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SUSPECTED BANK BANDITS WANT FREEDOM

CABINET ORDERS TEMPORARY RESTORATION OF CROWS' NEST PASS RATES

Decision of Railway Board is Set Aside Until Appeal Heard

OTTAWA, Dec. 26.—The cabinet has ordered a temporary restoration of the Crows' Nest Pass rates set aside by the railway commission. The rates are restored pending an appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada by the prairie provinces. The order will come into effect within fifteen days but no person or corporation is given the right to demand refund on freight charges paid or owing in respect of shipments made during the period that the higher rates were in force.

CONTENTION OF LONG STANDING IS NOW ENDED

Settlement Between Hudson Bay Co. and Government Regarding Rupert's Land

VANCOUVER, Dec. 26.— The Vancouver Province carries the following Ottawa cable:

Contentions of long standing, involving a million acres of land in western Canada, have been amicably adjusted between the department of the interior and the Hudson's Bay Company, Hon. Charles Stewart, minister of the interior announced. Under a deed by which it surrendered its ownership to Ruperi's Land, comprising what is known as prairie provinces, the company claimed there was still due to it nearly 7,100,000 acres of land. After negotiations by the government, the company agreed to accept 6,639,000 acres in complete satisfaction of its claim.

BURGLARY ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Home of Mrs. A. Fortier, Eighth Avenue Was Ransacked on Wednesday

The home of Mrs. A. Fortier, 701 Eighth Ave., East, was entered by burglars on Christmas Eve, the place ransacked and jewellery, gold nugget scarf pins and private papers stolen. The robbery occurred while Mrs. Fortier was shopping down town between 3 and 8 Wednesday evening.

Immediately upon receiving notification of the burglary, City Police Chief Vickers put his men on the case and, upon investigation, it was discovered that an entrance had been made to the premises at the rear by the use of a duplicate door key. Footprints in the snow were discernible leading from the building to Eighth Avenue.

Sergeant Bailey, who is in charge of the investigation, arrested George Cunningham, Fred Auriol and Thomas Cook this morning on suspicion. Cunningham also faced a charge of assault on Prof. Utell, the case being remanded until tomorrow. Another arrest in this connection is expected to be made today.

At noon today Sergeant Bailey had recovered some of the stolen property.

Teddy Hutchings was fined $25 in the city police court this morning by Magistrate McClymont for intoxication.

WHARF AT BELLA COOLA FINISHED

Local Contractors Complete Job and are Returning to City

The new Dominion government wharf at Bella Coola has been completed by J. and C. Currie, local contractors. Charlie Currie and Joe Jack returned to the city on the power boat Birdie B. on Christmas Eve and John Currie will return on the Union freighter Chilliwack today bringing with him the pile driver and machinery used on the job.

The new wharf, which replaces the old one built 28 years ago, measures 100 feet by 60 feet and connects with the new provincial government road now being built into the Bella Coola valley for which Robinson Bros., of Vancouver, have the contract. This road is to cost in the neighborhood of $65,000.

PAT PLAYERS FINISH TOUR

Launch Gunhild, which was here this Summer, Hit Rocks Down Coast and was Lost

The rather checkered experiences of a party of vaudeville players known as the "Pats" who cruised along the coast this year and played at Prince Rupert incidentally having their boat, the Gunhild held here for several weeks at the dry dock on account of disputed ownership and debt, came to a climax last week when the craft wrecked at "Hole in the Wall," a narrow passage across from Bute Inlet, and they had a ten hour fight for their lives in the bitter cold.

The Gunhild, a steam launch, was caught in a rip and struck a rock. Landing on the rock with difficulty, when the water started to rise in the craft, the party of seven danced up and down for hours trying to keep warm, with ice cakes an inch thick on their clothing. They signalled a small passing boat in vain, but were eventually taken from their precarious landing by the Victoria tug Chehalis, which took them to Church House, where the Indians took charge of them.

Members of the party were the Henderson sisters, Miss Nan Walker, Pat McCallum, manager, Jerry Tomlin, engineer, and Geo. Brodeaur, captain of the launch.

HOCKEY SCORES

Victoria, 4; Vancouver, 2, at Victoria.

Edmonton, 3; Saskatoon, 2, at Saskatoon.

Regina, 3; Calgary, 1, at Calgary.

