From THE DAILY COLONIST, February 17.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

City Property.

Yesterday morning 20 feet of property on upper Yates street, changed owners for a consideration of $6,500. The transfer was from Mr. Phillips to Mr. S. J. Pitts.

Victoria Police.

It is unofficially announced that Officers Hawton and Allen, of the city police, will be forthwith promoted to the rank of sergeants, and five new officers will be added to the force.

Going North.

The following passengers left for the North by the steamer Barbara Boscowitz yesterday: R. H. Pidcock, H. McKenzie, Mr. and Mrs. Johnston, J. Rothwell, D. McArthur, J. Little and several Indians.

Sunday's Snow.

While it lasted, Sunday's snow was made the most of, and the merry jingle of the sleigh bells was heard on the streets. Unfortunately, the sleighing was of brief duration, and, yesterday, "the fleecy mantle" had been transformed into mud.

Sewerage Work.

Mr. McBean, the contractor for Victoria's sewers, has written to request an extension of the time for commencing work from March 1 to 15. An answer has been forwarded to him that every detail of the contract must be carried out.

Potlach Preparations.

The Beechy Bay Indians were in the city in force yesterday purchasing presents to be given away at the great potlach to be held at their home next week. The value of the donations will exceed $5,000, and all the tribes of Vancouver Island will be well represented.

Is He Known Here?

Edward Pickens, of whom very little is known, died in Roche Harbor, Wn., on January 27th last, of heart disease. He left nothing to indicate who he was, or where he came from. Some of his acquaintances think that he had relatives and friends in British Columbia.

On Trial for His Life.

Yesterday morning the trial of the man Woods, who deserted from H. M. S. Amphion, for the murder of Mrs. Moss, of Port Angeles, opened at that place. Woods is defended by one of the best criminal lawyers in Washington, but his chances of escaping the full penalty of murder are considered slim.

St. Barnabas Church.

Mr. Floyd, formerly of the choir of Christ Church Cathedral has taken charge of the St. Barnabas Church choir, and their practice night has been changed from Friday to Tuesday. Next Friday evening, a special sermon is to be preached by Rev. Mr. Barber, of Victoria West.

Contract Awarded.

Mr. Robert Crabbe, being the lowest tenderer, was yesterday awarded the contract for the erection of Mr. Joseph Loewen's handsome new home on the Gorge Road, upon the plans prepared by Mr. John Teague. It is expected that the mansion will cost in the neighborhood of $15,000. The contractor is now completing the new building for the C. P. N. Co. on their inner wharf.

Laid in the Grave.

The funeral of the late W. C. Anderson left his residence, 44 Princess avenue, yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock and arrived shortly afterwards at the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, were service was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Macleod. Appropriate music was furnished by Professor Strauss, and after the service the procession left for Ross Bay Cemetery. The following members of the St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society were pall bearers: Robert McIntosh, W. Lorimer, Robt. Mitchell, Alex. Tolmie, Geo. Bishop and Alderman Robertson.

Parliament Building Improvements.

Yesterday being a parliamentary holiday, on account of the absence from town of a number of members, advantage was taken of the opportunity by the National Electric Tramway & Lighting company to string in the Parliament House the wires for the electric lighting system, which is now all ready to be introduced. The chamber was a hive of industry all yesterday. The new clock in the assembly chamber has been placed in position and is an immense improvement. It is two feet in diameter, and the figures upon it are sufficiently large not to strain the eyes of the member who may wish to ascertain when 6 o'clock comes.

Victoria West Lodge.

A preliminary meeting was held in the Victoria West hall last evening for the purpose of forming a lodge of the Canadian Order of Odd Fellows. The charter list was passed around, and Alex Robertson, John Lusse, W. Graham, M. T. Baker, V. E. Ottaway, James Westman, S. Shore, G. E. Milloy, A. B. Aldershaw and Frank Hales signed with the intention of becoming charter members of the new lodge of the order. Mr. W. Fullerton filled the chair, and Mr. V. E. Ottaway was appointed Secretary *pro tem.* Mr. Ottaway, D.D.G.M., explained the principles and peculiarities of the order, and Dr. M. S. Wade was appointed physician. Next Monday night a meeting is called, when officers will be elected and installed. At the next meeting the name of the lodge will be decided upon and the application sent to Toronto for a charter, which will be held open until the next meeting night

Evangelising the Indians.

