

The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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FINANCES OF THE NEW PROVINCES.

The estimates for the current year for the province of Alberta have been submitted by the government. There have been voted for expenses of government \$127,806.67; for expenses of the administration, \$106,100; for the expenditure on public works, \$906,000; for the department of agriculture, \$315,000; for hospitals, \$33,500; and for miscellaneous, \$33,500. The expenditure in connection with public works is principally in connection with new works, and is, therefore, much larger than the normal requirements. The Morning Alberta states that the expenditure is much less than the revenue, which might be expected from the large subsidies received from the Dominion government. With reasonable economy the new provinces should have large surpluses continuously. We note, however, that Saskatchewan has started out by paying a seasonal indemnity of \$1,000, which is the highest paid in the provincial legislatures of the Dominion. From this we see the result of the example set by the Dominion parliament. However, if the seasonal indemnity of a member of the House of Commons should be \$2,500 per annum it is not hard to justify \$1,000 as an indemnity for provincial legislators, especially in the West. It is also noted that demands are being made on the new governments for universities and agricultural colleges. That appears to be rushing matters somewhat. In regard to the latter we quite agree with the Farmers' Advocate, who says that "there is no immediate or pressing need for an agricultural college in either Saskatchewan or Alberta. Agriculture is new, and the land has all its virgin strength, and we believe that the needs of those provinces for say five years to come, can be abundantly served by careful scrutiny of the work at the Dominion farms and by sending out well trained lecturers and demonstrators from time to time."

A UNIVERSITY FOR VICTORIA.

The Colonist would be the last in the city of Victoria to obstruct in the slightest degree the establishment of a university at this point or to throw any obstacles in the way of making it an educational centre. In fact, it is not necessary to remind readers that the latter is one of the things the Colonist has persistently advocated as being in its best interests as a residential city, and as the capital city of the province. No one with a knowledge of our conditions could deny, for a moment, that Victoria is in every way eminently and pre-eminently adapted to fill the requirements which educationists seek in choosing a locality for schools, academies or colleges. It is both picturesque and healthful in its surroundings and general conditions, it is homelike, it stands upon the sea, and it has unequalled social environments. It is par excellence, the site for a university, provided otherwise that it is politically and otherwise possible.

An obvious condition of the city of Victoria obtaining the university would be the extent of the endowment on the part of Victoria citizens. Statements have appeared in the press of this city and in the Vancouver press that certain persons had promised large sums for the purpose of establishing a university here, and certain hints to the same effect have been made public from time to time lately. Now this would be most important, if true. Among the names mentioned is that of Mr. James Dunsmuir. We cannot say what the intentions of Mr. Dunsmuir may be as to some time in the future. That is a matter wholly within his own discretion and circumstances and conditions might permit; but we are authorized by that gentleman to say that he is not, up to the present time, made any such promise upon the conditions named or upon any other conditions. Therefore, the use of his name in that connection is not warranted by the facts of the case.

CONDITIONS IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Returned travelers from San Francisco report the damage done to that city by earthquake and fire as great as was at first reported, and speak apprehensively about its future under the new conditions which have arisen since it was visited by similar disasters in former years. The conditions are that new and populous cities have grown up along the coast, which are ready now to step in and take the trade that must inevitably depart from it for the time being, at least. Once gone it will be hard to bring back again, and under the most favorable circumstances it will take the city several years to build up. The loss is undoubtedly great, the business part of San Francisco being wholly wiped out. There is, it is true, a feeling of

hope, and the substantial citizens are showing great courage under their severe trial; but it is being depleted of a considerable portion of its population, which is scattering in all directions. It is a serious question whether very many of these unfortunate people will ever return again. Until the insurance companies have adjusted the losses, and the banks open up again for business, there is no money, and practically no trade and no industry.

What appears to have happened at first is that the news correspondents and all others painted the catastrophe in very strong colors, with a leaning to exaggeration on the side of the worst side of the case. The first impression was certainly very appalling, and it was hard to find words in the English language to do justice to the situation. As soon, however, as the first shock was over and the fires had been subdued, there was a persistent and systematic effort to minimize the calamity, and a great deal has been suppressed for the purpose of counteracting the effect of the first reports. The impression created by the more recent official reports is that the loss was not nearly so great as was at first stated. This we can readily understand from the fact that the fortunes of a great many individuals are at stake in the rebuilding of the city. For instance, it is stated by those who have recently returned and in letters being received by persons who have friends there, that there have been a long series of earthquake shocks, not serious, but continuous, and this has had a very disturbing effect upon the confidence of those who otherwise might have decided to stay and begin again the work of reconstruction.

