The Semi Weekly Colonist.

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Provincial Legislature

House Prorogued Last Night—Many Bills Assented to.

Shops Regulation Workmen's Compensation and Other Acts Dropped.

Other Bills Were Also Slaughtered in Closing Hours—Days Proceedings.

Saturday, April 8.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and, after the customary exercises, the following was the order of business:

Motions

Mr. Brown moved: "That a select committee of this House, consisting of Messrs. Ross, Bowser, Taylor, Henderson and Murphy, be appointed to enquire into all matters relating to an application by Mr. John Elliot, as counsel, for a fiat for a petition of right to try certain questions relating to the mineral claim 'Pack Train,' with power to call for persons, papers and documents, and to take evidence under oath and to report the evidence and their findings to the House."

He explained that this case arose through the granting of two mineral claims practically covering the same ground. As the matter was somewhat complicated, he asked for a committee to consider all the facts and decide whether a fiat should issue, not with any idea of having the land given to one party or the other, but simply that the rights of the matter might be threshed out.

Mr. Bowser moved the adjournment of the debate.

Bills

The bill to amend the Land Act was further considered on report.

Mr. Henderson argued that the bill contained serious defects. For instance, distinction was made between lands east and west of the Cascades, in fixing the price of the licenses, whereas it had been found indeterminable in law what was meant by this differentiation. It was impossible to say just where the point of separation lay between the two divisions. Section 4, dealing with the right of way across Crown lands, was also defective, no provision being made for cases in which such lands were [illegible]

[illegible] Mr. McInnes observed that under the system of dealing with the timber assets in the past, the idea was preserved that investment therein should be open to the poorer as well as the wealthier class of capitalists. This bill proposed to abolish that system, and proposed to give special privileges to that class of investors who were looking for large holdings for speculative purposes. In Ontario a great deal of the provincial revenue was derived from the disposal of timber lands, simply because competition was observed in settling them, and because the province took a proper inventory of its timber possessions.

Mr. Bowser moved the previous question for the purpose of closing the debate, and a vote was taken which resulted in the passage of the motion, 20 to 15, a straight party division. The report on the bill was then adopted, but its final passage, sought by Hon. Mr. Green, was objected to by Mr. Oliver on the ground that occasion might be found for amending the bill before it reached its final stage in the ordinary course, and that this period of deliberation with respect to it should not be denied, in view of the short time given to the House to become acquainted with its provisions.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald suggested that the government was attempting to head off discussion on the third reading of the bill. He intimated that he had placed a notice of an amendment which he intended to move at that stage, in the hands of the clerk.

The Speaker intimated that a motion to recommit the bill would be in order.

Mr. Macdonald remarked that it had become a public scandal that the public lands of the province were allowed to pass into the hands of favorites. The advertisements calling for competition were a farce. There was really no competition in the disposal of public assets. He asked members on the other side of the House to join with him in compelling the chief commissioner of lands and works to put the assets entrusted to his care up to public competition. He protested against the rushing of such important legislation in view of the experience during the first four weeks of the session, during which the House was idle for over two-thirds of the time, which, under ordinary circumstances, should have been fully occupied. He moved that the bill be recommitted for the purpose of considering an amendment providing for compulsory competition in the disposal of timber areas.

Mr. Brown recalled a statement of the chief commissioner during discussion of this subject, in which he recognized the merits of the Ontario system of dealing with timber lands, and pointed out that this system was embodied in the amendment before the House. It was well understood, he argued, that the province was not deriving that return which it should from this source. While in theory chances were supposed to be equal in the acquirement of timber lands, in practice it did not work out that way.

Mr. Macdonald's motion to recommit the bill was then put and lost on a party vote.

On the motion that the bill "be read a third time now," further discussion ensued.

Mr. Oliver pointed out that, under the bill, the revenues derivable from timber lands held under existing licenses were fixed for sixteen years, whereas timber areas taken up after the passage of the bill were subject to any royalties or conditions which the government might see fit to impose. He pointed out that a great change in timber values was probable within the next ten years, and that the utmost royalty collectable under the act was sixty cents per thousand feet. Thus it was easily conceivable that timber paying a royalty of sixty cents per thousand feet would come into competition with timber taken up after the passage of the bill, which would be paying one dollar and a half or two dollars and a half per thousand feet. These considerations should be sufficient, he thought, to delay the hasty passage of this bill.

Mr. Bowser moved the previous question.

Mr. Oliver objected to the closure being put upon the discussion of such an important measure.

