FRICTION AMONG THE EXPLORERS

Trouble Reported Among the Stefansson Party

DOWN ON LEADER

Members Said to be Opposing His Plans.

Ottawa, Dec. 15.—Although no further word has been heard from Vilhjalmar Stefansson since his message under date of Oct. 20 from Point Barrow, as published a few days ago, and although no official statement can be obtained as yet in regard to the present outlook for the expedition, there is a well-founded rumor here that the explorer is having serious difficulties to contend with other than those arising from natural conditions of Arctic exploration. Those difficulties are said to be due to disagreements between the head of the expedition, Mr. Stefansson, and some of those who are accompanying him, as well as in regard to conditions of the equipment and personnel of the expedition forced upon Mr. Stefansson either through political favoritism or through considerations apart from the real object he had in view when the expedition was first planned.

When Mr. Stefansson first came to Ottawa a year ago to seek Government assistance for his three-year exploration trip a comparatively simple equipment and a small but carefully selected body of men to accompany him was contemplated. One vessel and a total appropriation of about $75,000 were all that was considered necessary. But after the Government took the matter up the plans grew, and the total cost of the expedition, with the high prices paid for supplies, is now understood to be something like $200,000. The original number of scientists, assistants, etc., was greatly enlarged. More ample supplies of all kinds were contracted for under Government auspices. Instead of starting out with only one vessel, the Karluk, Stefansson had to take three ships to carry all the provisions, scientific apparatus and men.

STORIES OF FRICTION.

On the way from Vancouver to Alaska it is stated that jealousies and criticism of Stefansson's leadership developed. There was also a demand made for the taking on of still further supplies. These were taken on at Nome in Alaska. Since the expedition left Nome only meagre reports have been received at the Naval Department here, and so far as the official correspondence goes there is on record no [illegible] any definite [illegible] Stefansson about [illegible] members of the [illegible] handicapped [illegible] However, [illegible] had not been hard- [illegible] and that Mr. Stefansson [illegible] preferred some changes with a [illegible] to increasing the mobility and practical effectiveness of the exploring forces.

In regard to a story published today suggesting that Stefansson had been deliberately abandoned by the insurrectionary members of the expedition on board the Karluk when he and his six companions left the ship to hunt on land after the vessel was caught in the ice, the Minister of Naval Affairs, to whose department the explorer reports, said to-night that he knew nothing further about what had happened, and that the story of possible deliberate abandonment could be only newspaper surmise.

The officials of the department scout this part of the story, and believe that both Stefansson and the vessel are all right and that he is probably on board again by now.

THE UNION LIFE

Government Investigation Was Concluded Yesterday.

Toronto, Dec.—The Government investigation into the dissipation of funds of the defunct Union Life Assurance Company was concluded yesterday afternoon. C. A. Masten, K. C., representing the Dominion Government, announced to Referee Kappele that, following this enquiry, a report would be prepared by Liquidator Clarkson and be submitted to the Department of Finance. In his report Mr. Clarkson will make certain recommendations looking to the prevention of a recurrence of a similar financial disaster by further regulations curtailing loans which mey be made by insurance companies.

At he conclusion of the session Hardy Pollman Evans, former president of the Union Life, furnished the investigation with a detail statement, in which he gave his reasons for the collapse of the company and its allied corporations. Mr. Evans stated that the failure was due to the Scottish bondholders of the Imperial Loan and Investment Company entering suit to recover the half-million dollars which they had invested in the corporation. This, he maintained, resulted in the public losing confidence in the investments made by the Union Life.

The issue of the prospectus prepared for the United Kingdom to float an issue of $400,000 in bonds of the Canada Provident Investment Corporation, and allied company which at present is a debtor to the Union Life for $340,000, was also gone into. It wass hown that he flotation proved to be a failure, as only $50,000 was received by the company in Canada.

Although the prospectus spoke of the great advantages of investing in Western Canada farm mortgages and municipal bonds, the moneys realized by the flotation were sunk in the National Land, Fruit and Packing Company.

It transpired that an effort was made to place a number of debentures of the Imperial Loan Company upon the London market. This was made within the past year, and the debentures were only withdrawn two months before an order was issued for the wind-up of the corporation.

For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away; but the word of the Lord endureth forever.—I. Peter i. 24-25.

DIED UNKNOWN

Widow of Noted Scotch Divine, Dr. MacKay.

