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BRITISH COLUMNS ROUND UP THREE LAAGERS AND TAKE MANY PRISONERS.

Biggest Capture in Some Time--Concentration of Mounted Infantry at Halifax Fixed--New Volunteer Force in South Africa.

Pretoria, Dec. 5--The largest capture of Boers made in many months occurred today, when three columns secured an aggregate of 250 prisoners. General Bruce Hamilton, near Ermelo; Major Davitt, in the Waterbury district, and General Methuen in Northwest Transvaal rounded up three laagers with only a few casualties on either side.

Ottawa, Dec. 5--(Special)--Hon. Dr. Borden received a cable tonight from the imperial government stating that two British war transports will be sent to convey the Canadian Mounted Infantry to South Africa. They are the British troop ships Manhattan and Rancee. The former has accommodation for 17 officers, 450 men and 120 horses; the Rancee, 20 officers, 450 men and 200 horses.

BEBEL RAISES A BABEL.

Great Sensation Caused in Reichstag by German Social Democrats on Government's Tax Bill--Laughter at Poor Resented.

Berlin, Dec. 5--The most insignificant looking man in the Reichstag, Herr Bebel, broke his diatribe monotony today and lifted the tariff debate to emotional levels. He often provoked his opponents, and sometimes he even entangled them. The speaker is diminutive in body and had a large head. Pulling at his pointed chin whisker, he took the tribune after the peasant farmer, Herr Nissen, and as the representative of 2,800,000 voters, he lodged the Socialist protest against the "hunger duties," as he called the tariffs of grain. The man seemed to grow bodily as he warmed up to his work. Herr Bebel said that there were two nations in the German state, the plunderers and the plundered. The imperial chancellor, Count Von Buelow, spoke for the former; I am speaking for the latter. Fifteen per cent. of the German people are engaged in agriculture. The chancellor said the remaining 85 per cent. were engaged in other occupations, and these 73 per cent. of these latter were industrialists. The proposition of the government was to lay a tax of between 600,000,000 and 700,000,000 marks on food in order to make more profitable the occupation of 15 per cent. of the people. Only one-tenth of the grain is imported.

the way with you fellows. You lay taxes upon the poor and when it is proven to you that they are unnecessary, you laugh. But the world's history rolls on over you, regardlessly. Later, Graf Von Armin, another great Agrarian leader, scornfully interrupted Herr Bebel, while the latter was relating an incident of a Prussian school girl, who wanted to go to heaven because there was no longer there. Upon this occurrence the Socialist members of the Reichstag rushed in a body toward the Conservative side of the chamber, shouting "order!" Interruptions of all sorts were then made. These showed the rising temper of the house. The president of the Reichstag frequently rang his bell or called Herr Bebel or the other members to order. Herr Bebel, inspired by the tempestuous temper of the house, exclaimed: "This bill foments insurrection. The chancellor aims to overturn social order; we shall do our utmost to send this bill to Harlem, and we only regret we cannot send its authors and abettors there also." Baron Von Rheinbaben, the Prussian minister of finance, advised Herr Bebel that if the Social Democrats stirred up rebellion, the government assured them they would reap a harvest of broken heads. This was greeted with cheers on the right and laughter on the left. Herr Moeller, the minister of commerce, said he regarded the new tariff as an effective weapon in the hands of the government to forest to a conclusion favorable commercial treaties. The Reichstag then adjourned. Both Herr Moeller and Baron Von Rheinbaben referred to the necessity of protection from American competition. The latter described the misery caused by the Dingler tariff among the working classes of Germany.

STORM INTERFERED WITH LUMBERING.

Miramichi Operations Had to Be Suspended--Four Feet of Snow. Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 5--(Special)--A. R. Miles, lumber surveyor for the New Brunswick Railway Company, returned tonight from the Miramichi woods. He says that the storm paralyzed lumbering operations in that locality, and many of the men have been obliged to quit work. Snow fell to a depth of more than four feet.

DIPHTHERIA OUTBREAK ON ANTICOSTI ISLAND.

