

ENGINE HITS A DEAF MUTE

Frank Burtch Killed Near Sackville by I. C. R. Train

COULD NOT HEAR BELL

And Engine Was Upon Him Before Driver Saw Him-- Terribly Injured He Died Before Moncton Was Reached--Belonged to Quebec.

MONCTON, N. B., Dec. 12.—(Special).—Frank Burtch, a deaf mute, about thirty years of age, was struck and killed by the Springhill express at Frosty Hollow, near Sackville this morning. Burtch was walking towards Moncton with his back to the train, and Driver Brownell did not see him until almost on him. He was struck by the engine and thrown some distance, but was still living when picked up. No marks could be found on him. He was placed in the baggage car and Dr. Gaudet attended him between Dorchester and Coleville Bridge, but before the train reached Moncton the unfortunate man died of his injuries. Letters found on the deceased indicate that he belonged to Quebec, having been born at Wingham.

He had a letter signed by Cyrus Reed, dated Dec. 6th, 1906, addressed to a man in Clifton, N. S., asking the latter to give the bearer work on a farm. The deceased had evidently been in Truro and Sackville very recently and was apparently looking for work.

Upon arrival here the body was given in charge of an undertaker, and an effort will be made to get some information concerning his friends.

When the Maritime express arrived this morning the wheels of the locomotive and cars were covered with blood and bystanders first had the impression of another fatality. It was learned, however, that the engine had run over a large dog just west of Moncton.

HEROISM REWARDED

Purses and Medals for P. E. Island Men Who Saved Lives of the Sinking Sovinto's Sailors.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., Dec. 12.—(Special).—Today in the executive council of the provincial government, Duncan Campbell, of Campbell's Cove, and Austin Grady, of East Hatfield, were each presented with a purse of \$250 and a medal donated by Mayor Paton, for saving the lives of two sailors from the ship Sovinto wrecked at Priest Pond, P. E. I., on Nov. 6th.

Campbell and Grady in a small dory picked men off the wreck at imminent danger of their lives. In the wreck of the Sovinto ten men out of twenty-one perished.

BIKE RIDERS BEHIND RECORD

No Change Yet in Six Day Race--Pace is Not Very Fast.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—They as they will, with or without a record, the twelve teams that remain in the bicycle race at Madison Square Garden. They are still confident of gaining the distance however.

At seven o'clock today the twelve leaders' teams had ridden 1019 miles and 7 laps, and Walhour and Bedell one lap less. This is nearly 74 miles behind the record of 1,093 miles and 1 lap made by Miller and Wallace in 1899.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The score at midnight was:

Walhour and Bedell, who are one lap behind.

The record for 48 hours is 966 miles and three laps, made by Ellis and MacFarland in 1900.

On three occasions last night the riders were called from the track to make way for special events.

DEPOPULATION OF ST. PIERRE

People Are Leaving the Island on Every Steamer--French Government to be Asked to Check Emigration.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 11 (Special).—The steamer St. Pierre brought up over sixty passengers to Sydney today from St. Pierre, Mig., bound for Quebec and western Canada. The depopulation of the island is increasing at such an alarming rate that it has been decided to make representations to the home government to adopt some measures whereby the tide of emigration may be stopped.

A. H. Wetmore leaves for New York tonight to attend the annual convention of the superintendents of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. Mrs. Wetmore is taking the trip with him.

LUNCHEON ON THE EMPRESS

Pleasant Function on Big C. P. R. Liner Today

CITIZENS ENTERTAINED

One Hundred Guests Enjoyed Hospitality of the Canadian Pacific Railway--A Tempting Menu--Head Office Officials Here for the Function.

The royal mail steamer Empress of Britain, of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, was the scene of an interesting and brilliant function at noon today, when about one hundred guests sat down to luncheon in the handsome and spacious dining hall. About one hundred and fifty invitations had been issued by the C. P. R. company to St. John citizens.

The list of guests included the mayor and members of the common council, the chief justice and members of the New Brunswick bench, the parliamentary representatives, members of the board of trade, leading business men and manufacturers, shipping men, civic and governmental officials, managers of the various banks and representatives of the press.

A very tempting menu had been prepared in the best style of the chefs on board the big liner, and was done full justice by the diners. No better example of the excellent ordinary arrangements of the big ocean going steamer could be given.

