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THE ST. JOHN EVENING TIMES

WEATHER---Westerly winds, fair with higher temperature tomorrow.

VOL. I., NO. 71.

ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1904.

ONE CENT.

LONDON IS FOG BOUND.

Dismal Pall Spreads Over Greater Part of Britain.

TRAFFIC DISLOCATED.

Steamer Cedric Delayed in the Mersey---May Prove Great Disaster to London Merchants.

London, Dec. 22.—Such a complete disorganization of railroad traffic and shipping as has resulted from the present fog has been unknown for many years. A dismal pall is spread over the greater part of the kingdom, causing enormous business losses and threatening to deprive thousands of their Christmas parcels. Statisticians estimate that the loss in a single day of such a fog in London alone amounts to fully \$3,000,000. All the coasts report a dislocation of shipping. The white Star line steamer Cedric, which sailed from Liverpool yesterday for New York is still at noon, fogbound in the Mersey where traffic is at a standstill.

Similar conditions prevail on the Thames. A number of minor shipping mishaps have been reported from various points.

Chester Robinson, late baggage master of the steamer Senlac, now in port, has been promoted to the position of agent of the steamer at Liverpool in place of A. H. Mulhall resigned. His place as baggage master has been taken by Leslie Forbes, son of the late Captain M. L. Forbes of Barrington.

Manifests for the following United States products were received at the Custom House today, viz: 26 cars cattle, 16 cars pine lumber, 16 cars pork products, 11 cars beef, 6 cars barley, 5 cars flour, 2 cars meat, 1 car oatmeal, 1 car lard. In transit for United Kingdom.

HER HUSBAND IS A HEART-BROKEN MAN.

The Times yesterday told the story of the tragic death of Mrs. John Johnson, formerly Miss Hattie Dalton of St. John, in an attempt to save two of her children from their burning home. She was the adopted daughter of Richard and Mrs. Dalton of Bridge street, Indian town, and she and her boys visited there last fall. Her real name was Johnston, and she was born near Fredericton Junction. She lived with Mr. and Mrs. Dalton till she was eighteen and afterward lived for a time in Moncton.

Describing the fire in which Mrs. Johnson and two of her three boys were burned to death, the Bangor Commercial says: "It was an awful home-coming for the father, who but two hours earlier had kissed his wife and little ones good-bye when he started for his work. He is a coal-shoveller in the employ of the Hincks Coal Co., and all the neighbors tell of his devotion to his family, his thrift and domesticity. He was at work in the coal-yard when he got word by telephone that his house was on fire. Long before he arrived there he saw the gray smoke which was curling up into the bright sun-light sky from the smouldering ruins of his home but not until he got there did he learn the full message of the terrible calamity which had visited his home. Kind friends were hard-ly able to bear up under the fatality

RUNAWAY AT A FUNERAL.

Ottawa Treated to an Unusual Sight --- Sir Wilfrid at Home.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—(Special)—Sir Wilfrid Laurier was at his office in the Eastern Block at 11 o'clock this forenoon. One of those who was waiting to receive him was Thomas Cote who has just resigned from the editorial staff of La Presse. Sir Wilfrid left at noon for Rideau Hall to see Earl Grey. The premier has started in to prepare for the approaching session of parliament.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—(Special)—Hon. A. G. Blair was looking for an office today in the West Building, corner of Elgin and Sparks street, where the C. P. R. offices are. There was some stir on Rideau St. this forenoon when the horses attached to a carriage containing the Chief mourners at the funeral of Louis Giroux, an aged citizen of Ottawa, ran away and pitched the occupants on the street. An old lady, Madame Giroux, widow of Louis Giroux 78 years of age, was seriously injured, and a little girl got four teeth broken.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—(Special)—Quart-er-master A. S. Mace of the 8th Hus-sars, and S. Parson of the 62nd regi-ment, have been awarded the auxil-i-ary force long service medal.

PROFESSIONAL HOCKEY.