Mr. Henderson asked if further debate was stopped by this motion.

The Speaker replied that it was absolutely.

The motion was then put and carried on a party vote, and the bill was read a third time and finally passed.

In reply to questions by Mr. Henderson and the leader of the opposition, the commissioner of public works stated that he expected to bring down certain returns asked for during the present session.

Upon consideration of the supply bill on report, Mr. Henderson opened a criticism of the government's position with respect to the transportation question.

Being challenged by the Speaker as to what this had to do with the supply bill, he contended that he was showing that supply should not be granted for certain reasons. He claimed that the salaries of the government should not be granted for doing nothing.

Mr. Ross moved that the question be now put, but his motion was intercepted by an amendment from the leader of the opposition that the report be not now adopted, but that its consideration be deferred for two weeks. He justified this motion on the ground that the government was seeking hasty prorogation to escape criticism of the stand they had taken on the railway question. If his motion passed it would give the government another two weeks to have a try at formulating a policy.

The amendment was defeated and the report adopted on a straight party vote.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow moved that the bill be read a third time now, which carried on the same division.

The bill to amend the Counties Definition Act was adopted on report and finally passed; also the bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act; also the bill relating to the employment on works carried on under franchises granted by private acts.

The bill to amend the Farmers' Institutes and Co-operation Act was withdrawn.

The bill to amend the Supreme Court Act passed the committee stage; also the bill respecting provincial land surveyors.

The bill respecting the Victoria Terminal Railway and Ferry Company and the New Westminster Southern Railway Company, was committed, Mr. Shatford in the chair.

Mr. Cameron observed that a dispute was pending between the city of Victoria and one of the companies named, and, with a view to protecting the interests of the city, he moved an amendment in effect that none of the rights and powers vested in the city of Victoria should be abrogated or interfered with by the act, and that it should not affect the existing contract between the Victoria and Sidney Railway Company, the province of British Columbia and the city, dated July 7th, 1892, or any remedy for breaches of such contract or any other contract which might be entered into between the parties.

This amendment was accepted by the premier and adopted. The bill was reported complete and read a third time.

The bill to amend the Water Clauses Act passed second reading.

The bill authorizing the Royal Trust Company to carry on business in the province finally passed; also the bill to incorporate the General Trusts Corporation, and the bill to incorporate the British Columbia Securities Company.

Upon motion for the second reading of the bill to incorporate the Royal Canadian Life Insurance Company, Mr. Paterson objected. He said the bill contained some peculiarities which demanded careful consideration, the private bills committee not having had time to sufficiently consider it.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite moved the adjournment of the debate.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

DISORDER IN CHICAGO.

Prospect of Another Extensive Struggle Between Unions and Employers.

Chicago, April 7.—Chicago is again in the throes of a contest between capital and labor. As on former occasions the unions have resorted to the use of union teamsters to bring them victory, tonight the struggle threatens to spread to many branches of the teaming industry of the city.

The controversy began in a strike several months ago of a few garment workers employed by Montgomery Ward & Co. The closed shop was the issue, and in order to bring the firm to the terms of the union, a strike of the 200 drivers and teamsters employed by the concern was called.

The down town streets today were the scenes of disorder, which followed fast on each other. Then attempts were made to deliver goods with non-union drivers. Many teamsters, garment workers and their friends filled the streets and clashes with the police occurred.

In several instances it was necessary for the police to arrest belligerents before the blockades could be lifted. Although the police worked incessantly all day to keep clear the streets about the Ward building, the crowd became so dense at one time during the day that all traffic was blocked. Forty police charged the crowd, using their clubs. The friends of the strikers were stubborn, however, and for several minutes resisted. The fight was too one-sided, however, to last long and the crowd finally dispersed.

JAPANESE TERMS OF PEACE.

Former Minister of Interior Writes Significant Article.

London, April 7.—Baron Suyematsu, formerly Japanese minister of the interior, has written a significant article for Outlook, under the heading "War and Indemnity—The Japanese Claim." The whole trend of the article is intended to show that Japan will carry on the war until Russia consents to pay indemnity. The baron says: "A canon of Japanese bushido is: 'One shall not unsheath the sword unless in case of absolute necessity, nor restore to its sheath the sword unless one is totally overcome or has secure equable satisfaction for one's cause.'

"This is our ideal in international course. The sword of Japan is drawn and the aim for which it was unsheathed has scarcely been attained. We want a peace which will, secure traquility in the Far East for at least a generation or two.

