PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

THIRTY-SECOND DAY.

THURSDAY, March 5.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. After prayer by Rev. Mr. Jenns,

MR. KELLIE presented a petition asking for the favorable consideration of the application of the Nicola, Kamloops & Similkameen Railway Co.

MR. MARTIN presented the report of the standing order committee recommending that Messrs. Sword and Rogers be added to the committee.—Carried.

COL. BAKER presented the report of the committee on railways reporting the following bills: To incorporate the Liverpool & Canoe Pass Railway Co., the Vancouver & Lulu Island R. R. Co., complete with amendments.

The report was adopted.

MR. EBERTS introduced a bill to amend the British Columbia University Act, 1890.

HON. MR. ROBSON intimated that the Government would in future insist on more attention to public business on Government days, and could not allow private legislation to take up the time on those occasions.

On motion of HON. MR. DAVIE, the House went into committee on the Supreme Court bill, Mr. Stoddard in the chair.

The committee, having adopted the first section with an amendment,

MR. HALL spoke of this being election day, stating that it was not the custom for legislatures to meet on election day, and spoke of the special importance of the present election, on which the people at large were looking with such intense interest. He thought, therefore, that the House should adjourn, and, consequently, moved that the committee rise and report progress.

MR. SEMLIN objected, as did also Hon. Mr. Beaven, as they could see no reason why the House should not proceed with the public business which the Government had said they were so anxious to push along.

On a show of hands the committee rose and reported, on which

MR. HALL moved that the House adjourn.

HON. MR. BEAVEN said he could not possibly see why the House should adjourn, just because it was a fine day.

HON. MR. ROBSON, in a few eloquent and patriotic remarks, said there was every reason why the House should adjourn, in view of the immense national issues that were, to-day, being decided, and which were of the most paramount importance to every British resident and citizen of the Dominion. He concluded by calling for three cheers for the Queen, which were given in such a way as almost to shake the House.

Amid the protests of Mr. Keith, the House adjourned at 2:45 until to-morrow.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

MR. KELLIE—Act respecting the appointment of advisory boards in the mining districts.

THIRTY-THIRD DAY.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6.

MR. SPEAKER having taken the chair, at 2 o'clock, prayers were read by Rev. Percival Jenns.

PETITIONS

were read from

Robt. Smith and 45 others, asking for the favorable consideration of the Nicola, Kamloops and Similkameen railway bill. Received and ordered printed.

MR. SEMLIN presented the report of the Private Bills committee upon the Hot Springs and Goat River Tramway bill, and Vancouver and Lulu Island Tramway bill. Report adopted.

COL. BAKER presented the report of the Railway committee, recommending the Nicola, Kamloops and Similkameen Coal and Railway Co. Adopted.

HON. MR. TURNER moved that the House resolve itself into committee of Supply on Monday.

IN COMMITTEE.

The House went into committee upon the Supreme Court Reference Act (Attorney-General), Mr. Stoddart in the chair. The committee, after various amendments had been made to the bill, rose at 4 o'clock, without reporting, the bill being killed to allow of a better measure, to obtain the same object, being introduced.

REPORT.

The annual report of the Minister of Mines was presented by Hon. Mr. Robson, who also presented the petition of the Presbytery of Columbia in regard to Sunday observance.

HON. MR. DAVIE withdrew his Jurors' bill on the order for an adjourned committee, stating that it was his intention to introduce another measure, having for its object the increase of pay of grand and petit jurors.

LAND BILL.

On the adjourned debate on the second reading of this measure,

HON. MR. BEAVEN contended at considerable length that the bill was not calculated to meet the requirements of the province, or to keep out speculators.

HON. MR. DAVIE replied to the leader of the Opposition, explaining the contents of the bill, and endorsed its second reading.

