The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL. L. NO. 325. VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY, FBERUARY 8, 1910. FIFTIETH YEAR

INSURGENTS WIN IN NICARAGUA

Leader of the Forces of the Provisional Government Succeeds in Besting Regular Troops

FLANK MOVEMENT PROVES SUCCESSFUL

Generals Effect a Juncture and Will March on Managua—Six Thousand Men Engaged in Battle

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—A cablegram received at the navy department late today from Capt. Shipley, commander of the gunboat Des Moines, lying off Bluefields, Nicaragua, reports another engagement between the government and insurgent forces at Acoyapa in which the insurgents are reported to have been victorious.

Capt. Shipley's advices were that the insurgents had a force of not less than 6,000 men engaged in the battle under Gen. Mena. The government forces are reported to have suffered heavy losses. Gen. Mena is reported to have forced the government troops to retire westward and they are thus placed between the insurgent forces under Gen. Mena and Gen. Chamorro.

Describe the Battle.

BLUEFIELDS, Feb. 5.—Dispatches received here describe the engagement which took place between the provisional forces under General Mena and the government troops. In an official despatch, General Mena says he defeated 600 of the enemy commanded by Gen. Carrida, a Guatemalan at Las Garitas, which is midway between La Libertad and Juigalpa. Mena completely routed the enemy, capturing many prisoners and rifles. The loss to the Madriz forces were heavy, while the provisional forces suffered slightly. General Mena is pushing forward to join Gen. Chamorro at Comoapa, which is well along the way to Managua. Chamorro in the last few days in his advance upon the capital, executed a flank movement, thus evading the Madriz troops, who expected to engage him at Acoapa. Comoapa is one and a half days from Teustepe. Managua province, with a clear road from there to Granada. The Madriz forces, the despatch says, have retreated to Santo Domingo, directly to the north of Teustepe.

General Cammorro holds all the lines to the interior and the enemy behind him is completely cut off. General Aurelio Estrada, brother of the president of the provisional government, has 1,200 men in the hills six miles from Managua, having successfully organized a rising some time ago directly under the noses of the administration and he will join Chamorra and Mena in the march on Managua.

DRAWING THE LINE

Regulations Relative to Admission, Duty Free, of Foreigners' Effects, Will Be Strictly Enforced.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Revised regulations governing the admission free of duty of personal effects of passengers arriving in the United States, draw close the line that has prevailed during recent years, when other than actual personal effects were allowed to be included in the $100 exemption. The change is made in conformity with recent decisions of the courts and the board of general appraisers. It is specifically provided that foreigners are privileged to enter free such articles as are in the nature of wearing apparel, of personal adornment and similar effects accompanying the passenger necessary for wear and for use for the journey and not intended for other purposes for sale, without regard to the $100 limitation. Citizens of the United States may have this privilege provided they are bona fide residents of a foreign country.

At 'Frisco

MISSOULA, Mont., Feb. 4.—"The Jeff-Johnson fight will be held in San Francisco," said John B. Gleason, here this afternoon. "This was fully decided upon between Rickard and myself by telegraph this morning." Gleason will meet "Tex" Rickard Monday in Salt Lake City and arrange final details.

Murder and Suicide

FERGUS FALLS, Minn., Feb. 4.—Wm. Ruckheim, a farmer, aged 35 years, murdered his wife and four children and shot himself last night at Parker's Prairie. He was found dying when his son went to the farm today. Ruckheim is believed to have been temporarily insane. No other motive for the crime has been found.

Suspected Murderer Remanded.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 5.—Jesse Vandandt charged with the murder of his wife whose burned body was found lying across a gas stove at their home last Saturday, was arraigned today and pleaded not guilty. The court announced that it would await the verdict of the coroner and the case was continued until Feb. 11th.

Need Assistance.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—A despatch to the State Department from Ambassador Bacon, Paris, states that the needs of the poor are being admirably met by the Red Cross and local charitable organizations, but that the destitute will be in great need of assistance for at least a month to come and therefore further contributions from America will be very acceptable.