On Saturday there appeared in the COLONIST a paragraph quoting the enquiry of a visiting American as to whether certain of the clergy of Victoria were so taken up with the work of saving and educating the Chinese that they let the Indians go their own sweet way to ruin. On Sunday morning, Rev. Mr. Watson, instead of undertaking to answer this inquiry in the same manner in which it was asked, made it the subject of remarks supplementary to the church notices that are accustomed to be given from the pulpit. He observed that nobody but a newcomer would have allowed such a "statement" to have appeared without making an inquiry. He said that, in keeping with the spirit of the times, the Methodist church was accustomed to spend $15,000 a year on Indian missions, which did not much look like neglect. In Victoria there was a regular Indian church, which would seat 300 people, where services were regularly held three times each Sunday, except during those seasons of the year when the Indians were away. He went on to speak of the number of agents who labored among the Indians in this province at large, but he did not mention the fact that although Victoria had a regularly paid Chinese missionary in Victoria, the resident Indians had only lay ministrations, and that upon more than one occasion the matter had come up in conference, where the fact was moreover deprecated that many of the Indians who came to this city were unfortunately accustomed to receive more injury than good.

Supplied With Light.

From Beacon Hill, on any clear night, can be plainly seen the bright electric lights of Port Angeles, which were turned on with becoming ceremony on Saturday last. The light is clear and satisfactory, and greatly improves the flourishing town.

Sealers Go To Sea.

The sealing schooners Pioneer, Rosie Olsen, Wanderer and Mary Taylor went to sea yesterday, with the intention of making the most of the Coast hunting. It was rumored that the Ocean Belle was ashore at Race Rocks, but the rumor is not regarded as at all reliable, and the misfortune of the Ariel may have given rise to the story.

The Union Processions.

It is rumored that Messrs. Keith and Foster, who went to Nanaimo on Saturday, while at home exerted their influence towards the abandonment of the Union miners' processions, which have recently been viewed with increased disfavor by the non-union men. There is a probability that the parade will be voluntarily given up.

Money is Saved.

The many colliers employed in the carrying trade between Nanaimo and San Francisco now call, on both upward and downward voyages, at Port Angeles. The object of this is, that they clear for either point coastwise from Angeles and thus save pilotage. A considerable portion of the Sound lumber fleet is pursuing the same course, for the same reason.

The Labor Union's Action.

At a meeting of the Trades and Labor Council, held last evening, the members decided that they would not interfere in the political contest, such action not being according to their principles. A deputation was, however, appointed to wait upon Messrs. Prior and Earle, and obtain an expression of their views upon the Chinese question.

In an Open Boat.

Arnold Pike, A. H. Barton and E. M. Marshall, three English tourists who have been exploring the interior of Washington state, have just performed the somewhat novel feat of crossing the Straits, from Port Crescent to this city, in an open boat. Although they had a good, strong boat, and an experienced boatman, the trip was attended by considerable risk.

A Visitor from Alberni.

Mr. G. A. Huff, J.P., merchant of Alberni, and Secretary of the Board of School Trustees, waited on the Department of Education yesterday on important school business. He reports the schools as being highly prosperous and well attended at his home. When he left there was no snow on the ground, and he says that the coldest weather he has so far experienced was in Victoria.

The Ariel Sold.

What is considered a good figure, was realized by the auction sale of the wrecked sealing schooner Ariel, which was sold in Capt. Clarke's rooms at noon, yesterday. The hull was purchased for $305 by Mr. J. C Prevost, who will send the steamer Mascott down at once to see if the Ariel can be floated. Mr. Hunter bought the rigging for $345, and the other lots realized $388, making the total obtained for the wreck, $1,038.

A Pretty Craft.

Yesterday morning, a little stranger lay moored among the shipping at Spratt's wharf. She was as yet unchristened, and came over from Westminster, where she has just been built, to have a couple of tanks put in by McLennan & McFeely. McFeely Bros. of the Royal City are her owners. She is a complete and tidy little steamer, and although small, can hurry with noticeable effect. The new craft is well fitted for light work or pleasuring.

Insurance of $34,00.

Turner, Beeton & Co. of this city carried the following risks on property destroyed in the New Westminster fire: J. E. Phillips, Guardian Ins. Co., $750; North British & Mercantile, $1,750; T. J. Trapp, Guardian $800, N. B. & M. $2,500; Sun Life Assurance Co., Guardian, $15,000; Corbould, McCall & Jenns, Guardian, $925; Ogle, Campbell & Freeman, N. B. & M., $7,500; Trustees Court of Lord Dufferin, N. B. & M., $400; Trustees of Royal Lodge, $5,000.

Building Operations.

Inquiries in building circles have resulted in the expression of opinion that the coming season will be an exceedingly busy one, and that, as a rule, the buildings to be put up will be of a decidedly improved class. It is held that many people of moderate income are occupying houses by no means as large and convenient as they would like, the difference between the rent and the next best class being too great for them to cover. For these better provision is contemplated, and, in consequence, there is not likely to be any lack of moderate priced buildings.

Kootenay Lake News—Hot Springs Camp.

A letter, received last evening, contains the following items: "The Tenderfoot is down 50 feet in good ore. The United is down 74 feet, to-day, and Thompson says they have struck a fine body of ore. The No. 1 is also looking better, a good body of ore showing up in the north drift. Dr. Hendry is reported to have said that he would send in the galena by March 1. All indications point to a big mine in the Silver King. The reports of the mine are in no way exaggerations of what is actually in sight. I visited the mine personally. There is going to be a boom in the Lake country, in the Spring.

