

WIDE WORLD EVENTS.

From the "World Wide"

Mr. J. L. Griffiths, Consul General for the United States in England, died suddenly of heart disease in London on May 18th. He was very popular and many expressions of sympathy are expressed over his death.

Lord Cromer, former British Consul General in Egypt, is seriously ill and much anxiety is felt by his many friends. He is 73 years of age.

The third reading of the third consecutive session of the bill for the Disestablishment of the Welsh Church took place in the House of Commons on May 19th, and is the first measure to operate under the provisions of the Parliament Act.

A report has been received in Vera Cruz that Huerta has driven out of Mexico City Archbishop Moray del Rio because he in an interview told him that he had a communication from the Pope suggesting that Huerta should resign the provisional presidency. Huerta's position is, according to Dr. Urutia, ex-Minister of the Interior, who has arrived in Vera Cruz, becoming very critical and an uprising against him in Mexico City may occur at any moment.

The delegates to the conference for settling the difficulties between the United States and Mexico, and it is hoped, if possible, to bring to an end the strife in Mexico began their meetings at Niagara Falls, Ont., on May 20th. The Duke of Connaught and representatives of the Canadian government have given them a welcome to Canadian soil and wished them a pleasant sojourn and a happy outcome to their negotiations.

After thirteen days of indescribable suffering in an open boat four survivors of the S.S. Columbia, which was destroyed by fire on May 3rd, two hundred miles south of Cape Race, were picked up forty miles south of Sable Island by the U. S. cutter Seneca on May 17th and brought to Halifax and put into hospital. Eleven others of the same crew in the boat died from exhaustion and were thrown overboard. After the few biscuits and water had failed the men sustained life by chewing leather and eating a few stray crumbs of hard tack.

A London newspaper declares that the triennial conference of the postal union in September next will establish an international rate of three cents for letter postage. Some of the nations advocate the adoption of world penny postage, but the majority favor the three cent compromise.

Thirteen workmen were killed and eleven wounded on the morning of May 15th, when a series of explosions of chemicals and gun cotton, followed by a fire, destroyed the concrete building of the Mexican Crude Rubber Co. in Detroit, Mich. Ten of the thirteen dead were killed outright by the explosion. The detonation threw men in adjoining buildings to the floor. Three who were burned by the flames died within an hour at Solway hospital. The exact cause of the explosion has not yet been made clear.

The Japanese Privy Council ratified the arbitration treaty with the United States on May 13th. The treaty between the two governments expired on August 24th last. As long ago as June last the Japanese Ambassador in Washington advised Mr. Bryan of Japan's willingness to renew the understanding, but final action was delayed.

The International Council of Women at its final session in Rome on May 13th, unanimously adopted a resolution asking all countries which have representative governments to grant the privilege of suffrage to women.

The Royal Historical Society is organizing a commemoration of the 700th anniversary of the grant of Magna Charta, which occurs on June 15th, 1915. The society has invited English, American and foreign scholars and others to form a general committee. The general committee will make the arrangements necessary. Lord Bryce has consented to act as chairman of the general committee.

H. R. H. Duke of Connaught will visit Newfoundland in July and spend ten days on the island.

The Limerick County Council has unanimously resolved to support the Nationalist volunteer movement which was formed for the purpose of organizing a national force to uphold the authority of the Crown and Government of Ireland on the same lines as the Ulster force.

The people of Calgary and surrounding region are greatly excited over a new oil strike and many get-rich-quick hopes have been aroused by the stories spread of the value of the "gusher."

Bishop Brent, of the Philippine Islands, a Canadian by birth, who was elected bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey, has declined the bishopric.

A great oil merger has been closed by Earl Grey, former Governor-General of Canada, by which the British Union Oil Company has obtained for fifteen million dollars a controlling interest in the Union Oil Company of California.

To offset the gun-running of the Ulster Unionists and emboldened by their immunity so far from prosecution the Nationalists of Connemara have been landing large quantities of ammunition, and rifles shipped to them by their Irish-American supporters.

