

DISALLOWANCE OF B. C. LEGISLATION

REASONS ACTUATING THE FEDERAL POWERS

Was Ultra Vires of the Legislature and Contrary to Imperial Policy.

(Special to the Times.)

Vancouver, Dec. 19.—Senator Templeman, the British Columbia representative in the Ottawa cabinet, was asked by the Province for the reasons influencing the Dominion government in disallowing legislation by the British Columbia legislature aimed against Orientals. The assertion had been made at the Vancouver convention that the reason for disallowance was because certain corporations who were making money out of the traffic had demanded that the acts be disallowed. Senator Templeman's statement gives the reasons for disallowance very explicitly. They are first, that the demand for disallowance was made by Mr. Chamberlain, on the representations of the Japanese government, for Imperial reasons, and secondly, that the acts were not within the powers of the legislature to pass. The following is the statement referred to:

"British Columbia legislation of the session of 1900, affecting immigration of Asiatics, was disallowed by the Dominion government at the request of the Imperial government on the ground stated by Mr. Chamberlain, and approved by the Dominion government, that such legislation was ultra vires of the province. On September 18th, 1900, Hayashi, Japanese ambassador in London, addressed a note to Lord Salisbury on the subject of the British Columbia legislation affecting Japanese subjects, in which he said:

"The renewed action on the part of British Columbia, by which the government to instruct me to approach Your Lordship in a friendly spirit, with a view of asking Her Majesty's government to extend their enlightened policy, constantly shown by them towards Japan, to the present instance, by inducing the Governor-General of Canada to refrain from giving his assent to the bills in question. Therefore, I do not reiterate the reasons which may be said against those bills, the bills that only tend, it is feared, to impair the friendly relations existing between Great Britain and Japan. I have now the honor to ask Your Lordship's good offices, so that Her Majesty's government will exercise their influence in order that the aforesaid bills may not be allowed to take effect of laws."

"In January, 1901, when the province began the enforcement of the law, the Japanese minister at London again renewed his request, saying in closing: "In view, however, of the steps now being taken by the authorities of that province (British Columbia) to enforce those acts, I have the honor to request Your Lordship that the attention of the Governor-General of Canada may be called again to, and that his sanction may, without further delay, be withheld from those acts."

"On the 22nd January, 1901, Hon. J. Chamberlain wrote to the Governor-General:

"It is understood, from the press reports, that the act is of a restrictive nature, based on the Natal Act, and having regard to the general principles on which the B. N. A. Act is based, it would appear that such a measure is ultra vires for any legislative body in Canada, other than the Dominion parliament."

"The whole scheme of the B. N. A. Act implies the exclusive exercise by the Dominion of all national powers, and though the powers to legislate for the promotion and encouragement of immigration into the province may have been properly given to the provincial legislatures, the right of entry into Canada, of persons voluntarily seeking such entry, is obviously a purely national matter, affecting, as it does directly, the relations of the Empire with foreign states."

"The more recent legislation, being re-enactment of the disallowed legislation of 1900, has been disallowed on the same ground, that is, that the province has no more power to pass legislation than it has to amend the customs laws, or the postal act."

"Such disallowance, however, has been pressed upon the Ottawa government by the Imperial government on the ground of Imperial interests, a request which the Dominion government was bound to comply with, especially as the legislation of the province was clearly unconstitutional."

"The disallowance of the British Columbia acts, while distasteful to many, does not settle the question. The scene of action has simply been changed. Ottawa, and not Victoria, is the place to seek for legislation along the lines of the Natal law, and I am pleased to see that Mr. Macpherson, the government candidate, has expressed his determination to carry on the fight there. I am in favor of a Natal law for the Dominion, to regulate and control the immigration of all undesirable people, and will be glad to have the assistance of Mr. Macpherson in the task of convincing parliament that such legislation is in the best interests of Canada. I have hopes that a united request from British Columbia for such a law will meet with a favorable response. Whether the Imperial government would withhold its sanction to Canadian legislation of this kind, on the ground of Imperial interests, remains to be seen; but in view of the Natal, Australian and New Zealand enactments, on that line, it is not at all probable that it would do so."

"Canada is a self-governing country, and when its parliament decides that it is in Canada's interest, as a nation, to begin a policy of selection of immigrants, I am inclined to think Canada's decision will be respected."

CANADIAN BREVITIES.

Windfall For Former Winnipeg Clerk—Demand For Structural Steel.

Winnipeg, Dec. 18.—Thos. W. Brown, a former clerk of this city, in poor circumstances, has fallen heir to an estate in Alburgh, Liverpool, England, valued at nearly \$50,000.

Five Years.

Maple Creek, N. W. T., Dec. 18.—Harry R. Forsythe, who yesterday was found guilty of having money on his person stolen from Dixon Bros., vault on August 6th last, was arraigned before Chief Justice Fenderson and received a sentence of five years' penal servitude in Stony Mountain penitentiary.

Iron and Steel Company.

Montreal, Dec. 18.—The Dominion Iron & Steel Company will not continue construction of its steel rail mills at Sydney for the present, but will devote the structure to the manufacture of structural steel, for which there is a much larger demand throughout Canada. This decision was arrived at by the executive of the company at a meeting held to-day. It is announced that the company had not yet decided to issue any more common stock at present, as has been reported.

Lived Over a Century.

Eather Dunn Jones died to-night, aged 107 years and 6 months. She was a native of Kildare, Ireland, and came to Canada 54 years ago.

Charged With Fraud.

Toronto, Dec. 18.—Robert Haley, ledger keeper in a local branch of the Bank of Commerce, was arrested to-night charged with defrauding the Dominion Express Co. by means of forged cheques drawn on the bank for \$200.

MEETING OF PREMIERS.

Proceedings at Quebec Were Private—Hon. S. N. Parent, Chairman.

Quebec, Dec. 19.—The first business meeting of the provincial premiers and their respective cabinet ministers taking part in the inter-provincial conference commenced this morning at 10 o'clock in the executive chambers of the Quebec government. The proceedings are absolutely private, and nothing has been given to the press for publication. The meeting lasted till 1 o'clock, when an adjournment took place for lunch, which was provided by the Hon. S. N. Parent, Premier of Quebec. Premier Ross, of Ontario, and Premier Prior, of British Columbia, are the only premiers not attending.

Premier Parent was chosen chairman. He made a brief introductory address, welcoming the delegates and outlining the proposals to be made. A special committee was appointed to prepare work and draft resolutions.

The intention to close the meeting to-morrow, if possible, as the delegates are already pretty well agreed on the main lines of their programme, and only a few questions of detail remain to be settled.

MONTREAL POLICE AFFAIRS.

Chairman of Committee Will Ask For Investigation By Royal Commission.

Montreal, Dec. 19.—The local police force and its administration is to undergo a close investigation. A few days ago Alderman Leboeuf, chairman of the police committee, at a meeting of the committee referred to the failure of the city recorder to make convictions in certain cases. This morning Recorder Poirier from the bench denied Ald. Leboeuf's charges, and made a savage attack on the committee, charging it with suppressing certain things in the interest of certain members of the force and certain aldermen. As a result Ald. Laporte has given notice that he will, at a meeting of the council on Monday, ask for the appointment of a royal commission by the Quebec government to make a thorough and impartial investigation.

LAYING THE CABLE.

Steamer Silvertown Has Paid Out 662 Knots.

San Francisco, Dec. 18.—The Associated Press has received the following cablegram from its correspondent on board the cable ship Silvertown, dated at noon to-day: "Position at noon, lat. 20 14 N., long. 123 30 W. Since noon yesterday 207 knots of cable have been laid, making the total laid 662 knots. The weather is good, and the ship's speed eight knots."

FRANCE HAS ALSO CLAIMS UNSETTLED

NOTICE SERVED ON THE THREE POWERS

German Cruiser Captured and Disabled a Venezuelan Schooner—Minister Bowen's Powers.

London, Dec. 18.—It is not supposed that anything definite has resulted from today's cabinet meeting with regard to the transmission by the government of the United States of Venezuela's request for arbitration. All negotiations are

rupture with Washington.

The Blockades.

Caracas, Dec. 18.—It has been learned from an official source that the allies to-day will notify Venezuelan authorities at La Guayra of the blockade to become effective Saturday, December 20th, at 8 p.m., of the ports of La Guayra, Porto Cabello, Core, Maracaibo, Carrupano and Barcelona.

Lopez Baralt, Venezuelan minister of foreign affairs, has transmitted to the United States minister a document signed by President Castro as constitutional president of the republic and counter-signed by himself as minister of foreign affairs, in which Mr. Bowen is recognized as the only representative of Venezuela in the matter of effecting a settlement of the present difficulty. According to the terms of this document Mr. Bowen may act without restriction, and he is to use all means possible to protect the interests of Venezuela.

Schooner Captured.

La Guayra, Dec. 18.—The German cruiser Falke, which has been anchored for the past two days at the entrance of Lake Maracaibo, to-day captured the

zuelan steamer over night in the form of a cablegram from Dewey announcing the proposed itinerary of the vessels of his fleet during the holidays. The plan provides for no undue concentration of ships along the Venezuelan coast. Secretary Moody to-day cabled the admiral the department's approval of his order. This will set at rest the rumors that the United States contemplates complicating the situation by dispatching a large naval force to La Guayra as an offset to the allied fleet.

London, Dec. 19.—Great Britain has sent a reply to the United States in regard to the suggestion that the Venezuelan question should be submitted to arbitration. The tenor of the reply, it is expected here, will tend to bring about some arrangement for a satisfactory solution, while thoroughly safeguarding the interests of the powers concerned.

The note to Reuters Telegram Company, announcing that Great Britain had sent a reply to the United States, adds:

"The statements issued from Caracas to the effect that President Castro has empowered Minister Bowen to act as the representative of Venezuela are re-

step toward a solution would be received with pleasure.

Attitude of Powers.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Secretary Hay has received partial responses from the governments of Great Britain, Germany and Italy respecting the proposal to arbitrate the Venezuelan difficulty. Great Britain is favorable to arbitration with proper safeguards. Germany accepts arbitration principle, but finds a multitude of small adjustments to be made before entering into the agreement. Italy, as the junior partner of the allies, declares that she is favorable to arbitration, but probably will be bound by the action of the senior powers.

As far as England is concerned the safeguards referred to are believed to relate to the question of guarantee, which is full of difficulties.