It should not be the effort of newspapers or the business men of other, and in a sense rival, cities, to exaggerate the results of earthquake and fire, and the conditions which exist in the unfortunate city of San Francisco. The calamity which has overtaken it must be a serious blow to its future, and one exceedingly hard to overcome. Had the loss resulted from fire alone, the citizens would the sooner have taken heart, because fire is a contingency to which all cities are subject, and can be guarded against by measures of precaution, but the liability to earthquake is one beyond the power of human ingenuity to avert in any material degree, notwithstanding the statement of Mr. Harriman that it is proposed to make the new San Francisco earthquake as well as fire proof. To some extent, perhaps, the serious consequences in the business portions of the city can be minimized by the manner of constructing business blocks. We shall in the future, it is probable, only have steel structures of a certain character, and the sky scraper will be no more; but earthquakes must forever shake the confidence of the people of a city as well as the foundations of their strongest and best structures. It is this unfortunate circumstance that must militate against the development of the new city, and San Francisco is no longer the sole entrepot of Pacific coast trade. It is only one of many emporiums of commerce. In time people will forget the danger of the earthquake, but while time flies other cities will steal the trade of the city of San Francisco. A mistake that has in all probability been made by the later tenor of press despatches is that there is a great deal of aid still needed by the people of San Francisco, and that aid will be needed for some time to come. The impression intended to be created by making the worse appear the better condition is that many willing contributions will have been cut off, and in this connection we cannot help feeling that the announcement made by the President that assistance from outside countries was not desired or required was ill-advised. The United States and the cities of the United States have always been quick to respond to the misfortunes of other peoples outside their domain, and the outside world should have been permitted to show their sympathy in the way in which it was inclined, prompted by the exigencies of the occasion. It may be that San Francisco may seriously suffer eventually as the result of this policy of what we might call the "non-interference" of the foreigners. Let us hope, however, that only the best may result for the sake of the stricken city of the Golden Gate.

A PROGRESSIVE INDUSTRY.

The mining industry of British Columbia may fairly be regarded as distinctly progressive. The total value of the mineral production of the province in the year 1902 was \$17,486,530; in 1903 a small advance was made, the total for that year having been \$17,496,954; 1904 saw an increase of nearly \$1,500,000—to \$18,977,353, and in 1905 the total was the highest yet reached in any one year in the history of mining in an increase, viz., about \$2,450,000, or an increase over 1904 of about \$3,454,000. While the figures given above exhibit a substantial progress, it is gratifying to find that the four expired months of the current year have well maintained production at the enlarged rate that made 1905 the most prominent year the industry has seen, as is evident when a glance is taken over the results attained. In the several chief ore-pro-

ducing districts the output of the mines compares favorably with that of the corresponding period of 1905, and the prospects are that the production of 1906 will be even larger than that of last year and that consequently a new record in total value will be made. The several mining districts of the province are briefly reviewed below:

Cariboo gives promise of making a better showing than last year, for the reason that there should be more water available this season, for both ordinary placer and hydraulic, and that in several instances operations will be on a larger scale. The deep drifting mines, too, should recover a fair quantity of gold and thus add to the total yield. But whether the quantity of gold recovered be more or less than in 1905, there is the eminently satisfactory condition that there will be a large output in preparing for the bringing in of much more water for gravel washing at Bullion, than has been obtainable in the past. The Cariboo section, however, should be a considerably larger recovery of gold may be looked for next year, even should this year's results not be materially increased by the improvements in this direction now being undertaken.

Cassiar should produce more this year than last. From A. M. G., especially, there should come more gold than last year's total, for to the ordinary placer and hydraulic there should be added a considerable recovery of gold from dredging and steam shovel operations. Tibbet Creek should contribute an appreciable large quantity of gold, for the Berry Creek Mining company has done much of its preliminary work and should be able to wash a lot of gravel; while Lorne Creek and other tributaries of the Skeena river should do better than in previous years. In the Topley and Buller Valley sections there should be prospecting done this year, though there will be no ore production, owing to the absence of transportation facilities.

