

THE DAILY NEWS

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DAILY EDITION

Friday, Jan. 17, 1913.

RUSSIA URGES MONGOLIA TO ALLIANCE WITH JAPAN

St. Petersburg, Jan. 15.—Russia is urging Mongolia to negotiate a commercial treaty with Japan, so as to interest Japan in the maintenance of the new condition of things and to counter-balance the efforts of China, which offers to open Mongolia to foreign trade if its sovereignty is restored.

The Novoe Vremya today says that Prince Khanda Van, the foreign minister of the new state of Mongolia and leader of the deputation now in St. Petersburg, is "proving most amenable to all the Russian propositions."

Khanda Van, it is said, has private reasons for hating the Chinese, who are alleged to have poisoned his only son at Peking. Russia, on the other hand, has paid him \$15,000 to compensate him for losses in a cattle deal with a Russian subject five years ago.

The deputation from Urga brought with it a number of Mongolian thrones and other characteristic presents for the Emperor of Russia.

MANY PASSENGERS GO SOUTH ON RUPERT

The Prince Rupert left for the south this morning on schedule time with a large passenger list. Among the 85 saloon passengers were the following: C. A. Fleming, L. Crippen, Frank Joyce, D. A. McPhee, Albert Lemke, J. E. Merryfield, H. B. Richards, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Davie, A. E. McMaster, J. P. Hawkinson, A. E. White, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Barton, C. H. Dietz, D. Heay, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Sweder, Mrs. Craig, C. H. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Burgess, George Carroll, Mrs. Wright, C. Adams, A. W. Agnew, A. C. McKnight, H. R. Gorbett, A. L. Mack, C. P. Hickman, G. H. Kohl, Jack Fang, James Bruce, Dan Moore.

THE WEATHER.

The weather report at 5 o'clock this morning read: Barometer, 29.635; maximum temperature, 13; minimum temperature, 7.

Find it through a Daily News "Want Ad."

DISASTROUS FIRE AT CALGARY MEAT PLANT DESTROYED

TWENTY THOUSAND CARCASSES OF BEEF BURNED TO ASHES — LOSS AGGREGATES TWO MILLION DOLLARS

Calgary, Alta., Jan. 13.—The most disastrous fire in the history of Western Canada occurred yesterday when the large packing plant of P. Burns & Co. was totally destroyed by fire. The loss, including carcasses in cold storage, will probably be in excess of \$2,000,000.

On account of the low water pressure the fire department was unable to do much work and at a late hour last night the fire was still raging.

The loss is serious in that the local plant was the largest institution of its kind in the west, from which all of the western cities, including Vancouver and Victoria, and the coast cities, drew largely for their meat supply, and butchering occupation may have to be resorted to in order to prevent a meat famine. The storage plant contained from 15,000 to 20,000 carcasses.

The fire was discovered about 12:30 o'clock Sunday morning. The whole of the basement was in flames, and the packing plant department, augmented by all of the city fire department, was unable to make any headway against the flames. This was due in a measure to the low water pressure and also the ammonia fumes in the basement, which were so strong that the men could not endure them.

Repeatedly the firemen entered the basement, only to be driven back by the overpowering fumes. In a short time the fire had got into the grease-soaked floors of the upper storeys, and when this occurred the water had no effect whatever.

Several of the firemen had narrow escapes from exploding ammonia tanks, but no one was seriously injured. The fire raged furiously all day, and last night little remained of the magnificent plant but charred ruins. Even at the early hours a great crowd congregated in the vicinity of the burning buildings. A large proportion of the police force was called out and a cordon of constables formed to keep back the curious.

Fireman Had Hard Time

The firemen worked under the most trying conditions, drenched to the skin in the biting cold, their clothing freezing despite the proximity of the men to the flames. The office staff did all they could for the men engaged in carrying on the fight, serving hot food and coffee to the firemen when they could snatch a bite. For hours this work kept up, and despite the efforts of the entire department the fire continued to spread from building to building and raged furiously all day and far into the night.

It was hoped that the concrete walls of the main building, in which were stored thousand of carcasses of beef and an immense amount of cured hams, bacon, lard and other products, would offer an effective barrier, but about noon fire broke out in the interior of this building and it was soon a seething caldron. The heat was so intense and the volume of smoke so dense that the efforts of the fire brigade were of little avail.