In this connection some consideration is again being given to the feasibility of the assumption of responsibility for any award assessed against Venezuela by responsible private agencies, but the United States government is determined not to allow itself to be drawn into the position of guarantor. However, if private concerns can be induced to enter

made public to-day, to a recent question in parliament of Gilson Bowles, M. P., Conservative. Premier Balfour says no intimation has been received from the government of the United States that it will object to American shipping being interfered with in the event of a blockade of the Venezuelan coast. The objections to the blockade which it is proposed to establish have been carefully considered. They cannot, however, be altogether removed as some of them are adherent to that particular class of naval operations.

Mr. Bowles also asked: "Whether in view of the destruction by the Germans of the two gunboats and the consequent impossibility of holding them as pledges the government proposes to continue joint action with Germany." The Premier replied in the affirmative.

NO RELIEF IN SIGHT.

Railway Company Official Says There Will Be Shortage of Coal All Winter.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 18.—Officials of the Reading Railroad Co. hold out no hope of relief this winter from the present anthracite coal stringency, despite the efforts on the part of the company to mine and ship to its full capacity. "Under normal conditions," said one of the officials, "the anthracite production never is equal to the demand during the winter months, and the Reading and all the other anthracite companies may be obliged to draw upon the stocks of anthracite storage points to help out the demands of the trade. This year there is not a pound of coal at any of these storage points, thus consumers are dependent entirely upon the daily output of the mines."

Practically all of the company's collieries are in operation. Reading officials decline to discuss the question as to whether the advance of 50 cents a ton made in October will hold good during 1903, but they admit that it certainly will rule beyond January 1st, 1903, the date fixed by President Baer for a reduction to the old rate.

TORONTO NOTES.

Sir William Mulock Home Again—The Provincial Bye-Elections.

Toronto, Dec. 19.—The dates for the Ontario legislature bye-elections are announced. Polling in North Perth, North Norfolk and North Grey will take place January 7th. McKay, the unopposed Liberal candidate, will again contest North Grey.

The executive council of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association has decided to urge the postmaster-general to establish a parcel post with Trinidad.

E. A. MacDonald, formerly mayor of Toronto, died last night after a tedious illness, aged 44 years. He was very prominent in municipal politics for years.

E. Morang & Co. have issued another writ against J. Castell Hopkins for \$150 paid him, and for \$500 damages for alleged breach of contract by defendant to write a life of Sir Chas. Tupper.

Sir William Mulock has returned to the city from the Hot Springs, Virginia. He says the Premier is enjoying excellent health, and has gone to St. Augustine, Fla.

THE COAL SHORTAGE.

Mayor of New York is Investigating Situation—May Take Steps to Obtain Supply.

New York, Dec. 19.—Convinced that something must be done to end the coal famine, Mayor Lowe has sent a letter to the officials of the different coal carrying roads asking for facts concerning the situation. The mayor refused to enter into detail, but was hopeful something beneficial to the public would result from his action. "I have written to the railroads in an official capacity," said Mr. Lowe. "I have been quietly investigating the state of affairs for some time, and I thought it advisable to write to certain persons for a few facts. In a few days I shall know more about the true condition of the coal supply in all parts of the city."

It is likely the mayor will head a movement to supply the city with coal, if he finally decides the condition is serious enough to warrant official interference. He has had a conference on the question with Borough President Carter, who said that there was a strong likelihood of action being taken in a few days.

THE NEW COAST ROAD.

Grand Trunk Will Apply for a Charter, Building by the Pine River Pass.

Ottawa, Dec. 19.—The Grand Trunk Pacific railway will apply this week for a Dominion charter for a road from North Bay or Gravenhurst to Port Simpson, on the Pacific Coast, by the Pine River pass. The British Columbia government has notified the Dominion government that the necessary proclamation has now been issued regarding the discontinuance of provincial acts. It is said here the government was notified on December 5th as to their disallowance, although the order-in-council did not arrive until later by mail.

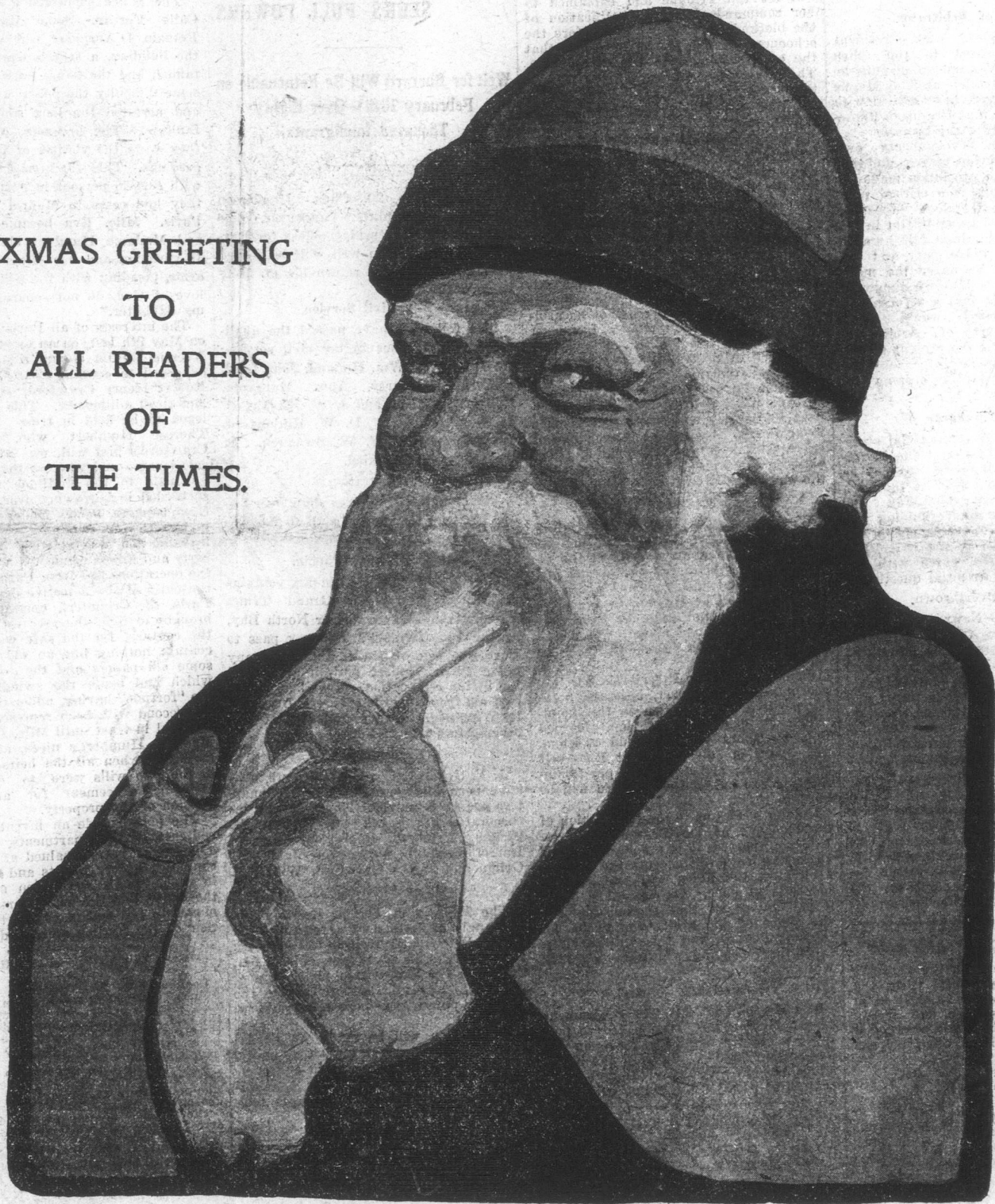
KILLED BY EARTHQUAKE.

(Associated Press.) Akbad, Dec. 18.—Three officials, two soldiers and 150 natives, mostly children, were killed by the earthquake which destroyed the town of Andijan, Russian Central Asia, on Tuesday. In addition, 300 natives and 37 soldiers were injured, and 1,000 houses of native and 130 Russian residences were destroyed.

Death Roll Increased.

London, Dec. 19.—A special dispatch from Petersburg says nearly 1,000 persons were killed by the earthquake on December 16th at Andijan, Russian Central Asia, mostly native Turcomans.

XMAS GREETING TO ALL READERS OF THE TIMES.



being conducted with extraordinary secrecy.

The Associated Press is in a position to say that Great Britain is making efforts to induce the United States to guarantee Venezuela's compliance with the findings of arbitration.

Inquiries made at the foreign office subsequent to the cabinet meeting brought no response. The announcement that President Castro has entrusted the United States Minister Bowen with full powers to arrange a settlement was received at the foreign office with much interest. The dispatch which contained this announcement was immediately taken to the foreign secretary, Lord Lansdowne. It apparently conveyed to the foreign office officials the first definite news that such action had been taken.

W. M. Long, president of the local government board, speaking at Westminster to-night, said that at no previous period had Great Britain's relations with foreign countries been more satisfactory than they were to-day. Mr. Long expressed himself as quite certain that there existed no danger of war or any straining of the present friendly relations between Great Britain and the United States. He said he believed the British government was determined to avoid any

Venezuelan schooner Victoria. After cutting down her mainmast, thus disabling her, the Germans abandoned the vessel. This action has caused great indignation among the Venezuelans, and excitement run high at Maracaibo, where the people have been parading the streets uttering cries against Great Britain and Germany.

The British cruiser Tribune arrived here this morning. The British cruiser Indefatigable left here at noon to-day and steamed in the direction of Trinidad.

French Claims.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The government of France now has entered the field as an active party in the Venezuelan trouble. The French government, through its ambassadors, charges and ministers, has served notice upon Great Britain, Germany and Italy, and by way of information also has told Secretary Hay, that any provision made for the settlement of the claims against Venezuela must recognize the prominence of the French claims. The French government received assurance from the other governments named that any arrangements made will provide for the security of the French interests in the Venezuelan customs.

The navy department contributed the most important development in the Venezuela situation over night in the form of a cablegram from Dewey announcing the proposed itinerary of the vessels of his fleet during the holidays. The plan provides for no undue concentration of ships along the Venezuelan coast. Secretary Moody to-day cabled the admiral the department's approval of his order. This will set at rest the rumors that the United States contemplates complicating the situation by dispatching a large naval force to La Guayra as an offset to the allied fleet.

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"The statements issued from Caracas to the effect that President Castro has empowered Minister Bowen to act as the representative of Venezuela are re-

garded in London as open to question. Any such action on the part of President Castro would be considered wholly beside the mark. The powers concerned will deal solely with the United States in the matter of arbitration. The government of President Castro will not be consulted in any form, not even as to the terms on which arbitration might be acceptable to the powers."

The forms and conditions to be observed in any settlement by arbitration are still the subject of an extensive exchange of views between the powers and the United States prior to the embodiment of the several replies in one harmonious instrument. Until this is elaborated no definite arrangement is possible."

