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TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION VICTORIA B. C. FRIDAY MARCH 23 1906

TOWN WRECKED BY A TORNADO

MANY PEOPLE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED

Wind Attained a Velocity of Ninety Miles an Hour—Snowstorm in Wyoming.

New York, March 20.—A special to the Tribune from New Orleans says: "A dispatch received here announces that a tornado struck the town of Brooklyn, Mississippi, near Meridian, last night and wrecked it. enormous damage was done and the loss of life was heavy, but no exact figures have been received.

"The wind attained a velocity of 90 miles an hour and everything in the vicinity of the town was razed to the ground.

"After smiting Brooklyn the tornado went sweeping across the country, leaving a trail of devastation in its wake."

Last Ten Days. Big Pine, Wyo., March 20.—The most terrific snowstorm in the history of this section has just come to an end here, having raged continuously since the 10th of March. The snow is piled seven feet in depth in places and is two feet deep on the level.

Stage and mail service have been interfered with. It is feared that tremendous losses of sheep have occurred in the desert east of here, and it is reported some flocks have been entirely wiped out. There is no food accessible and flock masters are in despair.

Heavy Snowfall. Several inches of snow have fallen since yesterday, by far the heaviest fall of the season.

EXPERIENCES OF MISSIONARY.

Travelled Two Thousand Miles by Boat—Had Narrow Escape From Drowning.

San Francisco, March 20.—Miss Anna Coole, a young Baptist missionary, who has been in the far interior of China for the past two years, arrived yesterday on the liner Compo on her way to Cleveland, Ohio. With Miss Coole were Gretchen and Kathleen Wellwood, young daughters of Rev. Robert Wellwood, a missionary in Szechon, not far from the border of Tibet, 2,000 miles up the Yangtze River from Shanghai.

The trip made by Miss Coole and her two young charges was one of the most unusual characters. Leaving Suifu on January 15th in a native boat, accompanied by a lifeboat in charge of Chinese soldiers, Miss Coole and the two little girls started down the river, travelling only by day. On the way down their boat was wrecked on a rock and the party had a narrow escape for their lives, finally reaching Shanghai in safety.

Miss Coole says there were no signs of trouble at Suifu when she left, and when the missionaries there received a cable from the state department advising them to be ready for flight they cabled back for an explanation.

CANADIAN NOTES.

Several Buildings at Qu'Appelle Destroyed by Fire—Seeking Incorporation.

Winnipeg, March 20.—A destructive fire visited Qu'Appelle, Sask., this morning, destroying several buildings. Among the losses are Hardy's store, Lee Wing's jewelry, Macgibbon's hardware, Webster, blacksmith, and Qu'Appelle Furniture Co. The latter lost \$10,000, insurance \$4,000. Caswell's store, the Massey-Harris warehouse, and the Leland hotel were saved after great difficulty.

With Enlarged Powers. Winnipeg, March 20.—Three Alberta towns will apply at the present session of the legislature for incorporation as cities, Wetaskiwin, Lothbridge and Medicine Hat.

Deserted His Wife. Regina, Sask., March 19.—W. J. Stubbs, son of the former M. P. for Peel, Que., has deserted his wife and three children here and left them in destitute circumstances.

SPANISH CABINET CRISIS.

Madrid, March 20.—Premier Moret, having announced to his colleagues his intention to resign after the passage of the judicial law, after the cabinet ministers to-day placed their resignations in his hands. The departure of King Alfonso for the Canary Islands has been cabinet crisis.

GRAIN IMPORTS.

Liverpool, March 20.—Receipts of wheat during the past three days amounted to 32,000 cwt., including 15,000 American. Receipts of American corn during the past three days amounted to 35,000 cwt. The weather

ECHO OF THE WAR.

Kouropatkin on Causes of Defeats—Losses in First Manchurian Army.

St. Petersburg, March 20.—General Kouropatkin's last order of the day to the first Manchurian army, printed in the Ruskaya Invalide to-day, is a remarkable exposure of the cause of the Russian defeats, showing that they were due to lack of preparation and equipment and to the fact that there were no explosive shells for the mountain artillery, in the early stage of the war.