Governor Wires Quebec to Send Assistance Quickly. Quebec, Dec. 5--(Special)--The following dispatch from Comstant, governor of the Island of Anticosti, causes much anxiety: "Use all possible endeavor to send steamer Savoy down without delay. Outbreak of diphtheria has declared itself here among the workmen. Send experienced practitioner." The captain of the Savoy procured a crew and is trying to take the Savoy out of the basin, where she put up for the winter. His efforts, however, are so far unsuccessful.

STEAMER WITH CARGO AFIRE.

The Hackney from New Orleans Put Into Port at Halifax Thursday Evening.

Halifax, Dec. 5--(Special)--Steamer Hackney, from New Orleans via Norfolk, Va., for Rotterdam, five days out, put in here this evening with cargo afire. The steamer is loaded with phosphate and cotton. Early Tuesday morning fire was discovered in No. 2 hold. It had apparently gained good headway, as large volumes of smoke poured from the ventilator when opened. As quickly as possible a hole was

cut in the bulkhead and steam injected. This seemed to subside the flames to some extent, and the vessel was headed for this port for assistance. She encountered the very heavy gale of Tuesday night and Wednesday with tremendous sea. When she reached here her deck was quite hot. The fire is still burning. The Hackney will be in the morning, when part of her cargo will be discharged in order to get a seat of the fire.

HAY-PAUNCEFOTE TREATY BEFORE SENATE.

Text of President's Letter Transmitting the Convention for Ratification.

Washington, Dec. 5--Following is the letter of President Roosevelt transmitting the Hay-Pauncefote treaty to the senate: "To the Senate--I transmit for the advice and consent of the senate to its ratification, a convention signed Nov. 18th, 1901, by the respective plenipotentiaries of the United States and Great Britain, to facilitate the construction of a ship canal to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans by whatever route may be considered expedient, and to that end, to remove any objections which may arise out of the convention of April 19, 1850, commonly called the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, to the construction of such canal under the auspices of the government of the United States, without impairing the general principles of neutrality established in said treaty. I also enclose a report from the secretary of state, submitting the convention for my consideration. (Sd.) 'THEODORE ROOSEVELT.' The text of Secretary Hay's report upon the treaty as made to the president also was transmitted to the senate."

PRESENT FROM PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES

Mr. Baker of the C. P. R. Receives Handsome Gifts.

Montreal, Dec. 5--W. R. Baker, of the C. P. R., who accompanied the royal party on their recent tour through Canada, today received from the Prince and Princess of Wales a massive silver jardiniere on the part of the ladies and gentlemen of the royal suite a large silver cigarette box, with the various autographs inscribed on the lid and an inscription on the front. Letters expressive of appreciation of Mr. Baker's attention accompanied the gifts.

NEW BRUNSWICK OIL.

Meeting of Petroleum Company at Moncton--Satisfactory Results of Borings.

Moncton, N. B., Dec. 5--(Special)--An adjourned meeting of the New Brunswick Petroleum Company was held here this morning, Hon. H. R. Emmerson presiding. The directors asked further time to report on the proposed subletting of areas for exploration. During the discussion it came out there had been no authorized announcement of an intention to place stock upon the market, and a present intention of offering stock for sale. Information was also given to stockholders respecting satisfactory results of borings at the wells and it was hoped within a comparatively few days to have some definite ideas as to new borings in Albert county, which are being pushed with great rapidity.

Coal from Cape Breton.

Boston, Dec. 5--During the last month the steamer employed in the trade of furnishing the coke works of Everett with coal from Cape Breton, brought some 48,000 tons, and now the Catalina is anchored in the stream of Fiske's wharf, unloading some 5,600 tons into lighters. The Mytic was up at the pier of the company and discharged her cargo of over 4,000 tons and went out to the loading pier.

Montreal Wants Mining Museum.

The Board of Trade has approved of the idea that the dominion government establish a public mining museum in Montreal, but expresses the opinion that the affairs of such museum would be best administered if placed under control of some representative body as Canadian mining institute.

Three Killed, Forty Hurt.

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 5--Three persons were killed and 40 injured in a head-on collision between two passenger trains on the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern railroad, near Malvern, tonight. The killed and most of the injured were in the negro coaches.

Ex-Bank President Released from Jail.

Montreal, Dec. 5--(Special)--Wm. Weir, who was president of the defunct Banque Ville Marie, was released from jail today after spending nearly two years for sending a false bank report to the dominion government.