Germany's Reply Ready.

Berlin, Dec. 19.—Germany's answer to Venezuela's proposition for arbitration is ready and will be sent to the United States government in a day or two.

The officials here maintain absolute silence regarding the character of the answer.

The foreign office has no information to the effect that President Castro has bestowed on Minister Bowen full power to represent Venezuela in the settlement of the existing difficulties, but such a

step toward a solution would be received with pleasure.

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As far as England is concerned the safeguards referred to are believed to relate to the question of guarantee, which is full of difficulties.

In this connection some consideration is again being given to the feasibility of the assumption of responsibility for any award assessed against Venezuela by responsible private agencies, but the United States government is determined not to allow itself to be drawn into the position of guarantor. However, if private concerns can be induced to enter

London, Dec. 19.—In a printed reply,

FOREIGN MINISTER'S REPLY TO GERMANY

SAYS EXECUTIVE WILL INVESTIGATE CLAIMS

The Note Was Sent to Kaiser's Representative Before Outbreak of Hostilities.

Caracas, Dec. 19.—The local correspondent of the Associated Press has secured a copy of the answer made by the Venezuelan government to the German note addressed to Lopez Baralt, Venezuelan minister of foreign affairs, by Herr von Pilgrim-Baltazzi, the German envoy, and dated Caracas, December 7th. This answer was transmitted by the foreign office to Herr von Pilgrim-Baltazzi on December 9th. It is signed by Lopez Baralt, and is as follows:

"Caracas, Dec. 7th, 1902. To the Hon. von Pilgrim-Baltazzi: 'Sir,—On the afternoon of the 7th instant, at least a day, an employee of the German legation called at my private residence for the purpose of delivering a note from you of that date.' Courtesy alone caused me to accept this note under these circumstances. I think it is necessary, before stating the purposes and desires of the federal executive, to refer to certain points in the first portion of your note, which are subject to rectification in order to reconcile the essential object of the note with the circumstances of the case. The argument which the Venezuelan government recites in its communication of May 9th, in which exception was taken to all the doctrine set forth in the preceding correspondence, is cited in the said note as the only argument of the Venezuelan government against diplomatic interference in matters of a certain nature. In this note, as in the memo of March, 1901, this argument is based upon the highest principles of international law.

"The Venezuelan government perceived with the utmost surprise that you attribute to it a desire to consider this point only in the light of interior legislation by which, on the 20th of May 9th, of this year, the 20th article of the treaty of amity, on commerce and navigation between the German government and the republic of Colombia, of the 23rd of July, 1862. Our only desire was to add another proof to those already brought forward with regard to the assent of the imperial government to this same doctrine as maintained by Venezuela. Certain cases are now cited as precedents to enter into diplomatic relations to effect a settlement. These cases explain themselves. The payment of certain credits relating to remote epochs were adjusted with France and the doctrine maintained by the imperial government was then respected. In the convention concluded with Spain in 1808, there appears circumstances analogous to those which determine what you yourself call 'an agreement of the 4th of February, 1809' between the German minister at Caracas and the Venezuelan minister of finance. The said agreement referred to claims which previously had been classified by the proper junta, and in this agreement the validity of the executive decree which provided regulations for the examination and payment of said claims is recognized, and said claims were satisfied in accordance with the law on the subject. You object with regard to the strict limitation of time in which the proceedings are to be brought before the junta are entirely wanting in force.

"Regarding the morality of the judges, it is not possible to admit the partiality attributed to them by the imperial legation.

"The Venezuelan government is unable to discover in its correspondence a single sentence offensive in tone. The desire of this government, notwithstanding the fact that throughout this correspondence it has noted the expression of opinions little friendly to this republic, is to ascertain which sentences contain the slightest offense to the imperial government in order to explain the same with the utmost courtesy. It now has to express the opinion and attitude of the Venezuelan government with regard to your final deductions and concerning the motives which led you to present them in the name of the government of the German empire. It has been decided that, since the proper junta is already installed, procedure cannot be dilatory nor differ from the form prescribed by international law. Regarding the other points, it is necessary to call your attention to the abnormal circumstances which have paralyzed any course of action relating to these matters. The Venezuelan government is now considering the appointment of a fiscal agent.

"The imperial government desires that the government of Venezuela immediately satisfy the claims of German subjects, arising from the civil war, and that the other matters in which the interests of German subjects are involved be arbitrated. In order that this be done, it becomes necessary that the declaration be made by the claimants under consideration, and if they are just, the federal executive, as the representative of an honorable and cultured government, hasten to give assurances that as such these claims will be examined. Treatment with the interested parties will facilitate, hasten or end in the satisfaction of said obligations. The Venezuelan government only awaits such time when the work of pacification in which it is engaged shall permit it to issue an order re-establishing public credit. The claims arising out of the present war, which still devastates the republic, will be treated with all justice under the laws to be passed to cover the requirements. Upon the special command of my government I refrain from replying to that part of your name which relates to joint action on the part of Germany and the United

Kingdom. A power like Venezuela, which is in need of no stimulus to prompt it to fulfill its legal obligations to its utmost ability, can never expect in its intercourse with other cultured nations any course of action which shall not conform to the principles of mutual respect and the rules of reciprocal cordiality. (Signed) R. Lopez Baralt."

Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec. 19.—It is reported here that former Venezuelan revolutionary generals with a force, said to number 10,000 men, are marching on Caracas, and are believed now to be near that city. Cable messages coming from Venezuela to this port are subjected to Venezuelan censorship. Admiral Douglas, of the British fleet, has ordered the blockade of La Guayra, Caranero, Guanta, Cumana, Camupano and the mouth of the Orinoco river. This blockade is to go into effect at midnight, December 20th.

London, Dec. 20.—The official proclamation of the blockade of Venezuelan ports was gazetted this morning and became effective to-day. The text of the proclamation is as follows:

"Foreign Office, Dec. 20th, 1902. 'It is hereby notified that as the United States of Venezuela have failed to comply with the demands of His Majesty's government a blockade by His Majesty's naval forces of the ports of La Guayra, Caranero, Guanta, Cumana and Carupano, and the mouths of the Orinoco, is declared, and such blockade will be effectively maintained for and after the 20th of December, subject to the allowance of the following days of grace. For vessels sailing before the date of this notification, from West Indian ports and ports on the east coast of the continent of America, ten days for steamers and twenty days for sailing vessels; from all other ports, twenty days for steamers and forty days for sailing vessels; for vessels leaving the ports now declared to be blockaded, fifteen days.

"Vessels which attempt to violate the blockade will render themselves liable to all measures authorized by the law of nations and by the respective treaties between His Majesty and the different neutral powers."

Washington, Dec. 20.—President Roosevelt has proposed the allied powers that the Venezuelan dispute be submitted to arbitration at The Hague tribunal. The powers have replied with a counter proposal that President Roosevelt himself arbitrate the issue. These were the developments over night in the Venezuelan matter, and they seem to justify the prediction made in these dispatches that the critical point had been passed. President Roosevelt does not wish to act as arbitrator in this dispute, for as such it is felt here he would be at once judge, jury and constable, and would be under the moral obligation to execute his own judgment. The President feels that a reference to The Hague tribunal would weaken the strength of the Court of Arbitration. Still, rather than see the present dispute proceed to extremes it is probable the President will reluctantly assume the duties of arbitrator.

The Allies Agree. Berlin, Dec. 20.—A semi-official statement made to-night says: "The invitation to President Roosevelt to act as arbitrator was made after a thorough consultation between Germany and Great Britain. An understanding has been reached by the two powers on the subject of the arbitration. The German note will agree with the English note on all essential questions."

May Be Overthrown. Panama, Dec. 20.—News received here from the Venezuelan frontier is to the effect that the revolutionary movement against President Castro is now more powerful than ever. Gen. Mateos is said to be at the head of a strong army and to be on good terms with the representatives of the foreign powers. It is believed among the Venezuelan revolutionists that the present movement against Castro will be successful.

London, Dec. 20.—It is confirmed here that an invitation has been sent to United States President Roosevelt to arbitrate in the Venezuelan difficulty. It seems that the proposal to submit the matter to arbitration came from the German government. The foreign

THE FIRST STEP

Of the child is an event in the mother's life. Her own health is at stake. The attempt to walk is begun so early as to evidence childish courage and sturdy strength. Such pride should be enjoyed by every mother. But it often happens that the child is born weak and deficient in vitality, and clings to the mother's arms with no desire to walk or play.

Mother should learn that to have strong children they must themselves be strong, for the child's strength is the gift of the mother.

The use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription gives them health and strength to give their children. It not only strengthens the nerves, strengthens the body and gives great muscular strength and elasticity, so that the baby's advent is practically painless.

"I have been using Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, and can say it is just what you advertise it to be, and cheerfully recommend it to my friends. My little boy was born five months before baby came, and was greatly benefited. I did not see him until he was three months old, and he was as healthy as any child I have ever known. He weighed nine pounds when born (July 24th). During this month he has gained three pounds."

"Favorite Prescription" makes weak women strong, sick women well. Accept no substitute for the medicine which works wonders for weak women. The Common Sense Medical Adviser, a book containing 1000 pages, is given away. Send for one-cent stamps for expense of postage and mailing only. For the book in paper covers, or 50 stamps for the volume bound in cloth. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Littleton, Colo.

see here says it has the strongest reason for believing that President Roosevelt will decline to act as arbitrator. At Washington.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The status of the arbitration negotiations of the close of the official day, as disclosed at the department, was that the powers were waiting for an answer from the President to their proposal, that he himself undertake to arbitrate the Venezuelan difficulty.

The President's answer can only be guessed at, for the officials decline to express any opinion of their own. However, it is believed to be a fact that he will renew his suggestion that the case be submitted to The Hague tribunal, adding to the argument he has already produced, the fact that the United States having claims of its own against Venezuela to the amount of about \$100,000, is a party in interest, and it would be submitted to the President in the position of having to arbitrate his own claim. For their part, the powers bring against The Hague the argument that President Castro would feel highly honored by the decision by the tribunal, but would feel bound by a judgment rendered by President Roosevelt.

It is stated at the state department that no matter how these propositions are disposed of, there will be no backward step, and that an agreement of some kind, which will bring about a settlement of Venezuelan troubles, will result from the present negotiations.

The First Prize. Caracas, Dec. 20.—The British cruiser indefatigable has made the first prize under the blockade, capturing the Venezuelan schooner Julia, which was going to Higuereta, a seaport in the province of Miranda. The Julia's cargo, by the irony of fate, belongs to the German firm of Blohm, which has lodged a protest with the United States consul.

