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'XMAS SPIRIT BREAKS PARTY LINES

BREWERS PAY THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS TO PARTY FUNDS

Grit and Tory Shake Hands and Everybody Happy in Adjourning

Canada's sixteenth parliament suspends activities till February--supply bill rapidly put through--King and Guthrie exchange greetings

OTTAWA, December 16.—Canada's Sixteenth Parliament adjourned yesterday afternoon for the Christmas holidays, and members of both House and Senate are now homeward bound. Little more than two days was taken to transact business which it was expected would take five, this being due to a large extent to the co-operation given by the Opposition members who seemed equally anxious with the Government supporters to rush things through and get home in time for Santa Claus' visit. Royal Assent was given the supply bill yesterday after it had been passed by both the House of Commons and Senate.

BOYS CAUSED SOME ANXIETY

VANCOUVER, Dec. 16.—While three separate parties combed the blizzard-swept mountains northeast of Vancouver in search of Clarence Robertson, aged 15, and Cameron Stover, aged 14, two youths who had been camping at the lower levels of Hollyburn Ridge across the harbor, returned to their homes yesterday afternoon. They were surprised when informed that hope of their being rescued alive had been practically abandoned on account of the severity of the weather. They set out on Sunday ostensibly for a day's hike. "After we started on Sunday," said Robertson, "we changed our minds about going to Dog Mountain and went instead to Hollyburn Ridge. Late in the afternoon we started to return but lost our way and slept all night under a tree stump. With the low clouds and snow-storm we made little progress on Monday and had to sleep out again in the severe cold. With but two loaves of bread left on Tuesday, we became anxious but managed to strike an old lumber camp where we passed the night. After a good sleep, we started early Wednesday but the going was hard." Despite the hardships, both boys are in good condition.

SCHOOL TERM ENDS FRIDAY

Happy Youngsters Will be Dismissed Tomorrow Until January 3
One thousand happy youngsters will close desks and lay aside books tomorrow, not to be seen again at school for a fortnight. To most of them the days will be crowded with festivities incidental to Christmas and New Years so the time will probably pass quickly enough for them. Parents, however, may think differently. Schools will reassemble on the morning of January 3 for the opening of the long spring session.

JAMES DICKSON HEAD INSPECTOR

Hon. William Sloan Announces His Promotion of Staff of Mines Department
VICTORIA, Dec. 16.—James Dickson, prominent member of the Board of Examiners under the Coal Mines Regulations Act and inspector of mines, has been appointed chief inspector of mines in British Columbia succeeding the late R. Wilkinson it was announced yesterday by Hon. William Sloan, minister of mines.

COUNTY COURT HAD SESSION

VARIOUS CASES SET AND DISPOSED OF BEFORE JUDGE ROBERTSON

County Court convened yesterday in the court house with Judge Robertson of Prince George presiding in the absence of Judge Young. The following disposition was made of the various cases which were set for hearing:—
W. E. Williams et al vs. Peter Bryne, settled.
C. F. Harrison vs. D. D. Kimball, set for January 24. Patmore & Fulton for plaintiff and Williams, Manson & Gonzales for defendant.
John Thomas vs. Martin Peko. Williams, Manson & Gonzales for plaintiff and Patmore & Fulton for defendant, going on.
Owen McPadden et al vs. Porter Idaho Mining Co. Patmore & Fulton for plaintiff and defendant in person, January 24.
John Lindseth vs. Conrad Lindseth et al. Patmore & Fulton for the plaintiff, Williams, Manson & Gonzales for the defendant; settled.
P. J. Moran vs. W. T. Atwood. Williams, Manson & Gonzales for the plaintiff, and the defendant in person; settled.
F. D. Rice vs. James E. Taylor. Williams, Manson & Gonzales for the plaintiff, and the defendant in person; settled.
C. W. Bart vs. T. P. Ryan. Williams, Manson & Gonzales for the plaintiff, and the defendant appearing in person; settled.
H. Roberts vs. F. L. Buckley et al. Williams, Manson & Gonzales for the plaintiff, and MacKenzie and Patmore & Fulton for defendant, stands.
J. C. Gavigan vs. Joe Saeffer. Williams, Manson & Gonzales for the plaintiff, and defendant in person, January 24.