FACES SERIOUS CHARGE

Vancouver Italian Charged With Shooting With Intent to Murder Remanded for Week.

VANCOUVER, Feb. 5.—A charge of shooting with intent to murder which was laid against Dominick Marsten in police court this morning was adjourned for another week because the victim if the shooting, T. Bruno, another Italian, is still in a precarious condition in St. Paul's hospital. This case is alleged to be the outcome of the Black Hand operations here. It is alleged Bruno attempted to coerce Marsten into giving him money. The latter, it is said, refused, and Bruno, it is claimed by Marsten, began to give him a beating and he opened fire, shooting his adversary through the neck, just missing a vital spot. The police have been bending every effort to run down a supposed gang of Black Hand Italians who, it is alleged, are operating in this city successfully, by preying upon other Italians not connected with the alleged Black Hand society.

Inspects Aeroplanes.

PARIS, Feb. 5.—General Brun, minister of war, today inspected the first four aeroplanes built by the French company after the Wright plans on the order of the war department. Count de Lambert explained the working of the machines.

Next to Nature's Heart.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Feb. 5.—Aura Mary, gypsy queen emerita, who says she is 117 years old, danced barefoot in the snow with the other members of her tribe during the celebration of ave maria day at their camp near here. Aura Mary believes in living close to nature. She never wears heavy weather clothing, and it is her daily custom to go barefoot through the snow. She is spry, smokes, and says she expects to live ten years longer. Twenty years ago she abdicated her gypsy throne in favor of her little girl, who is now 17 years old.

ELEVEN KILLED IN COAL MINE DISASTER

Explosion of Gas in Number Two Slope of Ernest Mine at Indiana, Penna., Has Fatal Results

INDIANA, Penn., Feb. 5.—Ten Hungarians and one American were killed by a gas explosion today in the Number 2 slope of the Ernest mine of the Jefferson and Cearfield Coal Co., five miles north of this place.

The explosion occurred in a heading where 12 workmen were working. One of these, Andrew Krazier, escaped by crawling a quarter of a mile on his stomach to evade the noxious gases. His inability to speak English prevented a lucid explanation of the cause of the explosion. When he saw the lights of the rescuers he moaned and tried to crawl. He was slightly burned, but suffered chiefly from the effects of after damp. He was placed in a car and immediately taken to daylight. Some of the dead were found near the entrance to the heading, others lay along the track a short distance from each other, almost at the face of the coal mine. Two bodies near the face were burned slightly about the face and arms. The position of the bodies showed the men had made desperate efforts to crawl away from the headings.

How Krazier escaped cannot be learned. One hundred and ten men working in the same slope escaped through other headings of the mine, although they were held back for about ten hours by the black damp, until a rescue party of 12 mine bosses rescued them. One thousand other men, working in adjoining mines within a radius of three miles, heard the concussion but paid no heed to it and did not learn of the disaster until they came out of the mines early tonight.

Foremen who were laying tracks just within the mouth of the mine slope were knocked unconscious by the concussion but were revived later with little difficulty. The mine has been known as a gaseous mine and plenty of fire bosses have been maintained. Tonight it was reported that no fire boss made any return of his inspection this morning, and this has been reported to the mine superintendent of this district.

The rescue party of twelve mine bosses went into the mine about 9.30 this morning shortly after the accident and when they came out, about five o'clock they brought with them the dead bodies and announced that there was no one else in the mine. The bodies blackened by flames were immediately sent to the homes of the unfortunates and the funerals will be held tomorrow. The inquest will be held on Monday.

In the meantime state mine inspectors Rogers Sampson of the Punxsutawney, Joseph W. Williams of Allloona, Thomas Loudon of Tyrene and Thos. D. William of Johnstown, are investigating the cause.

Saved by Garden Hose

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal., Feb. 5.—A garden hose that served as an air-pipe saved the lives of Robert Waler, George Phillips and Henry Cummings, who were buried in a mine cave-in at Doble, Nevada, last Saturday. The men were timbering the mine when a fall of rock cut off their escape. They had been using the hose siphon water from the pit and through it received enough air to sustain them while they dug their way oue.