Schooners Seized. La Guayra, Dec. 20.—The Trinidad schooner La Inmaculada, belonging to a French subject, but flying the Venezuelan flag, tried to leave this port to-day, and was seized by the British cruiser Tribune. A commissioner boarded the schooner and explained to her commander that no notification of the blockade had been given before the schooner cleared, and claimed also that the cargo belonged to foreign subjects. The commander of the Tribune refused to release the schooner and its cargo, saying that he was obeying his superior's orders.

Germany's Decree. Berlin, Dec. 20.—The German government to-day published a decree embodying the conditions of the blockade of Germany's portions of the Venezuelan coast. In it the ports of Porto Cabello and Maracaibo are declared to be under blockade, beginning December 20th.

London, Dec. 21.—It is believed President Roosevelt's answer to the proposal made by the allied powers that he arbitrate the Venezuelan trouble has been received in London. The strictest secrecy with regard to the progress of the negotiations is preserved, however, and it is impossible to make a definite statement, but indications point to President Roosevelt's acceptance of the office of arbitrator. A constant interchange of telegrams is proceeding night and day between the United States embassy and the state department at Washington.

Washington Views. Washington, Dec. 22.—The United States government is awaiting the receipt of formal answers from the allied governments as well as to the suggestion that the President's last suggestion that the Venezuelan dispute be referred to The Hague. So far these responses have not come to hand, but it is pretty well understood that they will not do so for arbitration of President Roosevelt himself.

Signs point to the President's ultimate acceptance of the trust, although nothing positive is yet known on this point. The state department has learned that the President has accepted the selection of President Roosevelt as arbitrator, and as all the parties interested are united the pressure will be hard to resist.

The Netherlands Neutral. The Hague, Dec. 22.—The government of the Netherlands has decided to present a strictly neutral attitude on the Venezuelan trouble. Ships of the blockading powers will be prohibited from coaling at ports of the Dutch colonies.

MASCAGNI'S TOUR. All Dates Cancelled.—Attachment Made on His Personal Effects. Chicago, Dec. 22.—The American tour of Mascagni and the Italian opera company came to a sudden close to-day in this city, with the cancellation of all dates. The culmination of Mascagni's personal effects by a constable, representing a local claimant, for \$124. Mascagni is now confined to his hotel suffering from nervous prostration.

WRIT FOR BURRARD. Ottawa, Dec. 22.—The writ for Burrard was sent by to-day's train. It grants the writ for the return of the writ of Burrard to the sheriff of Dawson, and the writ is to take its course in the capital cases of Labelle and Fournier. It will be sent by boat from Vancouver and will be repeated from Skagway.

PAPER MAKER DEAD. Hamilton, Ont., Dec. 22.—James Stutt, a paper manufacturer, one of the oldest residents of West Flamboro, is dead, aged 84 years.

Steamer Queen City will sail for West Coast points to-night. She spends Christmas at Clayoquot. Among the passengers who will be leaving on the vessel will be M. S. Clark, J. Milward, Mrs. Stone and M. Guilford.

To the Public.

In October last the price of the "Twice-a-week Times" was reduced from \$1.50 to \$1.00, and the cash-in-advance system was adopted.

All subscribers in arrears were notified that their obligations must be met before the close of the year, or the papers would be discontinued, and the amount due the "Times" would be collected. The manner in which this announcement has been received has been an agreeable surprise. Numerous letters, commending the step taken, have been received, accompanied by appreciative words and more tangible evidences in the form of remittances. A long list of new subscribers has been added, making the "Times" the most widely circulated paper on the Island, and a most satisfactory response has been received from those in arrears.

For all this we are extremely grateful, and will endeavor to merit the continued approval of our friends by further increasing the high standard of the "Twice-a-week Times." There are still a few who have disregarded our repeated requests for a settlement. These have until the end of the year to meet their obligations, after which time other steps will be taken to enforce our claims against them.

APPLICATION BY THE GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY COMPANY SEEKS FULL POWERS

Writ for Burrard Will Be Returnable on February 28th—Over Eighty Thousand Immigrants.

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—Chas. Henderson Mowatt, accountant, Vancouver, has been appointed returning officer for Burrard election. The writ will be issued at once, and made returnable on February 28th.

For Civil Service. The following have passed the qualifying examinations in the civil service: At Vancouver, Wm. Holland, John Lord, Clifford McQuarry, Alex. Matheson, Nell M. Robinson and J. W. Ritchie, B. L. B. At Nelson, D. W. Rutherford, Wm. Rutherford, F. W. Swannell. At Victoria, Clarke Mabel.

Immigration. The immigration figures show over 80,000 arrivals for the year up to November 30th.

Grand Trunk Pacific. The Canada Gazette to-day contains the application for the Grand Trunk Pacific, from Gravenhurst or North Bay, by the Pine River Pass or any pass to Port Simpson or Bute Inlet, or any other port. Full powers are asked for in the application, as well as to accept aid from governments, etc., branches to Winnipeg, Calgary and Regina and other points will be built.

Incorporation. J. Y. Griffin & Co., cattle dealers, etc., have been incorporated. The head-quarters are at Winnipeg. Those getting incorporated are Frank M. Griffin, St. Thomas; Robert Robertson, Nelson; Daniel Naismith, Vancouver; James A. Griffin and James Crawford, Winnipeg.

Other Applications. The Midway & Vagon Railway Co. will apply to parliament next session for an act declaring the railway to be a work for the general advantage of Canada, extending the same and giving to the company power to dispose of its railway, etc.

The Yukon Murders. The cabinet is in session this afternoon, considering the Yukon capital cases. The minister of justice has recommended that the law take its course and therefore Labelle and Fournier will be hanged, Labelle on January 10th and Fournier on January 20th.

Agriculture. Census Commissioner Blue will have a bulletin out in a few days regarding agriculture in British Columbia. It will show marvelous development during the past decade.

KNOWS NOTHING OF IT. Montreal, Dec. 20.—Second Vice-President and General Manager McNivell of the G. P. R., knows nothing of the reported deal by which the White Pass & Yukon railway is to pass into control of the C. P. R.

THE LATE MRS. GRANT. President Roosevelt, Ministers and Others Attended Funeral Service. Washington, Dec. 20.—In the presence of a notable assemblage, including President Roosevelt, some of his cabinet, many senators and representatives, and most of the army, navy and marine officers, Mrs. Grant, widow of the former soldier president, were held in this city to-day. Immediately afterwards the body was taken to New York on a train over the Pennsylvania route. The main service was held in the Metropolitan church, Rev. Dr. Frank M. Bristol, pastor of the church, officiating.

Smoking Jackets, \$3, 3.50, 5; Dressing Gowns, \$7, 9, 10; Mufflers, Scarfs, Ties, Gloves; Suit Cases, \$3, 4, 5, 7.50. B. Williams & Co., 66-70 YATES STREET.

HUMBERTS IN THE TOILS.

Family Implicated in One of Greatest Swindles of Century Arrested by Madrid Police.

Madrid, Dec. 20.—Madame Humbert, her husband, Emma Humbert, and the three D'Aurignacs, Roman, Emile and Marie, who became notorious in connection with the great safe frauds in Paris, have been arrested here.

The police suspected a house on the Calle Ferrary. Some time yesterday Roman D'Aurignac was seen to enter the building, a search warrant was obtained, and the house surrounded. After some difficulty the police were admitted, and arrested the long sought-for defaulter. The prisoners protested that they were the victims of infamous proceedings. They threatened to "get even" with certain persons in France, and said they had come to Madrid direct from Paris. Mlle. Eva became hysterical, and Madame Humbert clasped Marie D'Aurignac, and her daughter in her arms, pleading with the police, "For the love of God; do not separate me from my daughter."

The interests of all Paris was centered. On May 9th last, on an empty safe at 65 Avenue De La Gannu Arme. It was supposed to contain \$20,000,000 left by Robert Henry Crawford, said to be an American millionaire. This sum was alleged to be held in trust by Madame Therese Humbert, who, under Mr. Crawford's first will, was constituted his sole legatee and who, on the strength of her title to the fictitious vast estate succeeded in borrowing over \$10,000,000 from bankers, money lenders and others in France and Belgium. Eventually an investigation was started. The Humberts and others connected with them in the operations led from Paris, and when the chief of the detective department of Paris, M. Cochofret, opened the safe, brought to light the greatest swindle of the century, for the safe was found to contain nothing but an old jewel box, some old papers and the official seals which had made the swindle possible, the "fortune" having, under the terms of the second will, been represented as being held in trust until Mlle. D'Aurignac, Madame Humbert's niece, attained her majority, when all the heirs mentioned in the two wills were to come to an amicable agreement for an equitable division of the property.

The police made an inventory of the contents of the apartments, and found a parcel of jewels, valued at \$2,000, a couple of lottery tickets and about \$115 in cash. Senties were then attached to the house, and the whole family, including Madame Humbert's niece, was removed to jail and placed at the disposition of the French ambassador.

FOGGER'S SUICIDE. London, Dec. 20.—The three bank note forgery committed for trial on December 10th, pleaded guilty, and were sentenced to the Old Bailey to-day, Philip Bernstein to five years, William Barnash to fifteen years, and William Barnash to ten years. The prisoners were removed to their cells. Solomon Barnash shot and killed himself. The police were dumfounded at Barnash's death. The prisoner became paralyzed after his arrest and was carried to the infirmary. While in court, he was apparently helpless. It is thought friends who visited him that night, and who were with him when he died, will be able to give him the revolver with which he killed himself.

MANY HAVE PERISHED. Laramie, Wyo., Dec. 20.—Yesterday's blizzard was the worst known here. It is believed that considerable loss of life will result. All the stages running from Laramie, except that to Centennial, forty miles distant, returned after vainly trying to brave the storm. The Centennial stage has not returned, and it is feared the driver and his passengers have perished. A special from Cheyenne says the coal shortage, which has already caused hardship, has been accentuated by the storm, which made it impossible to deliver coal. All street traffic has been stopped. The storm continues unabated.

GAUGHT IN SNOW. Denver, Colo., Dec. 20.—A blizzard has been raging in Eastern Colorado, and all railroads running into Denver are either blocked or badly delayed. The incoming island trains stuck in the snow at Goodland, Kan., and a train which should have left here at 6:30 o'clock last night has not yet returned. The U. P. line is blocked between here and Cheyenne. All the mountain roads are badly crippled. Snow ploughs have been ordered to the scenes of the blockades.

WINNIPEG CLEARINGS. Winnipeg, Dec. 18.—The clearing house returns for the week ending December 18th, 1902, were: Clearing, \$5,102,633; balance, \$102,216. For corresponding week in 1901 the figures were: Clearing, \$4,287,187; balance, \$82,422. For the same period in 1900: Clearing, \$2,540,875; balance, \$485,096.