Sydney, Dec. 22.—(Special)—Owing to the North Sydney Hockey team not having been re-installed by the M. P. A. A. it is now probable that the team will play as profes-sionals, and the Cape Breton league will ignore the authority of the as-sociation in hockey affairs.

THE "VIC" OPENS TONIGHT.

The Grand Opening of Victoria Rink will take place this evening and a bumper crowd is sure to mark the occasion. Prof. McIntyre has a choice new programme of music for the band to discourse, and the whole programme of ten num-bers will be sparkling and catchy. A corps of attendants will be on hand to assist the lady and gen-tlemen patrons in any way possible and the dressing rooms are fresh and clean. Christmas-present tickets will be on sale in the manager's of-ice during the evening.

MAKING GUNS FOR RUSSIA.

Copenhagen, Dec. 22.—Several newspapers here charge war minister Madsen with permitting Danish gun factories to manufacture arms for Russia. It is expected the incident will cause a storm in parliament.

A CHINESE REPORT.

London, Dec. 22.—A report to the Exchange Telegraph Company from St. Petersburg, says General Kur-op-atkin has telegraphed to the gen-eral staff and he has received a re-port from Chinese sources to the ef-fect that the Russians have re-cap-tured 203 Metro Hill at Port Ar-thur, with the guns lost by them.

TO MEET RUSSIANS.

Shanghai, Dec. 22.—A squadron of powerful cruisers under Admiral Kamimura, has gone south to the China Sea to meet the Russian sec-ond Pacific squadron.

THERE IS LITTLE DOING.

Erdagou, Manchuria, Dec. 21.—(De-layed in transmission).—The oppres-sive silence continues. Not a shot has been fired during the last two days. Both armies seem dormant. Only at night is there a little fir-ing. Russian scouts crept out yester-day evening east of Erdagou and found the Japanese pickets with-drawn. The Russians approached the Japanese trenches, where a few shots were exchanged. The same thing oc-curred in front of Poutloff (Lone Tree) Hill. The cessation of hostil-ities has encouraged the natives to re-turn to their villages, but some of them have been destroyed and are un-inhabitable. A commission is engag-ed in paying indemnities to the des-titute Chinese.

THE NIGRETIA CASE.

London, Dec. 22.—With reference to the seizure of the British steamer Ni-gretia by the Japanese, it is stated that her cargo of kerosene was ship-ped at Shanghai under the written assurance of the Japanese consul to the British consul that kerosene "is not regarded by the Japanese gov-ernment as contraband if shipped anywhere."

JAPS MAKE MORE CAPTURES.

Important Positions on Pigeon Bay Taken By Mikado's Troops---The Nigretia Case---Russian Reserves Mobilizing---All is Quiet in Manchuria---The Czar in Council.

FACTORIES TO MANUFACTURE ARMS FOR RUSSIA.

Apparently there is little animosity towards the Japanese among the European Russians Reservist who go out to fight simply because the emperor wills it and take little interest in the political reasons involved in the struggle. Also he has much of the philosophy attributed to Tommy Atkins "What's the use of 'ating those you are paid to kill?" but with the Siberians it is different. The war is closer to their native soil and they regard the Japanese as their natural enemies. For this reason the only animosity that has been displayed towards the Japanese wounded is in those hospitals where there were a majority of Siberians. The Sisters of Mercy have shown a decided partiality for Japanese patients and there has been some jealousy aroused among the Siberians who thought those Japanese were "getting the best of it" at the hands of the nurses. Most of the Japanese wounded have therefore been placed in the hospitals with European soldiers. The Finland-ers almost alone of the Europeans take an interest in the politics of the fight, but they make none the worse soldiers for that.

ONE OF THE MOST INEXPLICABLE THINGS TO THE JAPANESE TO COMMIT SUICIDE WHEN CONFRONTED WITH DEFEAT.