New York despatch: A woman who, the police say, was Mrs. Donald Sage MacKay, 45 years old, widow of the Rev. Donald Sage MacKay, D.D., the noted Scotch clergyman, died yesterday, while under the influence of an anaesthetic, in an uptown sanitarium. Coroner Hellenstein ordered the body removed to the morgue for an autopsy.

Mrs. MacKay was formerly Miss Helen L. Smith, daughter of J. Gregory Smith, former governor of Vermont.

When the death was first reported to the coroner, the name was given by the attending physician as Mrs. J. H. Stone, of Boston, Mass. The superintendent of the apartment hotel where Mrs. MacKay lived later positively identified the body. The physician said that the patient came to his office and after an examination he urged her to go to the hospital for an operation for an intertinal complaint.

ARENA AT GUELPH

Ontario Will Aid the Winter Fair.

Toronto Live Stock Show Got a Roast.

Guelph despatch: That sufficient pressure has been brought to bear upon the Minister of Agriculture during his visit to the Winter Fair to change his official attitude toward the future of that institution was indicated at the luncheon to-day, when Mr. C. L. Nelles, President of the Guelph Fat Stock Club, unofficially announced that Hon. Mr. Duff had definitely promised the arena so necessary to the growth of the show. As late as 9 o'clock last night the Minister declared that he had no statement whatever to make, but in the short time intervening has evidently changed his mind.

"Yesterday Hon. Mr. Duff would make no promises," said Mr. Nelles, beginning a short address, "but last night a few of us saw the Minister and Hon. Mr. Hanna, and as a result I can tell you that we will have an arena, if it is within their power to provide it. Both the Minister of Agriculture and Hon. Mr. Hanna promised to do all they possibly could to put through the legislation authorizing the grant necessary for construction."

The speaker went on to explain that the arena would probably not be ready for the Fair in the winter of 1914, as many difficulties lay in the way. The nature of the undertaking itself, together with the financial stringency so general, would probably delay its immediate construction. He hoped, however, that the exhibitors would show "their faith" by coming again next year to the present buildings.

In an address which evidently found favor with many of the guests at the luncheon, Mr. Robert Miller, of Stouffville, laid ungloved hands on the question of the National Live Stock Show, held recently in Toronto.

"I don't believe that the show held a few weeks ago in Toronto will ever be a success," Mr. Miller declared. "It was conceived in a peculiar manner, which I need not detail, by a man, or men, who simply wanted to secure a big fair for the city. They haven't much chance of success, simply because Toronto hasn't the buildings suitable for a winter live stock show. People don't want to go to Toronto every few months to see a show of live stock. I hear that they had only a small attendance, and I don't wonder at it. From things I have heard I may tell you that it cost those behind the National Live Stock Show about $40,000 to pay off its debts. Toronto has, I think, inaugurated at least one show which she cannot successfully handle."

A favorite theme with speakers during the fair has been the growing cost of living. At to-day's luncheon Mayor Carter emphasized the value of co-operative marketing as a factor in its reduction, while Professor H. H. Dean, of the Ontario Agricultural College, dwelt upon the problem of milk supply as a feature of the dairying industry.

At the morning session in the lecture room Prof. J. H. Brisdale gave a practical address on the feeding of swine, before a large audience.

NEW EGG SCHEME

Will Soon be Marketed Frozen and Dried.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Dr. Mary E. Penning in charge of food research work of the Department of Agriculture, told the House Agriculture Committee to-day that frozen and dried eggs would solve the problem of high prices and cold storage corners.

"Frozen and dried eggs," said Dr. Pennington "soon will be marktted in small packages, so as to be available to every household, instead of for bakers and other manufacturers, as at present. Hard frozen eggs will keep a year, and there is no question but what dried and frozen eggs will ultimately displace the cold storage variety.

"Eggs cannot be kept in cold storage and be fit for food longer than ten months," she asserted, and added that frozen and dried eggs did not lose any of their nutritive value.

BUFFUM MURDER CASE.

Little Valley, N. Y., Dec. 15.— Mrs. Cynthia Buffum and Ernest Frahm, a young farm hand, were indicted and arraigned here this afternoon on charges of murder in the first degree. District Attorney George W. Cole said that Mrs. Buffum had made a confession in which she admitted administering poison to her husband, Willis Buffum, and her four children, so that she might be free to marry young Frahm. Buffum died on Aug. 27.

