STEAMSHIP LINE TO AUSTRALIA

Western Australian Steamship Company Representatives Looking Over Field.

TERMINUS ON PACIFIC COAST

Trade Between America and Australia Has Grown Enormously During the Past Four Years.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Mr. Robert Shand, general manager of the Western Australia Steamship company who has just arrived here from Liverpool, has been interviewed upon trade conditions. He said in part:

"Great changes in the trade relations between Great Britain and Australia will probably occur in a very short time as a result of the new Australian posed protective duties against one another. Under the new federal constitution tariff. This tariff will not injure our trade with foreign countries, but Great Britain's trade with us, it is the general impression, will be seriously handicapped. Formerly the Australian colonies, with the exception of the free trade colony of New South Wales, imposition they are all swept away and now all internal trade in Australia is free. This has, of course, caused a diminution of revenue in all protected colonies and now we propose to raise that amount of revenue by increasing the duties on almost all imported articles. This increase will be levied not only on goods coming from other countries but from all portions of the British Empire outside Australia. The taxed articles include spirits, beer, wine, tobacco, paper, agricultural implements and furniture. This is rather strong evidence against the fallacy that trade follows the flag. At present our largest trade is done with the United States, France and Germany."

Mr. Shand said he was here "to look over the shipping field and get an idea as to the prospects it holds out for a new line. If it is started the route will be from San Francisco to Western Australian ports. The branch office will also be in San Francisco. We are confident that the shipping field here offers excellent inducements. Trade between America and Australia has grown enormously during the past four years and not a little difficulty is experienced in getting suitable and fast freight steamers to handle it."

PORTLAND MAN MISSING

Supposed to Have Lost His Life in Ferry Accident.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 2.—Raymond Walsh of Portland, Ore., has not been seen since he stepped aboard the ferryboat San Rafael just before she started on the trip that ended in the collision with the Sausalito. He intended to visit friends in San Rafael. Lorrea Schmidt, who was a passenger on the San Rafael and got on the Sausalito, gives the following account of the loss of Walsh: "Just before the collision I was standing on the deck of the San Rafael and saw Walsh standing on the deck of the Sausalito, and he was waving his hand to me. I thought he was waving to some friend on the San Rafael. The Sausalito struck the San Rafael and Walsh was thrown overboard. He was a tall, dark man and was well dressed. He wore a beard, was tall and weighed about 200 pounds."

AFTER MEXICAN TRADE

St. Louis & San Francisco Negotiating for Mexican Railroad.

SOUTH MALESTIC, I. T., Dec. 2.—It is reported on reliable authority that the H. Clay Pierce syndicate, which owns a controlling interest in the St. Louis & San Francisco railroad, the Fort Worth & Rio Grande, the Mexican Central and the Monterey and Mexican Gulf railways, is negotiating with A. E. Stillwell and associates for the complete track and grade and concessions held in Mexico of the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient Railroad Company. If the deal is consummated the Pierce syndicate will it is said, abandon that part of the proposed Kansas City, Mexico & Orient, which runs from Texas to Kansas City. A line will be constructed from either Junction City or Mason, Tex., to Sierra Mojada, in the State of Chihuahua, Mex., where connection will be made with the Mexican Northern which runs from Sierra Mojada to Escalon, on he Mexican Central.

The Chihuahua and Pacific, which runs from the City of Chihuahua to a point about 120 miles west toward the Pacific slope, has been purchased by the Pierce syndicate and will be made a division of the 'Frisco system.

MAY END IN ROW

Pan-American Congress May Have Undesirable End.

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 2.—A great deal depends on tomorrow's session of the Pan-American conference. If the discussion should become acrimonious it is believed by no means unlikely that the very existence of the congress would be jeopardized. Delegates Peraza, and Bermejo of Argentine will speak again on the question on Monday's session arising out of Drago's speech on arbitration. If their remarks do not call forth a storm from the Chilians, the session probably will pass smoothly.

PHILIPPINE GOODS PASS

Instructions Issued to Collectors in Conformity With Court Decision.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—It was stated at the war department today that the decision of the supreme court in the insular cases does not call for any change in existing tariff arrangements in the Philippines and that it was not deemed necessary to issue instructions to the civil governor in consequence of the decision. Th secretary of the treasury today issued to the collector of customs in the United States a telegraphic order directing them to admit free of duty goods imported from the Philippines.

SIX DROWNED.

Boat Caught in a Squall and Capsized.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 2.—Chief Jimmy Harry, of Seymour Creek, brings the information that six Indians yesterday had been drowned in the north arm of the inlet. One Klootchman who was in the boat with the rest when the accident occurred, alone escaped, having been rescued by a logger named Mearns.

It appears that seven Indians were proceeding up the north arm in a sail boat when a sudden gust of wind capsized their boat. Names of the bodies have been recovered.

ENGLAND IN EGYPT

Her Policy Bitterly Attacked by M. Fernand.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—M. Fernand de Rid, deputy for Meaux and secretary of the chamber of deputies in his report to the foreign affairs committee, quoted by the Paris correspondent of the London Times and New York Times, says that in Egypt the law of nations remains violated by Great Britain who maintains her customary tactics, continues her occupation and strives in every way to drive out what remains of French influence.

CLEARS DOCKET

Court of Claims Hands Down Decisions in All Cases Submitted.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—The court of claims today handed down decisions in all the cases submitted to that tribunal at the present term. The following decisions were announced:

[illegible]

IN ENGLISH.

[illegible]

ARE WAKING UP

PORTLAND, Dec. 2.—The [illegible] chamber of commerce today adopted resolutions condemning the channels of the Columbia and Snake rivers to navigation. The congressional delegations of Oregon, Washington and Idaho will be urged to press the matter before congress.

WHEAT MARKET

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 2.—Wheat, cash 72½.

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—Wheat, May opened 70¼@70c closed, 70¾.

TACOMA, Dec. 2.—Wheat, bluestem 69c; club, 68c.

PORTLAND, Dec. 2.—Wheat, Walla Walla, 66; bluestem, 66@67.

Pleasing the Ladies

During the long winter evenings the smoker should remember the ladies and the after effects of the cigar. We sell cigars that are pleasing and fragrant, and many of our customers find extra pleasure in their evening home smoke. They cost no more than inferior brands, and save many a cross word. Try a box.

WILL. MADISON.

CLAIM CREDIT FOR RUN

WASHINGTON OFFICIALS ON SUPPLY OF SALMON.

Favor a Shorter Season and Advocate the Installation of Retaining Stations.

[illegible] Fish Commissioner McEvoy of Washington state [illegible] in the [illegible] for the purpose of keeping [illegible] the salmon fisheries [illegible] hatchery system of operation South [illegible] to some future [illegible] in the state and to [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]