There are so many eye-witness reports of this nature that it is impossible to dis-credit them all. Japanese officers especially seem to make a practice of saving their last cartridge for themselves. In the capture of Poutloff (Lone Tree Hill) especially there were a number of such cases. When the Japanese batteries were captured, one officer shot himself across his gun. Another drew his sword and fenc-ed at the empty air until he was shot. During the same fight two villages occupied by the Japanese were sur-rounded and burned. Numbers of the Japanese remained quietly in the houses and were burned to death. A Russian officer hauled two Japanese out of a blazing hut but one slipped back and perished in the flames. Ja-panese officers were found in the houses after the fight, burned to death or suffocated, sitting in chairs as though they had been quietly awaiting their doom.

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COMMISSION ADJOURNED.

Russian Embassy Denies That It Tried to Bribe Hull Fishermen.

Paris, Dec. 22.—The international commission appointed to inquire into the North Sea incident met in the foreign office at 10 o'clock this morning. The commission unanimously elected Admiral Baron von Spain of the Austro-Hungarian navy to be the fifth member completed the pre-liminary organization and adjourned until January 9.

The opening session was held in a suite of sumptuous salons of the Dor-sey Palace (Foreign office) Admiral Fournier, the French member of the commission in behalf of the Foreign Minister del-Casse, who was absent from the city, received Admiral Davis U. S. N. and extended him a cordial greeting. Admiral Fournier then pre-sented Admiral Davis to Admiral Kaznakoff, the Russian member of the commission and Rear-admiral Sir Albert Beaumont, Great Britain's representative, the group of admirals joining in an informal chat partly in English and partly in French. The admirals and their aides did not wear uniforms, thus detracting somewhat from the expected brilliancy of the opening session. Admiral Kaznakoff as senior in rank and age, invited his colleagues to a private salon where he proposed that Admiral Fournier should preside pending the arrival of the fifth member of commission. Ad-miral Fournier was unanimously chosen, accepting the presidency in a felicitous speech in which he spoke of the friendly presence of the representa-tives of navies. M. Andre Sou-lange Bodin, a minister plenipotenti-ary of France was selected as sec-etary and William Martin and the Visconte de Greguelt were appointed assistants with a large corps of at-tendants. Admiral Baron von Spain was then unanimously elected the fifth member of the commission and the commissioners were asked to in-form their respective governments of the fact.

THE CZAR IN COUNCIL.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 21.—Emperor Nicholas is holding councils daily at Tsarskoe Selo, at which, it is un-derstood, the internal situation in Rus-sia is being thoroughly discussed. Among those who are attending the councils are Grand Duke Michael, the brother of the Emperor, ministers and members of the Council of the Em-pire.

JAPS MAKE MORE CAPTURES.

Tokio, Dec. 22.—4 p. m.—The Ja-panese troops have captured some im-portant position on Pigeon Bay.

STILL POUNDING AWAY.

Headquarters of the Third Japanese Army, in Port Arthur via Fusan, Dec. 22.—During the morning of Dec. 19, the Russian turret ship Sevasto-pol was torpedoed by the Japanese fleet and immediately listed on de-side to the right, remaining fast on the shore at the foot of Liao Tung mountain. The vessel is considered helpless for future operations. The Japanese bombardment of the Rus-sian gunboats and torpedo craft in the harbor continues.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE THIRD JAPANESE ARMY.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 21.—The mobi-lization announced yesterday of the reserves in seven military districts (adding about 200,000 men to the army in the Far East), affects a por-tion of about half the military dis-tricts of Russia. While some of the reserve men called to the colors will be used to complete the strength of the regiments going to the front, by

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WOULD BE SURE DEATH.

French Inventor Has Invented a Gun That Can WHIP ANY FLEET.

Estimated That One Such Gun Would Protect the Whole French Coast---Secret Trials Have Interesting Results.

New York, Dec. 22.—A Paris des-patch to the Herald says: "Great in-ter-est has been caused here by recent experiments with a new cannon, a secret invention.

The most recent tests were made at Havre last Sunday in the pres-ence of M. Bertens, minister of war and fifty deputies and senators.

The new cannon has a calibre of nine and a half inches, firing a pro-jectile weighing 359 pounds. The principal merit of the invention is its extreme simplicity of mechanism. Three men can operate it, one to sight and one to attend the breech, while the duties of the third are a secret depending on the invention.

