having run away, and while he declined to tell how he had existed during the interim, he was not backward in proclaiming that home and mother were better than all the adventures in the world.

Millionaire Shot; Assassin Arrested

Sir Lionel Phillips Has Bullets in Neck and Thigh—The South African Gold Mining Magnate Attacked While Walking Down Street.

[Canadian Press.] Johannesburg, South Africa, Dec. 11.—An attempt was made today to assassinate Sir Lionel Phillips, the leading gold mining magnate of South Africa. Three shots were fired at him. One bullet lodged in his neck and another in one of his thighs. His condition is declared not to be grave. The would-be assassin was arrested.

The attempt was made while he was walking on Commissioner street. It is supposed to have been an outcome of the bitterness aroused against the mine owners owing to the dissatisfaction of the miners in connection with the conditions of settlement of the strike movement in September. At that time a series of riots occurred, in which about 100 miners were killed and many wounded and banished.

when they came into armed conflict with the troops and police.

Men's Grievances. The grievances of the men were chiefly concerned with the great mortality in the mines and the refusal of the mine owners to recognize the unions. They were eventually forced to accept the owners' terms.

Sir Lionel Phillips was closely identified with the late Cecil Rhodes and Alfred Beit, and he is a partner in the firm of Wertheim, Beit & Co. He has lived at Johannesburg since 1889.

In 1906 Sir Lionel was sentenced to death at Pretoria for participation in the Jameson raid, together with John Hayes Hammond, George F. Farrow and Colonel Frank Rhodes. The sentence was later commuted to a fine of \$125,000 and banishment.

RATE REDUCTION WOULD AFFECT CANADA'S CREDIT

Canadian Northern Counsel Speaks at Investigation Into Freight Schedule.

VARIOUS TARIFFS CITED

Declares That Boards of Trade Are a Disease in the West.

[Canadian Press.] Ottawa, Dec. 11.—Boards of trade have become so numerous and so active in the Canadian west that they have become a disease, declared F. H. Phippen, K. C., counsel for the Canadian Northern, during his argument at the investigation into the freight rates case today.

These boards are established in every hamlet, town, city, side line and everywhere where two or three men are gathered together, he said. To be president of a board of trade is regarded by the president and his deputies as the greatest honor. When evidence in the west none but members of boards of trade from all parts of the prairie gave evidence.

Serious Effects. Mr. Phippen maintained that a reduction in the freight rates in Western Canada would seriously affect the credit of Canada, and in view of the fact, this case was the most momentous the board had ever dealt with.

He said there was no general demand for a reduction of rates. The agitation of the western boards of trade should not be taken too seriously as they did not reflect all of public opinion.

The board should consider that the Dominion Government built the board part of the Canadian Pacific Railway, while the Canadian Northern had paid its own bills. Bonds guaranteed by the Government, the Canadian Northern is primarily responsible for.

Tariffs Cited. Mr. L. G. McPhillips, K. C., counsel for the British Columbia Government, dealt with figures put in by the board of the Canadian Pacific Railway fields of the British Columbia.

He cited tariffs in force in the American Pacific coast states, where the physical conditions are similar to those in British Columbia, to show that the rates in the Canadian Pacific would apply the same tariff.

He said that the board could not fix rates. The board could not fix rates. The board could not fix rates.

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STEFANSSON PARTY, SPLIT BY DISSENSION, LEFT ITS LEADER

Ottawa Fears That Scientific Members of Expedition Were Not Sorry To Take Ship After Dropping Explorer.

NOVICES WANTED "FANCY" FOOD

[Special to The Advertiser.] Ottawa, Dec. 11.—It is feared in official quarters at Ottawa that Stefansson may not see his expedition again for a very long time. It is thought that the men on the ship may not take the trouble to look up their nominal leader until they have pretty well completed the work, which the expedition set out to accomplish.

There was trouble in the party before it got out of touch with civilization. It developed early that the views of Stefansson did not coincide with the views of some of the men whom he was obliged to take with him.

After leaving Vancouver and before Alaska was reached, there developed a disposition to challenge the authority of Stefansson in all matters. Objection was made to the expedition being called the "Stefansson Expedition."

Many Were Jealous. The party consisted chiefly of scientific specialists, and some of them were reported to be as vain and jealous as grand opera stars. Stefansson had planned to live off the country with his rifle, as he had done before, believing that the only way a white man in the north can keep his health was by living as the natives do.