One Killed in Collision.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 5.—Trains number 36 and number 40 on the Florida East Coast railroad in South Jacksonville today collided at the water tank and five cars were demolished. One unknown man is dead while three others are likely to die.

SETTLERS' CASE TO BE SETTLED

Vexed Question to Be Finally Solved and Legislation Ratifying the Agreement Introduced

AFFECTS SQUATTERS ON LANDS OF E. & N. RAILWAY

Case Dates Back to the Early Days of the Colony—Hearing to Be Granted Those Interested

Among important legislative enactments to be introduced in the house next week by Hon. W. J. Bowser will be one confirming the agreement of settlement of the long-standing dispute concerning settlers' rights in the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway belt on Vancouver Island.

An agreement is now in course of negotiation by which all litigation of past years will be finally settled, Crown grants issued to all bona-fide settlers and certain lands on the northern end of Vancouver Island conveyed to the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company in lieu of thereof which will be granted to settlers.

The history of the litigation over the question of settlers' rights within the railway belt is a long one. The lands affected are those squatted on during the early days. Some years ago the provincial government enacted legislation to enable titles to be granted to settlers. Crown grants were issued in a number of instances, among those receiving a grant being a settler named McGregor. His case was made the test and a fight was carried through the courts to the privy council, it being held by the railway company that the government had no right to grant title to these lands on the ground that they were comprised within the original grant made to the railway company for the purpose of securing construction of the road. The privy council upheld the constitutionality of the act.

A Crown grant was issued to another settler, Mrs. Fiddick. This grant was attacked by the railway company on the ground that it should have been given a hearing on the case by the government before the grant was issued. This plea was upheld by the full court. It then became a case of either fighting the matter through the courts again or affecting a settlement. The latter course was attempted and the results are likely to prove highly gratifying to the settlers affected.

As matters now stand it is probable that a hearing will be given early in the coming week by the executive council of the provincial government for the purpose of determining the number of bona-fide settlers who will benefit under the proposed settlement. The Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company will also be heard in the matter. It will be decided by the executive how many Crown grants shall be issued and how much land outside the railway belt will be turned over to the railway company in lieu of that granted to the settlers. The land to be given the railway lies in the vicinity of Comox, it being in an area placed under reserve some time ago.

ALBERTA LEADS

Entries at Recent Provincial Seed Fair of Quality to Win Honors Anywhere.

CALGARY, Feb. 4.—The most successful provincial seed fair in the history of Alberta has come to a close. Alberta has now become recognized south of the line as the premier grain growing section of the continent and the present seed fair shows in its own way what conditions of the province are the best adapted for the raising of various grains.

It was admitted by Prof. Linefeldt, of the Montana experimental farm, who acted in the capacity of judge, that the Alberta red winter wheat entries from Southern Alberta were all of a standard permitting of their winning any of the championships in the various classes to which they would have been allowed entry at the recent dry farming congress held at Billings.

USEFUL THIS

Teddy's Literary Activities Require Something Like This if He Would Save Money

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 4.—The carriage free of all mail matter sent by Theodore Roosevelt is proposed by Representative Hamilton Fish of New York, who introduced a bill to that effect today. The bill reads: "That all mail matter sent by Theodore Roosevelt, late president of the United States, under his written autograph signature, be conveyed free of postage during his natural life."

Franking privileges are now enjoyed by both Mrs. Cleveland and Mrs. Harrison, widows of ex-presidents.

Another Wireless Hero

SAVANNAH, Ga., Feb. 4.—Wireless reports received here tell of the heroism of Wireless Operator W. G. McGinnis of the Kentucky, who stayed at his key sending his calls for aid out into the air until the inrushing waters drowned out his dynamo, and made his instruments mute. Just as the current failed the black smoke from the Alamo's funnels was seen as she came rushing to the rescue. When the crew had gained the deck of the Alamo, Capt. Moore, of the Kentucky, publicly thanked McGinnis and the rescued crew cheered him.