ACROSS ATLANTIC WITHOUT WIRES

SUCCESS REWARDS EFFORTS OF MARCONI

The Inventor Has Received Many Congratulatory Messages on His Great Achievement.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—Lord Minto has received a telegram from Marconi, at Glace Bay, N. S., station, that he sent successfully over the Atlantic by wireless telegraph a message from the Governor-General to King Edward, Lord Minto replied to Marconi congratulating him on his success.

The King's reply to Lord Minto's message sent by wireless telegraph was received to-day as follows: London, Dec. 22nd. I am much interested by the wireless message which you have sent me, and I am delighted at the success of Signor Marconi's great invention which brings Great Britain and Canada into still closer connection. (Signed) EDWARD R.

The following message was received by the Governor-General: Glace Bay, N. S., Dec. 21st. His Excellency the Governor-General, Ottawa. I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that your message to His Majesty has now been transmitted by me from Cape Breton to Cornwall by wireless telegraph, and has been forwarded to its destination. (Signed) MARCONI.

Lord Minto telegraphed to Marconi as follows: Delighted at your message, just received. Warmest congratulations on your splendid success. (Signed) MINTO. Marconi sent the following message to Sir Wilfrid Laurier: I have the honor to inform you that I have now established wireless telegraph communication between Cape Breton station and Cornwall, in England, and that I have already transmitted several messages to their destinations, including one from the Governor-General to His Majesty. Permit me to congratulate you upon successful completion of this great achievement, and again to thank you for your generous assistance in my endeavours, and for the cordiality of your encouragement and cooperation.

Hon. W. S. Fielding while in Nova Scotia intended visiting Marconi's station at Glace Bay, but was unable to do so. The minister of finance received the following telegram yesterday from Marconi: Glace Bay, Dec. 21st. The Hon. W. S. Fielding, Minister of Finance, Ottawa. I regret you were unable to visit the station. The Governor-General sent me a message for His Majesty, which I have already been able to transmit to England by wireless telegraph with complete success. I should be glad to send a short message from the station upon success, if desired. I leave here shortly for my Cape Cod station. (Signed) MARCONI.

Hon. Mr. Fielding has replied as follows: Ottawa, Dec. 21st. G. Marconi, Glace Bay, N. S.: A message from the government has already been sent. Accept my warmest congratulations on the success of your great work. I rejoice that Canada has been able to co-operate with you in such a splendid achievement. (Signed) W. S. FIELDING.

The contract which Marconi has with the Canadian government provides that ordinary messages will be ten cents a word, and that government and press messages will be five cents a word. At present it costs 25 cents a word for ordinary messages.

To British People. (Associated Press). London, Dec. 22.—The second edition of the Times to-day prints the text of a wireless message received from the Canadian government as follows: Ottawa, Dec. 21st. The government of Canada, through the Times, desires to congratulate the British people on the accomplishment by Marconi of the greatest feat of modern science yet achieved. (Signed) CARTWRIGHT, Acting Premier. From King Victor.

Rome, Dec. 22.—King Victor Emmanuel this morning received a wireless message from Marconi forwarded from Cape Breton, via Cornwall, and sent a congratulatory reply. Without a Reply. London, Dec. 22.—Representatives of the Marconi company say they have been

receiving transatlantic messages for a week. They add that the messages to King Edward and others come through without a hitch and practically instantaneously. The instant the key was depressed in Nova Scotia the receiver at Poldhu, Cornwall, answered. It is calculated that the company will be able to handle 1,000 words an hour. So soon as it is able to get the necessary authorities to connect Poldhu with the inland telegraph, the company will commence regular commercial business between Cornwall and Nova Scotia.



COL. HOLMES. A dispatch from Ottawa states that the Militia Gazette, issued on Saturday, announces the promotion of Lieut.-Col. J. G. Holmes, D. O. C., this district, to be colonel. This honor could not be conferred on an officer more highly deserving of it, and will afford sincere gratification to the district of which Col. Holmes is in command.

AGED COUPLE MURDERED. They Were Killed With An Axe—Safe Riddled. Almira, Wis., Dec. 22.—Judge Lewis and his wife, an aged couple, have been found murdered in their home on a lonely road six miles south of here. The motive was robbery, as the safe in which Lewis was known to have kept a large sum of money had been broken into and emptied. They had been killed with an axe, which was found near by. There is no clue to the murderer.

SANITARIUM ON COAST. Announcement at the Annual Meeting of National Association in Toronto. Toronto, Dec. 22.—At the annual meeting of the National Sanitarium Association held on Saturday, it was announced that the construction of the Ontario sanitarium on the coast of British Columbia, which will be the third, other two being already in operation at Muskoka, a fourth will be built on the Pacific Coast.

PLENTY OF FUNDS. F. C. Clergue Says Company is Able to Meet Present Liabilities and Complete Works. Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Dec. 22.—F. C. Clergue announces that as a result of negotiations in Philadelphia, the sum of \$8,000,000 is now at the company's disposal to meet present liabilities and to open up to completion within the next year or so the works now under way.

TWO FIRES. Warehouse and Three Hundred Barrels of Oil Burned. Chicago, Dec. 22.—The Standard Oil Company's warehouse, located at 17th street and the Rock Island tracks, caught fire early this morning, and the building was practically destroyed, together with 3,000 barrels of oil which it contained. The loss is about \$30,000. Several explosions of oil occurred during the progress of the fire. Flames Not Extinguished.

Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 22.—A fire which has caused loss of about \$1,000,000, and is still burning, broke out this morning at 1:30 o'clock in the east-story factory of the Knoxville knitting mills, on Commerce avenue.

If it is stated that General Chaffee will succeed General Young as lieutenant-general of the United States army.

THE CAMPAIGN NORTH

OPPOSITION IS SOLID IN THIS CON...

Mr. Paterson Had Rousing Speech at Sanich School House on Night.

In an outburst of enthusiasm days ago the morning paper reported that the government for North Victoria had "stayed." But after Saturday evening's campaign, it is quite apparent that if victory is won, it will be the work of Mr. Robertson, a man of whom Mr. Paterson has an opinion that there was a man favor at the gathering. Mr. Paterson admitted that, but asserted, nevertheless, that a candidate is always elected. But it should be noted that a candidate is always elected, not that a candidate is always elected. Mr. Paterson's opinion that there was a man favor at the gathering. Mr. Paterson admitted that, but asserted, nevertheless, that a candidate is always elected. But it should be noted that a candidate is always elected, not that a candidate is always elected.

The opposition candidate is an admirable address. It was a concise and convincing address, a true picture of the man, and one who must have sounded like a little band of government. It was a true picture of the man, and one who must have sounded like a little band of government. It was a true picture of the man, and one who must have sounded like a little band of government. It was a true picture of the man, and one who must have sounded like a little band of government.

What was the government especially in respect to railway. He had been a railway man, and knew that the railway would give away money and dies to this end. They state Canadian Northern would cut through the province, and open up to the coast. The proposed line across would construct a line across the province, and open up to the coast.

He had been accused of persecution being that he had to present the construction of the line. He had been accused of persecution being that he had to present the construction of the line. He had been accused of persecution being that he had to present the construction of the line. He had been accused of persecution being that he had to present the construction of the line.

But he would not vote to land money for a road to be secured without doing so. The Grand Trunk line across would construct a line across the province, and open up to the coast.

In the face of this it would give away large sums of land for the road to the coast. Mr. Paterson then pointed out negotiations in Philadelphia, the sum of \$8,000,000 is now at the company's disposal to meet present liabilities and to open up to completion within the next year or so the works now under way.

The speaker then explained the construction of the line. He had been a railway man, and knew that the railway would give away money and dies to this end. They state Canadian Northern would cut through the province, and open up to the coast.

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CHILDREN FREE FOR TWO WEEKS

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS HAVE NOW COMMENCED

Some Very Enjoyable Closing Exercises Were Held This Morning—This Afternoon's Programme.

(From Friday's Daily.) Although the winter holidays are not as long as those in midsummer there is one compensating feature which easily makes up for the brevity. It is the fact that Christmas and all its pleasures will occupy the prime place on the children's programme, not to forget New Year's, which pushes the former festival closely for first place in the affection of the public.

The pupils of the Boys' Central school assembled in the Pemberton gymnasium this morning to hold closing exercises. Dr. Lewis Hall, who was voted chairman, opened the proceedings with a brief and appropriate address. Among those on the platform were Bishop Perrin, Rev. Dr. Campbell, Rev. Baugh Allen, ex-Ald. Beckwith, Trustees Hall and Huggett, Inspector A. C. Stewart, Wm. McMillan, Mrs. Elliott, S. Rowe and Miss Lawson. The programme was as follows:

Speeches were delivered by Bishop Perrin, Dr. Campbell and Trustee Huggett, congratulating the children upon the excellence of the programme rendered, and wishing them a "Merry Christmas" and "Happy New Year." Before the dismissal of the children two medals were presented to those who had distinguished themselves in the swimming competitions this summer.

The closing exercises of the Girls' Central school were held at Pemberton gymnasium this afternoon, there being a large attendance of visitors. The students had prepared an excellent programme. Rev. Baugh Allen delivered an address on "How Christmas is Spent in Different Parts of the World."

The closing exercises in connection with the Victoria West school were conducted this morning. The children attended, and delivered a brief address, congratulating the pupils upon their excellent programme, and wishing scholars and teachers the compliments of the season.

At Rock Bay school, which was also decorated, the following programme was rendered by the pupils this morning:

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Recitation—The Snowbirds. Ethel Haydle. Song—The Angels. May Motr. Recitation—The Angels. May Motr. Recitation—The Angels. May Motr.

A public examination in accordance with clause 8 of the public school regulations was held at the High school today. The students assembled in their class rooms, and went through the regular routine work in the presence of a number of interested visitors.

At South Park school there was no entertainment in connection with the closing of the school for the winter holidays. The pupils of the different classes simply assembled in their class rooms, where they bade their teachers farewell and dispersed. On the opening of the school, however, an entertainment will be given for the pupils assisted by Prof. Haynes' orchestra, and the parents and friends present thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The closing exercises of North Ward school yesterday afternoon attracted a large number to the assembly room, which was crowded to the doors. An excellent programme was rendered by the pupils assisted by Prof. Haynes' orchestra, and the parents and friends present thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

There was a "full house" at the Kingston street school yesterday, the attendance being the largest in the history of this popular little school house. The rooms were prettily decorated, teachers and pupils showing marked talent in this direction. A Christmas cantata was given by the children in fine style, solo lists and chorals distinguishing themselves in a most gratifying manner.