He does not shrink his own responsibility as minister of war (before the war broke out) but asserts that the causes of the defeats were deeper, namely, the morale of the troops and of the officers, who did not display initiative or enthusiasm, in spite of the iron nerves and heroic spirits of the soldiers. All this the general boldly announces is attributable to the oppression of bureaucratic rule during the last fifty years which in the case of the officers drove men of independence from the service, leaving only worthless drones. He congratulates the troops on their event of liberty and hope for the regeneration of the people.

General Kouropatkin gives the entire losses of the first Manchurian army, which averaged a strength of 100,000 men and 2,200 officers, as 355 officers killed and 1,733 wounded, and 19,435 men killed and 56,350 wounded, and concludes with expressing the opinion that the army should be so strengthened in time of peace that victory will be certain in time of war.

MUTUAL LIFE COMPANY.

G. E. Tarbell Will Probably Be the Next President.

New York, March 20.—The Herald to-day says: "Gage E. Tarbell is slated tentatively for the presidency of the Mutual Life Insurance Co. in the event that the forces now enlisted under the banner of Stuyvesant Fish should succeed in ousting from the Mutual the present board of trustees and executive officers, Mr. Tarbell at present the second vice-president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society. While the present announcement may be accepted as probable, it is no part of the company's policy to disclose its plans prematurely, and extraordinary efforts have been made to help keep it secret."

TYPEWRITING CONTEST.

Result of Competition at Chicago—Miss Baker's Record.

Chicago, Ill., March 20.—In the speed contest on typewriters last night a woman made the record for the smallest number of mistakes in her copy. She was Miss Elizabeth Baker, and in an hour she wrote 4,085 words, making mistakes in only 52 of them. This was sufficient to place her in fourth place, the first prize being carried off by Charles H. McGarrin of Genoa, Mich., who defended his title of champion "typist" of America by writing 4,677 words in thirty minutes, an average of 154 words a minute. H. Otis Smith of Chicago, won second place with a record of 4,225 words, and third place went to Emil A. Thetzer, of Peoria.

RAILWAY AFFAIRS.

Many Officials Attend Convention of Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association.

Chicago, Ill., March 20.—The seventh annual convention of the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association opened at the Auditorium last evening. Practically the total railroad mileage of the United States is represented in this association and the discussions in papers are of such general interest to railroad men that railroads of Central and South America, from India and New Zealand, find it to their advantage to attend the convention.

MUNICIPAL CONVENTION.

Moscow, March 20.—The workmen's convention of factory and mill delegates has completed its work with the election of 18 delegates to the municipal convention. These consist of nine Social Democrats, seven Constitutional Democrats and one Socialist and one delegate whose politics are not defined.

MURDERED A "WITCH."

Three Men Condemned to Death for Killing an Old Woman. On what is apparently reliable authority it is stated that the condition of Count Witte's health is unsatisfactory. He is said to have experienced a rather alarming attack of heart trouble a few days ago. His physicians advised him some time since to give up work. It is known that Count Witte, believing that he had weathered the political storm, formed a determination to relinquish the premiership upon the morning of the national assembly. Recently, however, the strength of the reactionaries increased and the premier was expected to keep up his fight against heavy odds. It may be that his endurance thus was exhausted, and that feeling that his health was declining he has reached the decision to retire immediately.

STRIKE IN FRANCE.

Forty-Six Thousand Men Are Idle—Collisions Between Troops and Strikers. Leipzig, France, March 18.—Troops have arrived here to be ready for any eventualities which may arise as a result of the miners' strike. About 46,000 men are now out on strike, and are carrying the towns carrying red flags. Several minor collisions have taken place. The Miners' Federation will meet to-morrow to consider the question of declaring a general strike.

LEADER OF NAVAL REVOLT EXECUTED

LIEUT. SCHMIDT REFUSED TO BE BLINDFOLDED

Did Not Fall Until Four Volleys Had Been Fired—Three Sailors Also Shot.

St. Petersburg, March 20.—Lieut. Schmidt, leader of the naval revolt at Sebastopol in November last, who was tried by court martial and shot near Otchafok fortress, South Russia, yesterday with three sailors sentenced to death for mutiny, is being made a hero and a martyr by the revolutionists.