"The world should know that in the present war Japan staked her very existence, whereas with the enemy it was a mere war of caprice. Why, then, in case of defeat, should not Russia be made responsible in equitable accordance with the nature of the affair? I believe, therefore, that in the case of the adversary asking for peace, the satisfaction which she will have to make to Japan should include in making good the loss of Japan, in other words, indemnity."

Baron Suyematsu says further: "Japan has not formulated definite terms of peace because she might be accused of skinning the bear before it is shot. We have, however, outlined our idea."

Russians Fool The Japanese

Rojestvensky Misled Togo and Passed Singapore Unsuspected.

Sacrificed Several Colliers In Order to Create False Scent.

The Greatest Naval Battle Since Nelson's Time Due In Ten Days.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 9.—(2:45 a. m.)—There was great rejoicing at the Admiralty, Yacht and other naval clubs over the fact that Admiral Rojestvensky had successfully navigated the gateway to the Far East without encountering the Japanese. The danger of the fleet being beset by the wasps of the deep in the narrow waters of the straits, and the possibility that the big ships, so precious in the coming encounter with Admiral Togo, might be disabled, was so great that some of the experts favored a route around Australia.

The credit for the stratagem by which the feat was accomplished, the Associated Press learns, belongs solely to Vice Admiral Rojestvensky, who accurately judged that as the Malacca straits was the most practicable route, the Japanese would calculate that he would not dare to try to force a passage through. Besides this, Rojestvensky planned a stratagem to deceive the Japanese with the secret with which only two men in St. Petersburg were entrusted, by directing the Russian admiralty to order the colliers which were to follow him to rendezvous in Sunda straits, five hundred miles southward of Singapore, feeling sure that the Japanese intelligence department would be equal, as it probably was, to the task of ascertaining the destination of Rojestvensky, and thereby not only threw the Japanese off the scent but officially deceived his own admiralty, where the news of the fleet having passed Singapore probably created quite as much surprise as it did in the marine department at Tokio.

Sacrificed Colliers

Several colliers were actually despatched to the rendezvous and many already had fallen into the hands of the Japanese, but Rojestvensky deliberately sacrificed them as pawns in a higher game. That the ruse worked is apparent from the fact that Rojestvensky did not meet a single Japanese ship in the passage of the Straits of Malacca, while despatches from Batavia tell of Sunda, Bali, Lombok, Flores and other straits to the southward crowded with Japanese torpedo boats guarding the passages.

Although there is some talk of a possibility of Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky now putting in at Saigon, Cochin China, it is not believed that further advantage of French neutrality will be taken, unless he is forced to do so because of the condition of some of his ships.

The admiralty points out the great importance and advantage to be gained by pushing on with all possible speed and meeting Vice-Admiral Togo's heavy ships before he can effect a complete concentration of his scattered cruisers, scouts and torpedo boats. The belief of the admiralty is that Togo is waiting near the island of Formosa, 1800 miles north of Singapore.

Battle in Ten Days

At the rate the Russian squadron steamer from Madagascar, which averaged eight knots an hour, the greatest naval battle since Nelson's victory at Trafalgar should occur in about ten days. The admiralty realizes that Rojestvensky faces great odds owing to the immense superiority of the Japanese in cruisers and torpedo boats, and reliance in his success is based upon the seven battleships with which he can oppose Togo's four. It is thought unlikely that the Vladivostok squadron will attempt a junction with the second Pacific fleet, though it is quite possible it may make a diversion unfettered by the fate of the Rossia at the time of the egress of the Port Arthur fleet last August.

Fleet a Magnificent Spectacle.

Chicago, April 8.—A special from Singapore to the Daily News says: Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet, which passed this port at 3 p. m. today, was about seven miles off land and afforded a magnificent spectacle. They steamed along four abreast, an armored cruiser and three Hamburg-American transports leading, cruisers, battleships, colliers and a hospital ship following. The fleet made no stop. The Russian consul, M. Roudanovsky, spoke to one of the torpedo boats and to the flagship of the vice-admiral. Steaming at the rate of 8 knots an hour, it took fifty-five minutes for the whole fleet to pass a given point. It was very evident that the ship's hulls were exceedingly foul. Long grass streamed from them, and the vessels seemed unfit for fast manoeuvring. The crews of the various ships heartily cheered Consul Roudanovsky. The fleet was made up of six battleships, seven cruisers, seven torpedo boats, three transports, sixteen colliers, one salvage ship and one hospital ship.