APPEALS
King vs. John Bussanich, with W. E. Fisher for defendant, December 16.
King vs. Roy McKinley, Williams, Manson & Gonzales for defendant; settled.
King vs. Victor Rogers, Patmore & Fulton for defendant, December 17.
King vs. Arthur Beale, Williams, Manson & Gonzales, January.

JUDGMENT SUMMONSES
Williams, Manson & Gonzales vs. Rudland.
Storey vs. Houglund.

TAIYO MARU WILL LOAD CARGO HERE

Vancouver Papers Report Ship Due on Coast December 20—Will Take on Logs and Grain
Vancouver papers state that the Japanese freighter Taiyo Maru, due on this coast on December 20, will load a cargo of logs and grain for Japan, part at Vancouver and part at Prince Rupert. The vessel belongs to the Ocean Transport Co. and the agents are C. Gardner Johnson Ltd.

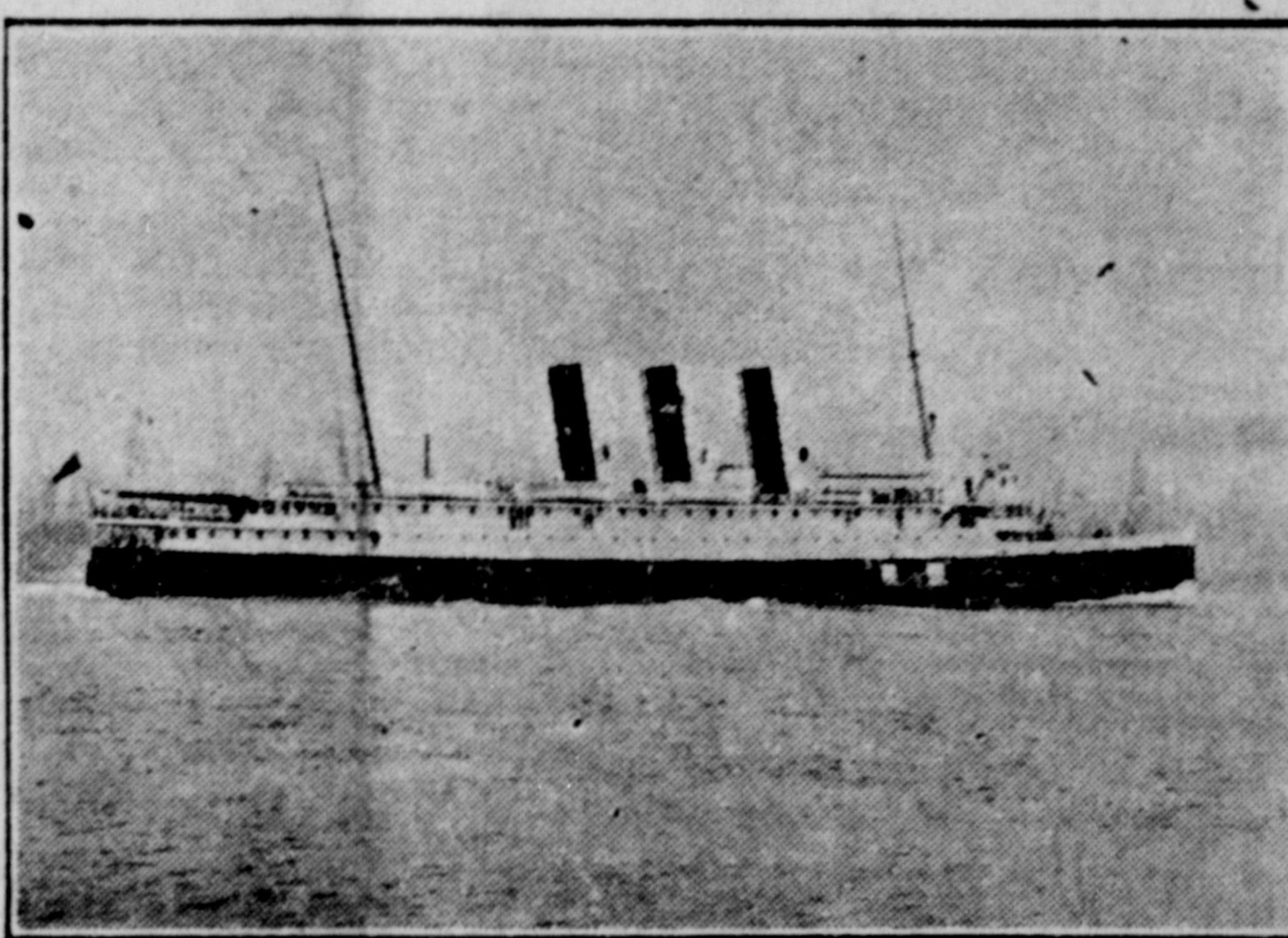
HON. WILLIAM SLOAN IS OFF TO HONOLULU

Will Take a Six Week's Rest at Advice of His Physician; Has Been Indisposed Lately
VICTORIA, Dec. 16.—Hon. William Sloan, minister of lands, sailed last evening for Honolulu where, on the advice of his physician, he will take a six weeks' rest. He has been indisposed for the past two or three weeks.

WEATHER IS AMELIORATING

THERMOMETER RISES ON PRAIRIES AND COLD WAVE IS TRAVELLING EASTWARD
WINNIPEG, Dec. 16.—Weather conditions throughout the prairies showed a great improvement this morning. The mercury ranged from three to twelve below zero as against fifteen to thirty yesterday. The cold wave is now hitting Ontario and Quebec.

S.S. "PRINCE RUPERT" WILL BE HOLIDAY SHIP



When the C.N.R. steamer "Prince Rupert," Capt. Donald, leaves here tomorrow evening for Vancouver, she will have on board over two hundred passengers, most of whom are going south to spend the Christmas season. Included in the number will be a number of school teachers from up river points as well as from Anyox, Stewart and the city. Already half a dozen teachers from the interior have made reservations and to these will be added several from the local teaching staff as well as others from Ocean Falls and way points.

Included in the passenger list will be Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Kergin, Mrs. W. H. Kergin, and Miss Margaret Kergin, who will spend the Christmas season in the south and then proceed on a motor trip to southern California. The doctor, who expects to be away over a month, is shipping to Vancouver his Chrysler car with which he will take the trip to California.
