

SYSTEMATIC METHODS ADOPTED FOR BRITISH INVESTIGATION

Comprehensive List of Questions Prepared To Draw Particulars OPENING SESSION YESTERDAY Field Covered by Senate Committee Will be Duplicated in British Enquiry—Twenty-six Queries for Witnesses.

London, May 2.—Lord Mersey, in his capacity as wreck commissioner, and five assessors who will advise him in his questioning on the technicalities of nautical affairs, held this morning the first session of the board of trade inquiry into the loss of the White Star steamer Titanic. Scarcely a hundred people attended the opening session.

FLOYD ALLEN IS ON TRIAL FOR HIS LIFE

Evidence Against First of Hillsville Court House Assassins.

Defence Argues Affair Was Greatly Exaggerated and Others Were Partly Responsible for the Trouble.

Wytheville, Va., May 2.—Till Bill Foster before the sun goes down tomorrow night, if I'm convicted." Floyd Allen, the first of the Hillsville court house assassins now on trial here for his life, was charged with making this remark before the shooting on March 14, according to the testimony today of I. B. Weddell, of Montgomery, one of the first day's witnesses for the prosecution. On cross-examination Weddell stuck to his story though he admitted no other persons were present during his conversation with Allen.

SMITH ADMITS KNOWS LITTLE

Only Knowledge of Marine Matters Gleaned from Voyage with Captain Smith Six Years Ago.

New York, May 2.—Senator Smith said today: "A full report of the inquiry will be made to congress as soon as the investigation is completed. I am not prepared just now to say how soon this will be. It will contain many recommendations based not upon the idle hearsay suggestions of novices, but upon the practical, sworn evidence of marine experts and will conduct to every point that will assure the absolute safety of ocean travelers. It will advocate many reforms—so many that I am not prepared to sketch even its future now."

BRITISH TITANIC FUND REACHES MILLION AND HALF

London, May 2.—The British Titanic fund amounts to approximately \$1,000,000. A conference was held at the Mansion House today to arrange for its distribution. It was decided to extend immediate relief to widows and bereaved families of the members of the crew, pending the organization of a committee to undertake the administration of the fund. This committee will include the lord mayor, the Earl of Derby, and the governor of the Bank of England.

BUSINESS OF CONGRESS IS CONGESTED

Failing Home Rule Measure Other Relief Must Be Sought.

Sir Edward Grey Admits Anomalies Exist in Present Bill But Sees No Other Solution of Difficulty.

London, May 2.—A. J. Balfour and Sir Edward Grey held the stage at today's debate on the Home Rule Bill in the House of Commons. The former premier showed little of his old time fire and his speech was reminiscent of many heard before. He complained that the bill did not contain even a germ of finality and that its adoption would work a great injury to the representative institutions of England while creating in Ireland an assembly which no Irishman could regard with pride or respect.

MEN COMPLAIN OF TREATMENT

British Workmen Employed by Grand Trunk Under Unpleasant Conditions—Minister Hears of Trouble.

GETTING READY TO CONSTRUCT THE QUEBEC DRY DOCK

Government Officials Pay Visit to Site of Proposed Works—Grain Elevators are Also Planned.

Quebec, May 2.—Hon. Mr. Cochrane, minister of railways and canals; Hon. J. Pelletier, postmaster general, and Major Leonard, chairman of the Transcontinental Railway Commission, are in Quebec today looking after the sites proposed for the dry dock that the government has decided to build in the harbor of Quebec. They will also inspect sites for the Transcontinental Railway terminal and station. They are accompanied by the representatives of the district of Quebec in the federal parliament.

SUSPECT PREMIER SEEKS TO SIEZE REINS OF POWER

Tang Shao Yi Unable to Agree With Foreign Bankers on Terms of Loan Suspected of Treachery.

Peking, May 2.—Premier Tang Shao Yi and the representatives of the foreign bankers failed to agree today on arrangement for a loan. The premier practically demands unlimited funds with the most nominal supervision. The bankers are opposed to floating Chinese bonds without thorough supervision over expenditures. The opinion is held that Tang Shao Yi is endeavoring to arrogate to himself a practical dictatorship, the president, Yuan Shi Kai being temporarily placed in the background.

SAY BRYCE IS GUILTY OF REASON

Unionists Consider Part in Reciprocity Negotiations Ground for Recall.

Draw Government's Attention to Taft-Roosevelt Correspondence and Recent Light Shed Upon Designs of U. S.

London, May 2.—Unionist members of the House of Commons are preparing to question the government regarding what they characterize as Ambassador Bryce's "treasonable act" in supporting the proposal by President Taft in the matter of Canadian reciprocity, and as to whether the government proposes to recall the Ambassador.

Another question of which notice has been given will be whether the government was aware of President Taft's intention to "make Canada only an adjunct of the United States" when they instructed Ambassador Bryce to assist the passage of the reciprocity agreement between the United States and Canada.

THAW WANTS HIS LIBERTY

Alienists Declare Ailment Would Not Prove Menace to Society if Released—Judge Considers Matter.