Polish Anti-German Agitation.

Berlin, Dec. 5--The Polish anti-German agitation is beginning to attract serious attention in the German press. The Lokai Anzeiger reports both the Austrian and Russian governments have promised to adopt measures to suppress the agitation.

Captured Twenty-two Negroes.

Andalusia, Ala., Dec. 5--Sheriff Bradshaw returned to Andalusia today with 22 negroes accused of complicity in the killing of J. W. Dorsey and Pale Atkinson, at Opp, last evening.

Payment of County at Sydney.

Ottawa, Dec. 5--(Special)--W. G. Parmelee, deputy minister of trade and commerce, has gone to Sydney, C. B., with J. Lorne McDougall, auditor general, in connection with payment of government bounty on iron and steel.

ADVISE CHANGES IN LOBSTER REGULATIONS.

Fishery Officers of Western Nova Scotia Counties Take Action at Digby.

Digby, N. S., Dec. 5--(Special)--The annual meeting of the fishery officers of the western counties closed here this afternoon. All the districts were represented before Halifax and Digby. The meeting was principally to make recommendations to the government regarding changing of the lobster regulations, and other matters of importance. It was decided that Digby county should come under the same regulations as Yarmouth and the other western counties. "That the fishermen should be allowed to set their lobster traps on and after the 15th day of December in all the bays along the coast; that the construction of such canal under the auspices of the government of the United States, without impairing the general principles of neutrality established in said treaty. I also enclose a report from the secretary of state, submitting the convention for my consideration. (Sd.) 'THEODORE ROOSEVELT.' The text of Secretary Hay's report upon the treaty as made to the president also was transmitted to the senate."

SOMETHING BRILLIANT COMES FROM HALIFAX.

Proposition for People's Railway to Pass Into Hands of C. P. R.--The Board of Trade Moves for This and Wants Support.

Halifax, Dec. 5--(Special)--The Halifax board of trade this afternoon unanimously passed a resolution favoring the transfer of the management of the Intercolonial Railway to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company; also the following: "Therefore resolved, that this board communicate with the several boards of trade throughout the dominion and ask if they would unite in a memorial to the federal government favoring the transfer of the management of the Intercolonial Railway to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, provided such arrangements could be made with that company as would, while retaining government ownership of the road, promote local traffic and lead to the extensive development of Canada in export and import business through the ports of Quebec, St. John, Halifax and Sydney." A strong resolution was also passed urging upon the dominion government the necessity of establishing a fast steamship service. The resolution calls for a line equal to any running out of New York.

SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN DROWNED.

Foreman of Halifax Quarantine Steamer, and Also Charlottetown Waichman, Are Missing.

Halifax, Dec. 5--(Special)--Thomas Madras, foreman of the quarantine steamer Argus, is missing and it is feared he has been drowned. He usually slept on board the vessel, but he had been ashore on Tuesday, and returned on board the steamer last night. "Charlottetown, P. E. I., Dec. 5--(Special)--Amoshe Akwa, watchman on the derrick used in the Hillsboro bridge construction, is missing. Grappling for the body is being conducted.

HARDSHIPS OF BRISTOL'S CREW

Seven Have Feet and Hands Badly Frozen--Others Are Worn Out. Bridgeport, Conn., Dec. 5--Captain Sanford, of the Nova Scotia barque Bristol, came ashore this morning on an oyster steamer. He communicated with R. C. Grace & Company, New York, and the latter firm will immediately despatch a tug to tow the Bristol to New York. Captain Sanford says that seven of the vessel's crew are badly frozen about the feet and hands, and the other 11 men on board, worn out by the trying experiences he tell over about the handling of the vessel could not for some days proceed under her canvas.

Lord Strathcona's Condition.

Montreal, Dec. 5--(Special)--E. S. Clouston, general manager of the Bank of Montreal, today received a cablegram from the office of the high commissioner in London: "Doctor authorizes the statement that Lord Strathcona has had an attack of influenza, followed by acute inflammation of one ear. Progress slow, but satisfactory; condition has nothing whatever to do with fall he sustained in Montreal, from which he is entirely recovered."