Capt. G. A. Lucas, the last but one of two of the gallant band of soldiers who stood at attention when the British troop ship, Birkenhead, was sinking in Simon's Bay, South Africa, in 1852, in order to let the women and children get ashore safely died at Abersoch, Carnarvon, Wales, on May 19th, aged 82 years. Lucas was amongst the few who, leaping from the ship on her first plunge, swam ashore. He afterwards served with distinction in the Indian Mutiny.

Part of the Imperial Theatre in Moscow, Russia, was destroyed by fire on May 16, involving a loss of \$500,000. Much costly scenery was burned.

A London paper says that H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught will be invited by the government to become Viceroy of Ireland in succession to Lord Aberdeen.

Mrs. Baulding, the wife of a ship's doctor, has been appointed captain of a Danish transatlantic steamship. This is the first time that a woman has been given such a position of responsibility on a modern vessel of any importance. The crew was at first somewhat disgusted at having to obey a woman, but when she showed what a thorough seaman she was they quickly became her devoted admirers, and her orders were obeyed with the precision of clockwork.

Norway is celebrating the hundredth anniversary of her national independence by a great exhibition and a series of festivals, the essential purpose being to present a picture of the state of development of the country and a review of agriculture, industry and art that will demonstrate what public and private enterprise has accomplished in the country in the last 100 years.

The Dutch Chamber of Deputies has just elected a new president. His name is Baron Schimmelpenninck von Oige van Hoervelakin, an awkward name, the newspapers comment, for use in cheering its owner.

The King and Queen of Denmark are spending a few days in Paris after their visit to England.

Mrs. James Law, of Glasgow, widow of the late Rev. James Law, of New Brunswick, and mother of Mr. Andrew Bonar Law, the leader of the Conservative party in the House of Commons, died at Bath on May 16.

A third international Conference on the Opium Question has been called at The Hague for June 15.

An edict ordering all regimental messes of the active militia to be closed at seven o'clock on Saturday evenings has been issued by the Department of Militia to the headquarters of the various divisions in the Dominion, and will take effect as soon as it has been circulated among the officers commanding regiments. This is assumed to be a final pronouncement on the liquor question in the militia and comes as a result of an expression of the opinion of militia officers throughout Canada.

THE ONLY PRODUCER.

Is the farmer the only producer? There are, of course, other actual products to be classed with his. The export from our mines, our forests and our fisheries, taken together, amount to almost two-thirds as much as those from the farm. These, in so far as they are dependent on exportation for their value, are unprotected; though lumber demands heavy protection, and must therefore be classed with those industries which, instead of working to the profit of the country, work at its cost. In affirming that the farmer is the great burden bearer, we have taken the manufacturing industries at their word. The farmer's goods exported to other countries pay the whole cost of our imports. At home they pay the loss on our manufactures. We export other things—a lot of agricultural implements for instance—but not for the benefit of the Canadian. The Canadian has to pay a higher price for these things than they can be made for, in order that the manufacturer for which the customer is taxed, whether it be the farmer who buys a reaper or the child who eats candy, they could not carry on their business without the extra price the tariff secures to them. In other words, the extra amount paid to them as the result of the tariff is the measure of the loss on their business without that subsidy, a loss that must be made up by somebody. It is fair to these people to say that we do not quite believe them. We believe that many of their industries would prosper more if there was no tariff, just as they do in Britain and Holland.

The shoe manufacturers are the strongest advocates of tariff protection. Yet the shoe business prospered greatly in Canada before the protective tariff was introduced. Not every industry that we have nursed may be suited to the country, but many are. We should lead the world in the afore said farming tools. Instead of manufacturing for Canada we would be manufacturing for the whole world, and we should have business with all mankind. Instead of one or two unprotectable classes of workers being, as now, our only real producers, while all others depend on them for their markets and their living, we should all be producers, and the country would increase in wealth proportionally.

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