Singapore, Straits Settlement, April 8.—The Russian second Pacific squadron passed here at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. The forty-seven ships, steaming slowly at eight knots an hour, four abreast, presented a striking spectacle.

The vessels, however, bore evidence of the effects of their long sea voyage and at the waterlines showed sea weed a foot long. The squadron was led by a large cruiser, followed by three converted former Hamburg-American line vessels. Then came the cruisers, colliers, battleships, etc. The colliers were mostly in the centre of the fleet. The decks of the warships were coal laden, while the colliers and the Hamburg-American liners were light of draft.

The fleet passed seven miles out. The Russian consul visited and gave despatches to a torpedo boat.

The fleet did not stop to receive despatches or to consult with the consul. Subsequently the consul visited Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's ship, talking to him from a launch. He did not board the vessel, but was cheered heartily on leaving the side of the ship. The consul gave to the fleet the first news of the fall of Mukden.

The vessels are burning soft coal and a tremendous smoke is visible for miles. Gangways were not lowered and nobody was permited on board the vessels. No news was vouchsafed. The only launches allowed to approach the fleet were those of the Russian consul and of the Associated Press.

Natives lined the sea front and were greatly excited. Submarine miners were kept at their posts all day and guns were kept manned. As the fleet did not touch the harbor limits no salutes were fired.

The squadron disappeared about 5 o'clock in the afternoon, still smoke black on the eastern horizon.

Insurance Rates Jump

London, April 8.—Insurance rates at Lloyds for shipping bound east of Singapore, advanced smartly on the news that the Russian second Pacific squadron had passed that port.

The Opposing Fleets

Following is the composition of the Russian second Pacific squadron, commanded by Vice-Admiral Rolestvensky, so far as known.

Battleships—Kniaz Souveroff (Rojestvensky's flagship), Sissoi Veliky (Voelkersam's flagship), Alexander III., Borodino, Oslabya, Navarin and Orel.

Cruisers—Admiral Nakhimoff, Dmitri Donskoi, Aurora, Jemtchug, Svietiana, Almaz, Oleg and Izumrud.

Torpedo boat destroyers—Blestiachy, Bravi, Bedovi and five others.

Volunteer fleet—Kieff, Vladimiroff, Voronej, Tamboff, Yaroslav.

Transports — Kamtchatka, Anadyr, Korea, Malaya, Gortschakoff, Jupiter and several others.

Following is a list of vessels probably comprising the Japanese squadron, commanded by Vice-Admiral Togo:

Battleships—Mikasa (flagship of Vice-Admiral Togo, Fuji, Ashai, Shikishima.

Battleship, second class—Chinyen.

Armored cruisers—Asama, Adsuma, Chiyoda, Idsumo, Iwate, Kasuga, Nisshin, Tokiwa, Yakuma.

Also thirty unarmored cruisers, twenty torpedo boat destroyers and about thirty-five torpedo boats, a large proportion of which is believed to be with the admiral.

OPEN DOOR IN MOROCCO.

French Foreign Minister States Case for France.

Paris, April 7.—Foreign Minister Delcasse, answering questions in the chamber of deputies relative to the status of Morocco, said the policy which the national interests of France required her to pursue had long been fully known. When that policy was consecrated by certain international agreements, public opinion here and abroad approved of the accords as further guarantees of bringing order and security to Morocco, while at the same time favoring the interests of the entire world, and giving no cause for resentment from any quarter. Continuing, the foreign minister said: "In dealing with Morocco, France invoked her lengthy frontier along Morocco and also sacrifices and damages resulting from the incessant troubles in the region of Morocco, together with the avowed weakness of the Moroccan government and its appeal to our consuls for support. We seek to make the Moroccan authorities understand the personal advantages of having the nominal, precarious authority of the Sultan fortified, extended so that the condition of the population may be ameliorated by security, and respect given to their customs and beliefs. We put this before them mildly, as friends, patiently also as becomes neighbors not having need of a precipitate solution, and we will continue our task with the tranquility of people who are wronging no one, and who contemplate nothing wrong to the interests of anyone.

"Having repeatedly taken this view, I feel no embarrassment in repeating what may dissipate all misunderstanding, if despite former declarations any such misunderstanding still exists."

M. Jaures, the Socialist leader, congratulated M. Delcasse on his statement, and said he hoped that the recent mutual understanding would be speedily dissipated.

