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Desolation and Destruction in Wake of Floods in South Awful Condition at Britannia

COOKE, Oct. 31.—Thirty-six people are dead, fifteen missing, a mining town is practically wiped out and another partially inundated, railway tracks and bridges are completely cutting off Vancouver and the lower coast from railroad connection with the rest of the province, damage amounting to several millions of dollars has been done as a result of floods in this vicinity since Thursday. Friday evening the greater part of the town of Britannia Howe Sound was wiped out by floods and the Fraser at east of here was flooded. The greatest disaster, that at Britannia Beach, was not known until next day. The Britannia settlement has communication outside world over its own telephone wires, and these are cut at night. Their destruction passed unnoticed and the which caused the death of at least three dozen people, was until straggling boats brought the news on Saturday morning, which was devoted to the mining of copper ore, will be from the disaster perhaps for several months. Damage in the Fraser Valley is less serious, and already returning to their flooded homes in the village of Port and the railways are being repaired, with every hope that Tuesday will see resumption of traffic. Canadian Pacific, Canadian National and Pacific Great railways are all affected by the Fraser River, Coquitlam and Capilano River floods. The floods came after from seven heavy rain accompanied by snow in the higher altitudes. Weather accompanying precipitation caused melting of the mountain tops and consequent aggravation of the floods and streams. **BRITANNIA'S AWFUL TRAGEDY.** Thirty-three are known to be dead, thirteen missing and fifteen injured as a result of the most fearful flood in the history of the province which plunged out of darkness Friday night down a mountain side and transformed the model copper mining town into a scene of desolation and ruin. Fully one-half of the houses were smashed to splinters. Most of the houses are partially submerged. It was at first thought that the flood would reach fifty, but the provincial police officials today said it not more than forty killed. The flood, which once carried a veritable river, cut through the settlement. The arrival of the torrent at sea level everything in its path was carried toward the sea. Today stream divides the untouched fringes of the town. It is with timber and poles, telephone wires and scraps of heavier smashed to pulpwood. Britannia Creek now runs through the town itself. The waters will have to be diverted to their course by dynamiting. **TERRIBLE CRIES OF INJURED.** Survivors of the terrible tragedy say the worst part of the flood was the crying of the injured or bewildered villagers. The scene upon the community confused by the sudden darkness when the transmission lines failed and torrential rain was falling. The houses, for the most part without foundation, yielded to the forces of the flood. One man hurried with his wife to the roof of his house as the water about his doorstep. By the time he climbed on to the roof his house was already out to sea, about in the rain-swept waters of Howe Sound. The two were rescued finally in a launch. The houses were crushed to pulp when they were caught between obstacles and the rushing water, and many were injured while trying to escape. Some owe their lives to the efforts of rescuers, who through the night in and out of a maze of floating houses, by those in distress by cries and warnings. Candles and lanterns were of little use in this work. Children were found asleep in their beds unhurt hours after the flood and two brothers had been swept away with damaged property of their home.

HALIBUT BOUGHT HERE DURING MONTH

For October is 1,625,000 compared with 1,511,000 last year. The total of 1,625,000 pounds of halibut landed at Port during the month of October ends tonight. This is 100,000 pounds more than last year when a total of 1,525,000 pounds was marketed during the month. Several of the boats have been very well although some have come in with small catches on account of heavy fog. Most of the smaller boats have tied up and will remain until after Christmas.

ELECTION CANDIDATES VISITING DIFFERENT PARTS OF DISTRICT

Fred Stork, liberal candidate in the forthcoming federal election, and F. T. Congdon, K. C., of Vancouver, left on this morning's train on a speaking tour of the interior. Tonight they will be at Hazelton. Mr. Stork will be gone about two weeks, it is expected, but Mr. Congdon will return in six or seven days. Mr. Congdon returned last night to the city after having spoken at Anxox and Alice Arm. Col. C. W. Peck, independent candidate, returned Saturday night from the northern Queen Charlottes having addressed meetings at Port Clements and New Massett. He left last night for the north and will speak at Stewart, Anxox and Alice Arm. Bert Kergin, member for Atlin, is a member of the committee of the Provincial Legislature on public accounts and mining. H. G. Perry, member for Fort George is a member of the committees on agriculture, municipal matters and railways. F. A. Pauline, member for Saanich is deputy to Speaker A. M. Manson.

