Tomorrow's Tides

Wednesday, September 24, 1930 2.31 a.m. 21.9 ft. 14.43 p.m. 22.6 ft. 8.41 a.m. 2.7 ft. 21.0 p.m. 1.2 ft.

NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER

Of Special Interest

Have you read the classified advertising page in this paper today? If not, now is the time.

Vol. XXI., No. 222.

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1930

PRICE FIVE CENTS

DUNUL HIND I AND I UIT I UT AND I

WATT ABSOLVED BY HIS COMMISSION OF APPOINTMENT

Three Ministers and Many Officials Coing To London Conserence

Guthrie, Stevens and Dupre Are Accompanying Premier Overseas-Efforts to Be Made to Market Canadian Grain

OTTAWA, Sept. 23:-Hon. Hugh Guthrie, minister of justice, Hon. H. H. Stevens, minister of trade and commerce, and Hon. Maurice Dupre, solicitor-general, are accompanying Premier R. B. Bennett to the Imperial Conference. Also making the trip are a number of technical advisers including representatives of the Wheat Pool, among them A. J. McPhail, president of the Canadian Cooperative Wheat Producers Limited. Mr. Bennett announced before leaving yesterday that every possible effort would be made by the government to secure a better price and a wider market for Canadian wheat.

Sir George Perley will be acting Premier during the absence of Premier Bennett. Hon. Dr. R. J. Manion will be acting minister of trade and commerce; Hon. W. A. Gordon, acting minister of justice, and Hon. E. B. Ryckman, acting minister of finance. The duties of the solicitorgeneral will be discharged departmentally.

Wheat Dropped to Record Low Two Premier Bennett Offers Assistance and Half Cents a Bushel Below Yesterday

WINNIPEG. Sept. 23:-Mysterious unfounded reports that the formation is awaited today by the Canadian Wheat Pool was in a business conduct committee of the shaky financial condition and Chicago Board of Trade before would be taken over by the provin- pressing for an investigation of the ciay governments of the west broke hitherto unprecedented charges of the high nervous tension of the an attempted manipulation by a wheat market and losses ranged foreign government as a result of from two and three-quarters to two the charges that the Soviet Governand one-half cents a bushel, Octo- ment had been selling wheat short ber wheat closing at a 24-year low in an effort to depress prices. record at 731/4 cents. November In the meantime the North Amclosed at 74% cents and May at erican wheat export business is vir-

quickly denied.

Cooperage Fire

VANCOUVER, Sept. 23 - The Champion Cooperage on Arbutus Street was destroyed by fire this enink was convicted of burning morning, the loss amounting to without a permit and was fined \$20,000.

To Chicago Board of Trade In Its Inquiry

CHICAGO, Sept. 23:-Further in-

tually halted as Russia continued to Reports concerning the pool were offer large quantities of wheat abroad ten cents under prices for similar wheat from this continent.

Canada evinced deep concern in the investigation and Premier Bennett offered any assistance his gov-ernment could give to the United UNABLE TO States farm board in its inquiry.

SET FIRE, IS FINED

SMITHERS, Sept. 22:- John Sem-\$25, with option of 30 days in jail.