The Westminster Fire.

A gentleman who was in New Westminster during a portion of the time that the fire was raging, says the explosion was terrific. It is said that there must have been 500 pounds stored on the premises, the black powder going off first, followed by the giant powder, with a fearful shock. It broke the plate glass windows of the Colonial Hotel, and all the glass within a radius of over 500 feet, and threw heavy implements and other articles completely out of sight. One lady was badly cut with broken glass, Mr. Batcheler being also very seriously injured. Owing to the quantity of oil and turpentine which were on the premises, the fire was intensely hot, it being easy to see, at the very beginning, that a large quantity of property was doomed. The flames destroyed all the regalia of the Masons and Odd Fellows, including some very old and valued jewels, among the first that arrived on the coast. Fortunately, the papers, the property of the department of lands and works were saved, having been removed from the premises at an early stage of the fire.

Hon. Mr. Dewdney's Antagonist.

WINNIPEG, Man., Feb. 17.—Hon. Mr. Dewdney will be opposed in Eastern Assiniboia by Turiff, Liberal.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, February 18.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

For Victoria.

Messrs. Trinder, Anderson & Co., of London, announce that the well known iron clipper Wanlock, is loading at the London docks for Esquimalt and Victoria, and will have quick despatch.

Caught Red Handed.

When the steamer City of Puebla arrived at Seattle from Victoria, yesterday, Customs Officer Bradford succeeded in capturing 96 pounds of contraband opium in the possession of one of the firemen. The man declined to give his name when arrested.

Knights go to Nanaimo.

The Uniform Rank of the Knights of Pythias met, last evening, in Pioneer hall, to decide whether they would parade in this city on Thursday or attend the annual Pythian ball at Nanaimo, on the 26th inst. After considerable discussion, it was decided that to go to Nanaimo was the more preferable.

Booming Nanaimo.

Messrs. Field & Dempster, real estate dealers of Nanaimo, are spending a few days as guests at the Roccabella. Their visit is for the purpose of putting on the market here some of the most desirable property in the residental part of Nanaimo.

Jubilee Hospital.

At a special meeting of the directors of the above, held on Monday evening, the entire list of by-laws was considered and adopted. Rules and regulations were also passed for the guidance of nurses and patients, and copies will be issued very shortly.

The Dominion Illustrated.

This well known weekly continues to do credit to Canadian enterprise. It is a really artistic production, and is conducted with a more than ordinary amount of enterprise. It appears to be daily growing in popularity, and its successes are well deserved.

Vernon to Have a Paper.

A private letter just to hand from Vernon, B. C., contains the information that a new printing office is in course of erection by a syndicate of that place, and The Vernon — something, will shortly make its appearance. The weather is delightful, and the farmers are greatly encouraged by the prospects for next season.

Ferry's Catalogue.

D. M. Ferry & Co.'s (Windsor, Ont.) well known and highly appreciated catalogue of seeds, containing very suggestive and useful hints to gardeners—amateurs and professionals alike—is to hand in its latest edition. This well known publication should be in the hands of all who have a taste for horticulture or floriculture.

The Nimble Burglar.

The nimble burglar made his presence felt to the extent of about $125 in D. Campbell's tailoring establishment, on Government street, either Sunday night or early Monday morning. When Mr. Campbell opened his store on Monday, he found the safe door open and the cash box empty. How the burglar got in and out is the mystery.

A Well Deserved Lesson.

James O'Neil acknowledged in the police court, yesterday morning, that he had been guilty of the offence charged—excessive cruelty to his horse. Mr. Yates, who represented the S. P. C. A., and watched the case, had therefore nothing more to do than to urge the imposition of a fine that would be remembered. Ten dollars and costs was the penalty.

Good-bye to the Mongkut.

The steamer Mongkut, which has for several months past been coasting for the C. P. R. Co., in connection with their steamship line, comes out of the dry dock at Esquimalt to-day, and will at once return to Vancouver. From there she proceeds to Portland, and thence to Tacoma to load flour for Japan. The C. P. R. Co are looking for another suitable steamer to take her place, but have not yet secured one.

A Prosperous Union.

On Monday evening last the members of the Victoria Painters' Union entertained their friends at their rooms in the old Masonic block on Government street, where speeches were made and songs sung. The painters have very comfortable quarters, with reading room and an employment bureau in connection. The rooms are always open for the accommodation of the members.

School Trustees.

A regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees was held last evening: Present: Messrs. Hayward, in the chair, Erskine, Hall, Walker and Mallandaine. The resignation of Mr. H. Goward, as first assistant at the High School, was read and accepted with regret. The secretary was instructed to invite applications for the position rendered vacant. The secretary reported the January attendance as being 1,568, the largest yet on record. The average daily attendance is 1,359.86. Some divisions showed an attendance of 84, while six had an average of over 70.

