

AN EXODUS AND AN OPPORTUNITY.

On the 15th of February the czar of Russia, by imperial decree, abrogated the constitution under which the people of Finland have, within the Russian jurisdiction, maintained a species of autonomous political life and a special national character. A deputation of 500 men, representing the intelligence and property of the Finnish people, went a few days later to St. Petersburg, bearing a petition for mercy. They were rudely repulsed by the czar's officers and directed to leave the capital immediately upon pain of forcible ejection. These events have mightily stirred the Finnish blood. Resistance is, of course, impossible, and this the Finns well know; but they can, as did the English Puritans, abandon the land where what they deem their rights are denied them, and this they are preparing to do in great numbers. A Finnish Political and Immigration Society has been organized, and its agents are making inquiry for lands beyond the Atlantic, their choice, it is said, lying between Canada and the Argentine republic.

The San Francisco Post is seeking to rouse in California a public movement looking to colonization of Finnish families there. Says the Post:

A better class of immigrants than these Finns does not exist in any country. They have contributed more to the wealth and material prosperity of Northern Europe than any other race. They are the rank and file and the captains of the industry of Russia, Scandinavia, Norway, Sweden and Denmark. Wherever they have planted their homes in this Western hemisphere they have not only commanded the respect of their neighbors, but they have developed into the best citizenship; they have invariably laid the impress of their character upon every community in which they have settled; and they have inevitably enriched by their energy, their thrift, their economy and their knowledge of industrial requirement, every vocation in which they have engaged under American institutions. No country in the world is better adapted for the reception of colonies from Finland than is California, and throughout the Pacific coast there are regions that would yield a thousand-fold in return for the industry of this people, inured as they are to the rigors of an almost Arctic climate, and compelled as they have been to wreat their substance from a grudging soil. California would be, indeed, a promised land—an Eden spot—for these exiles.

LABORER THINKS HEAD ~ ABSORBS ELECTRICITY

**John Rosewald Tells Police He Fears
to Touch Anyone Lest He Elec-
trocute Them.**

"I'm a Free Methodist and I'm chuck full of electricity! Don't touch me unless you want an awful shock," said John Rosewald, a Finnish laborer, 35 years old, late yesterday afternoon as he entered police headquarters in the city hall and was questioned by Corridor Officer Fred Smart.

The man had stuck rolls of paper into his ears and when asked by the officer why he had done so, explained that for many days electric waves from wireless, telephone and telegraph systems had been pouring down on his head until his system had absorbed so much of the electrical energy that he was afraid to approach anyone for fear of electrocuting them.

"This is awful," he shouted. "I feel the currents pulsing through my system and I'm afraid to come into contact with anyone for fear of electrocuting them. It's in my veins, my legs, my arms, but mostly in my head. Take me to Mayor Miller quick."

Smart turned the man over to Desk Sergeant Myer Poyser. Rosewald explained while he was being booked that he was president of the Freemasons' Bank in Sweden and was possessor of at least \$200,000.00 which had been left him by a blacksmith. After a few moments' detention the man, who evidently is insane, was taken to the county jail.

LEAPS TO DEATH AT BOAT LANDING

ANDREW SAADLA DROWNS

Attempts to Follow Example of Companion in Springing Ashore From Launch at Rainier Beach and Falls Into Water—Body Is Recovered

Andrew Saadla, a Finnish laborer, while trying to emulate his companion, Henry Naulla's example in jumping ashore from the launch Princess while the boat was approaching the dock at Rainier Beach at 6:30 o'clock last evening, fell into Lake Washington and was drowned. A rope slung him from the launch fell short and was caught in the propeller of the boat, rendering the boat useless as well as making the rope ineffective in saving the man's life.

Saadla, with Henry Naulla, left Kenneydale, on the Princess to come to Seattle for the evening. The two men had been clearing land at Kenneydale for Lelna Bahlkauer and were staying at the home of their employer.

As the launch approached the side of the dock Naulla jumped ashore without difficulty. Before Saadla made his jump, the launch swung out and he missed the dock. Unable to swim, he managed to keep up for a moment by kicking his feet and throwing his arms wildly.

Some one on the launch threw a rope to him, and as it trailed astern the rope became entangled in the propeller and made it impossible to control the boat. The passengers could find nothing else to throw to the sinking man, but Naulla, who was on the dock, threw several sticks of wood, none of which was large enough to keep the drowning man from sinking.

Lloyd and Jim Jenkins dived in the water, which was about twelve feet deep, and within a half hour recovered the body.

Dr. W. T. Timms, of Hillman, and Dr. C. R. Guthrie, of Columbia, worked over the man for more than an hour, but at 8 o'clock gave up the task as hopeless. There was not a sign of life at any time.

Saadla was a member of the Swedish Club of Seattle. So far as could be learned he had no relatives in this country.

LOGGER CUT IN TWO BY CIRCULAR SAW

**Horrible Death Suffered by a Finnish
Sawmill Laborer on Malcom
Island.**

VANCOUVER, B. C., Tuesday, Jan. 30.
—One moment canting a log, carelessly exerting his manly strength, and the next lying absolutely dead, his body severed almost completely by a circular saw, such was the shocking end of a Finnish laborer named Horika, who was employed in the sawmill at Sointula, Malcom Island.

Horika was heaving on a peevie when he slipped and fell on his right side across the revolving circular saw. With one short, soft, sickening whish, the horrid whirling teeth sank through arm and chest, almost completely severing the upper thorax from the trunk. The work was done in a second and it is hardly likely that the victim felt any pain or realized what had happened to him.

MANY NEW SETTLERS

Flocking to Northwest Canada— Finns Give Up Farming

C. I. Frank, a grain dealer of Brandon, Manitoba, arrived in the city yesterday on a business trip, which will require his presence on the Sound for the next two weeks. He says that in all parts of Northwestern Canada there is a large immigration from Europe.

"Homeseekers are arriving in the eastern Northwest provinces at a greater rate this year than ever before," he said at the Cecil. "For the most part they are Europeans. Several colonies of Hollanders have been established in Manitoba and Assinibola. There have also been a number of other colonies established in all parts of the provinces.

"Within the past few months there has been a general exodus of Finlanders from the provinces spoken of. There is a demand for Finnish labor in British Columbia in the mills and mines at better wages than they can make on their Northwest farms. They are going there by the hundreds and their farms are being taken up by other nationalities.

"It is estimated that this year there will be over 100,000 settlers, who will find new homes in Northwestern Canada."