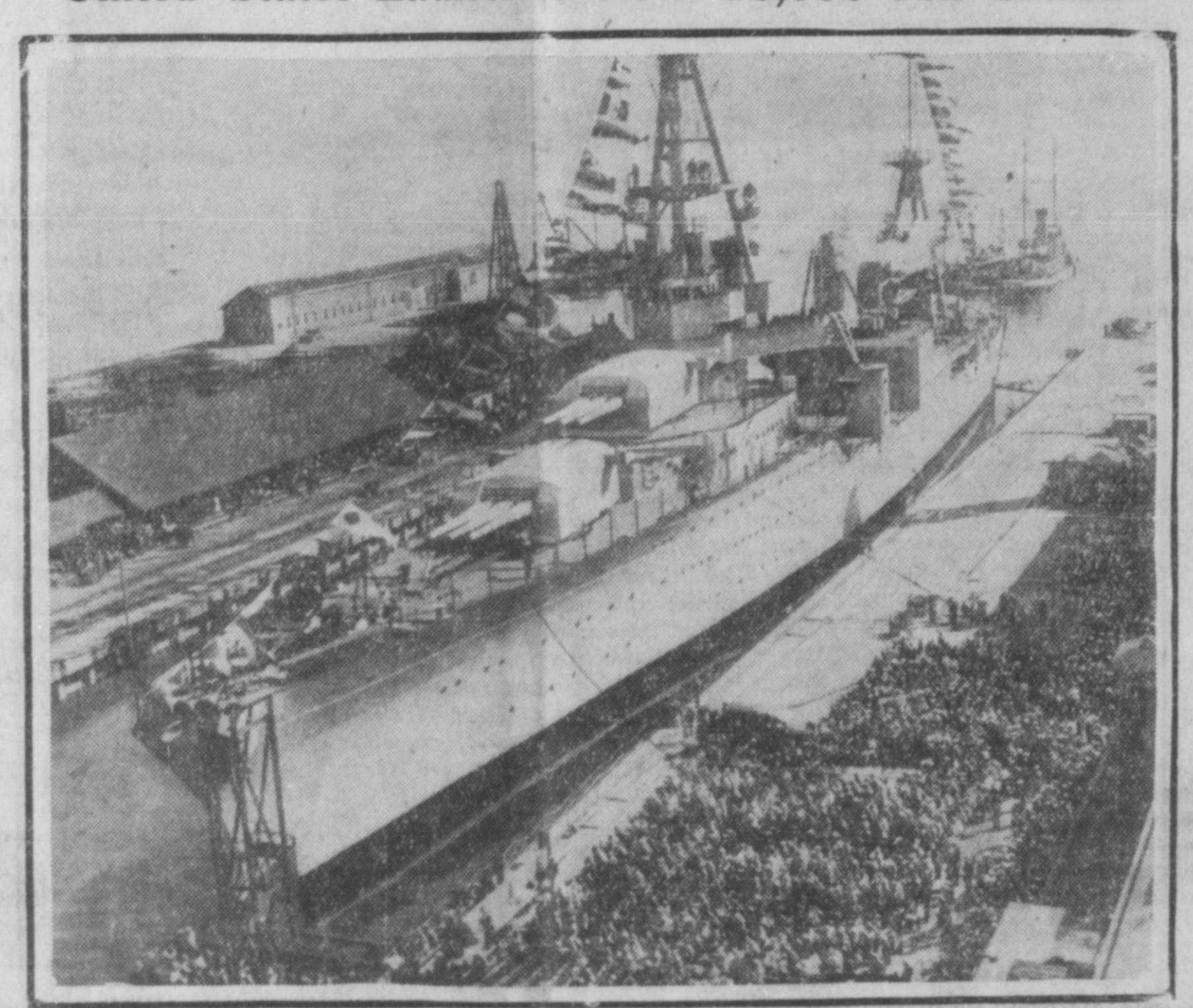
Dumping of Grain and Timber By Russia Causes Flurry On Markets of World, Especially Great Britain

LONDON, Sept. 23:-While sales of Russian wheat have been attracting attention in the United States and complaints of Soviet dumping of their product has been voiced at Geneva, a great outcry has developed in interested quarters here against alleged dumping of Russian grain, timber and other commodities in this country.

The Soviet Government, it is stated, has chartered a phenomenal number of steamers, mostly British, for Black Sea grain and Archangel timber trades. Fifty ships were chartered at Cardiff alone and the total tonnage is said to be nearly 600,000.

The grain market here is in a state of nervous uncertainty.

United States Launches New 10,000-Ton Cruiser



U.S.S. Louisville, fifth of eight Washington treaty 10,000-ton cruisers, being launched at Puget Sound navy yard, Bremerton, Washington, while thousands attend ceremony.

