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Vol. XVII., No. 299. PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1927 Price Five Cents

BRITAIN WILL LIMIT NAVAL BUILDING

MAN RESEMBLING ALLEGED GIRL MURDERER IS ARRESTED

Speech from Throne at Closing of Parliament Shows Britain Not to Increase Naval Building Program

War debt funding completed except with Russia and British claims to be limited. Empire tours of Royalty referred to

LONDON, December 22.—The declaration that the British government has no intention of embarking upon an increase to its naval building program despite the temporary failure of the Geneva naval conference to reach a general agreement, was contained in the speech from the throne proroguing Parliament today until February 2.

The section of the speech dealing with allied war debts emphasized that the British government was to limit its claims on the allies to such an amount as, together with reparation receipts, would cover the government's own war debts.

The war debt funding arrangements have been signed by Britain with all countries concerned except Russia.

The King's speech further said: "I have followed with constant interest the journeys of my sons—the Prince of Wales and Prince George—to Canada, and also my son and daughter-in-law, the Duke and Duchess of York, to New Zealand, Australia and other parts of the Dominions, and I rejoice in their return and have learned from them with deep satisfaction the loyal and enthusiastic welcome they invariably experienced throughout their journeys."

CHINESE ARE TERRORIZED

Effort Being Made to Crush Bolshevism by Force in South

SHANGHAI, Dec. 21.—The Nationalist efforts to purge their territory of bolshevism appear to have been followed by a reign of terror, taking the form of wholesale executions and migration.

While some of the tales of horror and brutality emanating chiefly from Canton may be exaggerated, there seems to be little doubt that extremely violent methods are being used to crush bolshevism and expel its exponents. The activity has reacted on the peaceful Chinese population and the natives of the affected districts, fearing that they will be confounded with those suspected of bolshevist leanings, are seeking asylum by the thousands in Hong Kong.

DANGER HEIGHTENED

The danger of the situation was heightened by reports that L Chai Sun, who was ousted from the dictatorship of Canton November 17, is trying to prepare an expedition to regain control of the city. Apprehensions were renewed, too, with the panic that more fighting incites in the population.

Wealthy Chinese are reported to be transferring their valuables to foreign concessions, while forces of the foreign powers are making every effort to protect their nationalists in the event of new outbreaks that might take the form of anti-foreign demonstrations.

TWO LAWYERS ARE CONVICTED

Sentenced to Five Years Each But Appeal and are out on Bail

MONTREAL, Dec. 22.—George Poliquin and Gustave Renaud, Montreal lawyers, were found guilty by a jury and sentenced by the judge to five years in the penitentiary on a charge of conspiracy to defraud the public out of half a million dollars in connection with the operation of various milk campanies for exploiting the mana system of milk enrichment by cocoa oil process.

An appeal will be made and prisoners were allowed out on bail of $10,000 each.

MANSLAUGHTER JURY VERDICT

VICTORIA, Dec. 22.—A verdict of manslaughter against Raymond Roberts of New York was given by the coroner's jury today at the inquest into the death of Albert Wells, who died Monday after being struck by a car Saturday.

Miss Dorothy Officer and Miss Phyllis Press, passengers in Roberts' automobile, gave evidence yesterday. Roberts did not testify.

TEN THOUSAND FOR ALIENATION OF HIS WIFE'S AFFECTIONS

SEATTLE, Dec. 22. — Helmer Anderson, fuel dealer of Wilberton, was awarded $10,000 as a result of his suit against F. L. James, Pacific Northwest Golf architect for alienation of the affections of his wife. Anderson asked $50,000.

James formerly lived in Victoria and is now manager of a golf club here.

KETCHIKAN GOES FOR AL SMITH IN PRESIDENTIAL RACE

KETCHIKAN, Dec. 22.—Upon motion of George Grigsby of Ketchikan and seconded by J. J. Connors of Juneau, the Democratic divisional convention in Pioneer hall unanimously declared in favor of Al Smith of New York state as the choice for the presidential nomination by the Democratic national convention. The delegates elected from this division to the territorial convention to be held at Seward January 16 are instructed to see that the six delegates chosen to attend the national Democratic convention from Alaska are pledged to support Mr. Smith.

DIVORCE OBTAINED FROM ADMIRAL GAUNT

LONDON, Dec. 22. — Lady Margaret Elizabeth Gaunt obtained a divorce yesterday from Admiral Sir Guy Reginald Arthur Gaunt. The grounds were misconduct with Lady Margery Barbara Cruise. The case was not defended.

