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CONDITION OF THE KING IS IMPROVING

MILD TYPE OF INFLUENZA IS SWEEPING OVER CONTINENT

King George is Better Anxiety Still Persists In Regard to Outcome

LONDON, Dec. 13.—King George was apparently relieved by last night's operation for removal of purulent fluid at the base of the right lung. Today he was making progress. At 3 o'clock this afternoon it was stated in authoritative circles that the "King is progressing." Queen Mary left the palace shortly before 3 o'clock for a motor drive. She had luncheon with the Prince of Wales, who drove to Buckingham Palace about noon. Speaking at a

PEASANTS WIN IN ROUMANIA

Sweep the Country at Elections
With About 300 Out of
387 Seats

BUCHAREST, Dec. 13.—Incomplete returns today gave the National Peasant Party more than 300 out of 387 seats of the lower house of parliament. The former Premier Brătianu's once powerful Liberal group obtained only eighteen seats. Communists and the Anti-Jewish party suffered crushing defeats.

BYRD DENIES DOG STORIES

Refutes Statement That He Had
Sent Man to Yukon for
Replacements

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Commander Richard Byrd, in a wireless dispatch to the Associated Press from his ship which is now in the Antarctic Ocean, denied reports that he had sent Bill Riley, dog driver, back to the Yukon to get 40 huskies to replace dogs that had died aboard the ship. Riley was quoted in a story from Vancouver, B.C., last week as having stated that 37 dogs of the Byrd expedition had died, and that Byrd had commissioned him to return for replacements. Byrd said that he had 86 dogs in good condition and only three or four had died.

REQUIEM MASS THIS MORNING

Ceremony Conducted in Honor of
Memory of Late E. C.
Gibbons

Mourning friends filled the Church of Annunciation to capacity this morning when requiem mass for the repose of the soul of the late Edward C. Gibbons was celebrated by Bishop E. M. Bruce, O.M.I., who was assisted in the ceremonies by Rev. Father Hammond, O.M.I. In the course of the service, the bishop referred in fitting words to the life of the deceased and his worth and usefulness in the community.

The service was of the usual choral nature and Charles P. Balagano presided at the organ. A suitable solo was sung by Mrs. J. J. Muldoon. Among those in attendance was James Gibbons, of Bangor, Me., brother of the deceased.

League of Mercy meeting at St. James Palace this afternoon Princess Mary said: "You will be pleased to know that so far the condition of the King is satisfactory."

While details of the operation yesterday have not yet been revealed, it was learned that the King was given anaesthetic, his chest opened with a knife and a tube inserted through which pus was being drained away. Doctors did not say whether, as is often done in such operations, a section of one of the ribs removed.

The object of the second operation was to get rid of poisonous matter. A section of bone taken from the ribs is usually a small one and the bone grows again and fills the gap.

Despite the successful result of the operations, anxiety for the King continued at Buckingham Palace, and must continue for the next few days until it is definitely known whether his strength is sufficient to conquer the weakness or not. Emphasis was laid in palace circles on the fact that the struggle was likely to be a long and difficult one.

At 10:43 a.m. today King George's doctors issued the following bulletin: "The King has had some sleep. The local condition is satisfactory. The weakness and toxemia are considerable but the pulse is steady and His Majesty is not losing ground."

The famous medical journal "Lancet" says in an authoritative article on the King's condition that the position is so far satisfactory and those who are conversant with the course of the symptoms and their significance in these cases will recognize that "we have here foundation for a renewal of legitimate hopes."

The King's physicians issued the following bulletin at 8:15 tonight: "Though the King is still suffering from exhaustion, there is a slight improvement in His Majesty's condition this evening. The local condition remains unsatisfactory."

It was officially announced from Buckingham Palace at 10:30 last night that the King's condition so far continued satisfactory.

TO AID BRIDGE AT VANCOUVER

OTTAWA, Dec. 13.—The Dominion government will give immediate consideration to the request for a grant of \$570,000 towards the construction of a new bridge over False Creek at Burrard Street in Vancouver. This was promised by the government through Minister of Publics J. C. Elliott and Minister of Marine and Fisheries J. P. A. Cardin in a deputation from the Vancouver city council.