The very handsome fittings of the Empress boat--a masterpiece of the shipbuilder's art--were greatly admired by all present.

Everything possible was done to provide for the comfort and pleasure of the guests. A programme of musical numbers, toasts and speech-making followed the service of the luncheon and that all thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality of the big corporation goes without saying.

General Superintendent Downie, Captain Murray of the steamer, and other officials of the company were warmly commended by the speakers. Arthur Piers, superintendent of all the C. P. R. steamers, arrived from Montreal on the Atlantic express, which was somewhat late.

D. McNicoll, vice president and general manager of the company, was also expected, but owing to an attack of jaundice was unable to leave Montreal.

A TYPEWRITING CONTEST

J. J. Lomax a Montreal Court Reporter Won With 92 Words per Minute.

MONTREAL, Dec. 11 (Special).—At the business exhibition in the Highlands Armory tonight John J. Lomax, a Montreal court stenographer, won the speed typewriting contest, writing 92 words per minute for half an hour. Miss Rosie Fritz, who recently won the United States championship at the show in Madison Square Garden, was there for the contest, but at the last moment she declined to compete.

She objected to the rule which only penalized one word for each mistake. Her demand was that five words be deducted as was the rule in the United States championship.

In the half hour Lomax wrote 2881 words with 120 mistakes, 2761 net or an average of 92 words a minute. E. W. Bush, another court stenographer, was second, writing 86 a minute net for the half hour.

Miss Fritz claims 85 words a minute for an hour after penalizing five words for each mistake.

ROBERT T. HOLMAN DIED LAST NIGHT

He Was a Merchant Prince of Summerside and was Born in St. John.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., Dec. 12.—(Special).—Robert T. Holman, one of the island's most prominent business men and proprietor of the big departmental house of the R. T. Holman Co., of Summerside, died last night after several weeks' illness. He was born in St. John, in 1833, where he began life in a grocery store. He served in a wholesale drug store in Boston a short time and then became clerk in a wholesale West India business in Charlottetown. After clerking several years in Summerside he became the partner of the firm of John Andrew & Co. In 1857 he dissolved partnership and entered business on his own account. He steadily prospered, his success culminating in the creation in 1894 of the handsome business establishment on Water street. His success is due to his great genius for detail, his business integrity, his remarkable talent for organizing, his indomitable pluck and perseverance under adverse conditions in an early stage of his career.

Mr. Holman was an uncle of F. E. and Percy B. Holman of this city. He is survived by his widow and eight children, four sons and four daughters. The sons are R. C. Holman, of Hamilton, Ont.; Harry T. and Roy, who were associated with him in business until W. Holman who is studying medicine at McGill University, Montreal. The daughters are Mrs. Albin Parsons, of Summerside; Miss Norma Holman, a trained nurse in the United States; Miss Carrie, a teacher in Quebec, and Miss Gladys, at home.

Deceased had resided on the island for nearly half a century.

NEW Y. COTTON MARKET

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—Cotton futures opened barely steady; Dec. 9-31 bid, Jan. 3-30, Feb. 3-30, March 3-30, April 3-30, May 3-30, June 3-30, July 3-30, Aug. 3-30.

MONTREAL, Que., Dec. 12.—(Special).—The cheese market remains quiet, Quebec and Eastern, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; Western 12 to 12 1/2; butter market quiet, strong, 25 to 26 for best to fancy creameries.

FRANCE IS CONVULSED WITH EXCITEMENT OVER CHURCH AND STATE SPLIT

Government Will Take Stringent Measures Tomorrow to Enforce Its Ruling Against the Catholic Church --- Important Papal Papers Said to be in Government Hands

PARIS, Dec. 12.—The day of grace granted to local churches in the execution of the law providing for the separation of church and state postpones until tomorrow the measures for its enforcement. The delay, however, has only served to increase the excitement caused by the expulsion from France yesterday of Monsiegnur Montagnini, secretary of the Papal nunciature at Paris. Prosecutions have been begun against the Ultramontane (the churches of St. Pierre Du Gros, Caillon, St. Augustine and St. Roch, where the greatest resistance to the taking of the inventories occurred and it has been decided immediately to take over the buildings belonging to the ecclesiastics, stop the pensions of the clergy, compel aspirants to the priesthood to fulfill their military obligations, and if necessary treat the clergy as subjects of a foreign power. This constitutes a sufficient demonstration of the spirit with which the government intends to meet resistance. The reception of Premier Clemenceau's speech in the chamber of deputies last night also shows the clergy as subjects of a foreign power. Nevertheless M. Clemenceau was careful to say that there still was time for the Catholics to conform with the law.

