

list of contraband; they have through-
out the war kept it on the free list;
and on every occasion when questioned
on the point, they have stated their
intention of adhering to this practice.

Concealed Contraband.

"But information has reached us
that, precisely because we have de-
clared our intention of not interfering
with cotton, ships carrying cotton will
be specially selected to carry concealed
contraband. We have been warned that
oppor will be concealed in bales of cot-
ton. Whatever suspicions we have en-
tertained, we have not so far made
these a ground for detaining any ship
carrying cotton; but, should we have
information given us which gives us
reason to believe in the case of any
copper will be concealed in bales of cot-
ton concealed copper or other contra-
band, the only way to prove our case
would be to examine and weigh the
bales, a process that could be carried
out only by bringing the vessel into
a port.

"In such a case, or if examination
justified the action of His Majesty's
government, the case shall be brought
before a prize court and dealt with in
the ordinary way.

"That the decisions of British courts
hitherto have not been unfavorable to
neutrals, is evidenced by the decision
in the Miramachi case. This case,
which was decided against the crown,
laid down that the American shipper
was to be paid even when he had sold
a cargo c. i. f., and when the risk of
loss after the cargo had been shipped
did not apply to him at all.

Suspicious Rubber Trade.

"It has further been reported to His
Majesty's government, though this sub-
ject is not dealt with in Your Excel-
lency's note, that our embargo on
the export of some articles, more espe-
cially rubber, have interfered with
commercial interests in the United
States. It is of course difficult for
His Majesty's government to permit
the export of rubber from British do-
minions to the United States at a time
when rubber is essential to belligerent
countries for carrying on the war, and
when a new trade in exporting rubber
from the United States in suspiciously
large quantities to neutral countries
has actually sprung up since the war.
It would be impossible to permit the
export of rubber from Great Britain
unless the right of His Majesty's gov-
ernment were admitted to submit to a
prize court cargo and of rubber export-
ed from the United States which they
believed to be destined for an enemy
country, and reasonable latitude of ac-
tion for this purpose were conceded.
But His Majesty's government have not
provisionally come to an arrangement
with the rubber exporters in Great
Britain which will permit of licenses
being given under proper guarantees
for the export of rubber to the United
States.

"We are confronted with the grow-
ing danger that neutral countries con-
tiguous to the enemy will become on a
scale hitherto unprecedented a base of
supplies for the armed forces of our
enemies, and for materials for manu-
facturing armament. The trade fig-
ures of exports show how strong this
tendency is, but we have no complaint
to make of the attitude of the govern-
ments of those countries, which, so
far as we are aware, have not departed
from proper rules of neutrality. We
endeavor, in the interest of our own
national safety, to prevent this danger
by intercepting goods really destined
for the enemy without interfering with
those which are 'bona fide' neutral.

Publication of Manifests.

"Since the outbreak of the war, the
government of the United States have
changed their previous practice and
have prohibited the publication of
manifests till thirty days after the de-
parture of vessels from the United
States ports. We had no locus standi
for complaining of this change, and
did not complain. But the effect of

MEWA SINGH GOES TO GALLOWES WITH CHANT ON LIPS

Chanting prayers in a quavering
voice, Mewa Singh, who murdered In-
spector W. C. Hopkinson in the cor-
ridor of the provincial court house on
October 21, was this morning launch-
ed into eternity.

Save for a perceptible tremor, the
condemned man showed no signs of
nervousness at his approaching fate,
his song continuing until the fatal bolt
was shot.

At three minutes past eight Hang-
man Ellis went to the condemned cell
and adjusted the arm pinions; two
minutes later Mewa Singh had paid the
dread penalty of his crime. Death was
instantaneous.

Balwant Singh, the Sikh priest, ar-
rived at the provincial jail early this
morning, and after being subjected to
a rigorous search, was admitted to the
cell wherein the condemned man was
confined, remaining with him until the
end, and joining him in his chant to
the last.

The execution of Mewa Singh is
unique in the annals of the country as
being the first execution of a Hindoo
on this continent.

Outside the jail a number of his com-
patriots had gathered in the grey dawn,
and at the Sikh meeting place some 150
had gathered for the purpose of offer-
ing up prayers for the soul of their
brother.