The boys of St. Petersburg gymnasium struck in order to compel the offering up of prayers in school for the repose of the soul of the Lieutenant. The Russ prints a detailed account of the execution, from which it appears that when Schmidt received the news that the authorities had refused to commute the death penalty, he wept for the three sailors, his companions, saying they were so young and honest and he would prefer to die alone.

The condemned men were taken to the small island off Horizan and were shot at sunrise. Schmidt addressed his executioners, sixty sailors of the cruiser Terezi, saying: "I die for the Russian people and the fatherland, and many of you doubtless will hereafter share my death for the same cause."

Schmidt refused to accept the sacrament, and asked not to be blindfolded. He met his death with head up and eyes open. The firing party was stationed at a distance of 50 paces. Two of the sailors were killed at the first volley and one at the third. Schmidt did not fall until the fourth volley.

WILL WITTE RETIRE?

Alleged Rumor That His Career as Premier is at End.

St. Petersburg, March 20.—In high circles here to-day the rumor is current that Count Witte had definitely decided to retire from the premiership. The Associated Press is unable to confirm the rumor, as Count Witte had retired and the chancellor was closed when the correspondent called, shortly after midnight. From an absolutely authentic source, however, it can be stated that Count Witte at a session of the council of the empire this afternoon made an enigmatical statement which is interpreted by many members of the council as a virtual declaration that his career as premier is at an end and that he will be succeeded by Privy Councillor Kokovsov, minister of finance.

A report for the solution of the agrarian problem by the purchase of lands from the nobles and other large property holders through the peasant banks, and their resale to peasants on long term installment payments was under discussion. As the treasury has no condition to advance the money to the banks for this purpose, Count Witte advocated a scheme under which the banks should purchase land with 15 years' credit bonds instead of cash. A marked division developed. Finance Minister Shipoff opposed the scheme.

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ENDED HIS LIFE.

Suicide of Warrant Clerk in Chicago City Comptroller's Office.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 19.—Charles T. Lytle, warrant clerk in the city comptroller's office, shot and killed himself this morning. Worry over a demand for his suspension by Mayor Adams is said to have caused Mr. Lytle to take his life. "I am positive there is nothing wrong with Lytle's accounts," said Deputy Comptroller Secreter, in discussing the tragedy.

In January last Lytle reported to the comptroller that he had found \$70 in his safe in envelopes bearing the names of policemen. The money had been deducted from their salaries for fines imposed and had been overlooked by him. Upon learning of the incident the mayor demanded Lytle's suspension, but the comptroller declined to suspend him. An opinion by the corporation counsel to the effect that Lytle's actions could be only passed upon by the city council, and the latter declining to take any further action. Notwithstanding this, however, Lytle has been more or less present for a few days he had appeared more cheerful.

VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE.

Seventeen Hundred People Killed and Injured in Formosa.

London, March 17.—A dispatch from Tokio to the Daily Telegraph says: "The earthquake in Formosa, the capital of Formosa, state that the earthquake on that island was more serious than at first reported. In the prefecture of Kagi alone, 1,400 houses were completely destroyed and 1,014 persons killed and 686 injured."

The war department has issued the following: "One half of Kagi has been destroyed. The garrison were marched outside, where they are now camping. All the officers are safe. We are sending troops to Takhin. Trains between Kagi and Toroku have stopped."

THE PHILIPPINE FIGHT.

Cablegrams From Major-General Wood Regarding the Recent Engagement.

Washington, D. C., March 18.—Secretary of War Taft has received two cablegrams from Major-General Wood at Manila relative to the Mount Dajo fight. The first is dated yesterday, and reads as follows: "If more detailed information regarding the facts connected with the Mount Dajo fight is desired I suggest that Major Hugh Scott be called upon. He is thoroughly familiar with the situation, having spent eight months in the attempt to get these people off the mountain without fighting."

Major Scott has been on leave of absence in the United States, and has just arrived in Washington in answer to the secretary's summons. He was referred in some of the Manila cablegrams as really having caused the present trouble at Mount Dajo by reason of the exercise of too great leniency toward the brigand, Moros.