Canadian Home Circle.

A meeting will be held in the St. George's Society room, corner of Government and Baston streets, this evening, for the purpose of forming a circle of the above order. The order of Canadian Home Circles is a fraternal, benevolent and beneficiary society established in Ontario some seven years ago. Amongst its supreme officers for this year are Rev. John Kay, supreme leader, president of the Niagara conference of the Methodist Church; Hon. Richard Harcourt, M.P.P., Provincial Treasurer for Ontario, who were also charter members of the order, and other men of good standing. The order has a membership of upwards 6,000, and the member is insured for $3,000 at a cost of about $17 annually. The official organizer is Mr. A. Q. St. George, who will give an explanation of the benefits of the order. All are invited to attend. A large number, including some ladies, have already signed the application for the charter.

The Chee Kiung Tong.

Not long ago a local paper published an article on the society bearing the above mysterious name, and stated that the lodge in this city was the headquarters of the order of highbinders—an order traitrous to the ruling dynasty of China, plotting for its overthrow, and employing paid assassins to carry out the society's schemes. Yesterday a representative of the lodge of the Chee Kiung Tong paid the COLONIST office a visit. He came, he said, to contradict the charge. The Chee Kiung Tong was in no way connected with the highbinders, their schemes or their methods. When founded, hundreds and hundreds of years ago, it was a society opposed to the ruling emperor, but as it grew older, politics dropped out, and the society became what the name implies—a purely fraternal and benevolent institution. Its constitution is modelled closely upon the lines of Masonry, and it is claimed that Free Masonry in reality grew out of the Chee Kiung Tong, which admits white members and still uses many of the same signs and forms as the Masons. Hoey Sam and Lu Chung, both well known merchants, are at the head of the order here; and a three years' guarantee of good conduct at initiation is required to secure admission.

"The West Shore."

The West Shore, published at Portland, Oregon, comes week after week replete with really excellent matter. Its illustrations of striking scenery by road and rail, at sea and on land, are wonderfully good, and cannot fail to have a good effect on travel and, indeed, on sentiment. Some of the humorous cuts are well timed and pointed, and the reading matter throughout, serious as well as comic, is of very considerable interest.

"The Wasp."

As usual, "The Wasp," of San Francisco, is up to time. In its latest number, it buzzes against a number of abuses, and inserts its sting very delicately and effectually into political and social frauds and shows, while it circles round many things that are not as they should be, and gives its warnings as to what will be the consequences if remedies are not provided, and not only does it sting, but as it flies, the shafts of satire and sarcasm which it wields have a considerable amount of potency and effect.

Onward and Upward.

Messrs. T. N. Hibben & Co. have received copies of a new magazine which is being issued in London under the editorship of the Countess of Aberdeen, entitled, "Onward and Upward." It is in the interest of young women and working mothers. Its low price, one penny per month, should secure for it a large list of subscribers here, the more so, as beginning with the February number a considerable amount of space will be devoted to the Countess's recent visit to this country. It is the journal of the Haddo House Association.

They Sold Well.

Capt. W. R. Clarke, auctioneer, sold at the C.P.N. Co.'s dock at noon yesterday, the little steamer North Star and two Columbia River fishing boats, all of which had been seized by the Custom's authorities for smuggling. The Star was purchased by Mr. Charles Williams for $430; the larger sail boat by Mr. Dempster for $270, and the smaller by Mr. Foote for $80. An old punt, a couple of anchors and some other odds and ends brought $23.50. The Star was seized on June 10th, 1890, and the other boats on the 18th of August and 9th of April of the same year. This morning, at 10 o'clock, a miscellaneous collection of confiscated articles will be sold at Capt. Clarke's rooms.

Looking for Her Son.

The following is the text of a letter received by Postmaster Shakespeare from a lady in Rosedale, Ontario, who is anxious to discover her son's whereabouts

ROSEDALE, February 6th, 1891.

DEAR SIR,—I hope you will excuse my boldness in writing to you, but I have lost a son. I have not heard from him for a long time. He received some letters at your office last March He has a dark complexion, pleasant, mild, brown eyes, and has two palates. He does not speak plain, but is a fair scholar. He goes by the name of H. R. S. His name is Hiram Reuben Suddaly. If he is in Victoria let me know, and I will be very thankful to you. Yours truly,

MRS. JOHN MCINTYRE,
Rosedale,
Ontario.

Missing.

Since a week ago Monday, John Moffatt, a compositor, who worked for some time in the Government printing office, has been missing from his home, at the corner of Fort and Blanchard streets. His eyesight commenced to fail him some time ago, and, with his wife, he opened a restaurant at the locality mentioned. Being afflicted with ill-health, he became despondent, and on the day he was last seen at home he expressed himself as discouraged "with everything." A few words arose between him and his wife, and he left the house, nor has she been or heard of him since. She is rapidly breaking down under her anxiety for her missing husband, whom she would like to hear from at once. Moffatt is said to have obtained his card from the Typographical Union and gone to Seattle to work on the Post-Intelligencer. Another report is to the effect that he left Tacoma for San Francisco with the intention of consulting an oculist. Wherever he is, he would lift a heavy burden from the heart of his wife by communicating with her at once.