The shell fired has a muzzle veloc-ity of five hundred metres (1,640 feet), a second, and produces a whistling noise heard a mile and a half away. So powerful is the force of the shot, it is said that no ship of any navy would be able to with-stand it.

Although fired 480 times, the gun was apparently undamaged, whereas usually the life of a big cannon is 500 shots. A French military ex-pert discussing the new cannon in the Herald estimates that one such can-noon would adequately protect the entire coast of France. The cost of the cannon is said to be \$100,000, including its quota of projectiles.

UNION CONFERENCE IN TORONTO TODAY.

Toronto, Dec. 22.—(Special)—Earn-est men from three branches of the Christian Church—Methodist, Presby-terian and Congregational are as-sembled in the city to discuss the terms upon which a union of the Evangelical church bodies is possible. For years this has been the dream of churchmen the world over, but never before has it advanced so far towards realization as it has now in Canada.

There is a strong conviction ex-pressed in the church courts, not only of the denominations mentioned, but also of others, that an organic union is both desirable and feasible. Of course, the terms upon which it could be effected are a matter of deep consideration, and it is to discuss what these may be that clergymen and laymen of the three churches are gathered here today.

As a preliminary to the joint meet-ing of the three committees, each com-mittee met separately in private sessions to discuss what atti-tude should be taken, what points should be insisted upon, and where

LABOR TEMPLE FOR TORONTO.

Toronto, Dec. 22.—(Special)—The labor unions of the city opened a new temple on Church street last night. Dr. Goldwin Smith delivered the speech of the evening. He urged upon organized labor to guard itself as a member of the community. Com-petition was a fierce thing but at present there was less competition and more co-operation than they could know. The temple which is now all but completed is four stor-ies in height and contains offices for the business agents of the various unions, eight lodge rooms, a large auditorium, a gymnasium, a bowling alley and a billiard room.

SIXTEEN ARRESTED.

Dawson City, Dec. 22.—(Special).—Returns from 35 out of 66 divisions give Dr. Alfred Thompson a major-ity of 625 over P. P. Congdon, Dr. Thompson is a native of Hants, N. S., and a large Yukon property own-er. Sixteen Congdon supporters have been arrested for conspiracy and fraudulent manipulation at the polls.

MANY DAINTIES IN CHRISTMAS MARKET.

Anyone in looking through the country market the last day or two, who cannot find something to tempt the appetite, is indeed hard to please. There is a plentiful supply of every-thing in the way of poultry, meats and vegetables. If one is look-ing for turkeys, they can be got in all sizes, large and small, and though they are high (24 to 25 cents a pound) they are good. Geese, ducks, chickens and fowl are plentiful and can be had at all prices. If one is looking for something fancy, a selec-tion can be made from the following: whistlers, black duck, brant, teal, wild geese, quail, woodcock, prairie

THE WEATHER.

Forecast—Fresh northwesterly winds; fair and cold. Friday, westerly winds; fair with a little higher temperature. Synopsis—The weather continues cold in Ontario and Quebec and the first real cold wave has set in over the North-west Territories. Winds are moderate westerly near the American coast and there is not likely to be much wind here Friday night.

COMMERCIAL MEN DINE TOGETHER.

elaborately decorated for the occasion.

A handsome menu card has been issued, with a cover design showing a drummer with two grips in his hands, running to catch a midnight train. The card in addition to con-taining the menu and toast list, is interspersed with comic pictures in color, and witty epigrams. The menu is as follows:—

- Oyster Cocktail.
- Spanish Olives, Salted Almonds.
- Green Turtle Soup.
- Oyster Crackers.
- Boiled Salmon, Genevieve Sauce.
- Sliced Cucumbers.
- Huitres Tartaines.
- Roast Prime Beef, Yorkshire Pudding.
- Roast Turkey, Cranberry Jelly.
- Boiled Maple Grove Ham.
- Roast Mallard Duck, Currant Jelly.
- Roast Filet of Moose, Wine Sauce.
- Lobster Salad, French Dressing.
- Lettuce.
- Mashed Potatoes, Brussels Sprouts.
- French Green Peas.
- Christmas Plum Pudding, Hard and Soft Sauces.
- Snow Pudding, Whipped Cream.
- Mince Pie.
- Champagne Jelly, Pineapple Cream.
- Apples, Oranges, Bananas, Malaga Grapes.
- Assorted Nuts, Layer Raisins, Confectionery.
- Benedictine Ice Cream.
- Celery, Cheese.
- Coffee.