E. C. Gibbons, of McCaffery and Gibbons, and F. E. Robertson, manager of the Royal Bank of Canada, are also to spend Christmas in Vancouver and will sail on the "Prince Rupert" Friday night.

More Sensational Evidence Given Customs Commission by Head of Liquor Concern

VANCOUVER, December 16.—Sensational evidence with regard to the number and size of contributions made by the British Columbia Breweries Ltd. to campaign funds featured the evidence submitted at the session of the Customs Commission on Wednesday when Henry Reifel, president of that company as well as of the B.C. Distillers, was on the stand. To him, N. W. Rowell, K.C., commission counsel, produced a number of checks on the B.C. Breweries with vouchers attached. The great majority of the checks which ranged in amount from \$100 to \$25,000 were issued in 1925 and 1926 and witness admitted that they represented contributions to campaign funds. So many were the checks that, as Rowell read off the particulars, the answer "campaign funds" became monotonous. No particulars as to which party or parties the sums were contributed were asked for or given. On one or two occasions it was said that the checks had been paid to "fight prohibition" or "to get signatures for beer by the glass." Four checks totalling \$40,000 payable to one man were issued between the beginning of January and the end of June. Mysterious payments by Joseph Kennedy Co., Vancouver liquor exporters, which it was suggested might have found their way into the hands of provincial government officials, were not further probed by the commission.

UPROAR IN REICHSTAG

IS CULMINATION OF SOCIALIST ATTACK ON MARK CABINET—DISORDER AND VOCIFERATION
BERLIN, Dec. 16.—Bedlam broke loose in the Reichstag today when Philipp Scheidemann, leader of the Social Democrats, attacked Defence Minister Gessler and charged that a secret fund existed in the budget for the manufacture and hoarding of arms and airplanes in Russia. The charge was greeted with cries of "Traitor" and "Blackguard." Pointing to the diplomatic gallery where foreign representatives were seated, the Nationalists cried: "Why reveal those things to our enemies?" and then left the chamber. Scheidemann, who was leading the Socialist attack aimed at overthrowing the Marx cabinet, cried: "The Allies know all about the rotten military conditions in Germany. We might as well correct these conditions ourselves as have the Allies act for us."