NEWS OF THE DAY IN BRIEF

New French Ministry Has a Working Majority.

JUBILEE OF PRIEST

C. P. R. Machinists to Ask for More Pay.

The Union Life inquiry was brought to a close.

The Toronto Hydro Commission will not reduce rates right away.

Elmer Ericson, a boy of fifteen, was drowned at Kenora while skating over thin ice.

The postal employees in Great Britain nave deferred the calling of a general strike.

Bonar Law still thinks that the imposition of home rule will bring civil war in Ireland.

Miss Amy Kirk, of Gallingertown, was fatally burned through pouring coal oil into a stove.

Berlin waterworks extensions are completed, including the largest concrete standpipe on the continent.

Toronto police officials will seek legislation to prevent newspapers from publishing racing information.

The body of Mrs. Richard Hungerford was found in Scugog River. She had left her home to visit a sister.

An international fleet is guarding the the neutral zone at Tampico, while the Mexicans fight for the city's possession.

Rev. D. D. McLeod, D.D., of Barrie, was nominated by the Presbytery of Saugeen as next moderator of the General Assembly.

A young man named Earle Henderson, of Trenton, was by a jury in the county court, at Belleville, acquitted on a charge of arson.

Miss Frances Galbraith, daughter of ex-Alderman Galbraith, Toronto, has won two silver medals at the Royal Academy, London, Eng.

John Grey, of West Toronto, a C.P.R. engineer, admitted intoxocation while in charge of his engine between St. Thomas and Ingersoll and was fined $100.

The Railway Commission has arranged a hearing in Ottawa on December 16 to discuss the future practice of Canadian railways in regard to carriage service.

Rev. Mgr. Masterson was presented with a purse of gold and an address by the clergy of the diocese of Kingston, it being the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the Catholic priesthood.

The new French Ministry of Gaston Doumergue came out of its first ordeal in the Chamber of Deputies better than had been expected. The new Premier had little difficulty in getting a fair working majority.

The C.P.R. machinists, not alone of Montreal, but of all Canada, will make a demand in the spring for an increase of wages, and should some of the employees decline to agree to he demand there may be a big strike in the spring.

GUELPH FAIR

Essex Growers Win in Corn Competition.

Guelph, Dec.—This was essentially a "working day" at the Winter Fair. Preliminaries were over and a permanent stride was struck, unvaried by spectacular arrays or unusual incidents. Judging proceeded all day without interruption.

The attendance again smashed the previous third-day record, amounting to 13,018, as against 9,587 on the same day last year, an increase of almost four thousand.

During the day several meetings of different associations were held for the transaction of minor business. At the morning session in the lecture room an acrimonious discussion arose over the working of the seed control act.

For those of a more serious turn of mind the grain and seed exhibit was an attraction, and spectators passed in a continuous procession thiough the department. The most coveted prize was the Klinck Cup, and this was won for the third time by T. J. Shapley, of Amherstburg, in the corn competition, which gives him the cup for all time. The best bushel of Dent corn this year wasn shown by the same man, while John Parks of Amherstburg came second. The Rennie Cup, for best seeds other than corn, was also captured by T. J. Shapley. In the open competition for the best ten ears of white Dent corn, Blake Cohoe of South Woodley took first. It is significant that the above winners are all members of the River Front Corn Growers' Essex county: the aim of which is to produce the highest grade corn.

The students' judging competition in sheep was won by W. G. Nixon of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

BECKER'S MOTHER DYING.

New York, Dec. 15.—The aged mother of Charles Becker, former police lieutenant, who is in the death house for the murder of Herman Rosenthal, the gambler, is dying in this city, ignorant of the reason that prevents her son coming to see her, it was learned this morning. Becker himself only knows that his mother is ill, and has not been told that her death is momentarily expected, it is said.

Members of Becker's family were told, when they made inquiries, that it would be impossible to have the condemned man taken to see his mother.

SPANISH BANK SUSPENDS.

Madrid, Dec. 15.—The Hispano-Americano Bank has filed its declaration of suspension of payments. All the depositors were demanding their money, amounting to $20,000,000, and the officials had decided it was better to suspend payments now than later, which was done.

Long lines of persons besieged the doors of the bank from an early hour this morning.