MISSING HUNTING PARTY GOT SAFELY HOME LAST NIGHT

Alex. McDonald, Sr., Alex. McDonald, Jr., W. Cole, Same Steel and J. Murray returned last night to town after having spent more than a week on a hunting trip at Jap Inlet, Porcher Island. The party left on Saturday, October 22, and were to have been back the following day but, owing to the stormy weather, were unable to return. On occasion considerable anxiety to relatives and friends. James Butler went to the police yesterday and it had been decided to send out a search party today if the missing hunters had not returned last night. They tell of having made three unsuccessful attempts to return home during the week each time having to turn back. The trip was made in the Flora E., and there were a number of deer fell to their guns.

FISH ARRIVALS

There Was 150,000 Pounds Sold at the Fish Exchange This Morning. There was about 180,000 pounds of halibut marketed at the Fish Exchange this morning. The price was around the 12c mark. Following is the list of arrivals and sales: Polaris, 60,000 pounds; sold to the Royal Fish Co. at 11.8c and 5c. Reliance, 6500 pounds; Sherman, 8000 pounds; Reform, 4,000 pounds; and Helen D., 500 pounds, sold to the Canadian Fish and Cold Storage Co. at 12.4c and 5c. Panama, 48,000 pounds, sold to the Booth Fisheries Canadian Co. at 12.7c and 5c. All, 6000 pounds; Scrub, 2,000 pounds; Rose Spit, 6000 pounds and Pair of Jacks, 14,000 pounds, sold to the Pacific Fisheries at 12.7c and 5c. Nuba, 2000 pounds; Agnes B., 1000 pounds; Margalice, 3000 pounds; Kalen, 10,000 pounds; and Malamute, 1000 pounds, sold to the Canadian Fish and Cold Storage Co. at 12.7c and 5.5c. Samson, 1000 pounds, sold to the Canadian Fish and Cold Storage Co. at 11c and 5c. Cayceon, 1200 pounds, sold to the Canadian Fish and Cold Storage Co. at 11.6c and 5c.

PROHIBIT THE SALE OF ALL INTOXICANTS MINORS IN ENGLAND

LONDON, Oct. 31.—A movement is under way in England to prohibit the sale of all intoxicants to any person under the age of 18 years instead of 16 as at present. A petition to that effect, signed by thousands of teachers, has been presented to the Home Secretary, and temperance reformers are pressing Parliament for a bill dealing with this question. Attention is called to the fact that the mother country is behind the dominions in such restrictions. In Australia the age limit for the sale of intoxicants has been fixed at 18, and in New Zealand, Tasmania, Ontario and Nova Scotia at 21. In France, Poland and Czechoslovakia the age is 18, in Sweden 17. **LEGION CONVENTION.** KANSAS CITY, Oct. 31.—The American Legion convention opened here today. The speaker tonight will be Admiral Beatty.

CITY ENGINEER IS RESIGNING TONIGHT

The resignation of F. S. Clements, city engineer, will be submitted to the city council at the meeting tonight. Mr. Clements has been city engineer for nearly four years and also acted in the same capacity with the first council of 1910 until the arrival of Colonel Davis. He remained with him for one year after he came. In the interval he was in private practice, which he will resume now.