East Kootenay's coal mines are steadily increasing their output, and although the total production of 1,000,000 tons is unlikely to be reached this year, it is not unreasonable to look forward to a total of about 900,000 tons, all from the mines of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal company. Placer gold mining may yield a large quantity of gold this year, for operations on the creeks in the Port Steele district will not be large, but the output of silver-lead ore should be the largest yet made from this part of East Kootenay, the St. Eugene being in a position to maintain a larger output than ever before, and the other two promising to swell the total. Not much improvement may be looked for in the Windermere and other sections of North-east Kootenay until after railway transportation shall have been provided.

West Kootenay should do better than last year. Ainsworth and Slocan mines now have the advantage of a smelter on Kootenay Lake, and a reduced smelting charge at all three smelters taking silver-lead ores from these parts, beside the promise of a good market for zinc ores at Frank, Alberta, although it must be admitted that the regular operation of the zinc smelter is being delayed much longer than was expected it would be. Nelson and Ymir are producing ore, though not yet in so large quantities as was earlier expected they would be by the time the new smelter was in operation. About Trout Lake production, is still disappointing, and in Ferguson camp the position is not much better. Camborne is making progress, the Eva Mines company having its stamp mill running with little interruption, while there is activity on several silver-lead mines in this vicinity. The only lode mining worth mentioning in the Revelstoke district seems to be that at Standard Basin, but there is a prospect of several hydraulic gold mining properties in the Big Bend section being worked this season.

Rossland mines, also in West Kootenay, are doing well, the Le Roi, Le Roi No. 2, Centre Star and War Eagle all having larger ore reserves than for some time past and regularly maintaining satisfactory output of ore with reasonable expectation of increasing their production. All the ore from this camp is now going to the Trail smelter, which is also receiving supplies from Slocan and East Kootenay. A report issued by the Consolidated Mining and Smelting company, of Canada about two months ago, showed that in one month the company's works at Trail treated about 28,000 tons of ore and produced gold, silver, copper and lead to an approximate total value of \$503,000, or at the rate of about \$8,000,000 gross per annum.

The Boundary section of Yale district is, without doubt, the most progressive mining camp in the province. With an ore output for the four months to April 30th of about 430,000 tons, or 107,500 tons per month as compared with an average monthly production in 1905 of 77,800 tons, a considerable increase has been made. While one large mine will suspend production for eight or ten weeks pending the substitution of much larger furnaces at its smelter than those now in use, it is expected that its larger output during the following months will more than compensate for this temporary interruption in ore shipments. Two other large mines will also ship in considerably larger quantities, while several smaller properties are being developed in preparation for a materially increased output.

On the Coast, the only mines that are producing to any extent, are the Britannia and Tye. The former is supplying the Crofton smelter with ore and this is an addition to production, since this smelter was not being operated last year. At Ladysmith the supply of ore from the Tye mine is supplemented by shipments from south-east Alaska, which

country is also sending ore and copper matte to Crofton for treatment there. The coal mines of Vancouver Island are shipping coal freely, chiefly to San Francisco. There is a small, but growing market being developed to the northward. Coke, too, finds ready sale for two or three years, not only for Island smelters, but as well for south-east Alaska.

THE QUESTION OF A UNIVERSITY.

Every question should be viewed from the standpoint of common-sense and practicability and practicality. The Colonist recently expressed an opinion upon the matter of making Victoria an educational centre. Incidentally, the opinion was expressed that "we shall never have the British Columbia university in this city, but we can have private schools that will be worth a great deal more to us." This was read to a public meeting in Victoria by Mayor Morley, who described the Colonist, in consequence, as a "knocker" and as a traitor to the city's interests. Subsequently, we were informed that Mayor Morley had a card up his sleeve, whereby he was going to demonstrate to the Colonist and to the public that a university was possible and that he was the man that would accomplish the "impossible" for us. There were hints that the Colonist was in a position to know just what Mayor Morley's cards were and it should not have placed itself in a ridiculous attitude, because Mr. James Dunsmuir was the gentleman who was to come to the rescue. The rumor in regard to his part in the affair became current in business circles some time before it was published in the press. It was not a rumor, but a fact, and it was not a rumor, but a fact, that the Colonist, in its editorial of the 27th of April, or as the result of statements made by Mayor Morley, we were aware that the rumor was unfounded, but preferred to allow it to go uncontradicted so long as it remained a street rumor.

