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VOL. XV., NO. 192. PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1925. Yesterday's Circulation, 1504 Street Sales 468. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

EXPLOSION ON AN EXCURSION STEAMSHIP

PASSENGERS TRAPPED BETWEEN DECKS OVERWHELMED BY RUSH OF STEAM

Fear Crazed Crowd Becomes Frantic When Boilers Burst; Many Are Killed or Injured

Victims were trapped on first and second decks and unable to escape from volumes of steam

NEWPORT, R.I., Aug. 19.—Today the naval hospital at Narragansett Sound presents the appearance of a shambles. One hundred excursionists are there, victims of a boiler explosion which occurred this morning on the steamer Mackinac bound from Newport to Pawtucket. Nearly thirty bodies are in the morgue.

The boilers burst when the vessel was opposite the naval station and the fear-crazed crowd, numbering 677 in all, became frantic. Many jumped into the water. The total loss in dead as reported this morning was 29 while many more are expected to die from injuries received.

A call to the naval station brought ships to the rescue promptly and the wounded were at once hurried to the naval hospital where their injuries were dressed. Many are so badly wounded that they cannot recover.

Later Report

NEWPORT, Aug. 19. — Early this afternoon the number of dead resulting from the explosion on the Mackinac numbered 32 and 48 others were burned. Some more may die as a result of injuries received.

Trapped on Decks

NEWPORT, Aug. 19.—Physicians at the naval hospital expect the death list to mount to at least 45 within a few hours. Many are so badly injured that they cannot live.

The majority of those who are dead or injured were trapped on the first and second decks when the boiler exploded, the steam coming in such volumes that the victims were powerless to escape.

The accident happened within a stone's throw of the hospital otherwise the casualties would have been trebled.

The boat was travelling at full speed of fifteen miles an hour and was loaded to capacity.

BRITISH WILL SCRAP VESSELS

Economy Given as Reason for Reduction of Fleet of Destroyers

WAGES WILL BE CUT.

PORTSMOUTH, Aug. 19. — Fifty-four British destroyers will shortly be scrapped in accordance with a decision arrived at by the naval authorities. The reduction in that part of the navy is in the interests of economy, it is understood.

A reduction of fifteen per cent in the pay of officers already in force is shortly to be extended to the wages of all seamen, it is stated.

RANCHER FIRED AT ROAD GANG

Two Men Wounded From Rifle Shots Alleged to be Fired by Jesse Mansfield

FERNIE, Aug. 19. — Alleging that he fired several shots from a rifle at members of the government road gang, wounding Frank Norstrom and George Whiting, foreman, Jesse Mansfield, rancher, trapper and guide of Elk Prairie, seventeen miles north of Natal is being sought in the mountains by a detachment of provincial police.

According to the report received here, Mansfield claimed that the road gang encroached on his property in constructing the highway.

U.S. SETTLES WITH BELGIUM

No Interest to be Charged Little Kingdom on Loans Made During War

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—All interest charges on money actually loaned to Belgium during the war will be foregone by the United States under the terms of a final agreement reached by the debt commissioners of the two nations here today.

Debts totalling $417,000,000 will be repaid over a period of 62 years.

On the sum of $246,000,000 loaned after the armistice 3½ per cent interest will be charged after the first ten years.

FOUR AND A HALF INCHES OF RAIN AT CORDOVA 12 HOURS

CORDOVA, Aug. 19. — There was a tremendous rain here yesterday and the official records state that four and a half inches fell in twelve hours. The storm was accompanied by a high wind.

STOCK MARKET

	Bid	Asked
B.C. Silver	1.20	
Dunwell	1.75	1.85
Hazelton	.01½	.01¾
L. and L.	.27	.30
Premier	2.10	2.14
Porter Idaho	.18	
Surf Inlet	.04½	.06
Terminus	.10	
Silvercrest		.16
Daly Alaska		.24
Indian	.04	.06
Marmot Metals		.15
Rufus		.18
Granby	13.00	
Selkirk	.04	.04½
Howe Sound	20.00	
Gladstone	.24½	.26
Bayview	.05	.09½

WOODWARD IS ON RAMPAGE

Thinks Hon. T. D. Pattullo Should Retire to Make Room for Vancouver Member

SAYS PLAYING POLITICS

Takes Issue with Premier Oliver Over Treatment Received by Cabinet

VANCOUVER, Aug. 19.—Charles Woodward, member of the Legislature for Vancouver, made public a letter written to Premier Oliver on August 8, which states: "Regret very much there should be any differences of opinion between you and myself" as he charged Oliver with making promises that had been unfulfilled.