JEFFRIES WILL TOUR THE WORLD

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—Guaranteed the lump sum of $150,000 for his share or a salary of $1,000 per week with 50 per cent of the profits above that amount, James J. Jeffries will start on a 10 months' tour of the world at the head of an athletic show on July 4, providing he regains the title of worlds' champion heavyweight in his meeting with Jack Johnson, July 4.

This announcement was made last night by H. H. Frazee who is promoting the present tour of Jeffries.

Accompanying Jeffries on the trip, acording to Frazee, will be James J. Corbett, Stanley Ketchel, possibly Battling Nelson, Sam Berger, Frank Gotch, Dr. B. F. Roller and "Farmer" Burns or some man of similar ability. Battling Nelson is not signed yet and terms may cause a hitch in that part of the programme, but Frazee wishes to have in the party the heavyweight, middleweight and lightweight champions.

According to present plans, Jeffries will not visit Hot Springs at the end of his tour on February 13, but will leave for the Pacific Coast direct from Duluth. Mrs. Jeffries who has been convalescant from an operation in a local hospital will leave tomorrow for Helena, Mont., to meet her husband.

Committed for Libel.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., Feb. 4.—J. P. Malaney, as editor of the Woodstock Press (Conservative) was committed for trial today on a charge of libel preferred by F. B. Carvell, Liberal M. P. The trial will be next month, bail of $1,000 was accepted.

Cohen Released on Bail.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 4.—Ferdinand Cohen the waiter who is charged with kidnapping Roberta De Janon, the young heiress of this city, was released from prison this afternoon on $1,000 bail. The bond was signed by the proprietor of a small bakery.

REPAIRING RAVAGES OF FRENCH FLOODS

Conference of Cabinet Ministers and Bankers Considers Manner in Which Assistance Will Be Extended

PARIS, Feb. 5.—Premier Briand, M. Cochery, minister of finance, M. Dupuy, minister of commerce, M. Ruau, minister of agriculture, Pallaiane, governor of the Bank of France, and the presidents of the principal banks in Paris, had a conference today to discuss plans to assist the farmers, merchants and others who have suffered from the floods.

A comprehensive scheme, embodying gifts of money, direct loans or guaranteed loans was drawn up, and the matter will be further considered at the cabinet meeting on Monday when the amount of the credit to be asked from parliament will be also decided. The Lyceum Club, which has been collecting funds, clothing and supplies, tonight gave a benefit for the flood's victims.

CONTRASTS THE BANK SYSTEMS

John P. Knight Prefers the Canadian to That in Vogue in the United States and Tells Students So

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—A contrast between American and Canadian banking methods unfavorable to the United States was made tonight at the annual dinner of the New York University School of Commerce, by J. P. Knight, secretary of the Canadian Bankers Association.

Mr. Knight said: "It has been admitted again and again that the American bank examiner can do very little to prevent the violations of law which frequently lead to ruin, but although the Canadian branch system may admit of opportunities for fraud on a larger scale, it at least provides a guarantee against the gross mismanagement of small institutions, to which the United States system is liable.

Austria-United States Tariffs.

VIENNA, Feb. 5.—Speaking today to a deputation from the American trade association regarding the commercial treaties between Austria-Hungary and the United States, Count Von Aehrenthal, the foreign minister, said that the largest reports from Washington were very favorable. He expected that the American government would grant to Austria the minimum tariff under the new law.

Trail Smelter Receipts.

NELSON, Feb. 5.—The feature of the week in mining is the steadily increasing number of silver lead shippers to Trail. The total for the Consolidated Companies plant for the week was the largest on record. The general mine output was well up to the present high weekly average. Appended are details by districts. Ore shipments: Boundary, total for the week 6,805, year 23,380; Slocan-Kootenay, total for week 2,117, year 7,539; Smelter receipts total for week 45,496, year, 227,351.