That the rank and file of the liberal Catholics disapprove of the intransigent attitude of the authorities at Rome is evidenced by the fact that the editor of the Renaissance, Felix Robin, has filed with Prefect of Police Lepine an application under the public meetings law of 1881 for permission to hold religious meetings in all the churches. This affords the single ray of hope in the situation.

The figure today says that Cardinal Richier, Archbishop of Paris, had declined to approve of Robin's action, but that later he changed his mind. This application, if accepted, no matter whether it is approved by the clergy, will legalize the holding of religious services and render unnecessary any proceedings against parish priests or vicars tomorrow. It turns out that the papers seized at

the papal nunciature yesterday placed in the government's hands important evidence which may prove embarrassing to the Vatican if open war ensues.

They include the diplomatic records covering the correspondence before the rupture with the Vatican, recent instructions from Cardinal Merry Del Val, the Papal secretary of state, a mass of letters from prelates all over the world and letters in the handwriting of deputies of the right party. M. Jaures, the Socialist leader, asserts in his paper that the seized documents even prove the existence of a conspiracy.

Application Accepted

PARIS, Dec. 12.—The prefect of police, Dautagny, announced that the government had accepted the application of M. Martinet, editor of the Renaissance, and Felix Robin for permission, under the public meetings law of 1881, to hold religious meetings in all the churches, as being in compliance with the law. In other words, the step taken by them provides for the legalization of Catholic services in the churches of Paris tomorrow.

The Vatican's View

ROME, Dec. 12.—The Vatican authorities, quickly taking action of the French government in having Monsiegnur Montagnini accompanied to the frontier by police as being "An odious action showing a desire to inflict humiliation on those who because of their weakness cannot retaliate."

It is believed that even now notwithstanding the gravity of the situation France would not find it difficult to convince the Vatican if negotiations were opened. In the meantime all the Vatican forces have been mobilized to take part in the campaign. Even Father Wernz, the general of the Jesuits, has joined this action.

The latest orders sent to the French clergy are in substance, that they are to look upon the situation from its worst aspect and organize private religious services.

The Pope is Calm

ROME, Dec. 12.—Contrary to his usual habit, the pope remained up until a late hour last night for the purpose of personally reading the telegrams and going over certain documents concerning the situation in France. With him at work as Cardinal Merry Del Val, the papal secretary of state, who is proving an indefatigable assistant. Both the pope and the cardinal are being aided by the substitute secretary of state, Mgr. De La Chera, and the secretary extraordinary of ecclesiastical affairs, Monsiegnur Gasparri. Persons thoroughly familiar with Vatican affairs declare that no such excitement and apprehension have prevailed at the Vatican as tonight since the loss of the territorial power. The pope is described as calmer than in any previous crisis, and is reported to have said:

"Man cannot fashion all the desires of Providence. Perhaps the greatest tribulations are intended only to quicken and emphasize the ultimate and inevitable triumph of the church."

According to reports received at the Vatican, the Catholics of France are divided into two classes: those who identify the interests of the church with their own political interests, using the church to further the anti-Republican agitation, and those who think only of the interests of the church. The former are delighted at everything unconditionally loyal and intransigent, and the latter are grieved at a situation which makes it impossible to be good patriots and good Catholics at the same time.

Many cipher telegrams are being exchanged between the Vatican and Cardinal Richier, the Archbishop of Paris, who has been entrusted to ascertain if the expulsion of Monsiegnur Montagnini and the searching of his house is in violation of French law. The Italian foreign office has not received any communication from the Italian ambassador at Paris concerning this incident and it does not know whether Monsiegnur Montagnini has asked for the protection of the Italian government or not.

JOHN RYAN WAS ANGRY

Drunk in Police Court This Morning Accused Officer Ward of "Picking" on Him.

A languid looking quartette faced the police magistrate from a dingy bench in the police court this morning.