Victoria Lodge I. O. O. F.

Mr. F. Davey, recording and permanent secretary of Victoria Lodge No. 1, I. O. O. F., has published a report of the operations of that lodge during last term. It shows a membership of 166. During the six months there has been no loss in members. The total receipts of the sick and funeral fund were $1,502.25, and total payments $1,695 50, showing a loss of $193.25; but of this sum $44 is due from Samaritan Lodge No. 35, Ingersoll, Ont., for sick benefits advanced to Bro. J. Laing, P. G., leaving a net loss of $149.25. Sick benefits amounting to $1,304 have been paid during the half year, which is $138 less than the preceding term, and averages about $8 per member. The receipts of the widow and orphan's fund, which is confined to fines only, amounted to $25.75, whereas the payments aggregated $60. The total amount received by the management fund was $436.80, and the expenditure $528.48, showing a loss also on this fund of $91.68. The purchase of funeral badges, at a cost of $126.68, is the principal cause of this reduction.

IN CHAMBERS.

(Before Mr. Justice Crease.)

Swarm vs. Brydan—Application for 14 days' time in which to deliver statement of defence. Order made. Mr. Wilson for plaintiff, Mr. Corbould for defendant.

Granville vs. Cotton—Application for the dismissal of the petition. Adjourned until Thursday. Eberts & Taylor for plaintiff, Drake, Jackson & Helmcken for defendant.

Harper vs. Cameron—To stay proceedings. Adjourned until Thursday. Mr. Hett for plaintiff, Mr. Wilson for defendant.

Turner vs. Prevost—(Three summons) Trial with special jury fixed for March 3.

Cowan & Wilson vs. Ethridge—To postpone trial. Trial postponed until March 1; costs of application being paid.

Turner vs. Hobson—Adjourned until the 23d inst.

Napoleon's Head.

NAPOLEON'S head was of peculiar shape, but that did not protect him against headaches. Sick headache is a common and very disagreeable affection which may be quickly removed together with its cause, by the use of Burdock Blood Bitters, the herb failing medicine for all kinds of headaches, or

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

After prayers, there were presented the following

PETITIONS.

Mr. EBERTS—From P. C. Dunlevy and others, for a bill to incorporate the Hot Springs and Goat River Tramway Co.

MR. MARTIN — From the Vancouver Water Works company, opposing the act to amend the Vancouver Incorporation Act of 1886.

MR. COTTON—From the Ministerial association of Vancouver re Public School act.

MR. BROWN—From the Grand Lodge I. O. G. T. of British Columbia, re liquor traffic on Sunday.

MR. MARTIN—From J. F. Allison and others, asking for a bill to incorporate the Nicola, Kamloops and Semilkameen Railway company.

REPORT.

MR. MARTIN presented the sixth report of the committee on Standing Orders and Private bills, as follows: "Your committee beg leave to report that the standing orders in connection with the petition of the Victoria and Beecher Bay Railway company have not been complied with, and your committee have no recommendation to make, as the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway company have agreed to build the branch line to Beecher Bay as soon as a line connecting the American system of railways with Port Crescent or Port Angeles or some other point opposite Beecher Bay is constructed, and will complete the construction of the line, and receive freight as soon as the American lines are in a position to tranship."

The Committee also reported favorably on the petitions for certain Bills, and also the Bill to incorporate the order of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate in British Columbia

NEW BILLS.

The following bills were introduced:

HON. MR. VERNON—An Act to amend the Land Act.

MR. COTTON—An Act to amend the Companies Act, 1890.

THE HESPERUS AFFAIR.

MR. COTTON moved that a Select Committe be appointed, composed of Messrs. Semlin, Eberts, Hall, Forster, and the mover, to investigate all matters connected with the seizure of the vessel Hesperus, and her crew; with power to call for persons and papers, and to report to the House.

HON. MR. DAVIE said there would be no objection to the motion, though there was ground for much complaint as to the manner in which the government had been treated in the matter. He explained the circumstances of the case, the papers in which were very voluminous. The Hesperus had been charged with selling liquor to Indians, but the Crown, owing to the necessity of bringing witnesses from the north at very great expense and other matters, among them the condition of the law, had allowed the case before Justice Harrison to go by default. Though some of the evidence taken was direct, he did not consider the case a very strong one. Not unnaturally, the owners felt that they had a grievance, and, therefore, had taken this method to obtain an inquiry. But, instead of this, they should have, at first, approached the government with a regular complaint. A lady had, about two months ago, approached him and showed him a correspondence in the newspapers, which he had never seen. He deprecated such a round-about method of procedure, first appealing to the papers, and then to the House, but never to the Government direct.

