

THE DAILY NEWS

THE LEADING NEWSPAPER IN NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA
Published Daily and Weekly by
THE PRINCE RUPERT PUBLISHING CO. LTD., PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.

TRANSIENT DISPLAY ADVERTISING—50 cents per inch. Contract rates on application.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—To Canada, United States and Mexico—DAILY, 50c per month, or \$5.00 per year, in advance. WEEKLY, \$2.00 per year. All Other Countries—Daily, \$8.00 per year; Weekly, \$2.50 per year, strictly in advance.

HEAD OFFICE

Daily News Building, Third Ave., Prince Rupert, B. C. Telephone 98.

BRANCH OFFICES AND AGENCIES

NEW YORK—National Newspaper Bureau, 219 East 23rd St., New York City
SEATTLE—Puget Sound News Co.

LONDON, ENGLAND—The Clougher Syndicate, Grand Trunk Building, Trafalgar Square.

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DAILY EDITION.

SATURDAY, OCT. 12

Editorial Notes and Clippings

M'BRIDE AND THE COAL MINERS.

No change is reported in the situation of the Vancouver Island coal strike, except that the unsatisfied demand for coal is growing day by day and the condition the lower coast cities face is a serious one.

Those who are feeling the want of fuel may, in their fretfulness, lay the blame on the miners. "What did they want to go on strike for?" is the question now asked by the man who finds that his coal bin is empty. It is unfair to the miners and unfair to the very men who are asking the question. The blame is on the man who last week was decorated with the insignia of the Grand Order of St. Michael and St. George.

Every pound of coal is torn from the bowels of the earth at the risk of a precious human life, and many and many a brawny man has been carried from those same mines with his body mangled almost beyond recognition that the wheels of commerce might turn. Three years ago on the fifth of this month thirty-two men died one morning in the slopes of No. 2 mine at Extension—thirty-two heroes—as good men as ever God gave the breath of life to. In a single instant their lives were snuffed out as a child would extinguish the flame of a candle, and all because the Department of Mines did not do their duty as they should have done it. In the early part of this year seven men died in the dark interior of the Diamond Vale Colliery in the Nicola Valley. Died with their boots on. They, too, in a single second were hurled into eternity and their bodies were later found with eyes starting from their sockets and fingers tightened in shirt collars in a vain effort to get a breath of God's free gift, fresh air. The coroner's jury denounced the Department of Mines and put the blame for that explosion on the inspectors. What did the great McBride do in justice to the widows and fatherless children of the men who that morning died? What did he do in justice to himself, who, as minister of mines, is head of that department? He crawled away to England like a whipped cur, and returned with his inflated chest bearing the insignia of knighthood, the highest of honors.

The Saturday night before election when at Ladysmith he was attacked on the public platform by Parker Williams, the representative of the miners, on his administration of the Department of Mines (this was the week before the jury's verdict), he promised that one complaint from a single miner would be enough to cause him to institute the most searching enquiry. That was his pre-election talk, but those miners, remembering, no doubt, the thirty-two mounds on the hillside, did not return his candidate, but sent Williams, the man who had for nine years fought a straight fight for them, back to the assembly.

With the memory of those men who were carried to the cemetery in twos and threes to the wail of the "Dead March," on Black Friday, fresh in their minds, the men formed a union and under the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulation Act appointed their gas men that they might, if possible, prevent another such disaster. It was their own lives that those men were fighting for. The gas men were discharged and were refused work in other collieries, "blacklisted" so the miners claim.

What would you do under such circumstances? Would you go back into that mine, and if your turn came to act as gas man would you do your duty if you knew it meant blacklisting? Would you do your duty if at home a wife and several small children were dependent on you, or might you not just overlook a little gas for fear that you might be blamed for being officious? To prevent such a thing the whole of the miners employed protested. Were they justified? Who will say "no"?

McBride was asked to appoint an investigation committee, as he had promised he would do on a single complaint. Fifteen hundred men asked for it, and he refused. Why did he do so—was it because he was afraid that the Diamond Vale and Extension explosions would be brought into it, or was it because of the fact that the men did not support his administration?

The weather report this morning at 5 o'clock was: Barometer, 29.929; maximum temperature, 55; minimum temperature, 52; precipitation, .02 inch.

CUPID LAUGHS AT LOCKSMITHS AND FOILS THE STERN JUDGE

MARY CROSBIE, WHEN ABOUT TO BE SENTENCED, IS RESCUED BY HER GREAT BLONDE LOVER IN TRUE ROMANTIC FASHION.