FUTURE OF HOUSE OF LORDS

Attitude of New Government With Respect to the Upper Chamber Is Arousing Considerable Speculation

SENATE OF EMPIRE IS SUGGESTED

Uncertain What Stand Nationalists Will Take on Budget, Which Means Heavy Taxation in Ireland

LONDON, Feb. 5.—Of even greater interest than the possible changes in the cabinet is the course the government is likely to pursue upon the reassembling of parliament. Thus far, on this, as on all other matters, Prime Minister Asquith has kept his own counsel, and the views of the Liberals vary according to their shade of radicalism. Extreme members of the party, like the Laborites, and even some of the moderate men strongly favor an immediate attack upon the veto power of the House of Lords. They want the budget and all other legislation shelved until the party has settled its account with the peers, who are held responsible for all the political troubles that have arisen. The Irish members too are believed to support this view, although John E. Redmond, leader of the Nationalists, who since his election has been in retirement at his country home in Ireland, has not yet made any announcement of his intentions. The more moderate Liberals, seeing the possibility of the disorganization of the finances of the country by this course of action are urging the government, first to introduce the budget, which, the Lords accepting the result of the election as an endorsement of the government's financial policy, are already pledged to pass.

Future of House of Lords.

On the question of the future status of the House of Lords, opinion differs almost as widely. The Laborites and the extremist members are for the abolition of the upper chamber. Another section of the ministerialists demand the abolition of the lords' right to veto on financial legislation, so that, in the words of the resolution passed by the house of commons when the budget was held up by the house of lords, the will of the people as expressed by the house of commons must be adopted by the house of lords within the limits of a single parliament. In other words this means that any measure passed by three successive sessions of the house of commons must be adopted by the lords.

The views of the moderates are expressed by Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary, who says, "no reform of the house of lords can be a real reform unless it provides for the abolition of the hereditary principle and the substitution of popular election."

The Spectator follows up this with the suggestion that the upper house consist of 200 members chosen under a system of proportional representation from equal electoral areas.

In the meantime the Unionists, with the exception of a few peers, who under no circumstances would find a place in the reformed chamber are practically unanimous for a change in the constitution of the house of lords. Many schemes are being put forward, the most popular probably being that embodied in the report of the Rosebery committee, which provides for the election by the hereditary peers of 200 of their own number, together with 150 peers qualified by service to the nation, 10 bishops, 5 judges and 40 life peers.

"Senate of Empire."

The Imperialists among the Unionists look with considerable favor on the suggestion made by Norton Griffiths, a new member who has had great experience in the colonies and elsewhere. He has proposed, when the moment is opportune, to establish a senate of the empire, to include representatives from the colonies.

Premier Asquith can count on a majority for the curtailment of the lord's veto, but on the budget the attitude of the Nationalists is still uncertain. Many members of the party strongly oppose the clauses imposing whiskey duties. Several Liberals are in the same position.

Wm. O'Brien who holds the independent Irish members, writes, "There is no doubt that the Irish party contemplates the blackest treason perpetrated against the Irish since the Act of Union. The Nationalists propose to assist the government in passing the budget which will impose on Ireland $10,000,000 in taxation per annum."

The first formal meeting of the ministry will take place on Feb. 10, and the changes in the cabinet, the wording of the King's speech for the opening of parliament, and the course of business for the commons, will then be decided upon.

Analysis of Vote.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—The following analysis of the figures polled in the general election does not include those polled where contests occurred between rival Nationalists or between Unionists and Nationalists. The labor vote is included with the Socialists:

Provincial boroughs and counties—Unionists, 2,756,864; Liberals, 2,611,643; Laborite, 521,133.

London—Unionists, 320,583; Liberals, 234,322; Laborites, 326,349.

London University Unionists, 2,625; Liberals, 1,929.

It will thus be seen that the Unionists had a majority of votes over the Liberals of 556,987, but a minority when the Liberals-Labor coalition is considered.