SICK PEOPLE ENJOY XMAS

Hospital Nurses also Enjoyed Festive Season — Many Special Features

Christmas Day at the General Hospital was fittingly observed yesterday and nothing was left undone by Miss Edith McCaul, R.N., lady superintendent, and her staff made the lot of the patients under their care happy and bright. The wards, both public and private, were prettily decorated in evergreen, holly and mistletoe effect while the beautiful Christmas trees in every ward added a truly Yulefide atmosphere. Special Christmas trays were served to all patients in the institution. They contained the old fashioned turkey and Christmas plum pudding fare and many little holiday favors. The gifts from the ward Christmas trees were distributed to the patients at 8.30 yesterday morning amidst much merriment.

Christmas Eve

The Salvation Army band paraded to the hospital on Christmas Eve and cheered the lot o' the patients with many much appreciated Christmas carols and musical selections. In the afternoon the young choristers of the Lutheran Church visited the institution and sang seasonal carols, much to the enjoyment of the patients and staff. Ladies of the Royal Purple visited the hospital in the afternoon and distributed useful gifts.

A Christmas tree for the pupil nurses was held at the Nurses' Home at eleven o'clock Christmas Eve, the reception room having been artistically decorated in Yuletide effects for the occasion. Miss A. J. Crene, R.N., and Miss T. Bailey, R.N. head nurses, cut the many gifts from the tree. After the Christmas tree refreshments were served and merriment reigned supreme until midnight.

Christmas Day

Archdeacon Rix administered the Holy Communion to all the nurses at 7 o'clock yesterday morning in the hospital.

The graduate nurses celebrated their Christmas tree in the Nurses' Home yesterday morning when Miss M. Hebden played the role of Santa Claus, after which the nursing staff sat down to Xmas dinner in their tastefully decorated banqueting hall. The table groaned under the weight of the good Christmas fare and additional gift surprises were on hand for everybody.

There are thirteen more patients in the hospital this Christmas than there were last year.

JAPANESE WOMAN DIES IN HOSPITAL

Mrs. K. Suda Arrived in the City Christmas Eve and Expired Next Morning

The death occurred in the Prince Rupert General Hospital at 8.15 yesterday morning of Mrs. K. Suda, Japanese, of Swanson Bay, at the age of 18 years. Deceased, who was admitted to the hospital on Christmas Eve in a precarious condition, is survived by her husband who returned with the remains from the B.C. Undertakers to Swanson Bay this morning.

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Otto Saur has recently perfected water skiis, which he has demonstrated on a lake near Berlin. The inventor spent several years of study before success was reached

Witnesses Identify Men Held in South as Those Who Committed Robbery

SEATTLE, Dec. 26.—A legal battle to obtain the freedom of four men held in jail here in connection with the $42,000 robbery from the Royal Bank of Canada at Nanaimo is expected to develop. The men's attorneys have announced that they will try to obtain release on habeas corpus proceedings. The men are Ross Watson, former city detective Thomas Johnson, William Bagley and Harry Stone. Charles Shively, the fifth suspect, will not contest incarceration. Extradition papers for all have already been prepared. These five men have been positively identified by witnesses of the robbery. The sixth man arrested, William Hunter, was released when the witnesses could not identify him. Three more witnesses from Canada are expected this week.

HIDDEN ARMS IN GERMANY

Allied Commission Finds Concealed Depot of Rifles Machine Guns

PARIS, Dec. 26.—The Echo de Paris states that officers of the inter-Allied control commission have discovered in Berlin a depot of rifles and machine gun barrels. An inventory has already accounted for forty thousand and the total it is expected, will reach one hundred thousand. The weapons were concealed in a cunningly devised hiding place.

LOCAL MAN WINS PRIZE IN CONTEST FOR ALL CANADA

Sam Jabour of the firm of Jabour Bros., Prince Rupert, has won a prize of $25 offered by the Men's Wear Journals this fall in a questionaire contest. There were three questions dealing with retail merchant's problems. It was a Dominion wide contest and the prize offered by John Forsythe & Co., of Kitchener, Ont., shirt manufacturers.

DRY AGENTS' BIG SEIZURE

British Schooner Included in $500,000 Haul Made on Atlantic Coast

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Coast guard officers have captured nineteen prisoners, a British schooner, three motorboats and liquor valued at more than $500,000. The British schooner Petara, with seven prisoners and 5,000 cases of champagne and liquors, was among the vessels taken.

FATAL DAM BURST

BRISTOL, Tenn., Dec. 26.—Twenty-four were killed and twenty injured when a dam on the Holston River burst. Dwellings were washed away.

Raymond A. Fisher arrived in the city on the steamer Prince Rupert on Wednesday afternoon to spend the Christmas vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs W. S. Fisher, Fourth Ave. East

CARD OF THANKS

The Salvation Army wishes to thank the many friends who so willingly donated cash, food or clothing for the Christmas cheer.