British New Naval Construction Director

London, Dec. 5--Philip Watts, naval architect and director of the warship building department of Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., has been appointed director of naval construction in succession to Sir William Henry White, the responsible designer of all the British warships since 1888, who resigned on account of ill health.

CAPTAIN OF NOVA SCOTIAN SHIP DEAD.

Treasurer's Commander Succumbed to Smallpox at Sea--Schooner Eureka, of Lunenburg, a Wreck.

Bahia, Dec. 5--The British ship Treasurer, of Paroboro, N. S., which left Boston on Oct. 25 for Montevideo, arrived here today and reports that the master of the vessel, Captain E. Knowlton, died of smallpox on Nov. 19th. Allente, Dec. 5--The British schooner Eureka, of Lunenburg, N. S., Captain Keeping, bound from this port to St. John's, Nfld., is ashore at Plana Island, about ten miles south of here and will probably be a total loss. The Eureka is of 99 tons register, was built at La Have, N. S., in 1889, and is owned by J. B. McDonald, of Lunenburg, N. S.

TO BANISH ANARCHISTS TO DESOLATE SPOT.

Senator Hoar's Plan for Dealing With Those of Czolgosz's Stamp.

Washington, Dec. 5--Senator McComas, of Maryland, made an extended speech in the senate today, with anxiety for his theme, and was followed by some brief remarks by Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts, on the difficulties in the way of dealing with anarchist assassins. Senator Hoar said the difficulty was that assassins of kings and rulers gloried in their crimes and were in no wise deterred by fear of punishment. He thought it most effective remedy would be to have the civilized nations agree upon some double spot to which all anarchists who upheld assassination or the overthrow of government should be transported. The senate passed a bill extending the life of the industrial commission until February 15 next, to allow it to complete work now in hand. The senate adjourned until Monday.

Opening Day of Labor Convention.

Scranton, P. A., Dec. 5--Two hundred and eighty-five delegates, representing more than a million and a half workers, responded to the roll call at the opening of the American Federation of Labor convention this morning. An important question related to the contested seat of delegates from the Central Labor Union of Richmond, Va., which refused to admit negro workmen. It was adjudged by the seating of the representative and instructions to the executive board, to form a separate central union for colored men. The reading of the annual report of President Gorman consumed three hours.

The Nelson Is Safe.

Portland, Oregon, Dec. 5--The British ship Nelson, reported lost off the Columbia river yesterday, was towed into Puget Sound today. The hull of the Nelson is practically intact but her bilge keels are carried away and her cabins damaged. There are only three inches of water in her hold, but the extent of the damage to her cargo of wheat is not known. The Nelson had a marvelous escape.

Liberal General Diaz Surrenders.

Colon, Dec. 5--(via Galveston)--The following message was delayed by the Colombian censor: "The richest of its soil and the boundless possibilities of that vast and but sparsely explored territory. We saw, too, the success which has crowned the efforts to weld into one community the people of its two great races."

Trinity Degree for Boston Bishop.

Toronto, Dec. 5--(Special)--Trinity university today conferred the degree of doctor of divinity on Rev. O. H. Brent, of Boston, bishop elect of Episcopal church in Philippine islands, a Canadian, and graduate from Trinity about 17 years ago.

Lord's Prayer in Public Schools.

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 5--Attorney General Douglas upheld the opinion today that under the state legislation the Lord's Prayer cannot be used in the public schools.

Called to Truro Methodist Church.

Truro, N. S., Dec. 5--(Special)--The Methodist of Truro will call Rev. J. Aiken, of Hantsport, to take the place of Rev. Mr. Morton, whose term here will expire in June.

UNKNOWN COAL-LADEN SCHOONER SUNK IN BAY OF FUNDY WITH ALL HANDS.

Awful Havoc of the Storm--Another Unknown on Beam Ends--Reports from Digby of Three Other Vessels Which Suffered.

Digby, Dec. 5--(Special)--Reports of results of the tremendous gale on the bay continue to come in. Early this morning two tern schooners and a two-topmast vessel anchored off Digby. They were spoken by Captain Lewis, of the tug Marina. One tern schooner was the Benefic, from Cuba, for Hantsport. She had foremast split and the gone and had been as far up the bay as Spencer's Island, but had been driven back to Digby. The other three masters were the Dora C., with plaster, from Windsor for New York. She came out of the blow without damage. The two-mast was the Demolition, Captain Morris, from Spencer's Island, for Boston. She had foremast blown away and other sails split.