A large number of parents and friends visited the Spring Ridge school to witness the closing exercises yesterday morning. The pupils assembled at the usual time, and spent the first hour in their respective class rooms, where they were examined in the various subjects taught.

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Jerrald Potts gained an open scholarship, open to the province of British Columbia, at Trinity University, Toronto, and I have lately heard from the provost that he is doing well in his work and likely to prove a credit to his school.

We have heard good accounts of the two Hamiltons at McGill University, and of Hamersley, now at Kingston, the commandant. Lt.-Col. Reade, wrote to me: "I wish you could send us another boy like Harold Hamersley."

Our numbers are well up to the average, the roll call this term being 62, including 18 boarders. The health of the boys has been excellent, a matter of great thankfulness.

Your Lordship has kindly given us an entrance scholarship for the seventh year, which will be completed for all being well, on the first day of the Easter term, January 12th, 1903.

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THE NEW BUILDING READY FOR BUSINESS

Staff of Bank of British North America Entered Permanent Offices on Monday.

On Monday the new offices of the Bank of British North America were opened for business. The building is situated on Yates street, below Government street, on the site occupied by that bank ever since a branch was opened in the city. It was in the year 1850 that the Bank of B. N. A. opened in Victoria. The staff then consisted of three members, and in order to reach this place they were forced to make the trip down the Atlantic Coast to Central America, where they crossed the Isthmus to the Pacific, thence coming to this city.

The building erected as a place of business was a very elaborate one for those days. It continued to serve the needs up to less than a year ago, when it became absolutely imperative to provide new and better quarters. The material for the original bank building was, with the exception of the stone, brought round the Horn from England.

There were only two occupants in the prisoner's dock at the police court Friday morning, but they were culprits with records. One was none other than the great incorrigible Lawrence Mooney, who has succeeded the late James Chickens as star guest in the mansion on Popar avenue.

The total vote cast was 952, of which 537 were in favor of the by-law, and 415 against it. The last severance by-law to be submitted to the ratepayers was the septic tank measure, which was rejected on December 30th, 1901.

The final step in connection with the measure will be taken at Monday night's regular meeting of the council, when it will be reconsidered and finally passed. Tenders for debentures to the amount of \$200,000, the sum specified in the by-law, will then be advertised for.

There were two spilt battles in Central Ward.

Amnesty Granted Students Banished to Siberia For Rioting on His Name Day.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 19.—The czar has granted amnesty to the students who were banished for rioting on his name day. He telegraphed to the minister of the interior as follows: "Let the students who were banished for creating disturbances return from Siberia, although they should not for the present be allowed to live in town where there are high schools."

THE PUBLIC OFFICE. THE GLASS IN THE PARTITIONS

The public office. The glass in the partitions among the offices was brought direct from Montreal, while the cathedral glass, between the business offices and the manager's private room, was obtained in Vancouver.

Over the centre of the building and providing additional light to the clerks is placed a large glass dome, material for which was obtained in Portland, Ore.

The manager's room adjoining the main offices is a model in finish and arrangement. Over the vault is a fire proof room, in which is stored all the books which have been used since 1850. These books furnish an idea of the growth in the business of the institution.

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The telegram, which is equivalent to an imperial decree, returns 38 students banished to Siberia, in addition to the 62 students previously pardoned.



THE REAL QUESTION—IS IT A PLASTER DOG? John Bull—"While we're aimin' for the little bloke, maybe we can settle this dawg business."

THE BY-LAW SAVED BY SOUTH WARD

IT WAS CARRIED BY TWENTY-SIX VOTES

Only a Fourth of Those Entitled to Vote Went to the Polls—The Result.

It was the South Ward that saved the severance by-law on Friday. A three-fifths vote was required to pass the enactment, and this was exceeded by about twenty-six votes. Central and North wards went about even, but the division of the city represented by the father of the by-law turned out loyally and gave the measure the largest majority of the three.

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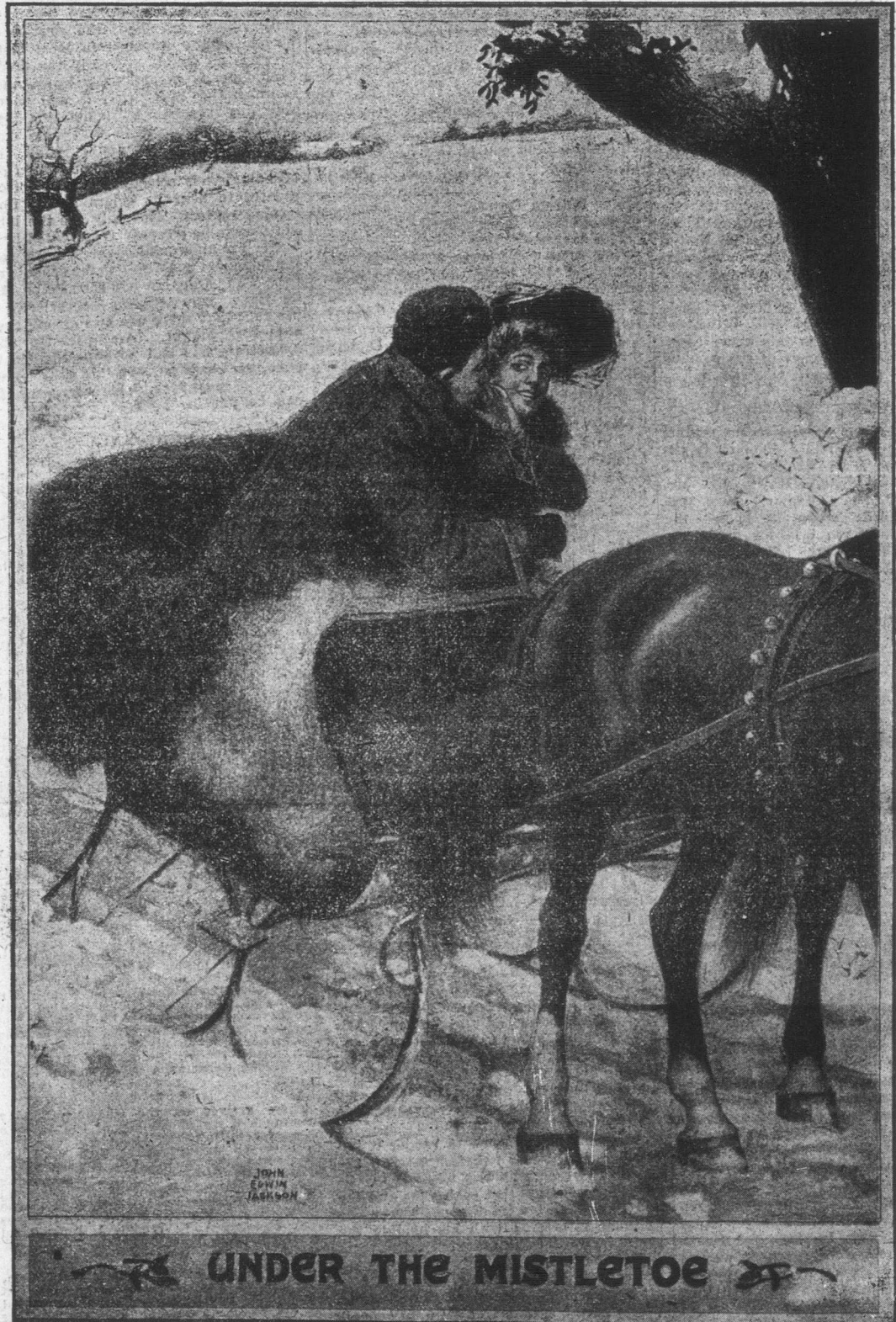
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UNDER THE MISTLETOE

map prize; Miss Archbutt, a music prize; and Mrs. Laing, two prizes for spelling.

The closing exercises of the Equilmalt school were held on Friday. The children were examined in several branches of their studies, and a number of recitations and dialogues creditably rendered in the presence of many interested visitors.

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became too crowded to permit of being used, when the decision was reached to tear down this block, familiar to all the old residents of the city, and erect in its place the more modern structure, which opens on Monday.

The bank in outward appearance resembles the head office at Montreal in a marked degree. The architectural design is a plain one, but stability is a marked characteristic. The massive granite pillars along the front aid materially in giving it this appearance.

In the centre of the public office a large oval table stands for the convenience of those doing business at the bank. This, together with the counter, is of mahogany, the deep color adding very materially to the rich appearance of the office.

been begging, invariably converting anything he secured this way into whiskey. "I suppose you want to spend your holidays in jail, Mooney, do you not?" queried the magistrate.

The klotchman to whom he supplied the liquor informed one of the jailers in a burst of confidence that she had purchased it for alleviating purposes. She had "pains inside," and was told that a little hot whiskey would do her a world of good.

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 19.—Governor Bliss will not permit the McGovern-Corbett fight, which was to have been held in Detroit next month. He wrote his afternoon to Sheriff Dickson calling upon him to enforce the law.

THE BY-LAW SAVED BY SOUTH WARD

IT WAS CARRIED BY TWENTY-SIX VOTES

Only a Fourth of Those Entitled to Vote Went to the Polls—The Result.

It was the South Ward that saved the severance by-law on Friday. A three-fifths vote was required to pass the enactment, and this was exceeded by about twenty-six votes. Central and North wards went about even, but the division of the city represented by the father of the by-law turned out loyally and gave the measure the largest majority of the three.

The total vote cast was 952, of which 537 were in favor of the by-law, and 415 against it. The last severance by-law to be submitted to the ratepayers was the septic tank measure, which was rejected on December 30th, 1901.

There were two spilt battles in Central Ward.

Amnesty Granted Students Banished to Siberia For Rioting on His Name Day.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 19.—The czar has granted amnesty to the students who were banished for rioting on his name day. He telegraphed to the minister of the interior as follows: "Let the students who were banished for creating disturbances return from Siberia, although they should not for the present be allowed to live in town where there are high schools."

AGENT-GENERAL AND BOARD OF TRADE.

To the Editor:—My attention has been called to the remarks of Mr. Roland Machin at a board of trade meeting when seconding a resolution of Mr. S. J. Pitts, recommending the government to change the present location of the Agent-General's offices to a more central place in the city of London.

As I am familiar with the "city of London," and have visited the offices referred to several times, I venture to correct the impression which Mr. Machin's statements might possibly cause in the minds of many who have no personal knowledge of the subject.

Firstly, I am surprised at Mr. Pitts's resolution, as everyone who knows the city must be aware that Finbury Circus, where the offices are, is in the heart of the business portion of the metropolis, and therefore most centrally located.