BANQUET HONOR VETERANS' BAND

There was a banquet held in the St. Regis dining room on Saturday evening in honor of the members of the Great War Veterans' band. Twenty-nine were present and the affair proved highly enjoyable being quite informal. W. E. Denning, president of the Great War Veterans' Association, presided and among the guests present were: Col. C. W. Peck, V.C., George H. Munro, S. M. Newton, J. Mitchell, Ald. Kelly, Ald. Silversides, J. M. Campbell, T. Collett and the members of the band. All the guests spoke and some of the members of the band including W. H. Derry, secretary, B. G. Peyton, conductor and J. Gauthier, assistant conductor. The merits and value of the band were paid tribute to and the necessity of continuing its organization was emphasized. It was pointed out that of the 18 members eight were employed at the shipyard which was shortly to change hands. A committee consisting of Mayor Rochester, George Munro and S. M. Newton has been appointed to see if the future employment of these men in the city can be arranged. Songs were sung by W. H. Derry, Harry Pake and J. N. Kelly and Dave Fanthorpe piano accompanist. W. Davis recited. The gathering broke up about midnight. The band is putting on a concert in the Westholme Theatre on Sunday night.

Death List at Britannia Shows Many Women and Children were Victims

VANCOUVER, Oct. 31.—Thirty-five persons are dead or missing at Britannia Beach as a result of the fearful flood there late Friday night. More than half the bodies have been recovered and identified. The flood came practically without warning, many victims being women and children. The continuous rain and snow on the higher levels melted by the rain and wind, causing raging torrents which swept down through the centre of the town, carrying houses and wreckage into the bay. The flood waves were declared to have been seventy feet high. Fifty out of the 110 houses in the town were carried away by the raging waters, several floating in the bay afterwards. The following dead have been identified: F. C. Downing of Vancouver, Mrs. M. A. Nelson, Carl Nelson, J. Emmott, Mrs. H. Luxmore, Gordon Lowe, O. Fiva, W. Dion, wife and child, Mrs. C. M. Crippen and child, R. Clark, child of F. W. Witcomb, Mrs. H. Hawkins, Mrs. J. L. Godin, Mr. and Mrs. J. Anderson, Margaret Primrose. Missing: Three children of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, W. Lonan, A. Mitchell, infant child of J. L. Godin, two Farrington children, one child of Mrs. C. M. Crippen, one child of Mrs. J. E. Braden, wife and two children of O. Fiva. The body of a Japanese woman and her child have been recovered but have not yet been identified.

IRISH WOMEN ESCAPED FROM DUBLIN JAIL

One Was in on a Ten Year Sentence—Are Still at Large. DUBLIN, Oct. 31.—Four Irish women, political prisoners in Mount Joy prison, escaped last night. One of them, Linda Kears, was serving a ten year sentence. It was the most daring jail delivery in the history of Mount Joy. It was effected by means of a rope ladder thrown across the prison wall and the fugitives clambered down a steep embankment. The women are still at large.

THROW AWAY FISH ON MONTREAL MARKET

Hundreds of pounds of fish will be thrown away this week in Montreal, according to a dealer on the Bonsecours Market, says the Montreal Star. The rainy weather has driven in close to the shore during the last few days shoals of bullhead, or barbot, or they are called by the French habitants, and thousands of pounds of these fish are now being caught, skinned and dressed to be shipped in to Montreal. Fishermen who usually send in 75 or 100 pounds for Friday are now sending in four or five times that amount, and their contracts with the dealers force the middlemen to take all they catch. As a result the dealers now have an enormous amount of this fish on their hands which they cannot dispose of, and rather than lower the price, which is now 18 cents a pound, they prefer to throw away the surplus. The Princess Mary, Captain Ormiston, called in port this afternoon northbound from Vancouver for Alaska points. This steamer is now taking up the C.P.R. Alaska winter schedule in place of the Princess Alice.

J. Fred Smith, of the Prince Rupert Hotel, returned on Saturday night after having made the round trip to the northern Queen Charlottes on a business trip.