LIBERALS WILL MEET IN MARCH

EXECUTIVE DECIDES TO HOLD PROVINCIAL CONVENTION THEN—PREMIER OLIVER SPEAKS ABOUT P.G.E.
VICTORIA, Dec. 16.—The next provincial convention of the Liberal party will be held in Vancouver on March 16, the executive decided last night. Arrangements are being made whereby the expenses of delegates will be pooled so that those from a distance may be placed on equal footing with those in the city or nearby.

VANCOUVER EXCHANGE

	Bid.	Asked.
Wheat	1.35 1/2	
B.C. Telephone	212.00	218.00
Dunwell	1.01	1.05
Gladstone	.30	.32
Granby	34.00	38.00
Independence	.08 1/2	.08 1/2
Indian	.04	.05
Premier	1.99	2.02
Porter Idaho	.10	.10 1/2
Silver Crest	.05	.05 1/2
Richmond	.03 1/2	

Minister of Public Works Tells of Road Program for Year and Speaks of Rupert

VANCOUVER, Dec. 16.—Not counting such vast and costly undertakings as the proposed Skeena highway, the Revelstoke-Golden link of the Vancouver to Banff road and other major projects, the estimated cost of the immediate road construction demands of the people of various parts of British Columbia is between \$16,000,000 and \$17,000,000, stated Hon. Dr. W. H. Sutherland, provincial minister of public works, while in Vancouver this week, on his way back to the capital after a visit to the Kootenay country. This information was obtained, he said, from the various district engineers, each of whom had been asked to prepare a list with estimates attached, of the work in his district for which there was a direct and insistent public demand.

FORTUNES FROM DESERT WASTES

LOS ANGELES SCIENTIST WILL TRY TO OBTAIN GOLD OXIDES
LOS ANGELES, Dec. 16.—An exploration of Death Valley and parts of Nevada to test his theory that huge fortunes in the form of gold oxide can be extracted from the desert wastes is soon to be made by Dr. Herschel C. Parker, noted scientist. Gold oxide has been made in laboratories for a hundred years, he points out, but was never thought by scientists to exist in nature. However, he became convinced that it does. He made the discovery, he says, during a course of experiments at Mona Lake while attempting to extract gold from gold-carrying waters by means of electrolysis. Dr. Parker believes that enormous quantities of gold oxide, which he terms "aurite," lie on the arid bottoms of Death Valley and that the waste lands can be made to yield hundred of millions of dollars in gold. Dr. Parker was Professor of Physics at Columbia University for 20 years and at one time was associated with Dr. Robert A. Millikan, head of the California Institute of Technology. He will be joined in the exploration by Harry Wolf, Chicago manufacturer, who will act as manager of the expedition.

LIBEL PAYMENT NOW EXPECTED

HON. WILLIAM SLOAN CONCEDES TWENTY PER CENT IN SETTLEMENT OF JUDGMENT GIVEN IN HIS FAVOR
VANCOUVER, Dec. 16.—Through his solicitors, Hon. William Sloan, according to the Vancouver Province, has announced that he will forego twenty per cent of the \$30,000 damages awarded him in the McRae libel suit. The minister's lawyers, the newspaper says, have been authorized to settle the case for him and no doubts in regard to settlement are now anticipated, there having been only a matter of \$2,000 in dispute. A compromise on this sum is looked for.

VANCOUVER LOGGER LOSES ARM UNDER TRAIN AT SEATTLE

SEATTLE, Dec. 16.—Fred Green, 28-year old logger of Vancouver, B.C., lost his left arm and suffered serious head injuries when he was run over by a Northern Pacific switch engine in the railway yards last night.

JAP PRINCE TO RETURN HOME

COMING FROM ENGLAND TO SAN FRANCISCO AND THENCE ACROSS PACIFIC TO BEDSIDE OF DYING FATHER
VANCOUVER, Dec. 16.—Prince Chichibu, second son of the dying Japanese Emperor, will sail from England, where he has been studying, on December 22 for New York it was announced at the Japanese consulate here yesterday. He will sail on the steamer Siberia Maru from San Francisco and not from Vancouver as previously reported.

MANITOBA PEOPLE ARE ON INCREASE

Population is Now 639,956 Which is Increase of 28,938 Over 1921
OTTAWA, Dec. 15.—Manitoba's population is estimated at 639,956 in a bulletin issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This is an increase of 28,938 over 1921.