Gasboats Lancelot and Pauline Were Totally Wrecked in Local Waters During Past Few Days

The power boats Lancelot, owned by Charlie Orquist and the Pauline, owned by Billy Lapointe, were totally wrecked in local waters recently according to word received in the city on Wednesday afternoon. The engines in both cases were salvaged.

The Lancelot got into difficulties in the Skeena river while towing a barge of lumber and was driven ashore off Point Lambert. The hull is a total loss.

The Pauline, a 30-foot gas boat, was driven on to Prescott Island last Saturday and only the 10 horse power Palmer engine was salvaged. Billy Miller picked Lapointe up on Prescott Island and took him over to Lewis Island, Ivor Wick bringing him to port on Wednesday morning. Lapointe had a miraculous escape having been buffetted about in a heavy sea with the boat leaking badly for many hours. Finally the waves drove the boat on to the shore and he was able to scramble to terra firma.

ROTARY CLUB HAS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Proceedings on Wednesday Featured by Attendance of School Boys and Turkey Dinner

The Rotary Club entertained the first year High School boys at their Christmas luncheon on Wednesday in the St. Regis Cafe. The event was conspicuous for its turkey and plum pudding spread, snappy music by the Rotary orchestra, community singing, addresses both humorous and serious, and amusing presentations to the boys. President Dr. W. T. Kergin, occupied the chair assisted by Geo. Rorie, sr. The luncheon opened with the singing of "O Canada" after which the large company sat down and did ample justice to the excellent and seasonal fare provided.

Prior to making a short address to the boys, Dr. Kergin read a telegram received from Rotarian F. G. Dawson from Montreal in which he sent Christmas greeting to his fellow Rotarians. In addressing the boys, Dr. Kergin said that they had been invited to the luncheon to show them that the Rotary Club took an interest in their welfare and urged them to remember that whenever in any difficulty or if they had ambitions, which for certain reasons they could not fulfil, if they would make thir needs known through the Rotary Club the members would always be willing to assist them. In closing the speaker wished the Rotarians and boys a very happy Christmas.

George Rorie explained what the Rotary Clubs were accomplishing throughout the world and corroborated the remarks of the chairman in stating that the members of the Rotary Club would always be pleased to help the boys with any of their difficulties.

During the addresses W. D. Vance and Geo. Bryant presented each boy guest with a sealed package, which, when opened up, was found to contain a rubber face capable of many expressions, much to the amusement of the recipients.

A story telling contest between Dr. H. R. Grant and T. H. Johnson caused a lot of merriment.

Chester Gould, who was charged with drunkenness in the city police court this morning, forfeited $25 bail.

AWFUL XMAS DISASTER IN SCHOOL ROOM

Thirty-Six Children Burned to Death at Entertainment in Hobart, Oklahoma

HOBART, Oklahoma, Dec. 26.—When a candle ignited a Christmas tree in a school house here, 36 children were burned to death. The merry makers made a dash to extinguish the flames and the tree was overturned. Two hundred people were crowded into the room and the windows, screened with woven wire, barred egress thereby. Those who did escape got through one door. Fathers and mothers fought madly to find and rescue their children.

NO PREFERENCE GIVEN SALMON

Baldwin Tariff Proposals Will Benefit Sugar, Tobacco and Wines

OTTAWA, Dec. 26.—Under the new preference proposals of the Baldwin government at interpreted here, Canadian products chiefly benefiting will be sugar and tobacco and to a certain extent Canadian wines.

Full details of the proposals are not yet available but the plan apparently is to put into effect such of the imperial conference preference offers as do not involve the levying of new duties, but to drop those which would necessitate imposition of new duties on foodstuffs.

If this interpretation is correct, the offer of new preferential duties on canned salmon, canned lobster, crayfish and crab, green apples and honey—the articles of the imperial conference offer in which Canada was most interested—will go by the board.

Under these proposals Australia and South Africa, producers of the dried fruits to get an increased preference, will be the chief beneficaries.

MAHATMA GHANDI'S PACT IS ADOPTED

Indian Nationalist Congress Votes 160 to 19 in Favor of it

BELGAUM, British India, Dec. 26.—The committee of the Indian National Congress, by a vote of 160 to 19, approved the pact between Mahatma Ghandi, president elect of the congress, and the Swarajists whereby their non-cooperation will be suspended and Swarajists permitted to represent the National congress in legislative bodies.