

COMMISSION TO OPEN THURSDAY.

American Admiral Was Late, or the Hearing Into the North Sea Outrage Would Have Started Today---Received by French President.

Paris, Dec. 20.--President Loubet this morning received at the Elysee Palace, the members of the International Commission which is to inquire into the North Sea incident, but the non-arrival of Rear Admiral Davis prevented American participation.

The reception of the commission at the Elysee presented a brilliant scene. A guard of colonial infantry was drawn up in the courtyard of the palace and saluted the admirals.

MR. PREFONTAINE IS VERY CONFIDENT That the Ice Breaking Steamer Will Do Splendid Work.

Quebec, Dec. 20.--(Special)--Hon. Mr. Prefontaine, minister of marine, in an interview today on the matter of St. Lawrence winter navigation, said he was confident of its possibility.

"I am pleased with the new government ice-breaker, Montcalm," said Mr. Prefontaine. "She is a powerful vessel, and is destined to play an important role in the solution of the winter navigation problem, which is only a question of time and patience."

A PRIEST RESIGNS.

Belleville, Ont., Dec. 19.--Monsignor Farrelly, parish priest of St. Michael's church, this city, since 1869, has resigned the pastorate to take effect in three weeks.

THE WEATHER.

Forecast--Westerly winds, fair and colder by night. Wednesday, moderately cold with snow. Synopses--A storm of much energy is moving eastward across the Great Lakes and the weather tomorrow is likely to be stormy along the Atlantic coast.

Local Weather Report at Noon. Dec. 20, 1904. Highest temperature during past 24 hours 42. Lowest temperature during past 24 hours 30.

Manager W. Z. Earle of the Saint John Railway Company left last night for Montreal on a business trip. He is expected to return on Thursday.

Pittsburg, P. A., Dec. 20--Right Rev. Richard Phelan of the Roman Catholic diocese of Pittsburg, died at noon today.

THIS STORY TELLS HOW KEKEWAN FELL.

It Took Two Assaults to Capture Noted Fort --- Jap General a National Hero---The Japs in China---How Mukden Takes it --- The Progress of the Baltic Fleet.

Tokio, Dec. 20.--All Japan is today ringing with praises of General Samejima as the hero of the assault on Kekewan Mountain fort. It is conceded that his heroism inspired his men and turned a threatened disaster into a splendid victory.

How Kekewan Was Taken.

Headquarters of the Third Japanese Army, via Fusan, Dec. 20.--The capture of the North Kekewan Mountain fort was a brilliant spectacle. For weeks the Japanese have been tunnelling two shafts forty feet in length with four branches.

The explosion made two huge rents in the north walls, through which the assaulters charged, winning the trenches in front of the wall and killing the remainder of the garrison in the rear of the fort.

China to be Japan's Ally.

Boston, Dec. 20.--The American board of Foreign Missions made public today a report from its oldest missionary in Japan, Rev. D. C. Greene D. D. of Tokio, in which Dr. Greene states that there are now 1,000 Chinese students including 500 military cadets, in Tokio, under the auspices of the Chinese government.

THEY REPORT ON THE RIOTS.

First Accounts of Moscow Student Rows Were Exaggerated.

Moscow, Dec. 20.--An official account of the riots says the agitation among the Moscow students commenced after the St. Petersburg riots of Dec. 11. The revolutionary socialist committee of Moscow circulated proclamations urging political demonstrations Dec. 18 and 19.

PHILIP PALMER ILL.

Philip Palmer, the well known barrister of Hampton, is very seriously ill at his home. Yesterday a surgical operation was performed by Dr. Burnett of Sussex, and Dr. Katherine Travis of Hampton, niece of Mr. Palmer, the administration of anaesthetic and condition of the patient being under the charge of Dr. J. Newton Smith, the family physician.

WHILE GUESTS SLEPT HIGH WALLS TUMBLLED.

Minneapolis, Dec. 20.--Four or five loosened the bricks in the wall and tons of brick and stone crashed down upon the roof of the three story hotel next door. The roof was carried through to the basement.