MR. COTTON strongly condemned the bill. He wished to see a more radical change in our land laws, and fully expected such a change. Five dollars an acre for agricultural land now, was no more than one dollar an acre ten or twelve years ago; this proposed to increase the price of land would not put a stop to speculation. He thought that the only way to put an end to speculation was by practically stopping all sales of public lands. Stockmen and others could, he thought, be induced to lease the pastoral lands in the same manner as lands were leased in the Australian colonies.

COL. BAKER could not agree with the senior member for Vancouver in regard to the desirability of leasing grazing land in the same manner as in force in Australia. The conditions of the country were entirely dissimilar, and the leasing could not be satisfactorily carried on. He did not approve of the receipts from sale of public lands being classed as part of the revenue, unless the per centage of the amount spent on public work was taken into consideration at the time.

HON. MR. TURNER was very much surprised to hear the hon. member from Vancouver argue in favor of the Australian leasing system. That system had proved disastrous; large tracts of land were devastated, and the settlers and pre-emptors were kept away. The act before the House was in the direction of encouraging the small settler, and in company with the Assessment Act, would accomplish its purpose. He (Hon. Mr. Turner) contended that the wild land tax had increased in proportion to the increase of lands alienated. He could not agree that the sale of public land was in all cases disadvantageous. Settlers were needed in British Columbia, and farmers more particularly. He favored a slight amendment in the direction of permitting the sale of smaller portions of lands—from fifty acres up—for the benefit of the small farmers.

MR. CROFT strongly opposed the suggestion offered by Mr. Cotton, that pastoral licenses should be granted. The lands under such a system would be destroyed, and the public would benefit in no manner whatever.

MR. SWORD was in accord with many of the ideas expressed by the senior member for Vancouver City. He believed in making the price of land sold in large quantities, so high that speculation would be out of the question, though he did not believe in the entire suspension of land sales. He considered that the Assessment bill should be considered contemporaneously with this measure, and accordingly moved the adjournment of the debate until the Assessment bill was brought forward.

HON. MR. ROBSON endorsed the suggestion offered, and the debate was accordingly adjourned until Monday next.

RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS ACT.

The House went into committee, Mr. Nason in the chair, upon the bill to amend the "Religious Institution's Act." With amendments the bill was reported complete to the House.

The House rose at 6 o'clock.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

BY MR. KITCHEN—To introduce several amendments on consideration of the report on Bill No. 42.

BY HON. MR. DAVIE—To introduce a bill to amend the Supreme Court Act.

EVENING SESSION.

On the resumption of business,

MR. CROFT, rising to a question of privilege, suggested that 7:45 instead of 7:30, would be a more convenient hour for evening sessions. The suggestion was approved of by Hon. Mr. Turner and Hon. Mr. Pooley, and it was decided to accept it.

HON. MR. ROBSON moved that the House at its rising stand adjourned until 2 o'clock on Monday.

JURORS' BOOKS.

HON. MR. DAVIE moved the second reading of Bill No. 62, to make valid the jury books, rolls, lists, etc., of the Westminster district. The necessity for the enactment of such a measure was, he explained, fully set forth in the bill, the passage of which at once was urgently required, as judicial business was now at a standstill.

HON. MR. BEAVEN—What a fortunate community!

No objection was offered to the second reading, and the bill was passed through Committee without amendments, the standing orders being suspended to admit of this being done. The bill was read a third time and passed.

RAILWAY AID ACT.

