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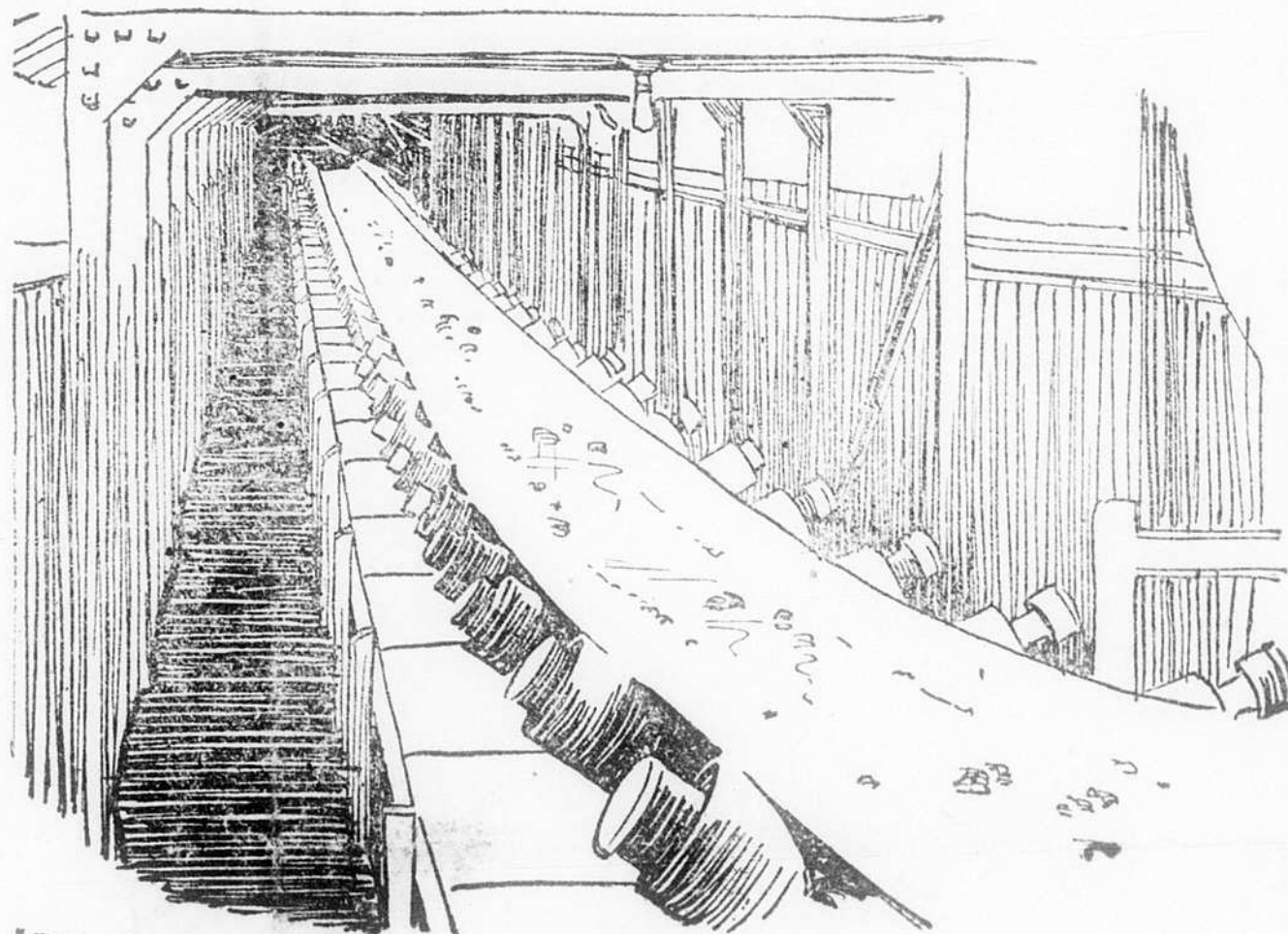
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TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Madrid, Dec. 30th.—The naming of Sir Esme Howard to succeed Sir Auckland Geddes as Minister at Washington came somewhat as a surprise to Madrid, although rumours of his approaching promotion have been current for some time. Sir Esme Howard is one of the most popular and diplomatic representatives in Spain, where he is regarded as extremely able. Despite the fact that he is of the most aristocratic type, he is one of the most democratic of men, while Lady Howard who belongs to one of the noblest families is the friend of all members of the British and United States Colonies. Sir Esme Howard has been stationed in many parts of the World, during his long diplomatic career, and is an accomplished linguist. In the Boer war he joined the Yeomanry as an ordinary trooper, later being transferred to the Rhodesia Light Horse, on another occasion he left his career to engage in commerce, but soon returned to diplomacy. He has been in Madrid for a little more than three years, where he conducted the difficult negotiations of a commercial treaty.

Rome, Dec. 30th.—The Vatican declares that it knows nothing about the reported conversations between the Archbishop of Canterbury and Cardinal Mercier for a reunion of the Anglican and the Roman Catholic Churches, except what has been published in the newspapers, and the conversations, if they really occurred, were entirely private. Their real nature is unknown to the Vatican. The Holy See's viewpoints on the subject of the reunion of



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GOODYEAR

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The Christian Churches is well known, Under Benedict XI special delegates were sent from the United States by an organization having this for its object. The Pope was invited to be represented at a meeting to consider the question. The Pontiff answered that the Catholic Church desired nothing more than a reunion, but since it was the non-Catholics who had separated from the church, it

was to them to return to the true fold, where they would be received with open arms.

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