

THE DAILY NEWS
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DAILY EDITION

Monday, Dec. 16, 1912.

Editorial Notes and Clippings

JUSTICE IS DEMANDED.

The strike at Cumberland and Extension is one of the greatest blots on the history of British Columbia, and in a few years' time, when the party politics of today are forgotten, the treatment of the miners by the government of this province will be remembered, and that with shame.

That the miners are striking is known to most of the people of this province only because of the scarcity of coal, but the conditions under which the miners work and the reasons for the strike are generally unknown. In most cases when a strike is heard of it is summed up in two words—"Higher Pay." This is not the case, however, with the Vancouver Island miners, for although the rate of wages paid to them is in some instances one dollar per day less than that paid to the miners in the State of Washington, where living is cheaper, the men are fighting for their lives.

As soon as they declared a strike, after having been refused an audience with the officials of the company, which is a subsidiary of the Canadian Northern Railway, they asked the government to appoint a commission to inquire into the charges made by the men blacklisted for acting as "gas" men. This was refused and instead the government sent in 200 special police to the Cumberland district. These men, under charge of Attorney General Bowser (the man whose firm drew up the famous contract with Goto, the Jap, at the time he was making an abortive attempt to pass a useless natal act) force Chinese to either break strike or leave the country. Were it not for force the Chinese would not do a single stroke of work, for they came out in sympathy with their white fellow miners, but the officers of the law in British Columbia say that they must break strike or leave the district, so they work one or two days per week.

Premier McBride has much to answer for in regard to his treatment of the miners of British Columbia, and it is

safe to say that not one mining constituency will return his candidate at the next election.

Since we last wrote on this subject, an inquiry has been held into the Diamond Vale disaster and several men lost certificates, but that does not matter much. They will, no doubt, be restored, as was D. McInnell's at Extension.

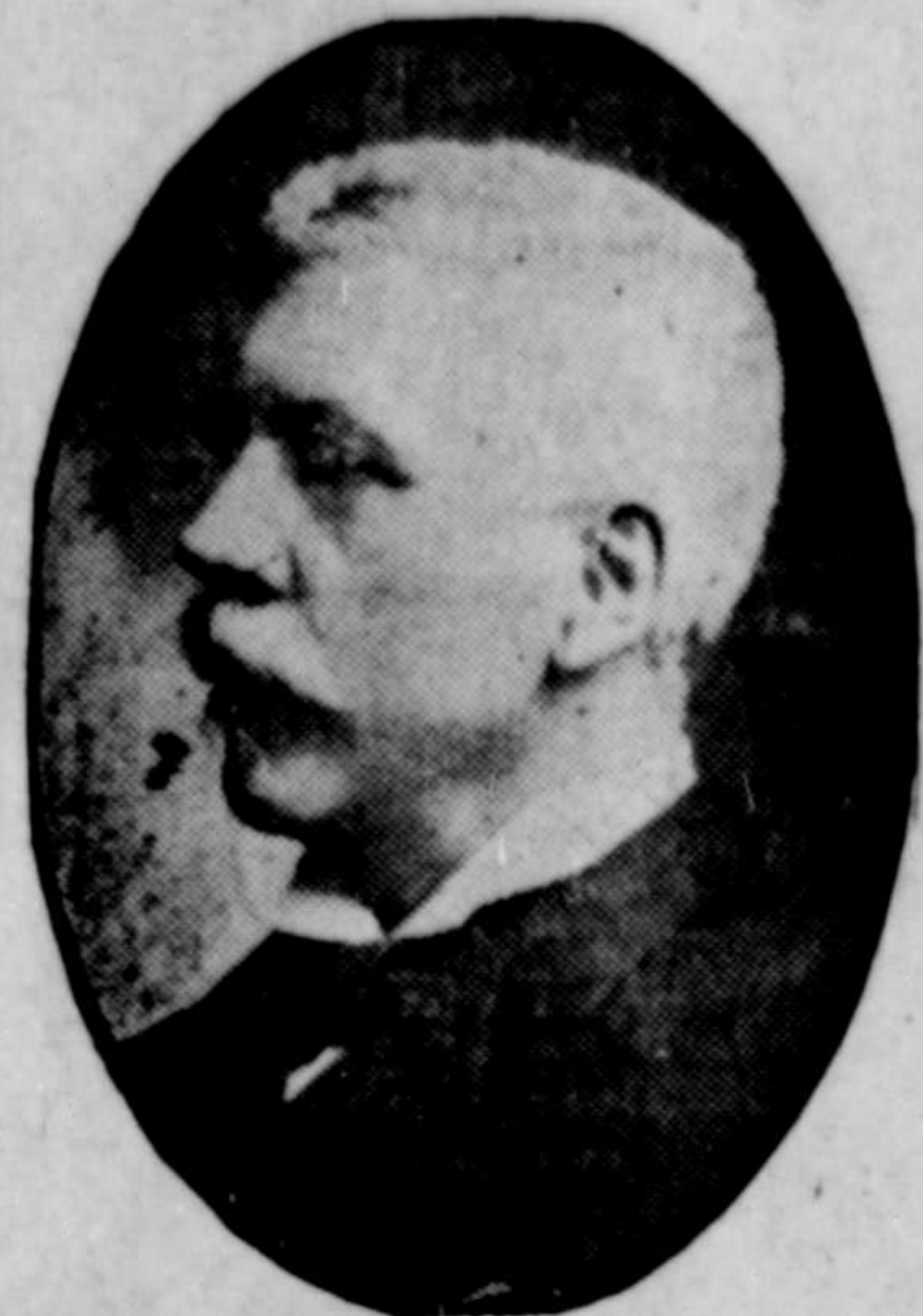
The commissioner appointed by the Minister of Mines was John Stewart, registrar of voters at Ladysmith and deputy recorder for the government. Mr. Stewart's experience in mining has been gained in selling to the miners stock and bonds in different mines and recording licenses. He is a strong Tory and was defeated as candidate of that party at the election before last. We do not intend to criticize his verdict in the inquiry at Merritt. It is against the law to criticize an honorable court, but we may state that while acting as registrar of voters and deputy recorder, in which position he is supposed to be absolutely impartial, he acted as chairman at the Conservative meeting at which Sir Richard McBride spoke and also toured the district in favor of the Tory candidate. Now, is it not a consistent thing to put a real estate agent in as a commissioner to inquire into the causes of an explosion? When a marine disaster occurs the presiding judge does not sit alone, but is assisted by two competent sea captains, but when the McBride government appoints a man to inquire into an explosion which the coroner's jury says was due in part to the government inspectors, a real estate agent, the employee of the government, is appointed to act.