John Ryan, of rustic prominence, was arrested last night for drunkenness and denied the charge, when brought into court this morning. Patrolman Ward was sworn in and his evidence showed that Ryan was not only drunk, but had been acting badly at home. The patrolman told of visiting Ryan's home on Brussels street last night when the prisoner's wife showed him a large pan of dishes that her husband had broken. She said also that his actions had not been creditable.

Ward added that Ryan was also intoxicated the night before last and fell through a window in the alley leading to his home, breaking the glass.

Ryan was very much excited in court today and angrily accused Ward why he had singled him out from a number of others.

"Sit down," said his honor, "until you are in a fit condition to ask questions. You can't attack a witness in that way."

Ryan resumed his seat, but shortly afterwards questioned the witness in a saucy and heated manner, and he returned to his place on the bench remarking: "I've got no more to say. This is a game, I guess."

Ryan's wife, who was in court, said she did not want to press any charge, but desired that her husband be kept in jail, and he was remanded.

John McCaffery, drunk on Market Square, was remanded.

Wm. Dunn, another drunk, was fined \$5 or thirty days.

Michael Manning, another victim of the alcohol, was also disposed of.

DEATH ENDED HIS SUFFERINGS

Despite the efforts of Dr. D. Malcolm, superintendent of the general public hospital to save the life of Timothy Collins, who was hurt in Hillyard's shipyard yesterday morning, the unfortunate man died this morning about 11:30 o'clock. From the time of the accident until death relieved him of his sufferings Collins never regained consciousness, the base of the brain being fractured, which injury proved fatal.

As stated by the Times yesterday Timothy Collins was injured by a heavy frame falling from a crane upon him. His left leg was broken and he was severely injured internally. He was taken to Dr. Roberts' office whence he was driven in the ambulance to the public hospital, where he died this morning.

Mr. Collins was about 24 years of age and was just completing his apprenticeship as boilermaker in the Phoenix Foundry. He boarded at 51 Lombard street.

Only five years ago this month, Mr. Collins' brother, Jeremiah, fell from the overhead railroad bridge to the Intercolonial Railway track and was run over and killed by a passing train.

CAR WORKS DEAL TAKING SHAPE

Thomas Gilbert Says His Property Will Probably be Leased to Promoters of New Project.

In connection with the car works deal there was a report this morning that some of the men interested in the project had secured a lease of the Gilbert property for five years and had the option of buying. The Times learned from W. S. Barker that he had been approached in reference to his property (the Adelaide Grounds) and that he had stated his price but nothing definite had been done as yet as far as his grounds were concerned.

Thomas Gilbert stated to the Times when asked concerning the report that negotiations are going on but nothing definite has been done in the matter as yet. He stated that the land will not be sold but probably it will be leased.

WINNIPEG ELECTIONS

James H. Ashdown Was Chosen Mayor of Winnipeg Yesterday.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 12 (Special).—James H. Ashdown, the citizens' candidate, was elected mayor yesterday after an overwhelming majority. Unofficial figures show that his opponent, Ald. Latimer, was defeated by nearly 5,200 votes. Mr. Ashdown carried all parts of the city. A majority in the south and central divisions was contested to him, but Mr. Latimer's friends believed the latter would sweep the thickly populated north and west ends. In very few polls did Mr. Latimer lead, while in many he was snored under. Not for many years has there been so much interest in a municipal campaign and a big vote was polled.

Next to the mayoralty public interest centered chiefly in the election for the new board of control. As expected, Alderman Cockburn headed the poll, and the other three members elected had a stiff fight with the other candidates. Wm. Garson, J. W. Baker, and Ald. Harvey are apparently elected. The new aldermen are as follows:—Ward 1, A. M. Gibson, acclamation; ward 2, R. A. G. Manning, acclamation; ward 3, Thos. Wilson; ward 4, Arni Egerton; ward 5, J. R. Gower; ward 6, D. McLean; ward 7, Ald. Newton.

The municipal telephone by-law carried by a large majority.

WILL TRY TO MAKE G. T. R. OBEY ORDERS

TORONTO, Ont., Dec. 11 (Special).—Barriester Curry, acting for complainant Robertson, will apply to the high court for a mandamus to compel the Grand Trunk Railway to put third class coaches on trains between Toronto and Montreal, and give passenger rates of two cents a mile, according to the judgment of Police Magistrate Denison.

Policeman Lawson of Parvill, arrived in the city today with John Duffy and William Reynolds who had been before Justice Maeson and fined \$10 with costs or one month each in jail for being drunk and disturbing the peace.