Later they walked in procession to the
B. C. E. R. depot, their number creating
quite an excitement in the Royal City.
The late Mewa Singh, besides being, as
far as known, the first Hindoo ever
hanged on the American continent, also
had the doubtful distinction of having
been tried and sentenced for murder in
the shortest time ever known in the his-
tory of justice in the British empire.
He was tried and sentenced last Novem-
ber in the record time of one hour and
forty minutes, the evidence being so
conclusive and convincing as to admit of
practically no shadow of defence.

After being officially pronounced
dead, the body of Mewa Singh was
turned over to his comrades, who had
assembled 370 strong in front of the
provincial jail to accompany the de-
ceased to the Fraser Mills, where it
was burned on a pyre, according to the
Hindoo rite. The East Indians marched
five abreast and kept up a continual
chant during the four mile journey to
the Mills. The cremation was only al-
lowed after permission had been given
by the provincial authorities.

FIVE-YEAR SENTENCE FOR COUNTERFEITER

Four years' imprisonment was on
Friday meted out to G. A. Watson,
charged with having in his possession
and using appliances for the mak-
ing of counterfeit coin.

His Honor Judge McInnes, in pass-
ing sentence, expressed the opinion
that the prisoner was an adroit crook,
he having a record of imprisonment in
Walla Walla on a similar charge.

Prisoner conducted his own defence,
but could not satisfactorily account
for the incriminating articles found in
his possession.

Jack Johnson and Jess Willard will
meet on March 8, but why not on
April 1?

Only Candidate With Platform.

Mr. Taylor explained that he was not
in the field because he thought he
knew more about running civic affairs
than anyone else, as Mayor Baxter did,
but came before them, with a definite
platform, something unique in the pre-
sent campaign, as none of the other
candidates had such a thing.

Mr. Martin had one at the outset, but
he kicked his own planks from under
him as soon as the campaign opened.

Mayor Baxter's only idea was to kick
at his predecessors, and tell the public
what a hard time he and his confreres
had had during the past two years, al-
though admitting that they had done
nothing in that period.

The mayor was keen in attacking
the increase in the bonded indebted-
ness during certain years immediately
prior to Mayor Baxter's election in
1912, but, invariably neglected to point
out the growth of the city, both in
population and improvements, and the
fact that the indebtedness per capita
was less at the present time than in
1909.

Mr. Taylor admitted that mistakes
may have been made during his ad-
ministration, "but," said he, "better to
make a mistake than to die of stagna-
tion and dry rot.

"The best of us make mistakes; let's
profit by them." (Cheers.)

Mayor Baxter had belittled the fi-
nances of the city, but the speaker
showed his hearers that the city's bor-
rowing power at present was \$18,000.-
000.

Pertinent Query for Baxter.

Scoring Mayor Baxter in connection
with the eleventh-hour reductions of
salaries, Mr. Taylor asked why, if the
mayor was so anxious to do some good
he did not cut down the salaries in
May last, instead of waiting until six
weeks before the election to play polit-
ics.

Direct Denial to Baxter.

Mayor Baxter had said at the Trades
and Labor Hall recently that there
were no complaints from the fire and
police departments as to reductions of
salaries, as soon as they knew it was
for charity, but the speaker assured
the meeting that the complaints were
general.

"You cannot reduce those depart-
ments and retain efficiency," said Mr.
Taylor. "I stand for a fair day's wage
for a fair day's work, and I do not
hold with reducing salaries under the
guise of charity. (Applause.) If
men wish to give to a charitable cause,
let them do so voluntarily, don't take
it from their wages." (Applause.)

Mr. Taylor next touched on the relief
work given out by the city at \$1 per
day with a board bill of 75 cents per
diem, and explained that with a wet
day during the week men worked
only for their board.

Unexpected Corroboration.

A Voice—"That's right, Taylor, I'm
out there myself."

Mr. Taylor—"And what are the
meals like?"

Voice—"Not quite as good as the
Hotel Vancouver." (Laughter.)

Convincing Logic.

Continuing, ex-Mayor Taylor said the
city had no right to take advantage of
men because times were bad, but
should pay them at a rate which would
give them the chance to make enough
to get away from the city if they
wished. Moreover, said he, the city
set the scale for wages, and if they
cut things down under the guise of
relief work, other employers of labor
would also do so, and the circulating
medium of the city would become less
and less and times still harder. (Ap-
plause.)

Mr. Taylor outlined his scheme for
issuing city scrip, and explained that
this scrip would be precisely the same
thing as the large bonds of the city,
except that the denominations would
be smaller.

At this juncture a voice said: "You'll

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