HON. MR. ROBSON corroborated this statement, and said that he had, about two months ago, been approached in the same way as the attorney-general, and had advised that the matter be laid in proper shape before the Government, but this had not been done.

HON. MR. DAVIE introduced a Bill "to amend the Summary Convictions Act," which was read a first time; also one "to amend the Supreme Court Act."

HON. MR. TURNER moved the second reading of

THE ASSESSMENT BILL,

whose provisions he explained.

MR. SEMLIN protested against certain provisions of the measure, among them the remission of taxation upon the Canadian Pacific Railway, as he had previously explained. Petitions had been prepared in his and other constituencies against this feature of the Bill, the original of which had not yet arrived, but a draft of which he had received. It asked that no remission of taxation to the railway be made until it had fenced its road and paid remuneration to the owners of the stock which had been killed by the trains. There were individuals in that neighborhood who had lost as many as 200 head of cattle since the C.P.R. had been in operation. The people concerned, had, he contended, adopted the proper course in this matter, and he appealed to the Government and to his colleagues in this House to see to it that the assessment on that road was not modified until they had paid indemnity for past losses and taken steps to prevent their recurrence in the future.

HON. MR. ROBSON said that the member for Yale appeared to think that the way to remedy one wrong was to perpetrate an injustice. The bill before the House did not cover one railway alone, but all that were now in operation and might be hereafter constructed in this Province. The Government had found on investigation that it was exceedingly unwise and improper to tax railways under the conditions of the old act. Indeed, the Dominion Government had given it to be understood that if the taxation were not made more nearly to approximate the railway taxation in the other provinces, the act itself would run the risk of being disallowed. Moreover, the Government had concluded that it was right and just and politic to make the proposed changes, and even now the basis of railway taxation was much higher than in the other provinces. Other railway companies had had no difficulty in obtaining immunity from taxation for a certain number years, and it was deemed advisable to arrive at something definite in order that those who invested their money might know what to expect. There had never been any petition presented to the House on the subject; but if the facts were as stated by the member for Yale it was outrageous, and there must be a remedy, and for this the Attorney-General was now preparing. It was to his mind—whatever the other provinces might do or say—clearly the right of this House to legislate in this direction, and he believed the other provinces would pursue a similar course. He thought irrespective of the grievance, the members should consider whether or not the bill before them was fair and just.

HON. MR. BEAVEN thought it would have been well if all correspondence on this matter were before the House. Indeed, this was the practice.

HON. MR. ROBSON said the bill was before the House on its merits, and the correspondence as to the remission of the tax had been before the House last session.

HON. MR BEAVEN said that without the information before the House it would be impossible to say whether the measure was right or wrong.

MR. COTTON spoke of the importance the land and taxation question had assumed during the last elections, and on this account he wished to have had the Land Act and the Assessment Bill before the House at the same time. It was not proper, he thought, to force the present measure through to-day. He objected to the clause relating to exemptions on improvements which did not meet all that was desired.

HON. MR. ROBSON having given satisfactory explanations,

MR. COTTON said he agreed that the second reading should not be opposed for the reasons assigned by the member for Yale. He wished to see the clause amended that dealt with the wild land tax. This bill did not go far enough, and the only way to deal fairly with it was by an *ad valorem* tax. No man should be allowed to lock up his land until it had been improved by the work which has been done by his neighbors. He referred to what had been styled the unearned increment. There was nothing to induce or compel people to improve their lands and allow them to be opened up to settlement.

DR. MILNE moved the adjournment of the debate.

MR. MARTIN spoke of the fencing which had already been done by the C.P.R. in the vicinity of Kamloops. The company fully recognized the injury which had been done by accidents to cattle, and were completing their fencing with all possible expedition.

HON. MR. ROBSON ridiculed the idea that the provisions of this bill relating to the Canadian Pacific should not be passed until the company had completed their fences.

After some discussion,

DR. MILNE withdrew his motion to adjourn the debate.

MR. BROWN advocated the recognition of the principle that no man had a right to hold large tracts of land and lock them up from settlement. The principle of "lose it or use it" should be the rule. He, therefore, supported the idea of an *ad valorem* tax. This tax of ten or twelve cents an acre on some lands would be unjust; but there were others, the holding of which in a wild condition was injurious to the country. The one thing to do was to recognize and adopt a broad principle without considering special cases.

MR. BOOTH held that the Government were moving in the right direction. If there were any exemptions, the railways should be exempted as much as possible. He should support the second reading of the Bill, though he should suggest several amendments in committee. He scarcely, however, saw his way clear to support the *ad valorem* principle.

HON. MR. DAVIE spoke in favor of the Bill as submitted, in preference to the *ad valorem* system. Nothing was as well calculated to make people improve or dispose of the lands they held than legislation like this.