ELEVEN CASES OF MEASLES

Taken Off Steamer Mount Temple at Island

Immigrants --- Donaldson

Liner Cassandra With 314 Immigrants is Also Here.

The C. P. R. steamer Mount Temple, from London and Antwerp, arrived off Partridge Island this morning and will dock at Saint John this evening. The Mount Temple left Antwerp on November 28 with 300 steerage passengers. As is usual with the passengers from Antwerp, they are of various nationalities, mainly Russians, Poles, Slavs, Jews and Lithuanians.

Dr. March, quarantine officer, boarded the steamer at the island, and took off eleven of the passengers, mostly children, who are suffering from measles and whooping cough. The balance of the immigrants are reported to be a healthy, robust lot, and should make good citizens.

The Mount Temple's passengers as soon as they are landed and have passed the immigration authorities, will be sent to their destination on a special train.

The Donaldson liner Cassandra is expected to arrive today with 314 passengers, mostly steerage. She left Glasgow on December 1.

The Cassandra is a sister ship to the Athenia, and this will be her first trip to St. John. The present voyage will be the third since she was launched, the first two being to Montreal. The Cassandra will dock at No. 4 berth Saint John and land her passengers, afterwards moving over to the corporation pier to discharge her freight.

The Allan liner Laurentian, from Liverpool, via Halifax, is expected to arrive tomorrow and will dock at the I. C. R. pier.

CHRISTMAS IN THE TOY SHOPS

Much interest is now being manifested in the toy shops, and the little ones are beginning to run in after school, to see the assortment that Santa Claus will have to select from. This year more than ever the toy makers have laid out their shelves in point of originality and ingenuity. The stores are stacked with full and plenty, and if the youngsters don't get just what they want, only Santa Claus will be to blame.

Here, as in the neighboring republic of Teddy Bears and other varieties of stuffed animals are immensely popular. Dealers say that scarcely were the Teddy Bears placed in the windows and on the tables before they were sold. Repeat orders were sent in, but the factories could not supply the demand, and the funny little woolly chaps can not now be had for love or money.

Then there are all sorts of mechanical toys. The makers of this line of goods have excelled themselves and it is really wonderful the goods they are placing on the market. The monopoly is very popular this year, and includes marvellously perfect racers, runabouts and touring cars driven both by friction and clockwork. Real miniature steamers, ferry-boats, mosquito boats, and launches are also popular.

In the line of fire apparatus one of the most ingenious creations is to be found in the extension ladder truck, which, when set in motion, runs along the floor like a streak, and when it brings up against the wall the ladders are automatically placed in position and one can almost imagine seeing the metal firemen spring from their seats and hustle up the ladders.

Besides these there are dolls of every description and at all prices; besides the ever popular squeaking pussy, snow men and imitation snowballs. Everything in fact to delight the hearts of the "wee ones" at Christmas time is to be found in the toy establishments this season.

Already large crowds of holiday buyers are to be seen daily and it behooves those who would have the best choice of the assortment to turn out now unless they want to take chances.

THE KILTIES STILL LEAD

Neck and Neck Race for the Premier Honors

Now in Quarantine in Contest

Mount Temple Will Dock Tonight --- She Brings 360 Immigrants --- Donaldson

Liner Cassandra With 314 Immigrants is Also Here.

The balloting in today's Times contest was as usual, strenuous, although no change occurred in the standing of the leaders. St. Stephens Scotch Boys' Brigade, still retains first place, with St. Mary's Band a very close second.

The race is again neck and neck between these two rivals while Court La Tour remains in third place gathering strength for another attack upon the leadership.

St. John's L. A. D. Society is coming forward gradually and showing every indication of scoring heavily at the finish. The contest editor received today from Miss Nugent 128 votes for this society, while "An Admirer" sent 137 with an expression of regret that other friends did not make greater efforts in the organization's behalf.

The following may be of interest to Court La Tour:

Daniel, N. B. Dec. 11, '06

Contest Editor:

Sir,—I have been watching the voting contest with marked interest. I wish to place 120 votes to the credit of Court La Tour, I O F. Wishing the gallant Foresters every success, I am yours,

A. M. SMITH.

SHIP LABORER BADLY INJURED

Ebenezer Vey Victim of Accident on Donaldson Liner Marina This Morning---Der-rick Boom Fell on Him.