Washington, April 7.—The British ambassador called on Secretary Taft and discussed with him the Moroccan situation with a special reference to the note which had been handed to the secretary by the German ambassador relating to the open door. The British ambassador expressed an opinion similar to that of the French ambassador, that the open door in Morocco obtains at the present time.

FIRE AT GRAND FORKS.

Pioneer Hotel of the Town Destroyed—News Notes.

Grand Forks, April 5.—A very serious fire broke out yesterday morning in the Victoria hotel, on the corner of Bridge street and Riverside avenue. The Victoria hotel is a three-storey frame building and one of the largest hotels in the Boundary country. The fire gained considerable headway before the fire department arrived on the scene; but in spite of this fact they succeeded in keeping the fire under control by confining it to the one building, the interior of which was entirely destroyed. The loss is estimated to be about five thousand dollars.

The Victoria is the pioneer hotel of Grand Forks and is owned by S. H. C. Miner and H. N. Galer.

Dr. G. W. Averill left yesterday for the Minnie claim, near Volcanic mountain, where he proposes continuing development work on a larger scale.

Dr. Ringston returned yesterday from a ten-days' visit in the Coast cities.

DOMINION NEWS NOTES.

Foundry Companies Combine—Well-known Printer Dead.

Toronto, April 7.—The Canada Foundry Company is about to acquire the Bertram Engine and Shipyards Company, the greatest shipbuilding enterprise in Canada. The matter, it is understood, will be definitely settled by the directors of the latter company, who meet in three weeks. The Canada Foundry Company directors have authorized the issue of $2,000,000 worth of stock, $900,000 of which was to be placed upon the market immediately.

Montreal, April 7.—J. X. Perreault, one of the best known Canadian printing men, founder of the chamber of commerce of this city and Canadian commissioner to the Paris exposition, died today. He was in his seventieth year.

Winnipeg, April 7.—Practically the entire business portion of Balgonie, Assa., was destroyed by fire at an early hour this morning. The fire is said to have started about midnight in the Balgonie hotel, owned by A. W. Dundas. Most of the business portion of the town was situated on the south side of the street, while the blaze swept everything. The losers are: Wm. Gibson, general store; G. S. Davidson, general store; William Dundas, proprietor of the Balgonie hotel.

REICHSTAG ADJOURNS.

President Receives a Rebuke and Shows Displeasure.

Berlin, April 7.—After adopting the supplemental and colonial budgets today, the Reichstag adjourned until May 10. The president of the House, Count Von Ballestrem, not having consulted the party leaders as usual, proposed May 2 as the date of reassembling, but Dr. Spahn, the leader of the centre party, immediately moved that the date be made May 10, which was adopted almost unanimously, seemingly as a rebuke to the president, who closed the sitting without the customary good wishes for a pleasant holiday.

The Week At Ottawa

Autonomy Bills Overshadowed by the Sbarretti Incident.

Interesting Reminiscences Concerning Appointment of Papal Delegate.

Solid Seven Receive Scant Attention From the Powers That Be.

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA, April 8.—Walter Scott has missed the greatest prize in his political life—the portfolio of the interior. It was intended to give it to him after the session and concentrate all the energies of the government to secure his re-election.

Mr. Borden's insistency that the portfolio should be filled immediately led to the Premier dropping Mr. Scott. He had to select a man sure of re-election, and therefore Frank Oliver, member for Edmonton, gets the plum. His majority in the general election was over 3,000, so that there is little prospect of defeating him. Mr. Oliver was sworn in at noon before the Governor-General, and left an hour later for Edmonton to arrange for his re-election. The writ of election went out by the same train and nominations will take place on the 25th inst., the polling, if any, on May 2.

Considerable sympathy is expressed for Senator Templeman, who it is felt is deserving of promotion. It seems, however, that the government has little use for a province which sends a solid seven to Ottawa.

The autonomy debate, which is the latest malapropism for autonomy discussion, was sidetracked for a few days this week by the Sbarretti incident, so that little progress has been made in disposing of the sixty odd speakers who desire to inform the country of their views on the question. By this time, however, newspaper men, and doubtless the country, too, is sick of the discussion. Not a member who speaks now but repeats in some form or other the arguments of previous speakers. Speaking these days therefore is in the nature of what the Scotch would term "heating cauld kail." Unless other councils prevail the country will have to stand the same sort of thing for two weeks longer.