The men at Cumberland and Extension demand justice, and the only way in which they will get what is the right of every man under the British flag—an honest, fair hearing in a competent court—is for the societies, the churches and the individuals of this province to make such a strong demand that Sir Richard McBride will be compelled to give them the inquiry they demand.

SIR WILLIAM WHYTE IS THE SOLE ARBITRATOR

To Decide Dispute Between the Government and the Grand Trunk Pacific

Montreal, Dec. 14.—An agreement has been reached between the Dominion Government and the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway in regard to the operation of the Winnipeg-Superior Junction section of the Transcontinental Railroad. The effect of the agreement will be the opening up of the line from Winnipeg to Fort William for passenger traffic and the immediate opera-



SIR WILLIAM WHYTE

tion of the Transcona shops. The long standing disagreement between Major Leonard, chairman of the Transcontinental Railway Commission and Mr. Chamberlain, president of the Grand Trunk Pacific, has been referred to arbitration, Sir Wm. Whyte, of Winnipeg, formerly Vice-President of the C.P.R., has been appointed sole arbitrator to decide upon what terms the line from the head of the lakes to Winnipeg shall be leased and also what rental shall be paid for the shops at Transcona.

The railway company agrees to operate the line and open the shops without further delay and to abide by the decision of the arbitrator, leasing the line on the terms he shall decide upon.

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HARD TIMES.

Hard times will come ere very long, some prophets do affirm; soon things will all be going wrong, and grief will make us squirm. The seers may all be off their base, as they have been before; they like to scare the human race and make us sad and sore. And then again, they may be right, their guesses may come true, if panics put us in a plight, 'twill be a howdy-doo! So let's be hoping for the best while fixing for the worst, and do our daily stunts with zest till our suspenders burst. Let's put in brine the useful seeds for which we work with haste, economize as did our dads, and cut out foolish waste. It will not hurt us to believe that panics will arrive; the more of saving we achieve, the more we all will thrive. And if the panics do not come, but better times instead, if things keep up their busy hum, we'll be that much ahead.—Wat Mason.

MODERN MASTERS

Paintings by Modern Artists Bring Big Prices.

Paris, Dec. 14.—The first day's sale of the collection of the late Henri Rouart, consisting of modern paintings, realized a total of \$352,000. The bidding was spirited throughout and in many cases the works fetched more than double the valuation set by experts. The best price of the sale was \$46,200 for a Corot. Twenty-two other Corots sold at prices ranging from \$2,650 to \$24,500. Manot's bust of a woman, undraped, valued at \$10,000, brought \$21,340.

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A SOCIALIST PEER

Earl Russell Becomes Member of Fabian Club

London, Dec. 14.—The Fabian society, an organization whose aim is to propagate socialistic ideas among the middle and upper classes, has added to its membership roll the name of Earl Russell, the first member of the House of Lords to become a Socialist. George Bernard Shaw is a prominent Fabian and H. G. Wells, the novelist, did much to extend the society's operations, but has now withdrawn from it. Earl Russell explains the step he has taken by saying he is in general agreement with the Socialistic idea of placing the control of industries and the means of production in the hands of the community, and he attaches special importance to the nationalization of land.

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 For Masset and Naden Harbor, 12 p. m., Nov. 8th, 22nd, Dec. 6th, 20th
 For Skidegate, Aliford Bay and other Queen Charlotte Island ports, 10 p. m., Nov. 10th, 24th, Dec. 8th, 22nd
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