The second dispatch from Gen. Wood is dated Manila to-day, and reads as follows: "Sensational cable sent to the United States relating to the Mount Dajo fight, were made up in Manila. There had been no reference in any cable from Mindanao to the killing of women and children. On the contrary, Colonel Andrew's condensed report from me in Washington on the American newspapers cable for news. The reporters here had no other information than was contained in my report to you. The cable was a supplied sensational features."

TAKES HOPEFUL VIEW.

British Foreign Office Looks For Settlement of Moroccan Conference.

London, March 18.—In the opinion of the foreign office here the basis of an agreement on the Moroccan question will be reached at Algiers. This agreement will be based on a modification of the German demands with respect to the port, while France will concede part of what she has been demanding for in regard to the Moroccan bank system. The details will not be published until the meeting of the delegates in fact France will not state what she will concede until Germany has placed her cards on the table.

The committee meetings of Algiers have been so harmonious that the foreign office does not believe a hitch is possible. Every detail has been discussed between Great Britain and France.

Germany's Attitude.

Berlin, March 19.—The German attitude at Algiers is a passive one. She is ready to consider a concession, but any proposition for the supervision of Moroccan police embracing the international principle, but beyond that Germany will not go. She would prefer to have the matter adjourn without an agreement than give up the international idea.

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MINERS' REPLY.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 18.—President Mitchell sent the reply of the anthracite miners to the operators to-day. In it disappointment is expressed that the operators declined to give consideration to the demands of the miners and suggests that another conference be held before April 1st.

INCREASE OF C.P.R. STOCK AUTHORIZED

BY SHAREHOLDERS AT A SPECIAL MEETING

Sir Thomas Shaughnessy Referred to Increase in Business and Improvements to Line.

Montreal, March 19.—At a special general meeting of the shareholders of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company to-day a resolution authorizing an increase in the company's ordinary capital stock from \$10,000,000 to \$150,000,000 was unanimously adopted, and it was further resolved that \$8,000,000 of the stock previously authorized, but not issued, and \$1,680,000 of the stock increase authorized to-day—in all \$9,680,000—be forthwith issued and distributed to shareholders at par on the basis of one share of new stock to five shares of their registered holdings when the books close for this purpose on April 20th next. In moving the adoption of the resolution President Sir Thomas G. Shaughnessy stated as follows:

"The company's ordinary capital stock at present authorized is \$10,000,000, of which the amount of \$10,400,000 has been issued and sold, and your directors had your authority to dispose of the balance, \$8,600,000. It was evident that this would not be sufficient to meet your requirements for any considerable period if your business continued to grow and therefore, having secured the required approval of the governor in council, your directors decided to call this special meeting of shareholders to consider and act upon a resolution authorizing an increase of the company's capital stock by \$150,000,000 and that \$9,680,000 be issued forthwith, thus making the total ordinary capital stock authorized \$159,680,000. The proceeds of the sale of this stock will be supplemented by an appropriation of \$5,000,000 from surplus earnings. After making this appropriation and providing for the requirements of the resolution, the common stock, the amount at the credit of surplus earnings account as of December 31st, 1905, will be \$13,866,748.27.

"At the special general meeting of the shareholders March 27th, 1905, when moving the adoption of the resolution authorizing an increase of the company's ordinary capital stock from \$10,000,000 to \$150,000,000, I had the honor to state that the proceeds of that issue would enable your directors to provide such increased facilities and make such improvements to your property as would ensure greater convenience to the public and a marked reduction in cost of moving traffic, and in 1904 your directors in recommending that the ordinary share capital be still further increased to \$100,000,000, expressed their intention, subject to your approval, of continuing the policy of improvement and expansion until your capacity to handle traffic was well abreast of the requirements during the busiest portion of the year.

"In the fiscal year 1902 your gross earnings were \$37,500,000. In 1904 it had increased to \$46,400,000, and in the current year there is every indication that it will approximate \$60,000,000.