Other members of the party did not relish this prospect of living on blubber, and they insisted that more prepared provisions be obtained. Stefansson had to bow to the storm and purchase prepared food in large quantities in the Alaskan town, such as Nome. In fact he had to obtain an additional vessel to carry the additional food. The result was that the expenses of the expedition were greatly increased.

Went After Blubber. The dispatches from Stefansson show that one of the first things he did after turning the corner of Alaska was to set out with a few men after blubber. He was in two days' time was gone, and he was left facing the wilderness with his few companions. There is no suggestion that Stefansson was deliberately abandoning the party, but the belief is that he did not want to be a conference on the vessel was not sorry that it happened, and did not regret losing the discoverer of the land Esquimaux.

The commander of the Karluk, Capt. Bartlett, is not the sort of a man who would be a party to a plot to run away from the man whom the Government had given command of the expedition. However, if ice and adverse winds should carry the Karluk a long distance, there would be a conference of the leading men on the ship, and she would thereafter be directed in her movements by the council.

Go On With Work. The work of sounding, mapping and exploring generally would be continued, and an effort would be made to locate the unknown land to the north of the Canadian coast, which has not been seen but the existence of which is indicated by the study of ocean currents.

It was expected that the expedition would be going to return there was plenty of time for him to have done so, between the time the expedition left and the time he sent out his message from Point Barrow.

He left the vessel on Sept. 20, and says that a gale sprung up on Sept. 22, and that on Sept. 24, when the weather cleared, there was nothing to be seen of the Karluk or the ice field in which she had been held. He wrote his message on Oct. 30, having waited for a week for the Karluk or the ice field in which she had been held. He wrote his message on Oct. 30, having waited for a week for the Karluk or the ice field in which she had been held.

Either the Karluk has been crushed, or is still trapped in the ice, or the expedition is inclined to again pick up Stefansson.

The general belief here among those who know the conditions of the party is that the latter is the case.

GOVERNMENT YIELDING TO LAURIER POLICY

Hon. Robert Rogers Announces in the West That There Is Likelihood That Duty Will Be Reduced as Demanded.

[Canadian Press.] Carman, Man., Dec. 11.—That the Government would consider placing wheat on the free list was stated last night by Hon. Robert Rogers, who was the principal speaker at a Conservative meeting in the interests of Alex. Morrison.

Mr. Rogers stated that the matter was an important one, and if the Government were convinced that the free wheat was in the interests of the country, steps would be taken to have the duty removed.

Tree Doctors at Work

Photo by Hines. The above is the "doctored" elm tree in the fair grounds. It is 150 feet in height, 7 feet in thickness near the base of the trunk, and is a century and a half old. Three heavy linemen under the supervision of Parks Commissioner E. Hamilton, worked on a ladder at a height of 40 feet from the ground, where iron bolts and chains were inserted to hold the split limb in its place. Asphaltum was smeared on the raw parts of the tree, and in the spring of next year, cement will be deposited in the split to prevent moisture or dirt reaching it. The bark will grow over the cement, forming a channel for the sap to run to the upper limbs.

New French Premier Declares Policy

Keenest Interest Was Taken in Opening Proceedings of Government.

[Canadian Press.] Paris, Dec. 11.—Gaston Doumergue, the new French premier, read the cabinet's declaration of policy in the chamber of deputies today in the presence of over 400 deputies, and a large crowd of spectators in the public galleries.

Loud applause from the Radical, Socialist and Socialist benches greeted the premier's explanation of the ministerial program, which, however, was sometimes interrupted by sarcastic remarks from the Opposition side of the House.

At the conclusion of the reading of the declaration, Premier Doumergue announced that the Government placed itself at the disposal of the chamber of interpellations.

RIFLE BATTLE IN PROGRESS WITH THE STRIKING MINERS

Special Train Load of Deputy Sheriffs and Citizens' Alliance Members Rushed To Take Part in Fight Near Calumet—One Man Reported Killed.

[Canadian Press.] Calumet, Mich., Dec. 11.—According to reports reaching here this afternoon, a rifle battle is on between mine deputies and Citizens' Alliance members on one side and striking copper miners. The report stated no one had been killed, but a deputy sheriff named Driscoll, had been probably fatally wounded.

After a night of guerrilla fighting a special trainload of Citizens' Alliance members and deputy sheriffs was rushed from Houghton to South Range Village, and Baltic early this morning, and another train left a couple of hours later after an appeal had been received for aid.

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