After alleging a general neglect of Vancouver, in so far as cabinet representation is concerned, Mr. Woodward thinks it possible Hon. T. D. Pattullo and Mayor Taylor of Vancouver are "playing politics" in connection with the Vancouver watersheds and the water problem generally and hints that it "might be necessary for Pattullo to retire from the cabinet to provide room for a minister from Vancouver," as he considers it unfair two cabinet members should come from Prince Rupert.

LABOR SCARCE IN THIS CITY

Harvest Fields Took 375 While Many are Needed Here

Since special low fares were put into effect ten days ago, 375 men have left Prince Rupert and the territory between here and Smithers for the prairie harvest fields. It is not expected that many more men will go although there may be a few stragglers. Last Saturday 34 men left, on Monday 28, on Tuesday 15, and this morning 20.

There is a labor shortage here now and the labor bureau is having difficulty in filling orders from the elevator and sawmill, etc. A big order for men on C.N.R. section and extra gangs is partly filled and a few men are wanted for a logging camp near Swanson Bay. Tie camps up the line will be opening next month and men will be required there.

BIG RAFT OF LOGS DUE FROM ISLANDS

The second Davis raft of logs from the Kelley camps at Logan Inlet, Queen Charlotte Islands, to be delivered at the Prince Rupert Spruce Mill here is due here this week behind the Hecate Straits Towing Co.'s tug Lorne, Capt. Lewis. The raft contains about a million feet of timber.

GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

CALGARY, Aug. 19. — Jack Cuthbert of Winnipeg yesterday won the Western Canada open and the Alberta golf championship.

A seaman at the firing for the King's prize at Bisley has a good wash with the aid of his chums.

Three Criminal Cases Before Adjourned Session of Assize Court Being Held Here Today

The first case dealt with at the adjourned session of the Supreme Court assizes which opened here today before Mr Justice D. A. Macdonald was that of Rex vs. Faustino Pena, charged with attempter murder. On June 8 last on the wharf at Stewart it is alleged that accused attacked A. Garde with a jack knife and inflicted serious injuries on him by stabbing him in the neck and the back, the neck wound having been one-sixteenth of an inch from the jugular vein. Both men were members of the crew of the American steamer Curacao which at the time was lying at the Hyder wharf. The accused is a Peruvian and the man who was attacked, a colored British subject. The injured man was attended to at the time by the doctor at Hyder and was later taken to the hospital at Ketchikan where he remained a patient for some time.

The next cases to receive attention at the assizes will be the charges of murder against five Liard River Indians— four men and one woman. These cases are expected to be very interesting and some sensational evidence involving superstitions of the natives in regard to witchcraft will probably be adduced. None of the accused and few if any of the witnesses can talk English and an interpreter had to be specially brought out from the Cassiar district to act in the cases. The murder alleged is supposed to have taken place through another native being hung up to a tree and allowed to starve and freeze to death because he was believed to have been practising witchcraft. E. F. Jones will conduct the defence.

The concluding case is a charge of theft against Albert Edison. It is alleged that on June 5 accused invited a man named Charles Frederickson to his room in the Omineca Hotel at Hazelton. The latter was apparently under the influence of liquor and, when he left accused's room, he missed his pocket book containing $240. He notified the police and the empty pocketbook was found in the toilet of the hotel, accused being arrested later at Smithers by Constable Service. The sum of $250 was found on his person, $100 being in his hat. L. S. McGill of Smithers will defend Edison.

The prosecutions in all cases

(continued on page six)

SOCKEYE PACK 70,000 CASES

Total of all Varieties on Skeena is 208,000 Cases so Far

The sockeye pack on the Skeena River to the end of last week totalled 70,000 cases, the total for all varieties being 208,000 cases. Fishing for sockeye and pinks, as far as gill nets are concerned, will be over at the end of this week though seining may be continued for pinks, chums and cohoes.

Trolling is reported to be normal this week with boats in the district averaging from 30 to 50 cohoes per day. Gill net boats on the Skeena River are averaging 30 sockeye and 50 pinks.

With the ending of sockeye fishing on Friday night of this week, some of the canneries, not packing fall varieties, will, it is expected, cease operations for the season.