HON. MR. ROBSON moved the second reading of a bill to amend the Railway Aid Act (No. 60). The entire scope and object of this bill was, he explained, to repeal the clause relating to the payment of royalties upon minerals to railway companies. Although 12 months ago the House of the day had decided that this royalty was a wise and proper impost, with the special view of encouraging railway construction subsequent events had satisfied the government that the imposition of these royalties would be practically a very slight factor in inducing capital to engage in railway construction in British Columbia, while, on the other hand, the impost was not at all popular with the ratepayers—very few imposts were. This particular impost, he believed himself, in so much as it was valuable at all, was in the interest of the miner. At the same time he had come to the conclusion that the giving of the royalties would fail to induce capitalists to undertake railway construction in the province. The royalty was much opposed by the bulk of the people in the mining districts, and therefore the Government had decided to repeal the clauses, which the people did not want. It was fair to explain that when first contemplated, these royalties were for the special purpose of inducing capitalists to build the Ashcroft and Cariboo railway, which in many respects differed from an ordinary railway undertaking. It was not likely that the construction of the road would be undertaken on the usual commercial lines, and these royalties were the bait decided on to induce capital to undertake the road. Other railways had naturally come forward and asked for the same favors, and so the benefits of the clauses were applied to quite a number, some of which were not entitled to the same assistance as the Cariboo road. As a representative of Cariboo he thought that this royalty was not a sufficient inducement to accomplish the object aimed at. It was with the greatest freedom, as a representative of Cariboo, that he moved the second reading of this bill.

To Mr. Sword—It does not interfere with any vested rights.

HON. MR. BEAVEN availed himself of the opportunity to criticise the general conduct of the Government, which he accused of backing back on its policy. The government, he said, had adopted "a crawfish policy"—

Hon. members—A what?

HON. MR. BEAVEN—Crawfish—crawfish—a crawfish goes backwards always.

Hon. members—Does it?

HON. MR. BEAVEN—"I think so." (Laughter). The hon. member took credit to himself for fighting the Royalty bill vigorously when it was adopted by the House, and charged the government and its leader with lacking self respect in not standing by their policy.

HON. MR. DAVIE replied to the leader of the Opposition at considerable length. That hon. gentleman had accused the government of lacking self respect, — of endeavoring to hang on to the flesh pots of power, while not enjoying the confidence of the people. The people had answered this statement at the polls. In regard to hanging on, the hon. leader of the Opposition was the last one in a position to talk on this subject. When the people had pronounced against him at the polls, he had refused to surrender the reins of power until practically dragged out of his seat by a vote of sixteen to eight. By producing the Journals of the House, the Hon. Attorney-General showed clearly that Hon. Mr. Beaven had not opposed the royalty clause when it was passed by the House. The hon. leader of the Opposition had, not for the first time, stated that the Government represented only a minority of the people—that the cities had been won for the Opposition. This he denied. Victoria was the only city that had supported the Opposition—and the action of the capital's voters was a mistake and an accident, of which the electors were now becoming convinced. The result of the election for the Provincial House in Victoria was due mainly to the popularity of one man—the mayor of the city and the senior member. And that his popularity was waning, was shown clearly by the tremendous defeat of the candidates for the Dominion House, who had come out under his wing, and who had lost their deposit money on Thursday.

COL. BAKER referring to Hon. Mr. Beaven's crawfish story, said that the leader of the Opposition was more crabbed than usual. (Oh!!) He had thought the Royalty clause advisable when it was passed, but now saw its objectionable side and would vote for its removal.

MR. SEMLIN censured the Government for introducing and then going back on what he claimed had been set up as a plank in the Government policy.

MR. FORSTER said that the House had been greatly edified at least by the entertainment provided by both Government and Opposition. It was, however, much ado about nothing.

MR. COTTON had, through his paper, attacked the royalty clause when it was first before the House. He believed that, at the time, the Government was sincere in believing that the clauses were to be beneficial. Subsequent events had failed to justify expectations, and the Government were now moving to repeal what they saw was unwise legislation. They were certainly entitled to every credit for their action—they had the courage to come forward, and say that they saw where they had been in error and were willing to correct mistakes. He should certainly support the second reading of this bill, and give the Government credit for it.

MR. HALL was disgusted with the long discussion. The Opposition had mistaken the House for a debating class; they were straying very far from the question before the House, and he hoped they would be called to order by Mr. Speaker.