Sir Guy is well known in British Columbia.

VANCOUVER EXCHANGE

	Bid.	Asked.
Big Missouri	.29½	
Coast Copper	25.50	25.75
Dunwell	.20	.21½
George Copper	2.25	2.35
Gladstone		.16
Independence	.08½	.08¾
Indian	.05¾	.07
L. and L.	.09	.09¼
Leadsmith	.05⅛	.05⅜
Lucky Jim	.26	.27
Porter Idaho	.36	.37
Premier (Ex.D)	2.30	2.32
Richmond	.14½	.14¾
Silversmith	.21	.34
Sunloch	.90	1.00

PRESENTATION OF PICTURES

Queen Mary Chapter I.O.D.E. Makes Contribution to Borden Street School

This afternoon at 1.30 the Queen Mary Chapter of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire presented the Borden Street school with a very fine set of historical pictures illustrating important events in Canadian history. Mrs. George Woodland, regent of the chapter, made the presentation, the pictures being grouped and draped with the flag. This was removed by Mrs. Brass, the chapter standard bearer, the singing of the national anthem by the pupils, teachers and visitors following.

The proceedings opened with the singing of "O Canada" and then Mrs. Woodland addressed the pupils and teachers. She referred to the pleasure it gave them to make this presentation of pictures illustrating important events in Canadian history and she hoped they would prove useful. She said she trusted that each time the boys and girls looked at them they would think of the wonderful characters represented in these early events. She urged the students to be honest studious, and kind, so that in years to come they would feel proud of the years spent in school. She said she felt sure if they did this the world would be better for their having lived in it and Canada would be proud of her citizens.

Other members of the order spoke and Miss Mills replied on behalf of the school thanking the chapter for the beautiful gift.

The pictures are a very fine set and cost the chapter about sixty dollars.

CATALA ENQUIRY

Captain and Chief Officer Exonerated of Blame in Recent Stranding

VANCOUVER, Dec. 22. — Inquiry into the wreck of the Catala closed this afternoon, with the commission agreeing unanimously that Captain Dickson and first officer Sheppard should not lose their certificates although the commission found, after hearing all evidence, "that a costly error of judgment had been made." As the accident happened at the heighth of tide it was presumed the Sparrowhawk buoy had drifted a short distance.

The commission will report to Ottawa recommending that the use of the south channel be prohibited in future. An admonition will be made to officers to exercise greater care in these waters.

NOTED ENGLISH SINGER DIES

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, Dec. 22. — Charles Courtice Pounds, the noted English singer and actor, for many years associated with Gilbert and Sullivan opera, is dead, aged 65.

AGED FREE MASON DIES AT VICTORIA

VICTORIA, Dec. 22.—One of the oldest Free Masons of the province and a resident of British Columbia for the past 65 years, William Manson, aged 93, died here yesterday. He was a native of Scotland.

MILD WEATHER IN THE NORTH

Zero Weather Reported Only in Yukon Territory This Morning

Reports received by the Government Telegraphs indicate that the weather throughout Northern B.C. and the Yukon has been fairly mild during the past 24 hours. At eight o'clock this morning only a few points reported zero weather, even Whitehorse being moderately warm. The report follows:

Prince Rupert—Cloudy, light southeast wind; temperature, 41.

Hayspert—Cloudy, strong wind, temp. 32.

Port Simpson—Calm, temp. 30.

Hazelton—Clear, calm, temp. 10.

Smithers—Cloudy, calm, temp. 5 below

Burns Lake—Cloudy, calm, temp. 5.

Telegraph Creek—Cloudy, calm, temp. 8.

Stewart—Cloudy, calm, temp. 22.

Anyox—Part cloudy, calm, temp. 28.

Atlanish—Cloudy, calm, temp. 18.

Rosswood—Clear, calm, temp. 14.

Terrace—Clear, windy, temp. 22.

White Horse—Cloudy, calm, temp. 20.

Stewart River—Cloudy, north wind, temp. zero.

Dawson—Cloudy, north wind, temp. 4 below.

ALLEGED KILLER CAPTURED TODAY

PENDLETON, Oregon, Dec. 22. W. E. Hickman, Los Angeles fugitive and believed murderer of little Marian Parker under ghastly circumstances, was arrested this afternoon by state officers east of Echo, Oregon. Money found on his person corresponded to that received by him in Los Angeles for the ransom of the girl.