Then I am at a greater loss to comprehend Mr. Machin's remarks, which must have arisen from utter misapprehension, as he is in no way acquainted with the city, and can read a directory, it should not take more than one minute—or two, at most—to ascertain where the offices are.

Personally, I have always considered the title of "Agent-General" a misnomer. It conveys the impression of being more than a mere agent, and in reality it is only an active "immigration agent."

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The telegram, which is equivalent to an imperial decree, returns 38 students banished to Siberia, in addition to the 62 students previously pardoned.

Local News.

R. M. S. Empress of Japan left Hongkong en route to this port on Wednesday.

Mrs. H. Marr, proprietress of the Boomerang, has presented the children of the Protestant Orphans' Home with Christmas presents, consisting of 100 toys of different kinds.

The regular monthly meeting of the Veterans' Association, which was to have been held on Thursday, was adjourned without the transaction of any business, on account of the poor attendance.

The remains of the late Thomas Snot Copley were laid to rest Friday. The funeral took place in the afternoon from the parlors of W. J. Hanna. Religious services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Gibson at the parlors and grave.

Friday evening at Labor hall the regular meeting of the I. O. O. F. was held. The program was a large attendance. The initiation of members was postponed until the next meeting on account of the large amount of business to be transacted.

There is an exhibition in the Times window a bunch of raspberries grown by Mrs. Gilchrist at her residence, 65 King's road. The berries are ripe, fully matured and are a remarkable commentary on the temperate Christmas weather of this city.

The Sir William Wallace Society held their usual meeting Friday. Pipe music and "Auld Scots Songs" were included in the programme. W. A. Robertson gave a description of Graham Island, its resources and geological formation. Nominations for officers for the ensuing term were received.

A request is made that all accounts in connection with the I. O. O. F. be sent in to Capt. Langley. A general meeting of the committee of management will be held in the drill hall on Tuesday evening next to wind up all business in connection with the affair.

Judgment was given by Mr. Justice Drake in Macaulay vs. Hamilton on Saturday. The case, which has been Yellow Jacket. Judgment was given in favor of the plaintiff. D. G. Macdonnell and J. M. Bradburn for the defendant.

A batch of youngsters ranging from seven to sixteen years of age will make their appearance in the police court next week for willfully damaging property. They destroyed between sixty and seventy panes of glass in a vacant house on Menzies street, and the police have secured a list of names. Summonses have been issued, and the boys will have to face the magistrate.

The tide tables for Victoria and San Francisco, Straits of Georgia, for 1903, with tidal differences for Esquimalt, Vancouver, Westminister and Baynes Sound, and the current in First Narrows, Burrard Inlet, have been issued by the tidal survey branch of the department of marine and fisheries. Copies may be had on application to the agent, marine and fisheries department, Victoria.

An eight thousand dollar fire which occurred at Dawson on the 4th inst. did a large amount of damage to public buildings and damaged a number of public houses before being extinguished. In fighting the conflagration the firemen worked under great difficulties. Drenches with water, a Dawson paper describes them as roasting on one side while freezing on the other, the thermometer having registered 50 below zero at the time.

Joshua Carroll was charged in the police court Saturday with obtaining under false pretences from G. I. Dunn, of the Occidental, \$30 and board and refreshments amounting to \$123. The accused stayed at the hotel and is alleged to have secured the above on the strength of representations to the effect that he had money coming to him from England. The case was remanded until next Wednesday to allow Carroll to cable to the Old Country for the money. He was arrested by Detective Sergeant Palmer and Detective Macdonnell. A batch of Indians were fined \$1 and costs for drunkenness. A first offender was fined \$2.50 for a similar offence.

The funeral of the late F. J. Bellinger, who died in Vancouver, took place in that city on Friday. The deceased was well known in this city, having resided here for about 20 years. He came to Victoria from Chicago, entering into business here following the occupation of a contractor until a few years ago. When he retired, he was 71 years of age. His widow and five of a family survive him. His three sons, Albert, John and Frank, and a daughter, Mrs. J. Hartney, live in this city. The remaining member of the family, Mrs. Stevens, resides in Moodyville.

W. W. Fawcett, Or. Douglas St. and King's Road. Telephone 60.

The closing exercises for the Christmas holidays of the Metropolitan public school were held on Friday. Great credit is due the teacher, Miss M. Godson, for the progress the children have made during the past half year. A Christmas tree at the hall in the evening for the benefit of the children was enjoyed by both old and young. The children gave an entertainment, consisting of singing and recitations, also a scarf drill and flag march. The latter called for an encore. After refreshments dance followed, which was kept up until quite late. Altogether it was one of the most enjoyable evenings that have been had in the hall for some time.

G. Cowan, Max Lefler and M. Lenz were among the passengers from Vancouver last evening by the steamer Charmer.

THE COTTAGE CITY ARRIVES FROM NORTH

A Rough Passage From Skagway—Nearly One Hundred Passengers—The Sealing Industry.

The steamer Cottage City arrived from Alaska Friday after a rough and cold passage. When the vessel left Skagway snow lay deep on the ground and the weather was exceedingly stormy.

The steamer brought 95 passengers south. She arrived here shortly after 8 and proceeded to the sound a few hours later. Captain Wallace says that he places no credence in the reports telegraphed from Dawson about the Indians being on the warpath on the trail between White Horse and Dawson.

ADDITION TO KOSMOS FLEET. The Kosmos Steamship Company has purchased the Hamburg-American steamer Athesia to take the place of the Kambyses, which was wrecked two months ago in the Coast Range. The Athesia is a new vessel of 8,800 tons gross burden, and is now in Germany, whence she is soon to sail for Chili, in the service of the Kosmos line. Her name will be changed to the Uarda.

STEEEL AND CEMENT. San Francisco, too, has a fleet of Antwerp ships coming to that port with steel. The Chronicle says: "Many of the 29 sailing vessels are on the way from Antwerp for this port and are reported to be bringing structural steel to be used in the various big buildings soon to be erected in this city. The cargoes will consist of material for the Kaiser affecting the Bouvier and Tivoli theatres, and the great structure that is to be erected by the Merchants' Exchange on the site of its present building on California street, near the waterfront. The big boats or ships coming from Antwerp will bring cement, which there is only a small supply on the coast, in view of the demand that will be made for it this season."

WANT FURTHER RESTRICTIONS. Another bill for restricting the sealing industry is reported in a dispatch to the Sound papers from Washington to be now before congress. Drawn by Mr. Beldier the bill is the same as was introduced in 1894, when it passed the house, but was too late for action by the senate. In brief the bill is to authorize the President to negotiate and conclude negotiations with the government of Great Britain for the opening of the seal islands for seal life on the seal islands and in the adjacent waters of Alaska, with a view to determine what further regulations may be devised and adopted that will restore and preserve the seal industry of Alaska. Pending this investigation and review the President is authorized to conclude and proclaim a modus vivendi with the government of Great Britain whereby the killing of any seal for seal life on the seal islands by the subjects of the respective high contracting parties shall be suspended and entirely prohibited, except a few hundred young male seals annually on the seal islands for the food of the S. P. C. A. and the seal islands to continue in force until abrogated by mutual agreement of the parties thereto.

RESIGNS HIS OFFICE. Ralph Smith, M. P. P., at a meeting of the Mibers' Union in Toronto on Friday morning, tendered his resignation as secretary of the union. His tenure of office is to close with the end of the present year. His reasons for resigning were fully set forth in a letter addressed to the secretary of the union. Mr. Smith stated that he had been elected to the office of secretary of the union in the House of Commons were such as to render it impossible for him to satisfactorily fill the office of secretary. His absence in Ontario during the past year and the work connected with the position while at home interfered with his holding the secretaryship of the union.

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"I have been in command of vessels running out of the Sound for a good many years, but this is the first season when I have found it necessary to round the Cape of Good Hope in order to reach a port in South Africa on the Pacific ocean side of that continent. But by taking a course down the coast of the two Americas and rounding Cape Horn, then steering a little to the north and going about Good Hope we will have favorable winds all the way."

The weather on the outside is extremely disagreeable at present and will continue so for some time. It is not necessarily dangerous, but it retards the passage of vessels and quick time is what we are all after.

Charters are being begun now and vessels are lying in the Royal Roads at Townsland, seeking for a long period. I was compelled to lay there for some time before I took a lumber charter, and other vessels will continue to do so until they find a good charter. I do not believe the weak charter market will prevail here for a long time, but at present it is decidedly unfavorable. In fact lumber is practically the only cargo moving."

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QUATSINO NEWS.

Settlers Unable to Locate—Boring For Coal Continues With Favorable Showing.

That Quatsino is attracting the attention of speculators is now evidenced by the search of land for settling purposes. On the last coast trip of the steamer Queen City a number of men went up to the district to take up land. They looked over the country and a correspondent says that the men were very pleased with their applications were all refunded.

The same steamer which carried these settlers had over 40 men going to the mines. The tramway line which has been under construction for some time is now about ready for operation, and the shipping wharf will probably be finished by this time.

Boring for coal still continues. The shaft has been sunk to a depth of 80 feet, and the indications are reported very favorable.

COMING-CONTEST. Municipal Campaign Will Soon Be On in Earnest—Big Field of Candidates.

Three weeks from to-day the candidates for municipal honors will be nominated in the city hall as usual. Three days later polling will take place, commencing at 9 a. m. and continuing until 120 p. m. That the election will be one of the warmest in local history there is no doubt. Already the field of candidates is exceptionally large, and it is altogether likely that it will be considerably increased by nomination day.

It is almost certain that the entire present council will again come out, while the local Trades and Labor Council has already selected a number of candidates to bear its colors in the forthcoming contest. Not only are the laboring men to be strongly represented in the battle for aldermanic honors, but two of the members are also out for school trustees. The campaign will soon be on in all its vigor, interest being accentuated by the fact that there are strong aspirants for Mayor. The present chief magistrate has had no opposition in the past two elections, but this year he will have the most formidable adversary that can be put in the field.

MARRIED THIS AFTERNOON. Mr. A. J. Dallain and Miss Downey United in Wedlock—Principals Widely Known.

At Christ Church cathedral on Monday His Lordship Bishop Perrin, assisted by Rev. Canon Beauland and Rev. W. Baugh Allen, united in the holy bonds of matrimony Mr. A. J. Dallain, of the late Capt. F. I. M. of Green Hills, St. Peter's, Y. B. I., and Miss Helen Marjorie Downey, niece and adopted daughter of Mrs. Charles Todd.

The ceremony was quietly performed owing to recent bereavement in the family of the bride, consequently only the relatives and intimate friends of the principals were present. The service was fully choral. The bride, who was given away by Mr. C. W. D. Clifford, M. P., was attended in a gray cloth and black velvet, with large white carnations and wore a heart locket, the gift of the bridegroom. She was attended by her younger sister, Miss Belle Downey, who wore a costume of brown cloth and carried a bouquet of pink carnations. She also wore a pearl pin, a present from the bridegroom.