HON. MR. POOLEY remarked that Dr. Milne would never have been recognized as such an important personage if he had not announced himself. He claimed that he (Dr. Milne) had, by introducing a resolution this session, caused the Government to take their present stand. If he would refer to the Speech from the Throne, he would see it referred to in clause ten. He (Hon. Mr. Pooley) wished to carry out the expressed wish of the people, and should never be ashamed of doing his duty.

The bill passed its second reading, without a division; to be committed on Monday.

ASSESSMENT ACT.

HON. MR. TURNER presented a message from the Lieut.-Governor accompanying the Assessment Act. To be considered in committee on Monday.

HON. MR. BEAVEN made the motion for a committee on Monday, the occasion of a long speech relating to the alleged flight of the Attorney-General from Victoria to Cowichan. After repeated calls to order, the hon. gentleman consented to sit down, while a broad smile was present on the face of every member.

REVENUE TAX BILL.

HON. MR. TURNER moved the second reading of the Provincial Revenue Tax Bill, the provisions of which were, he said, self-explanatory.

MR. COTTON moved the adjournment of the debate until the School Bill was further advanced.

The debate was adjourned until Monday.

On motion of MR. KITCHEN, the Westminster & Vancouver Street Railway Bill passed its third reading.

The House adjourned at 10 o'clock.

KAMLOOPS.

Exciting Chase After a Supposed Murderer—Death in Jail—The Ice Harvest—Sudden Death of a Chinaman, &c.

(Correspondence of THE COLONIST).

Five cars of cattle from Kamloops, four from Ashcroft, and two cars of sheep from Spence's Bridge, were shipped on Tuesday for the Coast, all in good condition, owing to the mildness of the winter. Little or no hand feeding has been done on the ranches, this winter, and a better breed of cattle has been introduced. The B. C. Cattle Co. are preparing for the raising of a far greater number of sheep for next season. Good, hardy strains will be imported from the Old Country.

A few cars of blood horses passed through Kamloops, on Monday, the owners hoping to find a ready market at the Coast. One thoroughbred trotter had a car to himself. A few high-action carriage horses and some Clydesdales were among the number.

The ice harvest is over, a sufficient quantity having been cut to supply the market. Cutting generally ceased on Saturday last, and not too soon, for already the ice shows signs of a general break-up on the Thompson.

Donald Matthieson, who died in jail in delirium tremens, was interred on Tuesday last. He had been committed for seven days, in the hope that he would sober-up, but died after a few days' confinement.

An inquest was held on Thursday touching the death of a Chinaman named Chun Chuing, who, at 12 o'clock on the previous night, went to bed in apparently good health at his laundry. The next morning he was found dead in his bed. A *post mortem* examination of the body showed that deceased died from disease of the heart, and the coroner's jury returned a verdict accordingly. The body was interred on a waste spot, which the Chinese patronize as a burying ground.

An accident occurred four miles east of Cherry Creek on Saturday night last, on the C.P.R. A lumber train, which carried four whites and twenty Chinese, derailed by reason of the flange leaving one of the wagons. The accident occurred within a few yards of a trestle, the embankment of which was some seventy feet in depth. The train was fortunately brought to a standstill before entering the trestle, otherwise it would have been a case of certain death for all on board.

An exciting chase after an Indian outlaw and supposed murderer, is reported from Spallumcheen. The name of the outlaw is Neminah, to whom is attributed two murders, and for whose capture there is a government reward of $600. In a row with another Indian, Neminah was made a prisoner, and the fact communicated to the magistrate of the district, Mr. Franklin. Before, however, the justice arrived with his party of constables, the outlaw's squaw had cut the ropes which bound him and set the prisoner once more at liberty. He is still at large.

The election, by acclamation of Mr. J. A. Mara for the Yale district, was celebrated in Kamloops, the local band serenading the member at his residence, and the townspeople turning out in their strength to congratulate him.

An eloquent and impressive sermon was preached in the Methodist Church last Sunday, by the pastor, Rev. T. W. Hall, on the "Centennial of Methodism."

