

The Daily News

PRINCE RUPERT
Northern and Central British Columbia's Newspaper

TAXI

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PRICE FIVE CENTS

Flutter of Excitement Over Premier Borden's Retirement

Suggestion Comes From Washington of British Ambassadorship; Comments of English Papers and Flattering References from Vancouver; New Government Within a Month Expected.

(Special to The News via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)

OTTAWA, December 16.—Sir Robert Borden's successor will be appointed and a new government installed within a month. Arrangements to this end at any rate are now being made. Sir Robert Borden was at his office this morning but is resting this afternoon. The meeting of the cabinet was not held.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—It would not be surprising if Sir Robert Borden is appointed British ambassador should Earl Grey not return. The name of Sir Robert Borden was considered as a successor to Lord Reading, during the presence of the Canadian premier in Paris in connection with the peace conference.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The Daily Mail in the course of an article on the possible retirement from the premiership of Sir Robert

Borden says it will make a gap in the front rank of Dominion statesmen, not to be filled easily. In this country his leadership of Canadian Nationalism throughout the war will never be forgotten.

The Daily News says Borden's contemplated retirement from active politics will be received in England with general regret.

TORONTO, Dec. 16.—Referring to reports from Ottawa as to the premiership, Sir Thomas White stated last night that mention of his name had been entirely without his knowledge or consent. On his part, he stated, he was not a candidate for any office in the Government.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 16.—Commenting on the possibility of Borden's resignation, the Sun says the next leader, whoever he may be, cannot hope for more than two years in the premiership, nor is his authority likely to be more than nominal. He will, however, enjoy the dignity, and this appears worth striving for. The Vancouver Province says at any time the retirement of a prime minister of Canada would be a matter of serious public interest, but when that leader has the presence and distinction of Sir Robert Borden and the time is one of great national importance, such an event has grave and unusual import.

The Vancouver World says it is safe to suggest that when the history of Sir Robert Borden's premiership comes to be written and an impartial estimate of his work, free from partisanship and party politics is made, he will stand far higher in the public estimation than his critics at present are prepared to concede.

ORGANIZATION OF AIR FORCE

Winston Churchill Outlines Plan For Distribution of Squadrons.

(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—Winston Spencer Churchill, secretary of war, has prepared a scheme for the Royal Air Force organization in peace time based on an expenditure of \$15,000,000 yearly.

The main outlines provide for one flight squadron for each division of the army to co-operate with the troops in all stages of training, besides three general service squadrons.

India will have eight service squadrons, Mesopotamia three, and Egypt seven, while the naval bases at Malta and probably Alexandria will each have one small seaplane unit.

TWO SCHOONERS ARE WRECKED IN ATLANTIC

(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)

ST. PIERRE, Miq., Dec. 16.—British schooners Falcon and Exile were wrecked here. There was only one life lost, that of one of the men from the Falcon.

Minister Too Ill To Meet Delegation

Col. Peck and Mayor McClymont Interview Deputy Minister and Will Wait At Ottawa Until Ballantyne Arrives.

(Special to The News via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)

OTTAWA, December 16.—Col. C. W. Peck, V. C., who with Mayor McClymont of Prince Rupert, B. C., is in the capital to interview Hon. C. C. Ballantyne, minister of marine and fisheries, in regard to the situation in northern British Columbia, had a conference yesterday with G. J. Desbarats, deputy minister, and laid before him the Prince Rupert viewpoint.

Hon. C. C. Ballantyne, who has been ill in Montreal, will probably not be in the capital for a couple of days, but it is expected that Col. Peck and Mayor McClymont will remain here until he comes.

It is understood that the delegates will voice a protest against closed license regulations in the waters of British Columbia, which lead to a monopoly of the fisheries by canneries employing Oriental labor. Special stress will be placed on the suggestion that returned soldiers should be placed in this industry.

PROHIBIT EXPORT OF NEWSPRINT IF NOT OBEY ORDERS

(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)

OTTAWA, Dec. 16.—The Government in Council by an order passed on Saturday has empowered R. A. Pringle, paper controller for the Dominion, to prohibit the export of the output of any newsprint manufacturing concern that disregards or violates the controller's regulations as to the price or supply to Canadian newspapers.