WICKED OLD NEW YORK

Fifth Avenue Infested with "Street Walkers" and Pickpockets.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—Fashionable Fifth Avenue is so infested by pickpockets and "street walkers" that it is unsafe, according to Magistrate Cornell, for a man with any considerable sum of money in his pockets to walk at night from Delmonico's to the Waldorf. The magistrate held Jessie Miles in $1,000 bail on the complaint of John Russell, treasurer of the New York Taxi-Cab company, who says she forced her acquaintance on him in front of the Waldorf, and picked his pocket of $850 before he could get rid of her. Recalling the recent case of Warner Van Norden, who was similarly robbed of $2,800 recently, the magistrate said: "Present conditions, on a street known the world over, and which should be the pride of New York must change. From the Waldorf to Delmonico's a man now runs the gauntlet of pickpocket women, strong arm women, and panel workers. Of course, in this case the victim is partly to blame for permitting the woman to force herself on his acquaintance, but her actions were in themselves a violation of law, and should have been prevented."

FORGOT THE DYNAMITE

Placed It in Oven of Cook Stove and Was Blown to Death.

VANCOUVER, Feb. 5.—Forgetting that he had placed two sticks of dynamite in the oven of his cook stove, Arthur Blumel was blown into the water from his small steamer at the head of Toby Inlet on January 28, and after lingering until morning without medical assistance and in extreme pain with splinters of the stove embedded in his flesh, he died. The steamer was partially wrecked by the explosion, but was beached in time to save her.

TO CONSOLIDATE THE LIQUOR ACT

Hon. W. J. Bowser to Introduce Measure Providing for Higher License and Strict Regulation of the Traffic

A measure of far-reaching effect, one which will deal directly in some of its phases with the liquor traffic and the management of hotels in practically every part of British Columbia, will in all probability be introduced in the legislature during the coming week by Hon. W. J. Bowser, Attorney-General. The bill which will be brought down in the House, if not next week, then as soon as possible, will be nothing less than one providing for the consolidation of the liquor act of the province, a measure combining higher license taxation and strict regulation of the liquor traffic.

The scale of license fees to be imposed under the act will apply only to unorganized districts of the province where the fixing of license fees is wholly within the jurisdiction of the provincial government. In the past the license fees paid by hotels in unorganized districts have been comparatively small and it is proposed to increase the amount. In all probability the scale of license fees will be arranged on a basis suitable to conditions and circumstances existing in individual districts, that is to say, that the license rates in some districts will be higher than in others.

ADMONISHES PRIESTS

Bishop in Southern France Seeks to Restore Better Feeling Regarding Schools.

NICE, France, Feb. 5.—Bishop Chapon, who has several times attracted attention by refusing to follow the militant counsels of some of his colleagues publishes a letter to the priests of his diocese, instructing them to cooperate with the public school teachers instead of opposing them. Bishop Chapon, says that he would consider himself a bad Bishop, a bad Christian and a bad citizen if he excited strife between the teachers, the cures and the families and he admonished the priests to keep out of politics and act in accordance with the evangelistic injunction: "Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto to you, do yet even so unto them."

POLITICAL ARRESTS

Trouble in Mexico Over Action of Government in Connection With the Present Election Campaign

MEXICO, Feb. 5.—A furore has developed throughout the country as the result of the arrest and imprisonment of Samuel Monteras, the leader of the opponents to the re-election of Vice-President Corrall, and the imprisonment of Garcia Cadena, an orator of the Democratic party, which opposes the re-election of both President Diaz and Corrall.

The press is bitter in its criticisms of the action, calling attention to the recent statement of Diaz that he was glad to see the people exercising constitutional rights. Both men are charged with sedition.

The re-election of Diaz is favored by a great number of citizens, and it is believed that there is little or no doubt about it.

Corrall, however, is unpopular, and there is a strong sentiment about him. The campaign was proceeding with a semblance of freedom of speech and action which was praised by the Liberal press.

The arrest of the two anti-Corrall leaders and their incarceration came as a rather sudden shock and has served to embitter more than ever the opponents of the Diaz government.