The Finance Minister caused the announcement to be made to anxious depositors that if the Spanish Government could find a means of avoiding losses to them it would do so.

THIS IN ONTARIO

Awful Condition of Caistor Township Family.

St. Catharines Dec.—Yesterday High Constable Boyle, who is also agent for the Children's Aid Society, and Constable Swayze, of Grimsby, went to Winona, in Caistor Township, a distance of 22 miles to the log hut 16 by 18 they found living six persons, an old man 75 years of age, Mary E. Bowman, aged 45; a son, James Swaner, aged 25, a simple-minded young man; and three girls, Ethel, aged 11, Nettie, aged 7, and Clara Belle, aged 4. Thee children were clothed in rags. In the one room were two beds, and the premises were in a filthy condition. The woman objected to the removal of the three little girls, and the feeble old man sprang for a rifle and attempted to shoot Constable Boyle, but the gun was taken from him. Constable Boyle wrapped up the almost naked children and brought them to the Children's Shelter in St. Catharines. They are strong and bright, but the inspector objected to their attending school owing to their filthiness. The farm contains 34 acres, but the people are unable to work it. To-day Magistrate Campbell made an order committing the children to care of the Children's Aid Society, despite the opposition of the mother.

FINE POULTRY

Guelph Show Best, Say U. S. Visitors.

Hamilton Exhibitors' Pullet Best a tFair.

Guelph despatch: Self-satisfaction was replete at the fourteenth annual banquet tendered poultry exhibitors by the Guelph Poultry Association. It was commendable, however, for the poultry are considered, probably next to the horses, the finest feature of the Winter Fair.

Poultry men joined in the general agitation for more room. Something over 5,000 birds are crowded into quarters insufficient for half the number shown. These birds range in value from $25 to $500 each. Exhibitors have complained that the lighting is bad, and that justice could not be done the plumage of the birds by the judges in response to these complaints Mayor Carter, of Guelph, and Mr. H. C. Schofield, M. P. P., speaking at the banquet, promised that better accommodation would be given as soon as possible, and that the matter would be brought up at the coming sessions of their respective bodies.

Mr. Moore, President of the Buffalo Poultry Association, another guest, paid high tribute to the poultry department of the Fair.

Mr. George Urban, another member of the Buffalo Association, stated that in his opinion the Winter Fair at Guelph was the best in America.

Wm. McNeill, President of the Fair, spoke briefly, but pointedly. "We have a good Tory Government," he said, "but we will one and all turn Grit if we do not get the grants necessary to meet the crying needs of our rapidly expanding Fair."

The Grand Champion of the poultry show was a Buff Cochin. The Zenoleum Trophy for the best bird was won by the Holmhurst Poultry Farm, Whitby.

Among the prize winners, Buff Cochins and barred Plymouth Rocks won the premier places. The Baldwin silver cup for the best female in the show was won by a Buff Cochin, owned by the Holmhurst Poultry Farm, Whitby, while the Grand Champion among the males was a barred Plymouth Rock cockerel, owned by John Pringle, London, who by this victory carried away the Russell silver cup.

The best pullet in the show was awarded fifty pounds of chick feed by the Caldwell Feed Co., Dundas. It was a White Orpington, owned by Petrie & Christie, Hamilton.

ON CHURCH UNION

Committees Met, But Report Not Ready.

Toronto despatch: An informal meeting of the sub-committees on church union of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational Churches was held yesterday afternoon at the board room of the Methodist book room to discuss the present aspect of church union.

The meeting was called at the request of the Presbyterian Union Committee. Dr. Carman was elected chairman, and explained the project of the meeting and asked the Presbyterians to introduce the subject. Rev. Dr. Clarke, of Montreal, stated that they had hoped to be in a position to present a definite report to the meeting, but the immensity of the subject was such that he asked that the meeting be adjourned until the 12th instant. Mr. N. W. Rowell accordingly proposed that the meeting be adjourned and Rev. Mr. Pedley seconded the motion, which was carried.

Among those present were Dr. Carman, Dr. T. Albert Moore, Dr. W. H. Hincks, Dr. N. Burwash, N. W. Rowell, K. C., M. P. P., Mr. J. W. Flavelle, Hon. Justice MacLaren, Hon. Thomas Crawford, Rev. Frank Day, Dr. Hugh Pedley, Mr. Henry O'Hara, Rev. J. W. Pedley, Rev. Dr. Warriner, Dr. A. S. Grant, Dr. Herridge, Dr. Gordon and Dr. Murray. The Presbyterian Union Committee will meet again this morning.