When the grease-soaked wood work once caught fire, water was of little use in the attempt to quench the flames, and the efforts of the firemen were directed to saving the killing floors,

the bunkhouses and kitchen and a few other small buildings, in which they were successful.

Hydrants are Frozen

A number of the company's hydrants were frozen and handicapped the firemen until they could be thawed out. Still, when the full supply of water was available it was entirely inadequate for the purpose. One of the first acts of the company's department was to draw off as many of the ammonia tanks as possible, otherwise there might have been a disastrous explosion, accompanied possible by loss of life.

Fortunately, there was very little wind or the loss doubtless would have been much greater, as the firm's kitchen, sleeping house, stables, cattle corrals and feed storehouses are in close proximity to the packing plant. The Burns plant had its start when P. Burns, then a very young man, came to Calgary about twenty years ago. It is related that his sole capital was one lone beef-steer. Its growth has kept pace with the development of this section, and it has made its owner one of the richest men in the west, his wealth being reputed to be in the neighborhood of \$15,000,000.

Mr. Burns' company also operates plants in Edmonton and Vancouver, but the bulk of the meat product has been sent out of the Calgary plant.

The plant destroyed was fully insured, the insurance on the stock in storage being in the neighborhood of one million dollars.

Mr. P. Burns is in Toronto, but it is understood that the work of rebuilding the plant will be undertaken as soon as the weather will permit.

Find it through a Daily News "Want Ad."

PROMOTERS INDICTED AT LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles, Jan. 15.—The Federal grand jury returned indictments against five promoters connected with the Seaboard Oil & Transit Company, a corporation capitalized at \$20,000,000; the G. P. Bowers Land Company, a concern interested in Mexican land promotions, and the American Brokerage Company.

The charge is that of having used the mails for fraudulent purposes. Nicholas F. Wilson, formerly of San Francisco, who is said to be interested in the Seaboard Oil Company, was arrested. Warrants were issued for Alfred W. Allen, Clarence P. Bowers, J. R. Riggins and W. B. Woodruff. Woodruff was arrested yesterday on another indictment relating to the operations of the American Brokerage Company.

Bargains in every department during the great sale now on at Wallace's. 13-14

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"PRINCE JOHN"
For Port Simpson, Granby Bay, Stewart, Naas, 11 a. m., Jan. 8th, 22nd, Feb. 5th, 19th, March 5th, 19th.
For Masset and Naden Harbor, 12 p. m., Jan. 10th, 24th, Feb. 7th, 21st, March 7th, 21st.
For Skidegate, Alford Bay and other Charlotte Island ports, 10 p. m., Jan. 12th, 26th, Feb. 9th, 23rd, March 9th, 23rd.
G. T. P. RAILWAY PASSENGER SERVICE
No. 2 leaves Prince Rupert 10 a. m. Wednesday and Saturday
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FAMOUS PRINCESS LINE SAFETY SPEED SERVICE
S. S. PRINCESS MAY
Southbound—Sat., Jan. 18th, 8 p. m.
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Southbound—Sun., Jan. 19th, 8 p. m.
J. G. McNAB, General Agent

UNION S.S. COMPANY OF B.C., Ltd

The Twin Screw Steamer
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Arrives from Vancouver Every MONDAY NIGHT
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Sails for Vancouver WEDNESDAYS, 2 P. M.

Rogers Steamship Agency

Phone 116

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"Valhalla" of S.H. & E.F.

(SCANDINAVIAN SOCIETY)
Meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 7 p. m. in the hall at 319 3rd Ave.

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Auditor for the City of Prince Rupert
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THE AFTERMATH

Usually the day following Christmas brings with it unpleasant recollections of friends who have been inadvertently overlooked in the matter of Christmas gifts. Isn't it fortunate that New Year's Day follows so closely and gives us an opportunity to make amends for our oversights during the Christmas rush. While the past week's shopping made very heavy inroads into our stock, the assortments in each line are practically unbroken. We have a large range of beautiful things for New Year's gifts. CONSULT OUR CATALOGUE.

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Scoop Makes the Doctor's House in Seven Flat

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