Now, however, since it has been published with an apparent circumstantiality calculated to deceive the public, we felt bound to contradict it. For doing so, we are again, in weak imitation of Mayor Morley, designated a "knocker." Because the Colonist corrected a misstatement and made an explanation in order to set the public right in a very important matter it is said to possess an "unfortunately melancholic and pessimistic constitution." For our own part we cannot see the utility of "boasting" even a desirable enterprise, upon grounds that are untenable. Moreover, the interests of the city, in so far as a university is concerned, can only be prejudiced by the adoption of such a course. It was extremely inadvisable upon whatever authority the supposed facts were given publicly.

It is not a part of the discussion of this particular point, we are asked to explain "why political considerations should be permitted to deprive it (Victoria) of its natural advantages." We have no particular objection to explaining. In our article of yesterday, we had in mind the tremendous efforts that would be made by the mainland to secure the university at Vancouver, or New Westminster, or at some point in the interior, say, Kamloops, being on the mainland, other things being equal, the mainland would be bound to capture the prize as soon as the question came within the pale of practical politics. Of course, if Victoria citizens were to subscribe to the funds for a university in excess of the funds available in other parts of the province that would probably decide the question in our favor; but in any event there would be a strong and probably a protracted fight over it. The establishment of a university on an efficient basis and unless it is extensively endowed from private sources, it is not likely to become a live issue within the next five years at least.

We believe that the Dominion government, in view of the fact that the province of British Columbia gave up 3,500,000 acres of the best land in the Peace River district, and the largest and finest area of agricultural land in the province, as well, worth not at the lowest calculation \$17,500,000 in

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return for a cash bonus of \$750,000 to the E. & N. railway, should set aside one million acres of that land as a reserve for university purposes in British Columbia. Under the terms of the Dominion treaty, which was agreed to by the Dominion government, the Dominion should have built the Island railway without one cent of expense to British Columbia.

But entirely apart from that, the policy of the Colonist in the matter of making Victoria an educational centre is not to wait around the gates of political opportunity for an indefinite time, in the hopes of succeeding; but to take up the question in a practical way by establishing schools in this city as a model of the kind of schools of Harrow and Elton, as a private enterprise, and develop on those lines. From a business point of view, the material results from the establishment of such schools in our midst would be very much more important than from the establishment of a university here. The university question must solve itself in its own way. We must await developments. The other is in our own hands; and would materially assist in securing for us the university as well.

A PROGRESSIVE INDUSTRY.

Satisfaction is expressed on account of the comments on the mining situation which appeared editorially in yesterday's Colonist, and it will still further assure when we state that the information was obtained from the most reliable sources. It was expressed in the next eight months' operations, it might not discount the possible results of the next eight months' operations. We may therefore reasonably look to the anticipations contained in the article being realized. There are, of course, the contingencies of labor troubles, disasters, fall in the price of metals, etc., but as these cannot be foreseen they cannot be provided against or allowed for in estimates based on normal conditions. Assuming that there are no serious setbacks such as have been experienced in some former years, we may confidently look forward to the present being the banner year in mining in this province. That feeling is being reflected in the hopeful buoyant feeling manifest in business circles in interior mining towns like Nelson, where the prosperity and prospects of the industry has a direct local effect. It has been pointed out that our review of yesterday, which was timely, coming after the expiry of the first four months of the year, was incomplete, inasmuch as a number of promising mining sections were not referred to. This was the result of inadvertence rather than oversight or neglect. However, a few further remarks are here added to complete the story, which our readers may fairly depend on as in a general way reflecting the condition of affairs throughout the province.