THIS VANCOUVER BOY PREFERRED DEATH TO SCHOOL

When Father Urged Him to Attend Whipped Out Revolver and Shot Himself, Dying Instantly.

Vancouver, May 2.—Ernest Clarke, age 14, and living with his parents at 888 Eighth Ave. West, committed suicide this morning, preferring death to school. He objected so strenuously to going to school that his mother sent for his father to reason with him. He told his mother that he would take poison first. When his father went into the room he had whipped out a revolver so quickly that before he could be stopped he shot himself through the temple, dying instantly.

TASK MAY BE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT IN LOCAL ELECTION

Rumored Hon. O. J. Leblanc Contemplates Vacating His Place on Opposition Ticket—Chances Very Slim.

Moncton, N. B., May 2.—There is a rumor from Kent county that Hon. O. J. Leblanc, recently nominated as one of the provincial opposition ticket, contemplates retiring from the fight and that his place will probably be taken by a comparatively unknown man from one of the smaller parishes. Mr. Leblanc claimed to have retired from the Dominion contest last year because of his age. It is possible that he now feels unequal to the still more difficult task of carrying a provincial opposition ticket to victory.

SMITH CONDUCTS THE PROBE SINGLE-HANDED

The Senator Examines Witnesses Unaided in New York LITTLE NEW LIGHT

No Evidence Forthcoming to Show White Star Authorities Received Intimation of Disaster Before Monday Evening.

New York, May 2.—Testimony taken today by Senator William Alden Smith of Michigan, chairman of the senate commission investigating the Titanic disaster did not reveal facts tending to confirm the report that New York merchant, who had testified in New York early that morning, to determine this question was the principal object of the senator's visit to New York and he had before him today in private hearing John Bottomley, vice-president of the American Marconi Company, E. J. Dunn, the New York operator, who had testified in Washington that he had been informed by the son of a Western Union operator that a message had been received in New York on Monday morning, telling of the Titanic's fate; and the operator himself, who returned to the city today. Mr. Smith said after having been absent since Sunday night.

These two witnesses were disposed to be recalcitrant, the senator said, and their examination was unsatisfactory. He said he would call the operator again when he hoped to obtain more definite information. Vice-president Bottomley according to his stenographic estimate, disclaimed all knowledge of any such news being received here at the time reported.

WANT LATER SEASON FOR NAVIGATION TO HEAD OF THE LAKES

Additional Ice Breakers and Lighthouse Service Would Add Month to the Open Season.

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White Plains, N. Y., May 2.—Justice Keogh in the Supreme Court, today heard argument on the application of Harry K. Thaw for a hearing before a jury as to his sanity. Clarence J. Shearn counsel for Thaw who was not brought from Matteawan said that his client insisted upon a jury passing upon his application for release from the state asylum for the criminal insane.

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DEADLOCK IN SITUATION

Operators and Miners Vote Down Suggestion of Subcommittee.

Representative of President of Mine Workers, However, Does Not Consider Outlook Discouraging

New York, May 2.—The full committee of anthracite operators and miners this afternoon voted down the agreement that was submitted to them by the sub-committee of the operators and miners to settle the controversy over the question of increased wages and other questions in the anthracite region. The "outlook, while rather complicated, is not discouraging. It is hoped all differences may yet be adjusted." This was the statement made early tonight by William Green, representing John P. White, president of the United Mine Workers, shortly before the convening of an evening session of the general committee representing the mine workers of the anthracite coal regions which today rejected the tentative agreement for settlement of the miners' wage and other demands which had been approved by sub-committees representing the operators and the mine workers. This agreement, it had been hoped, would result in the speedy resumption of work in the mines, where a suspension affecting 150,000 employees became effective April 1st.

Objection to the agreement which had been approved by President White of the United Mine Workers of America was based on the tenure of the contract period—which was for four years—the abolition of the sliding scale and the failure to recognize the union to the extent that the miners demanded.

TAIT MENTIONED AS THE POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR OF HAYS

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WIDOWS SEE THE GUYRAV FOR DAMAGES

Legal Actions Develop from Casualties in Titanic Disaster.

Negligence and Unskillfulness Charged—Ismay and Surviving Officers Will Be Called Upon to Testify

New York, N. Y., May 2.—Paper the first suit for damages brought by a relative of a Titanic victim, were filed in the federal district court here today. The suit in admiralty, is brought by Mrs. Louise Robins, widow of Victor Robins, Col. John Jacob Astor's valet, who lost his life when the Titanic sank, and is that in which the testimony of J. Bruce Ismay and officers of the sunken steamer is desired. It charges negligence on the part of the Ocean Steam Navigation Company, and asks for \$50,000 damages and costs.

In the libel, it is charged that the steamship company on April 14th last, the date of the disaster to the Titanic, "so negligently, unskillfully, faultily and wrongfully conducted itself and so misbehaved in the management of the steamship Titanic, that through the gross negligence, default, unskillfulness and wrongful acts of the respondent, its respective agents, officers or officers, servants and employees, the said steamship Titanic was caused to collide with and strike upon, or against an iceberg, upon the high seas, resulting in Victor Robins' death."

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