Interest in Sbarretti

It is impossible for Westerners to conceive of the interest aroused over the Sbarretti incident. The papal delegate is a most interesting gentleman, Italian by birth, and in the prime of life, being under fifty years of age. He is short and stout and wears large glasses, which gives his open countenance a benign aspect. He speaks English perfectly and is a most genial companion. He was trained in a school of diplomats, his first appointment on this continent being in connection with the apostolic delegation to Washington. After serving there for a time he was consecrated bishop of Havana, and on his appointment as apostolic delegate to Canada in November, 1892, was created titular archbishop of Ephesis. The circumstances attending the first appointment of a papal delegate to the Dominion are familiar. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his party had had a row with the bishops in 1896 and the brilliant idea struck them that by approaching the holy see they might secure the appointment of a delegate to Canada who would be superior to the bishops, which might have a beneficial effect on the fortunes of the Liberal party. The correspondence which took place in connection with the appointment is now to be found in parliamentary sessional papeers. They convict Sir Wilfrid and his friends of such a policy of tergiversation on the Manitoba school question, the like of which is seldom found in history. It was held out as a direct inducement to the Holy Father to make the appointment that the result might be further concessions in the matter of education to Catholics in Manitoba. The appointment was made, and since then there has been peace between Premier Laurier and the bishops, due to the delegate's intervention.

Manitoba School Question

Mgr. Langevin, archbishop of St. Boniface, has never been satisfied with the Sir Wilfrid and Greenway settlement of the Manitoba school question, and doubtless he influenced Mgr. Sbarretti to make overtures to the Manitoba ministers on the occasion of their recent visit to Ottawa. It was a grievous blunder on his part, especially when he hinted that in granting of further educational privileges to Manitoba Catholics might be "politically expedient" in connection with the subject matter of the Manitoba delegation's visit to Ottawa at that time. It is obvious that Mgr. Sbarretti could not, in so many terms, promise directly or impliedly to assits the Manitobans to secure an extension of the boundaries of their province unless he was prepared to fulfill his part of the bargain. Mgr. Sbarretti is a Christian gentleman and, as Mr. Foster pointed out, would not stoop to a trick. The inference is obvious, therefore, that he must have been acting on an understanding with some minister. The general impression was that Mr. Fitzpatrick is the man, but he denies it and there are some who say a gentleman in close touch with the minister of justice could tell how it was that a draft of the amendments to the Manitoba School Act which Mgr. Sbarretti handed to Messrs. Rogers and Campbell came into the delegate's possession.

Mr. Russell's Little Bill

It was pointed out in the course of debate that Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick and Charles Russell, legate agent of the government in London, went to Rome to interview Cardinal Rampolla, secretary to his holiness, and made representations through him. The following session Russell was voted $9,000 for "services," and it is shrewdly suspected, indeed, was charged in the House, that the country had paid for the work he did to secure the appointment of a papal delegate to the Dominion. For the time being the Sbarretti incident has quieted down, but it is only a temporary lull and any moment may flare up again. In the meantime Eastern newspapers have some very striking cartoons and comments on the situation.

The vacant commandership of the Dominion quarantine steamer Columbia was filled by the appointment thereto of Captain Riley, brother of George Riley, M. P. The appointment was made on Mr. Smith's recommendation, the quarantine station being in his district.

The senators have been very busy this week. They have passed resolutions in favor of the removal of the embargo on Canadian cattle and for active steps to be taken to stop the progress of tuberculosis in the Dominion. On the latter question they went further than the Commons, as they are asking the government to appoint an influential commission of medical men and experts to investigate the ravages of the disease and suggest some means of co-operation between the Dominion and the provinces to prevent its further progress.

Manufacture of Aluminum

Colonel Domville has had a special committee at work investigating the possibilities of the manufacture of aluminum in Canada. There is a large factory at Shawinigan, province of Quebec, but the factory is simply located there on account of the splendid water power site. The product from which aluminum is made is brought from Germany, and it is really oxide of aluminum and is made from a special kind of clay. Experts of the geological department are of the opinion that the requisite clay is procurable in Canada, and Colonel Domville's committee desires to secure information regarding the clay deposits of the different provinces of Canada.

According to the statement of Mr. Stewart, the Dominion superintendent of forestry, there are 199,000,000 acres of timber lands in Northwest Canada; the largest item being spruce. He mentioned to the agriculture committee that a system of fire ranging had been established for Dominion lands similar to that prevailing in Ontario and Quebec. The co-operation of the Hudson's Bay Company had been secured and the result had been of great benefit in protecting Dominion timber. The committee heard with satisfaction that British Columbia is going to adopt a similar system this year.