COULD NOT PROVE IT.

Commercial Hotel, Frederickricton, Charged With Violating Scott Act.

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 20.--(Special)--John McCoy, of the commercial hotel was before the police court this morning on the complaint of Rev. J. J. Colter, charged with a third offence under the Canada Temperance Act.

ALMOST A CENTENARIAN.

Joshua Brown is Dead, Having Almost Completed a Century of Life.

NEWSPAPER MAN GETS IT.

Winnipeg, Dec. 20.--(Special)--W. J. Black, editor of the Farmer's Advocate has been appointed Deputy Minister of Agriculture, to succeed Travis of Hampton, niece of Mr. Bartlett embezzlement charges. Before assuming the office Black will be married at Shelburne, Ont.

WAS CIVIL WAR VETERAN.

Peoria, Ill., Dec. 20.--Martin Kingman, president of the Kingman Plow Company, and well known, is dead here, aged 60 years. He served in the Union army during the civil war and participated in many notable battles.

Mr. and Mrs. Dhernham, of Antwerp, are at the Royal.

A BURGLARY AT MONCTON.

Western Union Telegraph Office Broken Into and Cash Box Stolen.

Moncton, Dec. 20.--(Special)--The Western Union Telegraph Company's down-town office was entered last night and the cash box carried away with contents amounting to two or three dollars.

EQUITY COURT.

Two Cases Were Up For Consideration of This Court Today.

Judgment was given in the Equity Court today in the suit of Winslow vs. McKay. The suit was brought to set aside conveyances of a house and farm in Albert county. The court set aside the conveyances, but without costs.

IN BETTER SHAPE NOW.

Claims of the Defunct Soo Company are Being Gradually Settled By Its Successor.

OTTAWA NEWS.

Ottawa, Dec. 20.--(Special)--Sir W. Laurier will arrive here on Thursday morning. It is the intention of the government to take over all the work of the hydrographic survey.

A FATAL MISTAKE.

Ottawa Street Railway Employee Drinks Carbofic Acid for Medicine.

BISHOP CASEY SEES THE POPE.

Rome, Dec. 20.--The pope to-day received in private audience the Rt. Rev. James C. McDonald, bishop of Charlottetown, P. E. I. The Rev. Timothy Casey, bishop of St. John, N. B., and the Rt. Rev. Paul Laroche, bishop of Sherbrooke, Que.

NAN PATTERSON IS ON THE RACK.

Actress on Trial for Her Life Faces Broadside of Puzzling Questions---The Terrible Strain Commencing to Tell on Her.

New York, Dec. 20.--Nan Patterson, went on the witness stand today to be cross-examined by the prosecution. Assistant District Attorney Rand began the cross examination with the question: "Are you an actress by occupation?"

"Smith had been drunk, had he not?" "Yes, I think so." "Was he addicted to the use of liquor?" "Well, he had been. That day he somehow got his jaw twisted and could not open his mouth."

Mrs. Chadwick's Case.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 20.--Referring to a report that the federal authorities contemplated the removal of Mrs. Chadwick from Cleveland to Toledo as a result of friction between Marshall Chandler and County Sheriff Barry, Mr. Chandler said today: "There is positively nothing in the story. We have no objection to taking Mrs. Chadwick to Toledo or any other prison. She will remain in the Cuyahoga county jail here until her trial begins, unless she secures bail previous to that time."

ST. JOHN MEN WERE PRESENT

At the Meeting of the Canadian Street Railway Association in Montreal.

Montreal, Dec. 20.--(Special)--The Canadian Street Railway Association held its first meeting in the Windsor Hotel, this morning, when a constitution was adopted. The head office of the association shall be wherever the secretary shall reside.

THESE BOYS STOLE BOOTS.

Four Lads in the Toils Charged With Entering an I. C. R. Car.

Edmund S. Ritchie is acting for General. The boys pleaded not guilty. Kemp is fifteen years of age, David Killen ten, and Herbert nine.

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