Effort Made to Discredit Wheat Pools By Telegrams From Winnipeg

WINNIPEG, Sept. 23:-The Winnipeg grain exchange today sought to trace messages signed by the name of James Stewart, a prominent Winnipeg grain man, that were wired to the principal exchanges on the continent stating that Canadian wheat pools were in a shaky financial position and would be taken over by the provincial governments, according to a statement made today by A. P. White. They were not sent by Mr. Stewart. Denials have already been sent out.

Commission to Meet Again in Victoria on October 2

For nearly two hours this morning Norman Watt was on the witness stand and during the whole of that time no new fact of any importance was brought out. He successfully resisted all attempts of counsel to shake him in his statement that he thoroughly believed he was entitled to the coroner's fees, that he had been so instructed when he took office and that it had never occurred to him that there was any-

thing wrong in doing so. At the conclusion of the taking of evidence and before hearing the argument of counsel, Mr. Justice Macdonald announced that at the conclusion he would adjourn the commission to meet again finally on October 2 at Victoria and that two days notice of any new matter to be brought forward then would be given on either side. This was objected to by A. M. Manson for Mr. Watt but the commissioner insisted, was quoted here today at 711/4c.

Continued on page four.

WATT ENQUIRY IS CONCLUDED TODAY &

After conclusion of Mr. A. 4 M. Manson's address to His 4 Lordship, the enquiry into the & dismissal of Norman A. Watt & as government agent here & concluded at 1:50 this after- & on noon as far as the session at of + Prince Rupert was concerned + 4 The hearing will resume next ? * Thursday morning in Victoria + when it is possible further evde idence may be produced. Mr. & Manson, in his address, con-+ tended that Watt had not ac- 4 4 ted illegally in keeping cor- & oner's fees for his own use. 4 4 He further argued that Watt 4 4 had certainly not kept these * 4 fees because of motives of 4 dishonesty or through lack of 4 & good faith.

Six Survivors Arrive at Sydney, N.S., To Tell Story of Foundering

NORTH SYDNEY, N.S., Sept. 23:-Eight passengers and two members of the crew of the Newfoundland schooner Caranza, which left for Burin, Nfld., were lost Thursday night when the vessel sank after being split in two by lightning off the eastern coast of Cape Breton, it was learned when six survivors were picked up 75 miles west of St. Pierre, Miquelon, Sunday night and arrived here today on the schooner Vignette.

All those dead are from Newfoundland, including Captain Joshua Matthews.

PRICE OF WHEAT

Has Received Appointment of Census Commissioner Under Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA, Sept. 23:-James C. Brady, former M. P. for Skeena, has been appointed a census commissioner under the demographic branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. He will organize a census of institutions such as hospitals, asylums, penitentiaries, houses of refuge, etc., all over Canada, starting his work at once.

Mr. Brady is at present at Ottawa, having gone east a few weeks ago. His appointment to this position is taken as a signal that the Conservatives have given up all intention of protesting the recent election in Skeena, when Mr. Brady was beaten by Olof Hanson, Liberai, by a majority of over one thousand votes.

TO PROBE titled to these fees.

Alleged Movie Trust In Canada Is To Be Probed

OTTAWA, Sept. 23:-Allegations industry in Canada will be investigation Act. Peter C. White K.C., Toronto, commissioner, has been empowered to inquire into the operations of the Famous Players-Canadian Corporation and its subsi-

Harbor Board For Vancouver

son and R. B. Williams.

Government Agent Was Entitled To Coroner's Fees, Document States

Former Local Official Takes Stand In Own Defence-Gives Clear and Frank Evidence—Was Cognizant of No Misdoing Whatever

Commissions by which Norman A. Watt was appointed coroner on September 30, 1924, and again on November 13 of the same year read that he was "to enjoy the office and execute the duties of coroner together with all rights, fees and privileges belonging to the office," it was brought out here yesterday afternoon at Mr. Justice W. A. Macdonald's commission of inquiry into charges that Watt had received and taken wrongfully to his own use fees received from the city of Prince Rupert for services as cor-

oner. The disclosure came from A.H M. Manson K.C., counsel for Mr. Watt, in the course of a cross-ex- being examined by his own counsel, amination of A. B. McNeill, auditor Mr. Manson, when the case was adof provincial revenue, who had testified earlier in the day that fees received such as those for coroner service by any regular salaried civil servant over and above his salary should be accounted for to the government. Mr. McNeill stated that he had known of no such provision in the commission of a coroner. Had he known of it, he most certainly the attorney general's department

for a ruling.