EXPLOSION AT BELLINGHAM.

Large Quantity of Dynamite Causes Great Destruction.

Bellingham, April 7.—By the explosion of over seven hundred pounds of giant powder at Sehome Hill at 11:30 o'clock this morning, dozens of people in the vicinity were knocked down, hundreds of windows were broken, and damage created which has not yet been estimated. It is likely that the loss to property will run into many thousands of dollars.

It is reported that there is not a whole gas mantle left in any house on the hill. Every building and residence within half a mile of the scene of the explosion was more or less wrecked. Windows were smashed, plaster was knocked from walls, and many housewives are mourning the loss of handsome china.

Where the powder exploded there is a hole in the ground of sufficient size to furnish a ready-made excavation for the basement of a building large enough to cover half of the average city business block.

LABOR DISPUTE SETTLED.

Cleveland, April 7.—The Great Lakes Towing Co. today made a settlement with the firemen and linesmen employed on the company's boats. The wages will be $60 per month at the large and $55 at the small ports. The dock managers and the officials of the longshoremen, representing the coal handlers at Lake Erie ports, also made a wage settlement on the basis of the 1903 scale, which means an advance of about 7½ per cent. over last year.

A JAPANESE REPULSE.

General Linevitch Reports Scoring a Small Victory Over His Enemy.

St. Petersburg, April 8.—A despatch from Gen. Linevitch to the Emperor under today's date says: "The battle at Tsintsatun, April 7, lasted twelve hours. The enemy's losses were heavy from our artillery and rifle fire. Our casualties were: Killed, Capt. Prince Massalsky and four Cossacks; wounded, two officers and 34 Cossacks.

"An April 5, our outposts, after a fusilade, pushed back the Japanese outposts to Taipinlin.

"Our infantry the same day occupied the village of Koukouseki, after dislodging the enemy.

"The Japanese retreated repeatedly."

Harbin, April 8.—Detachments of Russian cavalry are actively reconnoitring the village of Eerdahitzi, where it was brought to a stop by Japanese entrenchments. Before retreating, however, it is said to have succeeded in cutting the railway and burning the depot and stores. The detachment brought back news that a fortnight ago a mixed Japanese division of ten thousand men with artillery left the Japanese rear and disappeared into Mongolia, and was followed a few days ago by another detachment of five thousand men.

These troops are expected to appear in the region of Bodun, which unfortunately is connected with the base by only poor roads.

Kirin is in the same plight, and the loss of the narrow gauge railroad and rolling stock, abandoned at Mukden, is especially felt. Chinese report that the Japanese are energetically transporting siege guns toward Kirin.

BLAST KILLS EIGHT MEN.

Tamping Powder Sets Off Charge and Explodes Many Others.

Allisonia, Va., April 8.—While tamping with powder today in a blast in the limestone quarry about four miles from here, the blast was accidentally discharged, this causing the explosion of two other blasts that had been set nearby. Eight men are known to have been instantly killed, and two others were so badly injured as to leave but little hope of their recovery. It is expected that other bodies will be found.

The explosion occurred on a bluff projecting over the track of the Norfolk & Western Railway Co., and the whole mass of earth and stone was precipitated on it.

EMPEROR WILLIAM'S TOUR.

His Majesty Has a Busy Day in Sicily and Drive Through Messina.

Messina, April 8.—Emperor William spent a busy day today. This is his majesty's fifth visit to Messina, where he has many acquaintances. Much of his time today was given up to the Empress and to Princes Eitel and Oscar, and besides he received a number of persons, with whom he conversed quite freely. His majesty leaves tomorrow for Corfu.

After an exchange of visits between Emperor William and the local authorities, his majesty drove through the city, returning to the Hohenzollern tonight.

AMBASSADOR TO ROME.

London, April 8.—United States Ambassador White and Mrs. White left London this afternoon for Rome. Foreign Secretary Lansdowne, Secretary for India Brodrick, Ambassador Choate, all the members of the American embassy and others bade them farewell at the railroad station. Premier Balfour gave Mr. White a farewell dinner last night, at which speeches regretful of his departure and wishing him success were delivered. Mr. White will spend a couple of days in Paris on his way to his new post.

Municipal Ownership

Mayor Elect of Chicago Enunciates Programme of Proposed Operations.

City Has Already Cut Down Cost of Electric Light Fifty Per Cent.

Feasible Scheme Outlined for Acquisition of Street Car Lines.