Of the 800,000 tons of newsprint annually produced by Canadian mills from Canadian pulp, from 80 to 85 per cent has been exported.

SCHOONER ST. CLAIR PROBABLY SUNK

(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)

ST. JOHNS, N. B., Dec. 16.—That the schooner St. Clair Theriault, which was reported about 200 miles from here recently in a sinking condition with part of her crew sick and two suffering from broken limbs, sank with all on board, is the general belief.

AMERICAN LEAGUE BALL CLUB IS SOLD

(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The sale of the Washington League baseball club of the American League to Clark Griffiths and Wm. M. Richardson, of Philadelphia, is announced. The price is approximately \$400,000.

B. C. Undertakers. Phone 41.

EARTH DISTURBANCES ALL NONSENSE, SAYS DOMINION ASTRONOMER

VICTORIA, Dec. 16.—"I think it is all nonsense," declared Dr. J. S. Plasket, director of the Dominion Astro-Physical Observatory when questioned today on the theory advanced by Professor Porta, that movements of planets would result, on Wednesday of this week, in violent disturbances on the earth.

THREE MEN ARE COMMITTED FOR GROCERY THEFT

Red McDonald, Paddy Brady and Jacob Green Come Before Magistrate.

William (Red) McDonald, John (Paddy) Brady and Jacob A. Green, taxi driver, were all committed for trial this morning by Magistrate McMorde on the charge of stealing from a boat in port. They will come up before Judge Young to elect as soon as their dispositions are made out.

McDonald came up first and Chief Vickers, J. H. Hilditch, Harry Kingston, Paddy Brady, Tom Shimizu and Jacob Green were called as witnesses. McDonald pleaded not guilty and that he had been hired by Kingston to take some groceries from the Government wharf up-town to the Japanese restaurant of Tom Shimizu. He did not, he said, know that the goods were stolen and had merely been hired. He was paid \$2 for his services in the Chinese "dope" joint but denied being addicted to the use of drugs or that he had taken Kingston to the Chinese shack. He stated Kingston had taken him there to pay him for his services.

Paddy Brady also said that he had been hired and had received \$2 and no more. He did not know of a robbery. The same witnesses were examined in this case.

According to his evidence Green had nothing to do with the plot to steal and had been paid only \$5 which would cover car hire for one hour. He had been promised \$2.50 to be paid later for the remaining half hour that he had been out with Kingston, Brady and McDonald.

CASUALTIES AT SEA CONTINUE

Newfoundland-Labrador Steamer Wrecked—Members of Schooner's Crew are Frozen.

AMERICAN STEAMER DRIFTING TO AZORES

(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)

CURLING, Nfld., Dec. 16.—The railway company's steamer Ethie, plying between this port and Labrador, was wrecked at Martin's Point, 90 miles north of Bonnie Bay. The crew and passengers have been taken off.

HALIFAX, Dec. 16.—A cablegram brings word that two members of the crew of the Lunenburg, N. S., schooner Verna B. Adams have been frozen to death.

United States Shipping Board steamer Davidson County, previously reported in distress, is drifting towards the Azores, according to a wireless message the steamer is using tarpaulins for sails.

The American steamer West Togos attempted to tow the Davidson County, but had to abandon the attempt, not having suitable towing apparatus.

JOHNSON CANDIDATE

California Senator Would Run on Republican Ticket for President.

(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Senator, H. W. Johnson, of California, announced that he would be a candidate for the Republican nomination for president of the United States.

MINISTERS ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION

(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)

TORONTO, Dec. 16.—As anticipated all seven ministers in the Drury Government have been elected by acclamation.

Ladysmith Coal. The best. Prince Rupert Coal Company, Phone 15.

Duff Case Reopened And Evidence Heard

Constable Admitted Incorrect Entries But Claimed his Action was Correct; Commissioners, Chief of Police and Taxi-driver Heard.

The public meeting of the Police Commission investigating the case of Constable Simon V. Duff, who was recently suspended from the City Police force, was held in the council chamber last evening. After the evidence of various persons connected with the case had been heard there was considerable discussion and questioning and the inquiry finally adjourned until 5 o'clock Wednesday evening. Acting Mayor H. B. Rochester was in the chair and Commissioners Hill and Macdonald were present. The chairs for the public were filled with a representation of the citizens of the city and a great deal of interest was manifested in the proceedings.