"That you have been able to handle with fair satisfaction to the public and with reasonable economy the additional number of passengers and the additional tons of freight represented by this increase of 60 per cent in your Gross Revenue During a period of four years is conclusive evidence that the policy recommended by your directors and approved by you was wise, profitable and in the best interests of the country and of the company. While it might not be prudent to anticipate a continuous growth of revenue at the present pace, there can be no doubt that the incoming of new population and the development of additional agricultural territory will have a stimulating effect on trade and commerce of every kind, and as a consequence your traffic will, under normal conditions, increase in volume with considerable rapidity.

"Since 1901 you have expended for additions to your rolling stock equipment \$118,500,000, and for additional shops and machinery of all different kinds \$10,000,000, and for the reduction of grades and general Improvements of the Line have cost \$13,000,000; while the enlargement of terminals at the more important points, increased siding, yard and station accommodation over the greater portion of the system, and other works for facilitating the movement of traffic, involved a further outlay of over \$10,000,000, and yet some of the important works originally contemplated have been necessarily postponed in order that others made indispensable by the extraordinary development of your business might be executed.

"The construction of the second track between Winnipeg and Fort William, a distance of 425 miles, is well advanced and will be completed in 1907; and the reduction of grades between Swift Current and Dunsmuir Junction

SHOOTING AFFRAY.

Montreal Insurance Agent Wounded by Commission Man.

Montreal, March 19.—Alphonse Desrosiers, an insurance agent, was shot and seriously wounded this afternoon by Alexander Duclos, a commission man. The shooting took place in the office of the Commercial Union Assurance Company. Duclos and Desrosiers had been friends for some years. To-day Duclos called three times at the office before finding Desrosiers in. As soon as the latter appeared Duclos drew a revolver and fired, the bullet missing its mark and Desrosiers closed on Duclos. The men struggled, Duclos meanwhile continuing to discharge his revolver. The fifth shot took effect in Desrosiers' head and he fell. Police officers outside, attracted by the shots, rushed in and arrested Duclos, who made no resistance. At the hospital hopes are entertained for Desrosiers' recovery. The cause of the apparently deliberate attempt to murder is unknown, but is said to be monetary trouble, for which Duclos blames Desrosiers.

TWO FIRES.

Brandon Flour Mills Damaged—Factory at Cornwall Destroyed.

Brandon, Man., March 19.—The loss by fire on Sunday to Alexander Law of the Wheat City mills is greater than at first anticipated and will reach fully \$30,000. All the electrical machinery will be a total loss, including motors, generators and switchboards, besides which considerable damage was done to a part of the building. A big loss to the company will also be sustained in having to close down the mill for a few weeks, as they were running night and day to keep up with orders. The insurance companies interested are the Michigan Millers, Millers' National, Iowa Millers, Canadian Millers, London Mutual, Caledonia, Montreal, Norwich Union, Canadian Fire, Liverpool, Globe, Central Canada, Ottawa Fire and Anglo-American.

Gutted by Fire. Cornwall, Ont., March 19.—The Ross sawmill, sash and door and blind factory here was destroyed by fire this morning. The loss is between \$2,500 and \$3,000; insurance, \$6,000.

Official dispatches from German Southwest Africa announce the failure of the comprehensive surrounding movement undertaken by the German troops against the Herero, the last and most active of the native leaders of the rebels. The movement had been going on for five weeks, and six large detachments, with fifteen field and machine guns, participated in it.

ONTARIO TRAGEDY.

Man Alleged to Have Been Killed by Thirteen-Year-Old Son.

North Bay, Ont., March 19.—A tragedy occurred at a farm house about twenty miles from North Bay early Sunday morning, by which Edward Norman met a sudden and violent death from the blow of an axe wielded by his thirteen-year-old son.

It is alleged that Norman returned to the farm from North Bay Saturday night in a quarrelsome frame of mind and began to abuse his wife. The son took his mother's part and became the object of the father's wrath. The story goes that the father chased the boy who picked up an axe to defend himself with and struck the blow which caused death.

Norman, the victim of the affair, is well known in North Bay and bears the reputation of being a quiet, well-behaved man when himself. Family differences are alleged to have caused trouble in the home for some time.

IRISH AFFAIRS.

Speeches by Messrs. Redmond, Dillon and O'Connor.