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DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS CURE BACKACHE LAME BACK RHEUMATISM DIABETES BRIGHT'S DISEASE DIZZINESS AND ALL KIDNEY & URINARY DISEASES ARE CURED BY DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS

4 Lbs. Large Raisins - 25c 4 Lbs. Cleaned Currants, 25c 3 Lbs. Good Mixed Candy, 25c Compare my 20c Candy with any at 40c lb. Table Raisins, Figs, Dates, Nuts, Stockings, Bonbons, Hampers of Candy, Tea Pots of Candy. HARDRESS CLARKE, 86 Douglas St.

By Book Post

MAIL BAGS FOUND. Capt. E. H. Fletcher, post office inspector, has received the information from Supt. Pulham, of the northern mail service, that the mail bags which were lost in the Yukon in the fall of 1901 were found on November 28th by dog train under the charge of couriers Abbey and McIntyre.

RECEIVED A BOUQUET. The following is one of the many appreciative communications received by the Victoria Tourist Association from different parts of the province, and is reproduced to the publisher, "Pictorial Victoria." Vancouver, Dec. 20th, 1902. Herbert Outburt, Tourist Association, Victoria.

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THE CONSEQUENCE

Author of "God's Outcast," "To Pay the Price," "Such is Life," "The Heart," "For Life and Liberty," "Readers," etc.

CHAPTER XI A Fruitless Quest. "Will you come this way?" Cleveland said to her.

"I understand you have been to the library. Most likely you got an interview with Dorot. If she had well stayed at home she would have been told by her sister Elizabeth that she had not seen her for some time."

"I thought she had explained to you in a letter, but she may not have been able to grasp her explanations for I have come to see her."

"I am afraid your journey to Mr. Pendarvis, I am, indeed, sorry to hear that she is not well. I have not left her room for the days."

"What effort?" Basil asked. "The effort to hide her grief, she loved Dodo as her very own thought of losing her, of being alone, as it were, seemed to her a struggle. But she made a struggle."

"Did she?" "You see, she did not want to see that she was suffering, that she was in pain, and she would not appear calm and cheerful when she had, and she fell a swoon."

"I wish to Heaven's she had said with sudden energy. "She!" exclaimed Mr. C. "Pardon me," Basil said, "but what all this means to me."

"I forgive you," Mr. Cleveland said. "I was a young man once."

THE CONQUERING HILL.

BY SILAS K. HOOKING.

Author of "God's Outcast," "In Spite of Fate," "To Play the Price," "For Such is Life," "The Heart of Man," "For Life and Liberty," "A Son of Reuben," etc.

SYNOPSIS OF PROCEEDING CHAPTERS.—Basil Pendarvis, a clever young artist who finds it easier to get pictures praised than bought, receives a commission to paint the portrait of Dorothy Cleveland, at her father's house at Sandhurst, Kent. He accepts the more readily as cash is very scarce with him at the time. Basil finds himself hospitably welcomed, as, indeed, his friend, Phil Duncan, who is a neighbor of Cleveland's, assured him he would find Basil a charming visitor. Basil is a girl not only of great beauty, but of a sweet and dispassionate nature. Her sister Elizabeth strikes him less favorably. She is a professed invalid, with nervous susceptibility and an imperious querulousness. After seven weeks' work the picture is finished and Basil is charmed with his studies in London. He now finds himself happily in love with Dorothy. The picture is exhibited in the Academy, and is acclaimed as the work of the year. Basil and Dorothy, and Basil and Elizabeth, are reunited. For the time the pair are dwellers in Paradise. Then Basil receives a strange letter from Dorothy, written with tears, breaking off the engagement in the name of duty.

CHAPTER XI.

A Fruitless Quest.

"Will you come this way, sir," Mr. Cleveland called to Basil. "I have seen you in the library. It was a servant who spoke, and Basil's heart sank like lead at the sound of the name. Dorothy was not expecting him after all. She did not even come to him knowing that he was in the house. She meant the separation to be final and complete.

With heavy head he followed the servant out of the room and across the hall to the library. Most likely he had come on a bootless errand. If he failed to get an interview with Dorothy he might just as well have stayed at home. Having if she had resolved, with no likelihood of success, that she would not see him he knew that nothing would shake her purpose.

Hope, however, is a hardy plant and will live through winters that kill all other blooms. Mr. Cleveland received him quietly, but in a distinctly friendly manner. "I understand why you have come, and I must say I am sorry for you."

"Then Dorothy is not to see you?" he said, trying hard to keep his voice steady.

"She has told me everything. She has faced the matter calmly and resolutely, and she has made up her mind."

"She seems to have grown tired of me quickly," Basil said, bitterly.

"No, no. You do Dodo an injustice. She is one of the most constant and one of the most unselfish creatures in existence."

"Then why has she flung me over this way?"

"I thought she had explained everything to you in a letter."

"She may have tried to, but I do not grasp her explanations; for that reason I have come to see her."

"I am afraid your journey is in vain, Mr. Pendarvis. I am, indeed."

"You think she will see me?"

"Well, in the first place, I don't think she feels equal to seeing anyone. She has not left her room for the last two days."

"She seems to have fallen very suddenly ill," Basil said, anxiously.

"Well, yes. The truth is we have had a very trying time. Elizabeth seems to be the worse of the two."

"Did she?"

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"Did she?"

"You see, she did not want Dodo to see that she was suffering, that in fact, her heart was broken, and the very effort to appear calm exhausted all her strength she had, and she fell down in a swoon."

"Indeed?"

"In fact, I thought it was a fit, and for several hours I thought she would have died."

"I wish to Heaven she had!" Basil said with sudden energy.

"Sir," exclaimed Mr. Cleveland, "I passed on his cigar case in a moment, then threw himself into an easy chair and waited. He saw clearly enough that Basil had something on his mind, and he knew that it would come out by-and-by, and he could patiently wait until he was in the humor to talk."

Basil lit his cigar with great deliberation, then threw back his head, and for a while watched in silence the blue wreathes of smoke curling above his head.

"I see you are surprised, old man," Basil said at length; "but the truth is I have been to Sandhurst."

"Yes," Phil said, questioningly.

"It is a curious story," Basil went on, "and I have hardly courage or patience to tell it. You know, of course, what Dorothy Cleveland is like; you are not surprised, I expect, that I fell in love with her."

"Ah!" Phil said, and an almost startled look came into his eyes.

Basil, however, was not looking at his friend, and did not notice the expression that swept over his face.

"She is so charming in her manners, so graceful in all her movements, so delightfully fresh and piquant in every respect, that it is, perhaps, not to be wondered at that, like a fool, I lost my heart to her."

"Why like a fool?" Phil questioned.

"Anyhow, Dodo has quite made up her mind that marrying you would mean the death of Elizabeth."

"But we had scarcely talked of marriage," Basil said.

"Such a presupposes marriage," Mr. Cleveland answered, with a smile.

"Hence, Dodo felt that the sooner you faced the inevitable the better it would be for you both."

"But Elizabeth might have become reconciled," Basil persisted.

"You do not know her, Mr. Pendarvis; nor do you understand how intensely nature like hers feel."

"Could you get me an interview with her?"

Mr. Cleveland laughed. "I fear that would be scarcely politic," he said.

"I would like to talk to her for her own good," Basil said, quickly.

"However, if you insist on the question, will you ask Dodo to let me see her?"

"I will take her your request," Mr. Cleveland answered, and he rose at once and left the room.

"He was not away many minutes, and during the interval Basil paced up and down like a caged lion."

"Well?" he inquired, pausing suddenly in his walk as Mr. Cleveland entered.

"She says she cannot see you," was the reply.

Basil bowed his head, but did not speak.

"She says it is best for you both," Mr. Cleveland went on.

"Is that all?" Basil questioned.

"Tell him," she said, "that it is because I love him so much that I cannot see him. Also that if he loves me he will leave me alone and not add to the burden of my sorrow that, did she?"

"Those were her words as well as I remember."

"And she said nothing else?"

"No; but I left her weeping bitterly."

"For a while neither of us could speak, and I felt stunned and bewildered. It would have been a relief to him if he could have stormed and raved and used violent language, but even that small comfort was denied him."

Mr. Cleveland stood with his elbow on the mantelpiece and regarded him sympathetically. In his heart he was sorry for the young man. He regretted leaving the course events had taken. Having if she had resolved, with no likelihood of success, that she would not see him he knew that nothing would shake her purpose.

Hope, however, is a hardy plant and will live through winters that kill all other blooms. Mr. Cleveland received him quietly, but in a distinctly friendly manner.

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"She has told me everything. She has faced the matter calmly and resolutely, and she has made up her mind."

"She seems to have grown tired of me quickly," Basil said, bitterly.

"No, no. You do Dodo an injustice. She is one of the most constant and one of the most unselfish creatures in existence."

"Then why has she flung me over this way?"

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"I am afraid your journey is in vain, Mr. Pendarvis. I am, indeed."

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"Well, in the first place, I don't think she feels equal to seeing anyone. She has not left her room for the last two days."

"She seems to have fallen very suddenly ill," Basil said, anxiously.

"Well, yes. The truth is we have had a very trying time. Elizabeth seems to be the worse of the two."

"Did she?"

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"Well, what then?" Basil persisted after a pause.

"Oh, well, Elizabeth had a desperate struggle with herself. She wanted to congratulate Dodo—wanted to tell her that she hoped she would be very happy, and all that; but the effort was too great for her."

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"Why like a fool?" Phil questioned.

"That I will tell you later on. You do not know, perhaps, that she was the inspiration of my picture."

"I saw that you had caught her likeness in your central figure," Phil answered.

"Well, the truth is I should never have painted it but for her; she haunted my dreams and filled my heart and inspired my imagination. So, instead of forgetting her, my passion burnt all the more intensely the longer I remained away from her, and when at length she came to London and I found myself alone with her one morning in the Embankment Gardens, like an impatient fool, I blurted out all the truth in a moment."

"And her answer?" Phil questioned after a pause.

"Oh, her answer was all that I could desire; but, then, what dependence is one able to put on the words of a woman?"

For the moment she seemed pleased and flattered; she allowed me to speak to her father, and Mr. Cleveland gave his consent, and for a couple of months I have lived in a fool's paradise, and imagined that the world was one great garden of beauty, and that life was all that my dreams had pictured it."

"Well?" Phil questioned after a pause.

"Oh, well, we wrote to each other regularly, and I was full of hope, but she would not let me see her."

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