The meeting came to order shortly after 5 o'clock and the city clerk read a letter from Constable Duff stating that he was not satisfied with the first finding of the Police Commission by which he had been asked to resign from the police force. He asked that the matter be reopened by court or otherwise and that he be exonerated.

Acting Mayor Rochester requested that Commissioner Macdonald give a resume of the case as he was not present at the first meeting and it would also give those present an understanding of the case.

Commissioner Macdonald, in opening, Mr. Macdonald stated that he sought the advice of the acting city solicitor regarding the advisability of getting some higher or outside body to deal with this case, now that the Police Commission had already come to one decision. Mr. Manson, acting solicitor, said that the finding of the Police Commission was final in regard to this matter. He had then had a discussion with officials of the G. W. V. A. and they had recommended that the Commission reopen the matter in a public investigation. He had then asked the acting mayor to call the meeting. If Mr. Duff felt that he had not had a square deal both he and Commissioner Hill wished to go on record as being willing to do anything to make it square. Mr. Macdonald also wished to make it clear that he had had nothing to do with the report in the Daily News that the first meeting was a private one. He had not told this to the newspaper although the morning after the investigation he had told a reporter representing that paper that he had nothing to say about the deliberations of the meeting.

Fact Not Motive. Coming to the case proper, Mr. Macdonald stated that Constable Duff had been suspended because he had taken liquor from the police station and made a false entry in the records. No imputation of motive in the matter had ever been made or discussed by the Police Commission. For one he accepted the statement of Constable Duff as to the reason for removing the liquor from the station, but the mere fact of it being taken and a false entry being made was sufficient warrant for his suspension. His action in taking the liquor had been open and he had informed a fellow officer of his intention. Though Constable Duff had seized 18 cases of liquor he had only entered up 16 cases in the police records and had taken the two away, supposedly to help him in making the arrest of the man to whom it had belonged. If Constable Duff had made the proper entry at first this trouble would have been avoided completely.

Must Have Proof. The mayor had known about this letter from Constable Duff before he had left for Ottawa as (Continued on Page 5.)

Albert & McCaffery, Ltd., have just received a shipment of five hundred doors and windows—the most and varied stock in Northern B. C.

Ask for Atkins' Sausages.

NAVAL POLICY AND MILITARY IS NOT FORMED

So Says Ottawa Despatch With an Inspired Flavor Regarding Important Matters.

PREMIER'S RETIREMENT DELAYS INFORMATION

Intimations by General Mewburn and C. C. Ballantyne not Officially Endorsed Yet.

(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)

OTTAWA, Dec. 16.—Intimations by General Mewburn, minister of militia, regarding compulsory military training in Canada and by Hon. C. C. Ballantyne regarding a program of efficient naval defence, find no official explanation at Ottawa.

It is stated here that the question of compulsory military training has never been formally discussed in the cabinet council. Admiral Jellicoe's report on naval matters has never been received. He will hold a final conference at Ottawa before he leaves, but, in the present unstable condition of affairs, following the intended retirement of Sir Robert Borden, definite information of policies on such important matters will likely be delayed.

YOUNG FITZ IS FATHER'S SON

Outboxed Ed. Kinley in the First Professional Contest at Newark.

(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)

NEWARK, Dec. 16.—Young Bob Fitzsimmons, son of the former heavyweight boxing champion, in his first professional contest, outboxed Ed. Kinley of Newark in an eight-round bout. Fitz weighed 170 pounds and Kinley 180.

The young boxer put up a clever exhibition of boxing but seemed to lack an effective punch.

BOLSHEVIKS TAKE MANY PRISONERS

LONDON, Dec. 16.—Bolsheviks have captured Novo Nikolevsk on the Trans-Siberian Railway with over 5,000 prisoners, many guns, and several generals of the Kolchak Army.

RAILWAY MEETING

London, Dec. 16.—A meeting of the Grand Trunk shareholders is to be held in January to ratify the agreement with the Canadian Government.

CANADIAN EXHIBIT

LONDON, Dec. 16.—An exhibition of Canadian products will be made a feature of the London season next year.