Probably the turn that the Mary Crosbie appeal case took in Judge Young's court yesterday is unique in the annals of the bench and bar in the Province of British Columbia, if not in the whole of the Dominion of Canada. When the case was called at 3 o'clock, and the maiden in question was asked to stand up, she did not have to face the court alone, as, immediately at her side, sprung up a husky young Finlander, who begged permission of the court to make her his bride. The sudden request somewhat staggered His Honor for the moment, but after a short consultation with Crown Prosecutor Fisher and L. W. Patmore, the counsel for the defense, it was arranged for the happy pair to go up to the residence of the Rev. Charles R. Sing and have the knot tied. His Honor adjourned court for an hour to give the requisite time for performing the ceremony. The Judge having retired to his room, much merriment was indulged in by the bar, officials of the court and the police at the turn which affairs had taken.

Constable Pat Phillipson, of the Dominion police, as the maker of the match, he having brought the young couple together and sounded them as to the sincerity of their vows, and Constable Bill Adams of the city

force, who attended the ceremony before the clergyman and gave the bride away, came in for lots of good natured chaff.

It appears that the bridegroom had known the demure and blushing Mary for some time past and a courtship had been carried on at the cannery at Wales Island, where they were both employed last summer. Mary's little trouble with the authorities causing him to come to the determination to offer himself as her savior and guardian in the years to come. He had a very shrewd idea that such a step would bring about the desired result of obtaining the girl her liberty. But wedding day or otherwise, the wheels of justice have inexorably to go around, and straight from the parsonage filed the wedding party, escorted by Constable Adams. Court assembled again and the charge against Mary was gone on with. But there was a half heartedness about the proceedings, and an evident air of romance enveloping the affair not often to be found in a court of justice. After Crown Prosecutor Fisher had called his witnesses and L. W. Patmore had shown his line of defense, the case was left in His Honor's hands, who, after giving the girl a severe lecturing as to her future conduct, allowed her her liberty on suspended sentence.

NEWS NOTES OF INTEREST BY MAIL FROM THE OLD COUNTRY

A man named Joseph Smith was cycling to his work down a steep hill at Oakengates, Shropshire, when he dashed into a coal train passing over a level crossing from the Lilleshall's Company's colliery, and was killed. Johnny Evers says that Big Jeff Tesreau, of the Giants, will beat the Red Sox in the coming world's series. He even says that Jeff has it on Joe Wood and Ed Walsh.

The remains of John Marri-gan Donickmoor, of Dungourney, County of Cork, an inmate of Middleton workhouse, aged 92, were interred on Sunday. Donickmoor had been a prominent member of "the old guard," and belonged to the Fenian Brotherhood. He took part in the insurrection in 1867, being a brother-in-arms with Captain Mackay and Peter O'Neill Crowley at Castle Martyn on the night of the rising.

Three English visitors at Warrenpoint, Mr. Balmer and the Misses Finnegan, of Liverpool, while rowing to Omearh, were carried down Carlingford Lough by a strong westerly wind, assisted by the flow of the outgoing tide. The boat, becoming quite

unmanageable, drifted for three hours. Just as darkness set in and a heavy mist was falling the steamer Countess of Mayo rescued the party in an exhausted condition.

Discovering several gun caps and cartridges left by workmen who had been blasting concrete beds at Warrington, two boys named Reginald Golding and George Savage discharged one of the detonators by means of a fuse. There was a terrible explosion, the cartridge having a lifting power of three tons. Golding lost an eye, whilst Savage had the middle finger of his left hand blown off.

Dorothy Woods, the 10-year-old daughter of the postman at Balcombe, near Hayward's Heath, has performed a feat of rescue exceptionally fine for one of her tender years. A little boy fell off the flood gates on Lord Cowdray's estate into the lake. As she could not swim the girl, with wonderful presence of mind, lay on her back and, stretching her legs out over the water, succeeded in dragging the boy to the bank with her feet.

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business district of Burton-on-Trent was held up recently by an infuriated bull, which had broken loose. After being pursued through the main thoroughfares it entered the police court. The animal was driven out, and afterwards repeatedly scattered its pursuers. One boy was rendered unconscious, while a butcher was hurled several yards. It was cornered and shot in a doctor's coal house, which, curiously enough, stands on the site of the bull baiting ground owned by the Abbots of Burton.

INTERNATIONAL CONTROL

Proposed Affiliation of Promoters to Control the Boxers.

New York, Oct. 10.—An international affiliation of boxing authorities of England, France, Australia and the United States to supervise certain features of the sport is favored by the English and French authorities, according to advices received here from Paul Rosseau, head of the French Federation of Boxing Clubs.

The suggestion originated last April with Frank O'Neil, of the New York State Athletic Commission, and was revived by Mr. O'Neil's recent protest against "Billy" Papke, who went to France after having refused at the eleventh hour to meet Frank Mantell here. The French authorities decided to take no action against Papke, but the incident emphasized the need of international affiliation, especially for the supervision of the standing of men, classes and weights. Rosseau has advised the New York authorities that the National Sporting Club of England desires to enter into such an affiliation, and it is suggested that the New York authorities endeavor to bring the other boxing centres of the United States into an association representative of the whole country.

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