ROYAL FAMILY WILL SPEND CHRISTMAS AT SANDRINGHAM TOGETHER

LONDON, Dec. 22. — The King and Queen left London this morning in accordance with the custom of spending the Christmas season at Sandringham where they will be joined by the Prince of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of York and other members of the Royal family. Princess Elizabeth accompanied the King and Queen.

Eric Dingwall, of the "Newington" left on the Princess Mary this morning for Vancouver where he will spend the Christmas vacation with his sister, Mrs Bert Stevens.

Hot Scent of Murderer Picked Up at Seattle Where One of the Bills Paid by Parker Was Passed

Quick Getaway at Los Angeles Made by Suspected Man With Street Auto Race at Terrific Speed

SEATTLE, December 22.—A man, almost positively identified as William Hickman, reputed to be the young murderer of the little girl Marian Parker at Los Angeles, appeared here last night and passed one of the twenty-dollar bills received by the abducter of the girl from her father.

The man entered a haberdashery store in the downtown district and bought a pair of gloves and a suit of underwear tendering a bill, one of the serial number paid to the kidnapper.

Walker had walked out before the proprietor of the store phoned the police.

Every available man on the police force was immediately mobilized and the city was combed for the man.

Word of Hickman's presence here was immediately flashed to all the police in the northwestern states and Vancouver, B.C., as it is believed he might be making for the Canadian border.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 21.—The positively-identified suspect in the Marian Parker kidnapping and slaying case, driving his second stolen automobile, slipped through a tremendous police dragnet early and escaped by only a minute, according to the announced belief of Los Angeles police.

So close was the chase that a short time later a flash at police headquarters reported the arrest of William Hickman, former bank clerk, but the report proved a mistake, and upwards of 7,000 peace officers continued their drive in the darkness.

Just before dawn a blue Cadillac car with wire wheels pulled into a filling station and the driver asked for five gallons of gasoline. He got them and then requested a fresh bulb for one of his headlights. While the attendant was inside the building getting the light, the blue car pulled out at top speed.

AFTER HIS $1.03

Jack Woods, the attendant, jumped into his automobile and gave chase, not for the fugitive with $100,000 on his head, but to collect $1.03 for gasoline.

At top speed the two cars thundered down the main business artery of the city with the fugitive gaining some. One unidentified person telephoned police about the mad chase, which headed almost directly for the headquarters of Detective Chief Cline, who is in charge of the manhunt. Cline threw a squadron of 100 officers onto the street at a moment's notice. But before they could reach the intersection, the fugitive, without slowing down, spun east and escaped in the darkness. Later Wood identified Hickman as the fugitive, from photographs shown.

This afternoon's train, due from the East at 3:30, is reported to be on time.

Mirage Caused Wreck of Catala When She Struck Rock Near Port Simpson

VANCOUVER, December 22.—A mirage, which deceived the officers as to the ship's position, caused the Catala to go aground on the reef near the tip of Finlayson Island, according to the testimony of Captain A. E. Dickson and Chief Officer Ernest Shepherd before the court of inquiry, consisting of Captain McPherson, Dominion wreck commissioner, and two assessors yesterday.

The weather at the time of the grounding was perfect, both stated, as the ship steamed through Cunningham Passage. Shepherd was in charge at the time. He took his bearings on Sparrowhawk buoy and Mist Island. Tricky atmospheric conditions caused him to be one hundred feet out in his calculations. Had the ship been fifteen feet outside she would have cleared.

WESTMINSTER MAN DIES

NEW WESTMINSTER, Dec. 22.—Sidney Malcolmson, for years a popular figure in athletics here, is dead.

Prince Rupert Most Desirable Outlet for Peace River Products Is Clearly Shown in Memorandum

Document Prepared With the Endorsement of the Board of Trade President Shows Canadian National Route Best

In connection with the petition about to be circulated by Theo. Collart with the endorsement of the president of the Prince Rupert Board of Trade, a memorandum has been prepared showing why Prince Rupert is the logical outlet for the Peace River country. Quotations are made from authorities and a good case made for Prince Rupert over any southern route. Facts and figures are quoted and anyone who reads the brief with an open mind is bound to be convinced of the desirability of connecting up with the Canadian National Railway with the idea of bringing the Peace River products to the coast by way of Prince Rupert. The memorandum is in part as follows:

In 1924, when the people of the Peace River country made their first demand for a railway connection with the Pacific coast, Sir Henry Thornton, president of the Canadian National Railway, after visiting the Peace River country, made the promise that as soon as the country would produce 10,000,000 bushels of grain he would build a railway to the coast.