The above picture shows a type of lifeboat invented by a Canadian now living in Detroit. The boat has a metal outer shell lined with asbestos and cork, and an inner shell. The ventilator is protected by a wave shield and an automatic inner cover. During storms an air motor runs a suction fan inside the ventilator. The shell is fireproof, and insulated against heat and cold. A United States patent was issued in January last and a Canadian patent in March.

AIR SERVICE FROM RIMOUSKI PLANNED

OTTAWA, Dec. 13.—Hon. P. J. Veniot, postmaster general, intimated yesterday the possibility of inaugurating an experimental air service next summer between Rimouski, Que. and Vancouver.

WOULD DEPORT ROBERTSON ORR

Latest Card Played Today in Sensational Case Over Vancouver Minister

ORDER SERVED

Clergyman Refuses to Accompany Officers Who Sought Him Today

VANCOUVER, Dec. 13.—Notice of an order asking him to present himself at the Canadian immigration building here for hearing to determine if he is eligible for deportation was served upon Rev. S. Robertson Orr today, as he emerged from the morning session of the Presbyterian Church commission which is enquiring into his status.

Mr. Orr refused to accompany the officers who served the order and declared it was not necessary for him to appear. Mrs. Orr, who was with him, took part in the ensuing argument. After a great deal of discussion, the officers permitted Mr. Orr to return to the vestry of the church, where the minister telephoned to his counsel.

The immigration officers were accompanied by two detectives of the city police force.

A telegram had been received from the minister of immigration at Ottawa stating Mr. Orr's case was to be investigated under Section III. of the Immigration Act.

MRS. LUCY LARSEN OF LEWIS ISLAND DIES IN HOSPITAL

The death occurred yesterday afternoon at the Prince Rupert General Hospital of Mrs. Lucy Larsen, a native of Lewis Island. She is survived by several children. Funeral arrangements are in the hands of Hayner Bros., undertakers.

Lord Rothermere Bets the British Conservative Government Will be Beaten at Next General Election

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The government's behavior has rendered the chances of the Conservative party in the next election absolutely hopeless, according to the personal views of Lord Rothermere, newspaper magnate, expressed in various forms in his Rothermere newspapers throughout the country. The opinion is made the subject of vigorous criticism by the more orthodox Conservative colleagues of the press like the Morning Post.

Sir William Joynson Hicks, home secretary, publicly wargered Lord Rothermere a new hat that Conservatives would get a majority. Rothermere requested that the wager be changed to money and offered \$500 to \$50 against a government majority. The home secretary replied he preferred not to make money bets, but offered two hats to one that we will beat you, Ramsay Macdonald and Lloyd George together. His lordship did not reply.

Lady Houston, better known as Dame Fanny Byron, thereupon offered to take up Lord Rothermere's money wager if the amounts were multiplied by 10. Lord Rothermere responded frigidly: "I have not the pleasure of Lady Houston's acquaintance and I never make bets with strangers."

Something Like 200,000 Cases of Influenza Are Reported in United States but Not Virulent

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Health officials believe that there are more than 200,000 cases of influenza in the United States at present. Reports of schools closing continue, particularly in the south. Officials say the epidemic is apparently not so widespread or virulent as in 1918, 1919 or 1920 outbreaks, but refused to make any predictions as to the course of the malady.

SEATTLE, Dec. 13.—Influenza continues to spread slowly over the Pacific Northwest and has resulted in thirteen deaths. A few sections of Oregon, Washington and Idaho had not felt the disease. About a dozen towns have closed their schools. Spokane county in Eastern Washington, where nine persons died, suffered most.

STEAMER STARR IS HELPLESS

SEATTLE, Dec. 13.—The Alaskan steamer Starr, Captain Albert Barron, which broke a propeller shaft and is anchored helplessly up the coast off Pearl Island, in a message said: "It was during a heavy gale on December 11 and 12. We were ice down heavily and the mainstay was carried away."

The coast guard Unalga left Juneau last night. The Starr belongs to San Juan Fish Co., Seattle. She is a steel vessel, 130 feet long.