Lillooet does not give promise of much mining this year, neither in lode, placer nor dredging. About Ashcroft there is little mining work in progress other than that in the Highland valley section. Near Kamloops the Iron Mask may produce more than during last year, but as little information is made public concerning operations at this mine, this is but a surmise. Supplementing the observations made with reference to the Boundary district, it may be stated that a comparatively new camp is being prospected, viz., Franklin camp, up the north fork of Kettle river, and the construction of a railway to it is promised, but no ore can be shipped from this camp (for some time to come). Several small mines situated on the west fork of Kettle river have been sending out ore, but here, too, production is much hampered by the absence of railway transportation facilities.

Other parts of Yale district, with the exception of Hedley camp, are still non-productive, yet in several places there has been much prospecting done. The long-talked-of addition of sixty stamps to the Daly Reduction company's mill at Hedley has not yet been made, nor does there appear to be any prospect of an early commencement to provide for a larger output from the Nickel Plate mill, which supplies this mill with ore. The construction of railways now in progress through this part of the Similkameen country and Nicola will, however, probably lead to mining development to which the west fork will give an ore tonnage for the railways when completed. Two other matters may be mentioned in conclusion. One is the great improvement in both capacity and effectiveness of the smelters of the Kootenay and Boundary districts, for new processes have been introduced, furnace capacity added, to many additions and improvements to plant and machinery made, and a generally progressive policy adopted in order to keep pace with the enlarged demands made upon the treatment capacity of these several reduction works. The other point worth noting is the increased demand for building materials. The Portland cement works on Vancouver Island are being operated to their full capacity, and enlargement is necessary to meet the heavy demands for cement. Building stone is being shipped to Puget Sound and Californian points in increasing quantities, and brick and lime are also finding a ready market in larger quantities than in past years. It will be seen, therefore, that the mining industry, as regards the production of both metallic and non-metallic minerals, is in a generally healthy and progressive state, so that it is not too much to expect that the year 1906 will see a production having a total value in excess of that of last year, good as the latter was in comparison with results obtained in earlier years.

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One of the most encouraging features of the present year's operations is the fact that a larger number of mining companies have already paid dividends than in years past, and these dividends have been in themselves aggregated a very considerable return to shareholders. Among the companies paying dividends have been the Le Roi, Le Roi No. 2, the Granby, the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. of Canada, which is an amalgamation of the St. Eugene, War Eagle and Centre Star Mining companies, and the Trail Smelting Works, the Revo, the Canadian Goldfields syndicate, and the Crow's Nest Pass Coal company.

WHOSE OX IS GORED?

The Kamloops Standard deals with certain current political issues in this way, making an effective contrast between provincial and Dominion methods:

"The Vancouver World cannot find anything to say in favor of the North Atlantic Trading company scandal or the Saskatchewan Valley land deal, so that sympathetic representative of Liberal journalism attempts to draw public attention from the dangerous subject by holding up the Kaizen island contract as a screen. The Kaizen island deal, for one thing, has nothing to do with the Dominion government. The Kaizen island deal, for another thing, holds nothing that will not bear the closest scrutiny. The Kaizen island deal, in the third place, was made for the benefit of the people of British Columbia and took nothing from their pockets, but has given them a jump sum of money and a quarter interest in a valuable townsite and sea port in place of 10,000 acres of practically valueless land. The Kaizen island deal was investigated by a select committee, and the government of British Columbia did everything in its power to secure evidence for the committee. Taking the Atlantic Trading company's contract up the same way: In the first place, the Dominion government is responsible for it. In the second place, it has been shown that it will not bear scrutiny. In the third place, it was not made for the benefit of Canada and has taken out of the pockets of the people \$250,000, which has been divided among a lot of party friends whose names can only be surmised, as they hid their identity behind the persons of a few well-known clerks in England. Lastly, it was supposedly investigated by a select committee, but the Laurier government has put everything possible in the way of securing information and thus balked the work of investigation. A tu quoque argument is not an argument under the best of circumstances, but it becomes absolutely puerile under circumstances of this kind."