Couldn't Learn Name of Woodboat Schooner.

When the Prince Rupert arrived from St. John, Captain Potter reported passing a wood-boat schooner on her beam ends, 12 miles N. half W., from Point Prim light, loaded with deals, her hull two-thirds submerged. Capt. Potter ran close enough to discover that the boat was gone and that there was no life on board. The schooner was a wood-boat schooner, loaded with hardwood plank. Both spars were all right. She never had any topmasts, as he was able to haul the masted cap off the main. Her sails seem to be in fairly good condition, considering that they have been awash for several hours.

WENT DOWN WITH ALL HANDS.

Unknown Coal-Laden Schooner Sunk in Bay of Fundy. While in the bay the captain spoke the tern schooner Elna, Captain Peary, from Hantsport for New York, with lumber. Captain Peary reports that just before the squall struck his vessel he sighted an unknown coal-laden schooner, which appeared to be in a sinking condition. He volunteered to endeavor to take off her captain and crew, but they refused to try it, preferring to remain by the vessel. The Lillian was last sighted ten miles above Digby Gut. Captain Peary also sighted the coal barges just before they broke afire. He reports the worst weather ever encountered.

Anxiety for Schooner Josephine.

Great anxiety is felt for the schooner Josephine, owned by W. A. Chute, of Bear River, with a hold full of wood and a deckload of piling, bound from the above port for Boston. She was in a Maine port on the 29th ult., but nothing further has been heard from her. She was commanded by Captain Dave Robinson, of Parker's Cove, Captain Crook, having remained home for a voyage. The Josephine was built at Margaretsville in 1899, and is 117 tons register. Her hull is covered by insurance, but there is no insurance on the cargo, which was also owned by W. A. Chute.

PRINCE SPEAKS OF CANADIAN VISIT.

King Edward's Son Tells London About His Trip Through the Dominion--Lord Salisbury and Mr. Chamberlain Heard.

London, Dec. 5--The city entertained the Prince and Princess of Wales this afternoon to a luncheon in the Guild Hall, and presented them with an address of congratulation on the successful tour of the British empire. The Prince of Wales made a speech on the relations between the motherland and the colonies. He referred to each colony he had visited, and in speaking about the Dominion of Canada, said: "To Canada was borne the message already conveyed to Australia and New Zealand of the motherland's loving appreciation of the services rendered by its gallant colonies in the journey from ocean to ocean, marvelous in its comfort and organization, we were enabled to see something of its matches rendered by the richness of its soil and the boundless possibilities of that vast and but sparsely explored territory. We saw, too, the success which has crowned the efforts to weld into one community the people of its two great races."

ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY PEOPLE DROWNED.

Awful Disaster at Celebration of Feast of St. Francis Xavier. Liverpool, Dec. 6--As a result of an explosion at Liverpool Exchange is now on fire. Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 5--Fire early tonight in the plant of the National Starch Company, caused a damage of \$200,000.

Story of Murder and Suicide, as Told by the Mate, was Confirmed.

Mobbie, Ala., Dec. 5--The investigation into the killing of Edward Jefferys by Captain C. M. Morris, of the British barque Birnam Wood, on December 18, while the vessel was en route to Mobbie, and the subsequent confirmation of Captain Morris, has resulted in the mate's story of the tragedy. To Build Ship--Schooner. Bath, Me., Dec. 5--The first six-masted schooner of the fleet of J. S. Winslow & Company, of Portland, and the third of its kind in the world, is to be built here next spring. Her gross tonnage will be 2,900. Work will commence in March.

THREE CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH IN NOVA SCOTIA.

Folly Village, N. S., Dec. 5--(Special)--Word has just been received of a shocking accident at East Folly mountain yesterday morning, in which three children lost their lives. Effie Campbell, aged 16; Arthur, her brother, aged 11; and Myrtle, aged seven, another sister, went to bed at their usual time Tuesday night. Their father, Robert Campbell, was in the woods and