After some further discussion, the Bill was read a second time and referred to committee,

On motion of Mr. Brown, the Bill regulating the

SALE OF TOBACCO TO MINORS,

was read a second time. He would not class it as a Moral Reform Bill. It was much like the law which prevailed in Ontario, and was calculated to promote the physical and mental development of the youth. He did not ask for legislation against the use of tobacco generally, but what he desired to regulate was the use of tobacco by juveniles before they had got their growth. Tobacco had the effect of making them half men, both physically and mentally.

HON. MR. DAVIE supported the second reading of the Bill, which had his warm approval. He thought the use of tobacco by lads ought to be prohibited. He did not say so with regard to grown up men, which was a different thing. He smoked himself.

HON. MR. BEAVEN thought the question of opium smoking might be dealt with, particularly among minors. As far as this bill went he should support the second reading. Much, he was convinced, could be done to prevent tobacco smoking by minors by means of education.

MR. SEMLIN said this was one of those acts which he could heartily support. He believed in the right of the state to interfere in questions of this kind, and not only with respect to tobacco smoking, but to the use of alcoholic beverages also.

MR. BOOTH supported the bill, adding that if boys were found in possession of tobacco they should be punished.

MR. MARTIN, while approving of this idea, thought that provision should be made so as to prevent a boy being punished when he was sent to purchase tobacco.

MR. FORSTER scarcely favored legislation of this kind, but was, however, prepared to allow the proposed measure to be tried. He thought more could be done in the schools than was done at present to teach the children the ill-effect of tobacco.

DR. MILNE approved the bill. Medical experience had shown that the use of tobacco had the effect of depressing the heart's action. And if this were the case on the adult, how much more so on the juvenile?

HON. MR. ROBSON heartily supported the bill. He would remark that in the schools a most admirable text book had been introduced, showing the ill-effects of alcohol and tobacco. It was very important that subjects of this kind should be more generally taught. At present this was an optional subject. Without question, abstinence from tobacco and alcohol was of vital importance, particularly among those who were growing up. Teaching these subjects was especially necessary, with a view to developing the very best men and women that could be produced on the continent.

MR. HALL thought something more than at present should be done for the protection of the vendor.

MR. SMITH said he should support the second reading.

The bill was read a second time and submitted to committee, Mr. Forster in the chair.

The committee rose; reported progress, and the House adjourned.

QUESTIONS.

MR. KELLIE — Thursday — Would the Government be willing to grant a land or cash subsidy to assist the establishment of Reduction and Refinery Works at Nelson or some other convenient point on Kootenay lake?

MR. MACKENZIE — Thursday — Did any person, verbally or otherwise, consult with or communicate with the Provincial Government or any of its members or deputies concerning the sending of the militia to Wellington last summer, prior to the calling out of that force? If so, what was the purport of the consultation or communication, and what course was advised?

(a) Have the Provincial Government paid any money or incurred any pecuniary liability in consequence of the militia having been sent to or maintained at Wellington last year?

(b) If so, to what amount or to what extent?

(c) Have the Dominion Government or any of its employes, or any corporation, commercial firm, party or person made or prepared, verbally or otherwise, any claim against the Provincial Government in consequence of the militia having been sent to or maintained at Wellington, last year?

(d) If so, of what nature or amount?

MR. COTTON—Thursday—What were the amounts received during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1890, and during the half year ended December 31, 1890, from the provincial revenue tax in the cities of Vancouver, Victoria, New Westminster and Nanaimo?

NOTICES OF MOTION.

COL. BAKER—Whereas, the introduction of what is known as the anti-Chinese clause into private bills may prejudically affect the introduction of capital in furtherance of private enterprises, and may prove detrimental to the interests of the white laboring classes of the province by interfering with trade, by limiting freedom of contract and by checking the prosecution of certain valuable industries; and whereas there is considerable doubt whether the imposition of such a clause in private bills sanctioned by the Legislature of the province, has any legal force; and whereas it is not expedient that this House should stultify itself by passing acts which have no legal effect.

Therefore be it Resolved, that an humble address be presented to His Honor, the Lieut.-Governor, praying him to cause a judgment of the Supreme Court of the Province to be taken as to the powers of this House to pass certainacts and clauses prohibiting the employment of Chinese.

COL. BAKER—Friday—To recommend the House to request the Government to consider an amendment to the Railway Act, to provide that the right of eminent domain, upon special conditions, but without the necessity of a special charter, be granted as a right to applicants for a railway line.

HON. MR. ROBSON—Thursday—Act for the observance of the Lord's Day, commonly called Sunday.