Contractor Arrives To Start Operations Dock Superstructure

Work on the superstructure of the new ocean dock being built here by the Canadian National Railways will commence at once. J. A. Simmons, of the Simmons Construction Company of Winnipeg, the contractors who will do the work, arrived last night from the East to get the work started. The material is already here. The main job is the building of the big 150 by 820-foot shed, which will be equipped with all modern installation and accessories. The work will continue throughout the winter and will keep quite a number of men employed.

IRELAND IS DISCUSSED

Motion Introduced By Col. Grattan in British Parliament. LONDON, Oct. 31.—The Irish Unionist motion, introduced in the British Parliament today by Colonel John Grattan, reads: "The House views with grave apprehension the action of the Government in entering upon negotiations with delegates from Southern Ireland who have taken an oath of allegiance to the Irish Republic and have repudiated the authority of the Crown. And in view of the fact that an act of Parliament for the settlement of relations between Great Britain and Ireland passed as recently as last year, the House is of opinion that no proposals for the Government of Southern Ireland should be made without the sanction of Parliament."

LOCAL MAN WAS ANXIOUS ABOUT KIN AT BRITANNIA

Allen MacDonnell, a local man who spent three years at Britannia and who has a brother and two cousins there, has been anxiously scanning the death lists of Saturday's disaster, but fortunately, it seems that none of his kin have lost their lives. He knows the place well and tells exactly how the disaster occurred. Some miles up the creek and 2,300 feet above sea level there is a railway fill which also acted as a dam. It was about 500 feet long and 150 feet deep. The rush of waters came down and swept this before it carrying it down the town side of the creek. Hundreds of thousands of tons of debris including timber would be swept along and striking the main part of the town, would carry it with it. Mr. MacDonnell recognizes most of the names in the list and states that they are practically all residents of the beach town.

PREDICTS PAPER PANTS.

VANCOUVER, Oct. 29.—Louis Pagny, buyer for a well known local department store, has just returned from the International Clothiers' Convention and announces that paper will unquestionably be used for garment-making before long. He says: "From speakers in the textile business, and garment factory heads, we were told that paper may be expected before long. Ways have been designed for not only making durable paper material, but it can be fashioned, natively, into stylish wearables for men and women." Mr. Pagny has furnished no advice on the durability of paper garments in rainy weather, nor does he explain the averting of disaster when a man essays striking a match on his nether garments in the old fashioned way.

PETITION FOR COUNCIL WILL COME TONIGHT

Asking That Morse Creek Dam Be Prepared Immediately for Skating. A petition asking that the Morse Creek dam be put in shape immediately so that skating may be ensured there this winter will be presented to the city council tonight. It is estimated that the total cost of the work will be in the neighborhood of \$100. The petition states that the work should be done now that the heavy rains are on and before the frost comes. The following names appear on the petition: Fred Gilhuly, representing the Remond and Protective Order of Elks; H. A. Green, Sons of Canada; S. D. McDonald, St. Andrew's Society; Frank Salter, Sons of England; S. L. Warrior, Great War Veterans; Cyril Westaway, Prince Rupert Swimming Club and E. A. Oonohoe, Knights of Columbus.

IRISH DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT

Great Interest Being Taken in it Throughout Great Britain. LONDON, Oct. 31.—The debate in the House of Commons today on the Irish question, which is particularly intended as a vote of censure of the Government, is exciting keen interest in Great Britain today. Evidence of this interest is found in the fact that it is impossible to satisfy more than a fraction of the demand for seats in the galleries of the House of Commons.

NOTED AUTHOR DEAD.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—Henry Marriot Watson, the noted author died here yesterday.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Tenders will be received by the Secretary of the School Board up to Thursday, November 10th., at 5:00 p.m. for the erection of a play shed, on the grounds at the Sergeant William Booth School. Plans and specifications, and all information may be received from the Architect. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. J. W. POTTER, W. D. VANCE
Architect Secretary

ANNUAL
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