NEW YORK, April 7.—Fresh from his triumph in the recent municipal election, Mayor-elect Dunne of Chicago came to New York today and tonight addressed a large meeting in Cooper Union under the auspices of the Municipal Ownership League of this city. He told his hearers how he expected to carry out his pledges made in his recent campaign in Chicago to attain municipal ownership, of the benefits as he conceived them, of city control of public utilities, and he closed with congratulating the local league on being pioneers in the movement in New York.

His speech was enthusiastically received.

Recent agitation in New York for municipal ownership added interest to Judge Dunne's utterances.

The following is an abstract of the address: "Next Monday Chicago starts upon her mission of dislodging private capital from control of her street car system. She has succeeded in the operation of her waterworks system in paying some $38,000,000 for its equipment, has loaned $7,000,000 for the department to the sewerage system, is today giving the cheapest water of probably any city in America, and has a cash surplus of nearly $1,000,000. She has so managed her electric light plant that she has reduced the cost of arc lamps from $125 to about $54 per arc lamp per annum. She is operating both departments, as well as her police, fire and educational departments, without scandal, graft or corruption, besides cheapening the cost of utilities furnished to the public. She will have the same record of success in relation to her street car system.

Commencement of Struggle

"The struggle commenced ten years ago. Private capitalists who had possession of our streets, not content with a twenty year franchise by the most shameless corruption, induced the legislature to permit the grant of fifty year franchises. The people were taken unawares and the law was passed, but the public spirit of Chicago at once revolted, and before the private capitalists could have the necessary ordinance passed in the city council, the people were upon their feet and the next legislature was compelled to repeal this infamous law.

"The only two [illegible] objections raised during the [illegible] struggle in Chicago against public ownership of public utilities were:

"First—That it would tend to build up a great political machine. None of the friends of municipal ownership of the public utilities advocates the ownership and operation of any utility by municipalities unless in connection therewith there is a civil service law under which all applicants for positions, irrespective of politics, will be treated exactly alike, and in which just and reasonable tests will be applied. We have such a law in Chicago, under which, for years, it has been impracticable for any man to place a friend in the police, fire or water departments.

"Second—That the municipality had no money. The operation of these utilities is a valuable privilege. We propose to raise all the money necessary to purchase an up-to-date street car system upon certificates which are special or limited promises to pay out of the income collected from the system. Under the Illinois law, these certificates are termed street car certificates, and are secured, first, by the pledge of all of the income of the municipal street railway plant, this income being unlimited as to time; second, by a mortgage, which covers all of the tangible property in the transportation department of the city, both real, personal and mixed and every kind of property used in the transportation department and third by twenty year franchises.

Absolute Security for Loans

In other words, if default be made in the payment of street car certificates, or interest thereon, for one year, then the holders may apply to the court of chancery to foreclose all of the tangible property used by the city in its transportation department, and at the foreclosure sale these shall be knocked down to the highest bidder the franchise, commencing to run upon the date when the purchaser buys the property and running twenty years thereafter.

"Private companies in the past have sold stocks and bonds aggregating $117,000,000, when their tangible property was worth less than $27,000,000. If they could raise four times the value of the tangible property upon an expiring franchise, can any sensible man hesitate as to what amount of money the city of Chicago can raise upon the security hereinbefore mentioned.

"I have no hesitation in predicting that if these street car certificates are offered upon the financial market that the financial syndicates of the nation will be tumbling over each other to get possession of them; while the savings banks deposits of Chicago would be glad to take their moneys from the savings banks, where they are obtaining three per cent. and invest them in street car certificates, secured by a mortgage and a twenty year franchise. As to the legality of these certificates, there is no possible doubt. Some of the best lawyers of Chicago have already declared in favor of their validity, and we can have a test case made which will reach the Supreme court of the United States inside of three or four months, which will forever settle the question of their legality."

Movement Growing Rapidly

In conclusion Judge Dunne said: "If good results have been secured in Europe and Australia, why cannot they be secured in New York and Chicago and other cities of America? The movement in favor of municipal ownership of all public utilities has taken deep root among the intelligent people of this country. It is here to stay and the politicians and parties who ignore this sentiment must be prepared for a short lived career before the pepole."

Magistrate—Do you promise to let liquor alone?

Prisoner—Yes, Jedge, I promise. But Webster's Dictionary sez there's a heap of difference between promise and assure.

Magistrate—Well, then, we will make assurance doubly sure by locking you up.—Cincinnati Tribune.