ITALIAN ADMIRAL REMOVED.

Rome, Dec. 15.—A sensation was caused in Rome to-day by the publication of the news that Admiral Cagni has been removed from the command of the Second Cruiser Squadron because he was aboard the battleship San Giorgio when she went ashore recently near Messina. It was reported at the time that the mishap was due to the desire on the part of the navigating officer of the Giorgio to avoid a collision with a passenger steamer.

OFFICERS FROM UNIVERSITIES

Col. Hughes' Plan to Train the Militia.

HUNDREDS PER YEAR

Recent Gifts Gave Scheme a Good Start.

Ottawa despatch: A big scheme for the turning out annually of three or four hundred university students throughout Canada as trained officers of the Canadian militia, with generous provision at each Canadian university for student residences, armories and parade grounds in connection with the military training course is now well under way. The scheme has been developed by Colonel the Hon. Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia, and it has been given a splendid start by voluntary donations from Lord Strathcona, amounting to about $100,000, and from Major R. W. Leonard, chairman of the National Transcontinental Commission, whose gift aggregates approximately half a million dollars. These donations are to start the project at Queen's and McGill Universities in Kington and Montreal, respectively. Col. Hughes is now in communication with other wealthy Canadians interested in the Canadian militia and in the training of university students to be officers of the militia, with the prospect of getting similar donations for the University of Toronto, the University of New Brunswick, the University of British Columbia, Laval University, and Dalhousie and Mount Allison Universities in Nova Scotia.

Lord Stratheona's gift of a site for the proposed students' residence and armories in connection with McGill was announced some months ago. This gift, as has been stated, amounts to fully $100,000, but the money will not be available until plans are completed. Major Leonard's gift of a site and buildings to Queen's University is a most magnificent one. Several acres to the southwest of the present campus of Queen's are being secured, and on this site will be erected dormitory buildings, a drill hall and armories with gymnastic equipment, the whole to be completely furnished. There will also be a large parade ground.

MILITIA DEPARTMENT'S SHARE.

The Department of Militia is agreeing to provide the drill hall and armories to supply under certain conditions free rations for students-in-residence in the residence to be erected by Major Leonard, to provide instructoral officers from the permanent corps, and to arrange for an obligatory course of lectures and examinations in military subjects in connection with the university. All students taking advantage of the residence must take the course qualifying them to be militia officers, and they must agree to become efficient members of the Canadian Officers' Training Corps after one year.

The students will be required to pay a sufficient sum each week to cover expenses of servants, heating, fuel, etc., but they will otherwise have free residence, and their board bills during university terms will thus be very considerably reduced. Privileges of residence are to be distributed as nearly equal as practicable among the different yearly classes.

Students taking the course will be required to perform at least six hours' drill or training per week, including the taking of a prescribed course of lectures on military subjects. They will have to pass examinations at the end of the year, and attend annual training camp as specified by the Board of Governors from time to time. This Board of Governors will consist of the principal of the university, the officer commanding the military district in which the university is situated, and the commandant of the Royal Military College. In a general way it is expected these same conditions will apply in the case of each of the other universities where similar courses and residences are to be provided.

Col. the Hon. Sam Hughes expects that a site will be provided in connection with the University of Toronto before long, and a number of wealthy Toronto citizens are expected to provide the necessary amounts in co-operation with the Militia Department. Similar arrangements are well under way in connection with the University of New Brunswick and Mount Allison University. In British Columbia ten acres of land have already been secured at Point Grey to be used in connection with the military course for the new University of British Columbia.

At Laval University there are already three hundred students taking the officers' training course, and it is stated that next year this number will be increased to eight hundred. A deputation consisting of Canon Doutre, Capt. Mercier and Mr. Faye waited on the Minister this morning on behalf of the university to urge increased accommodation, a drill hall, etc., for the students taking the military course. The Minister promised that steps would be taken to meet the necessity of the case as soon as possible.

RIFLES FOR CADET CORPS.

Ottawa despatch: The cadet corps of Canada are to be supplied with 22-calibre rifles. The Ross Rifle Company is making the rifles of a pattern approved by the Militia Department. They will weigh about five pounds or less, and are almost a miniature of the long Ross.