the inquiry, Mr. Watt himself took the witness stand, having consented to examination by Charles Locke K.C., counsel for the government. Mr. Watt gave clear and frank evidence, answering all Mr. Locke's questions unhesitatingly and with candor. He admitted that he had never received a specific commission to take anything in the way of fees, except those of official administrator, outside of his salary as gevernment agent. Between the years 1924 and 1928 he admitted having held something like fifty inquests. Sometimes these inquests had been held in the morning, sometimes in the afternoon and sometimes in the evening but in the majority of cases they had been in the afternoon. The government auditor had never intimated to him that the coroner's fees should be accounted for to the government. Indeed, the matter had never been discussed with the auditors. He (Watt) bekeep these fees because the com- Daring Flight, mission which had been issued to him said so clearly and, further, because his predecessor in office had intimated so to him and as all his predecessors in office had done so. Indeed, he had never had the slightest doubt but that he was en- Fetches Captain of Fur Trader

His next question, Mr. Locke intimated, might be a contentious one as to admissability and, at the sug- NOME, Sept. 23-A daring flight gestion of His Lordship, he wrote it over the rapidly freezing Arctic down. Mr. Manson, on being shown Ocean was completed yesterday it, said he would like to hear the with the arrival of Pilot Frank of a combine in the motion picture question asked out loud. If there Dorbandt, bringing with him Capt. was further evidence of petty malice A. P. Jacqueinson, who was critigated under the Combines Investi- desired, then this surely was an cally ill and who was marooned example. He could hardly believe aboard the fur trader Karise off that the question had arisen with Cape Serge, Siberia, 250 miles his "learned friend," referring to northwest of here.

Mr. Locke replied that the quest de to the quest de to the de the tion was his own. He was not accus-11491 tomed to having his questions & POSTPONED FOR framed for him. The question was: | + "Had Mr. Watt included the fees . from coroner's fees in his income tax returns? Mr. Watt frankly admitted that he had not. It had nev- - ening of the Imperial Confer- 4 er dawned upon him to do so.

OTTAWA, Sept. 23-The person- Mr. Manson interjected that the * September 30 to October 1 to * nel of the new Vancouver Board fees would not have affected his ta- + enable Premier Bennett to be + VANCOUVER, Sept. 32- Wheat was announced today to be: Sam xation, in any case. His Lordship & present at the first session. a McClay, president; Jas B. Thomp- agreed that it would not amount to

Mr. Watt was still on the stand, journed at 5:30 p.m. until 10:30 this morning.

Handled All Moneys

Mr. McNeill was still on the stand when the inquiry resumed yesterday afternoon. Sums that Watt may have received for coroner's fees had not been accounted for in his returns to the government, witness would have referred the matter to declared. All provincial revenue from Prince Rupert was forwarded to Victoria through the government agent. Mr. McLeod, judge of the During the afternoon session of Small Debts' Court, paid fees he received through the government

agent into the treasury. Mr. McNeill described the revenue oath which had come into use in 1923. Prior to that there had merely been the oath of allegiance and oath of office for civil servants to take. Under the revenue oath, Mr. McNeill testified, the civil servant, on taking office, undertook "not to take or keep either directly or indirectly any fees or perquisites received through the execution of said office" other than his salary. This oath had been sworn to by

Watt, witness said. Mr. McNeill then proceeded to identify certain circulars he had found in the government agent's office here. One of these had to do with the schedule of coroner's fees while another had to do with the question of witness fees for con-

(Continued on page two.)

By Nome Pilot

Who Was Ill From Cape Serge, Siberia

BENNETT OPENING BIG CONFERENCE +

LONDON, Sept. 23-The op-* ence has been postponed from *