London, March 19.—At a St. Patrick's day banquet in London to-night, John F. Redmond, chairman of the Irish parliamentary party, reiterated the belief which he expressed on Sunday that England will, ere long, give to Ireland all that she could reasonably expect or demand. John Dillon, member of parliament for East Mayo, said that Ireland has one compensation for their sufferings in fighting Ireland's battle. They had given Joseph Chamberlain to the Unionist party—"a disastrous gift, for so long as he remains in that party so long will Ireland's enemies be paralyzed and unable to rally for a fight against us. Long may he live, for he has been Ireland's greatest friend."

T. P. O'Connor, speaking at Liverpool, maintained that the Liberal government could pass a measure for Irish self-government by such an overwhelming majority that the House of Lords would not dare reject it.

MOROS SIMPLY A BAND OF OUTLAWS

STATEMENT BY UNITED STATES ARMY OFFICER

Says Jolo-Islanders are Glad Marauders Have Been Put Out of Business.

Washington, D. C., March 20.—The Post to-day prints an interview with Major Hugh L. Scott regarding the recent Mount Dajo fight on Jolo Island, in which it has been charged there was wanton killing of women and children. Major Scott is the officer whom Gen. Wood suggested be called upon if more information is wanted by the war department than that furnished in his dispatches.

Major Scott said: "The Mount Dajo fight is nothing more than the proper chastisement of a band of outlaws whose resistance to the authority of the United States, and their own chiefs never at any time rose to the dignity of a national or racial issue.

"I can speak from experience, for I have spent eight months trying to get the Moros to settle down. They are simply an outlaw band completely destitute of religious, racial or political significance, and I know the people of the islands are more than glad that these midnight marauders are at last put out of business."

"The members of this band were outlaws in the eyes of their own people. The Datatos and chiefs wanted them brought to terms as badly as did the Americans.

"Those who think the disturbance was caused by religious troubles are mistaken. The United States has never interfered with the religion of the islands."

SHIP SUBSIDY BILL.

Premier Campbell-Bannerman Reply to Questions in the House of Commons.

London, March 19.—The American ship subsidy bill is agitating British ship owners and builders, and formed the subject of a question in the House of Commons to-day, but Premier Campbell-Bannerman said the government did not think any useful action could be taken at the present stage. The government was unable to propose the bill to-day, but if the bill passed the consequence would of course be carefully considered.

TO BRIDGE NIAGARA RIVER.

New Structure to Be Erected by Railway Companies.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 19.—The News to-day says: The International Railway Co., of this city, and the Toronto Railway Company intend to erect a new bridge across the Niagara river below Niagara Falls. The first step will be taken in Albany to-night, when a bill will be introduced in the senate and assembly incorporating the trans-Niagara Bridge Co., capital \$1,000,000, to construct a bridge for electric railway purposes.

COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.

Toronto, March 19.—Police Magistrate Denison sent up for trial Walter Percy Bretz and A. McIntosh Fisher, of the staff of the Toronto World, on the charge of theft of a draft bill relating to the University of Toronto. The probable defence will be that the draft bill alleged to have been stolen was not a state paper, but a mere memorandum which had no value as an official document.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

Thompson, who has been on trial at Winnipeg charged with robbing the Merchants' Bank of \$5,000, while janitor of the building, the money being found in his toolchest, was acquitted to-day. The money was returned to the bank, as Thompson swore it was not his.

The Alberta legislature resumed after adjournment on Monday. The speech in reply was moved by Stuart, of Gleichen, and seconded by Puffer of Lacombe. Mr. Robertson, of High River, reported on behalf of the opposition, of which is half the membership and leader.

"All the employees of the Camp Bird mines and mills who took refuge in the tunnel to escape snowslides reached Ouray Monday, coming over the mountains held with several other mines shows that the men employed at those mines are safe."

George Hawthorne, engineer of a work train on the New York Central railroad, was pinned down by the overturning of his engine and slowly roasted to death by the sight of the train crew who failed in their efforts to get him out. He pleaded to be out of his misery. Death came after two hours of torture.

Charles Heston, aged 55, and Mrs. Phelps, were instantly killed at a grade crossing near Union, N. Y., Monday, their carriage being struck by the Erie monitor, No. 20, eastbound.