If the prisoners were engaged in any plot, their friends said today, they did not confide their purposes to anyone.

CABINET CHANGES ARE INDICATED

Earl of Carrington Will Probably Be the New Governor-General of Canada—Haldane to Succeed Mackenna

ASQUITH TO CONFER WITH LLOYD GEORGE

Rumored That the War Office and Admiralty Will Be Placed Under a Single "Minister of Defence"

LONDON, Feb. 4.—Premier Asquith will meet David Lloyd George at Nice tomorrow and it is expected that he will return to London on Monday. The Premier is keeping his own counsel and though there is plenty of speculation concerning what the government's policy will be in the new parliament, nothing definite as yet is known of any ministerial plans.

The cabinet changes which are expected to be announced early next week, will probably include the resignation of Viscount Wolverhampton, as Lord president of the council, and the transfer of the Earl of Carrington, president of the Board of Agriculture, to the governor-generalship of Canada; Reginald Mackenna, succeeding Viscount Wolverhampton, and Mr. Haldane, the home secretary, becoming first Lord of the Admiralty in place of Mr. Mackenna.

An interesting rumor is published in effect that the cabinet will consider the amalgamation of the admiralty and the war office under a single minister, to be styled the Minister of Defence, with a view of ensuring greater coordination between the two services.

Although it is presumed the budget will be the first business submitted to the new parliament, there is a large section of the Liberals which is urging the government to deal with the veto of the House of Lords before everything else. Joseph Chamberlain left Birmingham today for a prolonged stay at Cannes.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES LOST

Heavy Loss Occasioned by Fire at New York—Canal Supplies Are Destroyed.

NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—For the second time within two years, the medical supply department of the United States army was burned out of its headquarters at West and Vestry streets, on the lower west waterfront today, this time with a loss variously estimated at $750,000 and $1,000,000. There was no loss of life.

Fully as serious as the monetary loss to the government is the inconvenience caused to the sanitary department of the Panama Canal commission. A consignment of medical supplies to the canal zone valued at $10,000, packed and ready for shipment, was among the things destroyed, and it is feared a serious shortage on the Isthmus will arise.

READY FOR JURY

Blackmail Case Arising Out of Enormous Defalcations of ex-Railway Treasurer Ending.

CINCINNATI, O., Feb. 4.—With the probable close of the trial of Mrs. Jeannette Stewart-Ford for blackmail tomorrow the curtain will fall on the second act in the drama of the gigantic defalcation of Charles Warriner, defaulting local treasurer of the Big Four railway. The state today concluded its case with a severe arraignment of Mrs. Ford. The defense did not attempt a vindication of Mrs. Ford's moral character and contented itself with an attack upon Warriner and Edgar S. Cooke, the other principal figure in the shortage of the $643,000. The case will probably go to the jury late tomorrow.

Allege Discrimination.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 4.—Representatives of the fraternal press of the country appeared before the house committee on post offices and post roads today to protest against the recent ruling of the third assistant postmaster general, which prohibits them from carrying in their columns commercial advertisements not directly germaine to their fraternities. The fraternal press allege discrimination in this regard against them and in favor of all other publications which enter the mails as second-class matter.

Meets Death Near London.

LONDON, Feb. 4.—Gordon Clarke, only son of the late fire chief Lawrence Clark, whose tragic death is still fresh in the minds of Londoners was crushed to death by a Grand Trunk freight train near Beachville at an early hour this morning.

He Took No Chances.

BAY CITY, MICH., Feb. 4.—Auditor Cameron, of the state department of public instruction, had the surprise of his life, when he reached the farm house of the treasurer of the district number four in Williams township today. Upon the auditor's demand to see the books and money, Treasurer George Forester, whipped his horse into a gallop and disappeared. He returned with his brother-in-law, both armed. With his hands held high over his head, they marched the auditor into the house and the treasurer's wife was then directed to count the district funds under the eyes of the visitor and his guards. "I was not satisfied with his credentials and thought he might be a robber," said Forester, in explaining the episode.