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

BORN ELLIOTT—At 35 Alfred street, on May 6, 1906, the wife of J. E. Elliott, of a daughter. DIED PHILIPS—In this city, on the 6th instant, William Hamby Phillips, aged 65; a native of Devonshire, England. No flowers. ANDREWS—At the family residence, No. 22 Erie street, on the 3th instant, John Andrews, a native of Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada; aged 62 years. FOR SALE—SECONDHAND FOR SALE—Three horse power Webster portable gasoline engine; very little used. C. F. Walker, Tzouhalen P. O. m711 WANTED—AGENTS WANTED—Bright, active agents everywhere, either sex; only magazine published in the West; attractive illustrations; liberal commission; cash prices; exclusive territory. Address: Circulation Department, Keystone Magazine, Vancouver, B. C. m76 \$1200 PER WEEK and expenses to person of energy and good character; state age and give references. The John C. Winston Co., Limited, Toronto. ap25 SITUATIONS VACANT WANTED—Persons to grow mushrooms for us at home. Waste space in yard, fern or garden can be made to yield \$15 to \$25 per week. Send stamp for illustrated booklet and full particulars. Montreal Supply Company, Montreal. 427

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Ask your dealer for Ask Leather Shoes. (From Tuesday's Daily News-Advertiser, in its last issue, says: "The brisk lumber and the scarcity of the causes for another increase in prices, and it presents continue the figures may be higher. Logs are now quoted at \$10, and \$13, according to grades, and it is likely that the price for lumber, which is now quoted at \$8 to \$17 locally."

Excursion From Bellin... likely there will be a big ex... Bellinham on May 24 to Victoria Day celebration. will be engaged and it is likely that American visitors point alone will approximate.

Lumber Prices Up.—The... news of the very narrow... the traveling on the C... from Nelson to Robson... days ago. At Slocan Ju... from the timber, which... mined the earth under... track, and this was not... the train began to sink... cars, according to infor... the sides, and while no... jured, the escape from seric... was remarkable.

Coming To the Coast.—... peg Free Press says: Maclean, editor of the Hal... leaves shortly for a trip... on the coast. He will visit... leading towns and cities... taking note of the progress... taken place during the last... years, when he first went... to lead. Winnipeg, Moose J... Edmonton, Calgary, Vancou... toria will be included in... his return, and a commit... Methodist Manitoba confer... pawa."

Patent Office Report.—... past week a Canadian Patent... through the agency of a... patent attorney, of Vancou... Hallander, boilermaker and... on all improvement of his... present pipe boiler. This... consists of a modification in... adapting the principle of... patent to the requirements... size of boiler. The Hallander... becoming very popular as... itself to be an efficient stea... and a light, portable and... paired.

Escaped the Disaster.—... Grant, special correspondent... of the San Francisco Post... following British Columbians... and well a few days ago in... San Francisco: Mrs. E. J... Campbell, Mrs. J. A. Alameda... R. L. Isaacs, Miss F. J... Baynes Reed, and J. H... Mrs. Hester, Mrs. M. A. Alameda... neher, and Miss Kitto left... some days ago and should... reached home. The Miss... have returned to the bot... covered. Some idea as to... the postal and telegraph s... be gathered from my recei... letters mailed in Victoria.

Children's Ward.—A joint... the building committee of... of the Provincial Royal Jub... and a committee of the... library was held yesterday... of trade rooms, at which... one quarter for the... of the children's ward, and... equipment so far as the fun... mit. Owing to the increas... number, it is well known... really exceed the original... at any rate the heating w... stand over for the present... being maintained in the... dies engaged with such un... upon this labor of lo... public which responded... marked and spontaneous... not be found wanting if... further call should have... upon them for the consumm... humane and charitable proj...

Blow to Provincial Ind... Alberta government has g... ording to an announcement... the province in the legislati... 30th last, to assist the bee... dustry by granting a bo... government proposes to w... to be held at the rate of... year. The bonus will b... cent per pond for the first... and one quarter for the... Provision made for paym... farmers on the basis of the... saccharine matter contain... in it is well known that... tion in the sugar refin... very keen, and the bounty... ter a stiff fight, has be... throughout. European sug... the part of the Alb... erment will increase the... experienced by one of Brit... bids most important indu... B. C. sugar refinery.

Odd Fellows Give Aid.—... to an appeal made by G... Wright, of Pennsylvania, for... Odd Fellows in San Franci... under Grand Lodge No. 378... is giving \$3,000 in addition... 000 seat to sufferers some... ago. Several of the sm... have given donations of \$2... and it is hoped and fully... that from this province the... 000 will be forwarded. G... D. Layton of San Francisco... \$900 of this amount and a...