According to the figures of the Dominion bureau of statistics the Peace River country produced 2,901,840 bushels of grain in 1920 and 10,775,000 bushels in 1926. The crop of 1927 is placed at between 11 and 12,000,000 bushels, much in excess of the figure set by the president of the Canadian National Railway.

While wheat will always remain the main production in value of the Peace River country, it is also an ideal country for mixed farming. Five creameries are in operation and in 1926 they produced 410,426 lbs. of butter of a value of $143,873.00. The 1927 production will probably exceed 600,000 pounds returning to the farmers close to $200,000. Dairy herds are being gradually established and increased and it will not take many years to bring the production of butter to one million pounds annually. British Columbia alone imports 6,500,000 pounds of butter annually and with adequate transportation facilities would provide a good market for the Peace River butter.

LIVESTOCK BUSINESS

Cattle, sheep and hogs are being raised profitably and it could be done on a much greater scale if they could be shipped to market under better conditions than provided for at present. Turkeys thrive admirably well in the Peace River country and in 1926 the pack of five car loads was sold to Chicago interests.

Every kind of vegetable grown in the temperate zone can be grown and matured in every part of the Peace River country, with very high yield and of an unexcelled quality. At the Beaverlodge experimental station, 25 miles west of Grande Prairie, table corn, ripe tomatoes, cucumbers, and all kinds of vegetables were grown prolifically. The Experimental Station at Fort Vermillion claims to grow asparagus, Brussels sprouts, celery, cucumber, corn, cauliflower, lettuce, onions, peas, pumpkins, squash, in fact every kind of vegetable—all fully matured. Potatoes have yielded as much as 450 bushels to the acre, of an excellent quality. Fruit is growing in the Peace River country, as well as around Vancouver or Victoria, and apples have been grown and fully matured for the last four years on the shores of Bear Lake.

PREDOMINATING CROP

But wheat, the predominating crop of the country, has given wonderful returns in yield per acre and the department of the interior, Ottawa, referring to the crop of 1926, said: "A Grande Prairie field of 15 acres yielded 1050 bushels of wheat, an average of 70 bushels per acre. A field of new breaking in the same district threshed 61 bushels of wheat to the acre. A Valhalla Valley farmer secured 2110 bushels of wheat from 31 acres, an average of 68 bushels per acre. All this graded No. 1 and No. 2 Northern, and carried a very high per centage of proteid." And this year it is reported that more than 80 bushels of wheat to the acre is the yield in several place in the country.

(continued on page two)

POLICE PROMOTION

VANCOUVER, Dec. 22.—Lieut.-Col. T. M. Duffus, commanding officer of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for British Columbia, has been promoted to the post of assistant commissioner.

ABOLISH TRAPS URGES MEETING

Salmon Fishery Interests Meet at Tacoma and Make Sweeping Request

TACOMA, Dec. 22.—At a meeting here attended by representatives of all branches of the salmon fishing industry, a permanent organization was formed which will have as its object the general preservation of the fishery. The meeting went on record at the outset as being in favor of the complete abolition of traps all along the coast.

As the traps in Puget Sound and in Alaska waters have been blamed for being largely responsible for the present state of depletion of the salmon on the coast, expression of favor for the abolition of such method of fishing is taken generally as a most important step in the right direction.

Elected to office in the new organization were important persons in the Pacific coast salmon fishing and packing industry.

SHEAF MOUNT SAILS TODAY

Sixth Grain Boat of Season Leaves With Full Cargo for U.K.-Continent—Ohio Maru Loading

The British freighter Sheaf Mount, having loaded a full cargo of grain at the Alberta Wheat Pool's Prince Rupert elevator, sailed this afternoon for the United Kingdom or Continent.

The Japanese vessel Ohio Maru went under the spouts this morning, after having completed lining and coaling, and started loading this afternoon for the United Kingdom or Continent.

The Swedish freighter Sydland is still lining at the ocean dock and will not start loading her full cargo for the United Kingdom or Continent until after the holiday week-end.

The elevator offices had no further charters to announce this afternoon although it is expected that other boats will be coming along as soon as or before the present ones are away.

NEW CHAMPION AT BILLIARDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Jake Schaeffer of Chicago last night won the world's eighteen point two-balk line billiard crown when he defeated the champion, Welker Cochrane, 1500 to 1304.

VESSEL ASHORE IN PUGET SOUND

SEATTLE, Dec. 22.—The freighter Surailco bound from San Francisco to Everett, went aground last night in a fog at Double Bluff, Puget Sound. The vessel is taking no water and it is expected she may be refloated on high tide.