By MR. KELLIE—on Thursday next—Whereas there are now being mined in the Kootenai district large quantities of gold, silver, copper and lead ores; and whereas nearly the whole of the ore so mined is exported to foreign markets for reduction into bullion; and whereas it would be to the great advantage of the Kootenai district, and the province generally, to establish a smelting industry at or near the town of Nelson, or at some other point on or near Kootenai Lake; and whereas it is a fact that the effect of the imposition by the United States of a duty on raw ores from Mexico brought a great amount of foreign capital which built up large smelting works in Mexico; and whereas the money representing the difference between the price of the raw ore and the reduced bullion is now lost to this Province, by the exportation and reduction of the said ore in foreign countries, thereby benefiting said foreign countries at the expense of this Province; and whereas the absence of an operating smelter in a mineral district places the price of its raw ore at the discretion of the foreign smelter, who deducts the cost of transportation of the ore from the mine to his smelting works, thereby lessening the value of the ore by so much at least, and oftimes more, to the miner himself; and whereas the establishment of a smelting industry would tend materially to increase the population, by attracting scientific and laboring men to the district, whose efforts would doubtless be directed to the development and advancement of the various industries within its resources, and be the means of retaining within the province the large sums now paid for foreign duties, transportation, reduction fees, etc., etc.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that an humble address be presented to the Lieut.-Governor, praying him to take such steps as he shall deem necessary, to induce the Dominion Government to place such an export duty on raw ores containing gold, silver, copper and lead, as shall practically prevent the export of the same from the province to foreign countries.

FUR SEAL PUPS AGAIN.

Professor Elliott Insists That His Position Has Not Been Weakened.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,
WASHINGTON CITY, Feb. 10, 1891.

TO THE EDITOR: Again, Mr. Swan comes forward with no proof whatever from his single witness cited, of pelagic birth of the fur seal. Capt. McAlymond is careful in saying that he did not see the pup born on its kelp bed, or see it at all.

Mr. Swan, again, gives my individuality nearly all the space in this letter. I fail to understand what is the account of my personality in this discussion; what has it to do with this question? which the open-water fur sealers of Puget Sound and Victoria are invited to settle. My opinion of Mr. Swan's sobriety and virtue has nothing to do with the following facts:

First—No seal (hair seal or fur seal, or sea lion or walrus) brings forth its young in the water.

Second—The hair seals, as a class, bring forth their young on the ice floes; its pups are not in the water at all until they are from 3 to 4 weeks old. Then they are abandoned by their mothers and obliged to take to the sea for food.

Third—The fur seal and sea lion are also obliged to bring forth their young on the land. The pups of the former require about four months of nursing before they take to the sea, and those of the latter require less than six weeks of feeding ashore before they go to the water.

Fourth—The walrus we do not know much about, definitely, only that it breeds on ice floes. The time of nursing the young is not positively stated by any authority.

No naturalist, whomsoever, can be quoted against the truths of the above statements of phocine reproduction; but, if the fur seal taken off the Straits of Fuca is radically different in its method of life from that routine of all the rest of its kind, it is an interesting fact to establish. We know that it is the same animal taken on the Pribylof islands. The open-water seals follow it up from Vancouver island in the early spring to Prince William sound by April, to Kodiak island by June, and into Behring's Sea by July 1, of every year.

The affidavits of those pelagic sealers, which I quoted in my note, which you republished from Forest and Stream, December 29, 1890, are the statements of men wholly unknown to me or solicited by myself. They are made by men who seem to have had extensive personal knowledge of what they talk about, and for that reason I called attention to them.

Permit me also to call your eye to the fact that your headline over this last letter of Mr. Swan is misleading, in so much as asserting that "Neah Bay is full of pups." You will observe that last year's pups are described (or yearlings) as being numerous this season.

HENRY W. ELLIOTT.

A Mile a Minute.

TORONTO, Feb. 17.—Sir Charles Tupper, who arrived here last night, travelled in a special car, and made the trip from Halifax in 24 hours, one of the fastest trips on record.

A MUSICAL EVENT

Even Standing Room Not A[illegible] at Last Evening's Char[illegible] Concert.

Financial, as Well as Musi[illegible]cess—Other Entertainme[illegible] Announced.

A great many people have reas[illegible] proud of the Charity Concert, w[illegible] the great attraction at The Vic[illegible] evening. It was given for t[illegible] charity—the relief of those de[illegible] husbands and fathers by the Ou[illegible] disaster of a few weeks ago. [illegible] with kind hearts always, rememb[illegible] that awful affair, and signified [illegible] ingness to contribute to a good [illegible] packing every foot, even of standi[illegible] in the house. Fifteen minutes aft[illegible] office was opened, it had to be ord[illegible] sixty tickets having then been [illegible] whose holders seats could not be [illegible] without calling on the reserve[illegible] chairs. Scores were informed [illegible] "could not possibly get in," [illegible] ladies were provided with seat[illegible] gallery.

It was THE COLONIST that first [illegible] the concert, and Mrs. W. W. Cl[illegible] fell in with the suggestion, and wo[illegible] fully and well to make the progra[illegible] it was a pleasing and thoroughly [illegible] one. The best talent in the city w[illegible] to assist, and the responses were [illegible] general. Mr. C. A. Lombard v[illegible] to look after the business manage[illegible] to him fell no insignificant port[illegible] hard work. The result of the un[illegible] of all was a success so brilliant an[illegible] that the concert will