FUNERAL TAKING PLACE HERE TODAY

Pallbearers this afternoon at the funeral of the late Mrs. F. H. DuVernet will be R. L. McIntosh, W. E. Fisher, A. E. Bazett-Jones, W. E. Collison, William Leighton, C. V. Evitt, Alex G. Rix and Reid McLennan.

Public Service Company Lays Its Case Before Prince Rupert People

The following statement has been made in regard to the power situation by the American States Public Service Company, which has bid on the local power plant and franchise:

On December 20 you must decide whether you wish to sell your hydro-electric plant or not.

If your answer is "No," then for many more years you will have as little surplus power as you have at present, with consequent difficulty in attracting industries to your city, despite the many resources at your door.

If your answer is "Yes" your city will benefit for many years to come, provided you choose the best offer submitted to you.

When you decide to sell mark your ballot for American States Public Service Company.

Why? Because we offer you \$400,000.00 cash for your hydro-electric system, which is \$25,000.00 more than the offer of the Power Corporation of Canada.

Because we will install for you throughout your entire city at our own expense modern street lighting equipment to your satisfaction and will charge the city rates as low as the Power Corporation of Canada or anyone else offers.

Because we will develop for you within two years five thousand additional horse-power and as much more without limit as will be required at any time and at no increase in present rates.

Because Prince Rupert will be our chief operation in British Columbia.

Because we have no properties or affiliations in Vancouver or anywhere else on the B.C. coast and must therefore exert every effort to attract industries to Prince Rupert to use the power we will produce.

Because Prince Rupert has long been playing second fiddle and this is her opportunity to become headquarters for a new hydro-electric development in competition with Vancouver.

Because in Vancouver the B.C. Electric owned and operated by the Power Corporation of Canada, has a surplus of some three hundred thousand horsepower on which huge expenditures have already been made. It is only logical that industrial power users will be induced by the Power Corporation of Canada to take up the surplus in Vancouver before being induced to locate in Prince Rupert.

Because we, with no power elsewhere on the coast must bend all efforts to increasing industrial development here.

Because reduced to dollars and cents our offer is \$25,000.00 better than that of the Power Corporation of Canada, we offer you \$400,000.00 cash, development program as desired, adequate street lighting installation at our own expense with lighting rates to the city and consumers at rates as low as our competitor's offer.

Because we guarantee not to raise existing rates during the whole period of the franchise and claim no exemption from taxation.

Because we have expressly promised that rates will not be higher than at present.

Because however you regard the two offers ours is best by \$25,000.00.

Because we are backed finan-

cially by Peabody Smith formerly Peabody Houghteling of New York, Davis Longstaff Company of Chicago, Gillett Company of Baltimore and associates, all reliable and reputable firms who guarantee our undertakings and financial responsibility.

Because American States Public Service Company are not brokers but are operators and now control and operate some thirty gas, water and hydro-electric companies situate in California, Idaho and Michigan which have been in successful and continuous operation for periods ranging up to twenty-six years.

Because our company is headed by men of long continued and successful experience in the management and engineering of public utilities properties.

A vote for American States Public Service Company assures industrial independence for Prince Rupert.

OPIUM PROBE IN PHILIPPINES

United States Government Assents to Investigation

LUGANO, Switzerland, Dec. 13.—Senator Raoul Dandurand, Canadian representative on the council of the League of Nations, read a letter at today's session from the United States government assuring the league that the proposed opium investigation mission would be welcomed in the Philippines.

President Briand announced that a letter of thanks will be sent to Washington.

CIVIC ELECTION VICTORIA TODAY

VICTORIA, Dec. 13.—The civic elections are taking place here today. The twenty-three candidates who filed their names for public offices are as follows:

For mayor—Herbert Anson, Alderman P. R. Brown and John Dean.

For council—Alderman James Adam, A. M. Aitken, R. E. Collis, Mrs. Emma Crocker, W. H. Cullin, W. H. Fullerton, P. R. Leighton, Alderman H. O. Litchfield, Carew Martin, J. A. Shanks, Robert Smith, W. T. Straith and Alderman E. S. Woodward.

For school trusteeships—P. E. George, G. A. A. Hebdon, Trustee George Jay and Trustees W. C. Moresby, K.C.

For police commissioner—Andrew McGavin, Mrs. Alice McGregor and Commissioner W. E. Staneland.