TRUE BILL IN ASSIZE COURT

Faustino Pena Standing Trial This Afternoon on Charge of Attempted Murder

In the assize court this afternoon the grand jury returned a true bill against Faustina Pena, the Peruvian who is charged with attempted murder of A. Garde, colored, at Stewart on June 8.

Defendant had no counsel so the judge appointed E. F. Jones to defend him. A plea of not guilty was entered.

Vancouver Will Get Minister in Oliver Cabinet says Sun and Gen. Odlum to be Chosen

VANCOUVER, Aug. 19.—One provincial cabinet minister for Vancouver within a month is practically certain, the Sun states today, following inquiry in Liberal circles as a result of the publication of the Woodward letter to Premier Oliver.

It is understood, the paper says, that owing to the strong possibility of a general election being called this fall, the appointment will be without portfolio for the time being at least in order to avoid the confusion of two election contests at the same time.

It is possible, according to the same authority, that two Vancouver members will be made ministers but General Odlum is understood to be the first man on the list for preferment and if two are chosen Captain Ian Mackenzie is likely to be the other.

SPRUCE CANTS GO TO NEW WESTMINSTER

The Hecate Straits Towing Co. reports the tug Progressive on the way to Prince Rupert with two scows on which will be loaded spruce cants from the Prince Rupert Spruce Mills for New Westminster delivery. Two scows are already been loaded here for the Progressive to take south. Two such scows were taken south loaded a couple of weeks ago.

ALL IN READINESS FOR FREIGHT RATES CASE TO BE ARGUED

Premier Oliver Says Preparation Complete: McGeer Wires Board

VICTORIA, Aug. 19.—Completion of British Columbia's freight rates case based on legislation passed last session at Ottawa is now ready for argument, Premier Oliver announced yesterday. G. G. McGeer has wired the board of railway commissioners urging an immediate ruling or immediate argument of the province's claims for lower western grain rates.

"We are now ready to argue our claims any time," said Mr. Oliver.

MACMILLAN EXPEDITION NOT SUCCESSFUL YET AS RESULT OF BAD WEATHER

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—The Macmillan Arctic expedition has abandoned hope of carrying out the full exploration program over the polar seas this year owing to adverse weather conditions. Heavy ice blocked the path of the ship.

FISH ARRIVALS

Halibut arrivals and sales this morning were as follows:

American

Sunset 30,000, at 10.30c and 5c to Pacific Fisheries.

Spray, 20,000, at 11.10c and 6c to Cold Storage.

Bravo, 8,500, at 11.10c and 6c to Atlin Fisheries.

Akatan, 30,000, at 10.20c and 5c to Booth Fisheries.

Canadian

Johanna, 18,000, at 10.80c and 7c to Atlin Fisheries.

INDIANS TRIED MURDER CHARGE

Alleged That They Caused Death of Another Indian at Kyuquot

NANAIMO, Aug. 19. — James King White and George Olebar, Indians, charged with murder on August 6 last at a village on an island at Kyuquot Sound of an Indian named Louis Jamieson appeared before Magistrate Beaver Potts and were remanded for eight days.

It is alleged that the accused visited Jamieson's home and after a drinking spree a row started resulting in the death of Jamieson.

Jamieson leaves a widow who was bereaved three years ago in a similar manner, her husband at that time, a man named Constance, being murdered by an Indian of the same tribe, who later committed suicide.

LEGISLATURE MEETS OCTOBER

Usual Time Set for Opening of House, Premier Oliver Announces

VICTORIA, Aug. 19. — The Provincial Legislature will meet for the conduct of regular business on October 26, the Premier announced today, following a decision of the cabinet to hold a fall session as usual in preference to postponement until spring.

A few years ago a change was made, it being then the custom to hold spring sessions. Since that the house has met in October and concluded its work before Christmas.

HEAT WAVE IN MIDDLE WEST

Rain and Hail in Iowa and Illinois Causes Million Dollar Loss

CHICAGO, Aug. 19.—The middle west yesterday was gripped by an intense heat wave followed by severe wind and hail storms causing crop and property losses in Iowa and Illinois amounting, it is estimated, to a million dollars.

CHANNEL SWIMMERS AT CAPE GRIZ NEZ

GRIZ NEZ, France, Aug. 19.—The failure of Gertrude Ederle to swim the English Channel yesterday leaves the winning of this year's record open to the Swiss swimmer, De Mieville, who is here in readiness for the event. Lillian Harrison may make a fifth trial.