Ebenezer Vey, who was working as winch man on the Donaldson liner steamer Marina this morning was seriously injured by the boom of the derrick falling on him. Vey was working at No. 1 hatch when the "goose-neck" which fastens the boom on the derrick broke and allowed the heavy piece to fall upon the man underneath, pinning his head to the deck. As soon as possible he was extricated from his dangerous position and taken to the emergency hospital where Doctors Ellis and Kenny attended him.

It was found that his jaw was fractured and the ear torn off and the head badly cut up. The doctors dressed the wounds and the unfortunate man was sent to the general public hospital in the ambulance.

FREDERICTON NEWS

FREDERICTON, N. B., Dec. 12 (Special).—The Fredericton Hockey club held a meeting last evening and elected officers as follows: Honorary president, W. T. Whitehead; president, H. F. McLeod; vice-president, J. D. Black; secretary and manager, H. M. Blair; treasurer, Fred Burdon.

The McManus Company have twenty-five men working on the main sewer trench on Brunswick street, and expect to complete work some time next week.

Messrs. Moseley & Son are getting along well with the filtration plant. Alterations to the building are about completed and men are now at work installing the machinery.

MONTREAL, Dec. 12.—(Special).—Little interest was displayed in stock trading today but the tone of the market was generally steady. Steel and Coal shares which showed some disposition to sag yesterday stiffened up. Dom. Iron, common selling at 24 1/4 with bonds at 82. Nova Scotia Steel was strong at 71. Coal was inactive but quotations were practically unchanged. Canadian Pacific maintained most of its advance selling at 197 to 198. The general list was neglected, some Montreal Power selling at 93 7/8 and Nipissing at 100.

WALL STREET

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—Wall Street—Only narrow changes from last night's prices resulted from the opening dealings in stocks and these were divided between the railroads and the sugar stocks. Transactions were generally small, but there were heavy blocks of some of the speculative favorites transferred. Northern Pacific and Northwestern rose 1/2. Great Western and Rocking Coal a point, and Minneapolis, St. Paul and Soo, Brooklyn Transit and American Ice large fractions. The market opened irregular.

THE TIMES NEW REPORTER

HE HAD A SISTER.

"Mister," said a small boy with a shovel to the Times new reporter this morning, "this the truest officer been appointed yet?"

"Not yet," replied the new reporter. "Why do you ask?"

"Will he be appointed after Christmas?"

"Probably not."

"Cause I want to make some money afore Christmas, an' he might chase me--see?"

"What do you want money for?" demanded the new reporter.

"Geef! Have you seen my little sister? I want to get things for her an' the rest of the folks."

"You're sure it isn't cigarettes?" queried the new reporter.

An expression of deep sorrow overspread the face of the small boy as he drove his shovel into the snow.

"Say, Mister," he said, "if you showed me ten cents an' I ast you if you shok

it--what'd you say to me?"

"I beg your pardon," said the new reporter. "It was wrong of me to speak about the cigarettes. But if I said I wanted to help you play Santa Claus to your little sister--what would you say?"

A sunny smile chased away the frown, and the small boy answered:

"Mister, I'd say you was a gentleman."

"Let me clinch my claim to that title," said the new reporter. He did so and went his way, and the merry whistle of a brother feller cheered him down the street.

STILL CRITICAL.

Much depends upon the mood in which the mayor's letter finds Sir Frederick Borden, and there is great anxiety at City Hall. Should the minister of militia declare that the Marathons cut no ice with him the city must either give up the claim to the exhibition buildings on their

present site--or let loose the dogs of war.

The Colonial civility assures the mayor that it should be his duty to ample the chief magistrate with his spear it would be done without malice, and even with a certain degree of enjoyment; but however pleasing this assurance may be it does not dispense the war cloud. Moreover, a spear thrust on the eve of Christmas might interfere with a man's digestion. It is almost certain that a delegation will be sent to Ottawa.

PANIC IN HALIFAX.

HALIFAX, Dec. 12.—(Special).—The news that a luncheon was to be given on board the Empress of Britain at St. John this afternoon is regarded here as evidence that St. John harbor must be in for a day, and that dark submarines are floating about in it. There is talk of calling a special meeting of the city council to declare once more that the long sea claim to the exhibition buildings on their