THE TOAST LIST IS AS FOLLOWS:—

- The King.
- God Save the King.
- Lieutenant Governors of the Maritime Provinces.
- Quartette, Messrs. Massie, March, Cole and Cooper.
- Mayors and Corporations of the Maritime Provinces.
- Reading:—G. C. Jordan.
- Boards of Trade and Commerce of the Maritime Provinces.
- Solos:—R. A. March.
- Railways and other Transportation Interests.
- Quartette, Messrs. Massie, March, Cole and Cooper.
- Our Guests.
- Solo:—A. E. Massie.
- The Press.
- Solo:—H. W. Cole.
- The Ladies.
- Solo:—R. A. March.
- Next Merric Meeting.

THE OFFICERS FOR 1904-5 ARE:—

- President: Joseph L. Hotherington.
- Vice Presidents for Nova Scotia: George S. Davison, L. C. David-son, Charles Blackie, J. B. David-son.
- Vice Presidents for New Brun-swick:—R. A. March, Henry, Thomas, Alex Binning, D. M. Doherty.
- H. E. Pyke, A. Milne Fraser, James C. Jones, W. B. Arthur, W. M. Stevens, F. P. Hayden.
- Treasurer:—William Robertson.
- General Secretary:—Geo. E. Falkner.
- Secretary for New Brunswick:—James Jack.
- Dinner Committee:—R. A. March, Chairman; James Jack, Secretary-Treasurer.

OTAWA'S MAYOR.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 21.—Ald. Slat-tery has retired from being a candi-date for the mayoralty. This leaves Mayor Ellis, Ald. Stroud and ex-

PROPOSAL ABANDONED.

Toronto World Says British-American Commission Will Not Meet.

Toronto, Dec. 22.—(Special)—A Washington special to the world says the proposed meeting of the British American joint high commission to consider reciprocity between the United States and Canada and other matters in dispute between the two countries has been abandoned. Sir Wilfrid's recent letters have con-vinced President Roosevelt and Sen-ator Fairbanks that it is useless to urge a meeting of the commission and the subject probably will not come up again for some time unless the Canadian government shows a disposition to have the question of reciprocity mutually discussed.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—(Special)—The reports from Washington, in regard to reciprocity are correct in so far as they state that there is no feel-ing for taking up the subject in Can-ada. There will be no summoning of the joint high commission in the near future. As a matter of fact, no such commission exists. There is no British commissioner and the only Canadian commissioner who is avail-able is Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Battle liner Albuera sailed yester-day from St. Lucia for Baltimore.

CZAR IS DISPLEASED.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 22.—On the margin of a telegram from the president of the Zemstvo of the govern-ment of Chernigov regarding forms in state matters, Emperor Nicholas, ac-cording to a communication pub-lished in the Official Messenger today appended a note as follows: "I con-sider the action of the president to be presumptuous and tactless. Ques-tions of state administration are of no concern to the Zemstvo whose rights are clearly defined by the law."

COMMERCIAL MEN DINE TOGETHER.

Everything is in readiness for the annual dinner of the Maritime Com-mercial Travellers association at the Royal Hotel, tonight. Joseph L. Hotherington the president of the as-sociation will preside. It is expected that upwards of 150 guests will be present. There will be about 30 dele-gates from Halifax, they will come over in a special car attached to the Pacific express, and will remain over Friday and return home Friday night. George E. Faulkner, the general sec-etary of the association will be among those who will attend. The dining room of the Royal will be