In the past, while the cadets used the long rifles for shooting over the ranges, and will do the same in the future, these rifles were found too heavy for drilling in the case of the smaller boys. The light rifles will be used for drill purposes and for indoor shooting.

Even a fourth-class postmaster may be a first-class man.

LAW [illegible]

Thinks War [illegible] Home Rule

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. [illegible] Bonar Law, leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons, [illegible] to-night, expressed his belief that the imposition of home rule [illegible] result in civil war.

"If the Government," he said, "has any proposal to make [illegible] out even a prospect of [illegible] we dread, we shall consider it [illegible] any regard to party advantage [illegible] advantage, but with sole regard [illegible] welfare of the nation."

He added that the Government [illegible] content to let matters drift, and [illegible] meanwhile the likelihood of [illegible] settlement by consent was [illegible] smaller.

TRAIN WRECKED

And G. T. R. Believe [illegible] Deliberately Done.

Switch Thrown Open Near Guelph Junction.

Toronto despatch: Running into a switch, which the company believe was deliberately opened by some unknown person, train No. 10, of the Grand Trunk Railway, from Sarnia, was wrecked last night a few miles east of Guelph Junction. The engine, tender, baggage car and one passenger coach were derailed, injuring one passenger.

Following the accident special railroad detectives were rushed to the scene and every effort is being exerted to locate the culprits. The railway will also open an investigation into the wreck this morning to ascertain if the local authorities took every precaution to prevent tampering with the switch.

At the time of the accident the train was running at a speed of about 20 miles an hour. When the locomotive ran into the open switch it plunged from the rails, pulling the other cars after it. Owing to the low rate of speed the engineer was able to bring the train to a stop before the other passenger coaches were also derailed.

Phillips Berdeaux was the only passenger in the wrecked coach. He was thrown from his seat against the side of the car and sustained serious injuries about the head and body. When the conductor inspected the coach Bordeaux was found in a semi-conscious condition, and as yet the officials have been unable to obtain his address or any further particulars regarding him. Before the train reached Guelph station the wrecked coach had been filled with passengers, but fortunately all but Berdeaux were destined to that point.

In the opinion of officials the [illegible] either a monon[illegible] harboring an [illegible] the company, [illegible] other reason for tampering with it, as the local employees claim that every precaution had been taken to ensure train No. 10 having the right of way. The wreck tore up the roadbed for some distance, and seriously delayed the traffic. Auxiliary trains were sent from Guelph shortly after the wreck, but it was some hours before the derailed engine and coaches were removed.

MORE WHITEFISH

Enormous Quantities of Eggs Are Being Taken.

Washington, Dec. 15.—A report issued from the United States Bureau of Fisheries shews that already this season it has taken 450,000,000 whitefish eggs in Lake Erie. This is 13,000 quarts of the tiny eggs, and by far the largest ever made.

Although the Government hatching plant at Put-In-Bay, on Lake Erie, was built to take care only of 100,000,000 eggs, the bureau, by farming the eggs out among the various State hatcheries and among its own plants elsewhere, is taking care of this year's enormous catch. The supply of whitefish had been diminishing so rapidly in Lake Erie owing to poor protection, the fish being under four different State and one Canadian province jurisdictions, that careful preparations were made this year to do as much as possible to replenish the supply. In other great lakes also large takes of whitefish eggs are being reported, 150,000,000 having been taken to date this season in Lake Michigan. Efforts are to be made also to stock some of the northwestern lakes with whitefish.

DUBLIN OFFICIAL SHOT.

Dublic, Dec. 15. — Vice-Chairman Hollwey, of the Port and Docks Board, was accidentally shot this evening in the course of a fight between strikers and the non-union driver of a dray. He is in a critical condition.

The strikers attacked the driver and tried to overturn the wagon. He defended himself, but as he was almost overpowered he drew a revolver and fired. The bullet struck Mr. Holley, who was passing.

HUGE SPOT ON SUN.

San Jose, Cal., Dec. 15.— Father Jerome Ricard, of Santa Clara University, discovered a sun spot yesterday, the largest seen in two years.

The sun spot is in longtitude 9, 14, 24 degrees east of the central meridian. It is due to a heliocentric conjunction of the earth with Saturn on December 7th.

The new sun spot has an area of 409,936,709,169 square miles. It is 22,013.15 miles long and 12,805.26 miles wide.