The Bishop of Westminster will hold confirmation in the Episcopalian Church on March 13th.

Mr. Frank Barnard, who had been spending a time with his brother-in-law, Mr. J. A. Mara, M.P., left town on Tuesday to contest his old seat in the Dominion House, with Dr. Watt, who is an aspirant to the Parliamentary honors of Cariboo district.

Another young man, a resident of Seattle, is disgraced and in danger of the penitentiary because of gambling. The amount of his employers' money which he laid upon the green cloth is $5,000.

The little steamer Nellie Taylor, recently purchased by parties at Howe Sound, has been lost. She was lying at anchor with no one on board, and fouling her ground tackle, lifted it and drifted out to sea. Since then she has not been heard of.

BY ATLANTIC CABLE.

Opposition to Emperor William's Scheme to Increase the German Navy.

Death of an English Physician at the Monte Carlo Gaming Table.

A Curious Case Coming Up for Hearing in the London Courts.

A Sanguinary Battle.

BERLIN, March 6.—The Berlin Tageblatt publishes advices from Zanzibar which state that Major Wissman marched against the Kaboah tribe, with whom he fought a sanguinary battle. The engagement resulted in the defeat of the natives, with a loss of 200 killed, 60 wounded and 50 prisoners. The German loss was two killed and 15 wounded. The German expeditionary force captured 60,000 head of cattle, besides a great quantity of ammunition and ivory.

Germany's Naval Budget.

BERLIN, March 6.—In the Reichstag, today, the navy budget proceeded to its second reading. Herr Rickert, the Freisinnige leader, in opposing the measure, declared that it was impossible for the country to much longer bear its rapidly increasing military burdens. Herr Windthorst, leader of the Centrists, in supporting the decision of the committee, contended that Germany was unable to bear the expense incidental to the constitution and maintenance of a navy equal to that of Great Britain. That country, Herr Windthorst said, was enabled to support her colossal naval establishment, by reason of the fact that her army was comparatively a small one. In concluding his remarks, Herr Windthorst urged that the government should submit to the Reichstag, not an array of fine words, but a practical scheme for the proper and feasible organization of the naval forces.

Mysterious Suicide.

LONDON, March 6.—Robert Lindsay Antrobus was found dead in bed this morning with a revolver by his side. He was the second son of Sir Edmund Antrobus, junior partner in the banking house of Coutts & Co. It is believed to be a case of suicide, but the reason is unknown. Deceased was 34 years of age, and unmarried.

Parnell's Appeal.

DUBLIN, March 6.—By the terms of the appeal issued for money wherewith to create a Parnell campaign fund, both the Lord Mayor and High Sheriff of Dublin are designated treasurers of the same. The appeal sends home rule to the front, and declares industrial development and the exercise of civil and religious liberty prime essentials to the plan for Irish self-religious domination. The appeal says Ireland has had too much of such ascendency in the past to ever submit to either Catholic or Protestant political supremacy under the operation of her own laws.

Trying to Steal His Wife's Money.

LONDON, March 5.—A curious and startling case will shortly be tried in the courts here. It appears that Mrs. Cathcart, a wealthy lady of Spafford, mysteriously disappeared some time ago, and all efforts of relatives and friend failed to discover her whereabouts. Quite recently, however, friends traced her to a lunatic asylum, where she had been confined at her husband's instigation. Mrs. Cathcart is the possessor of an estate valued at over $5,000,000, which reverts to her husband if he can have her certified as of unsound mind. Mrs. Cathcart's relatives insist that she is in full possession of her senses, and consequently a long and interesting trial is expected.

A Typical Home Rule Paper.

DUBLIN, March 6.—The first number of the National Press, a journal devoted to the interests of the McCarthy faction of the Irish parliamentary party, will be issued in this city to-morrow. It is to be a typical Home Rule paper, both in respect to its appearance and the tone of its articles. Its title headline is to be printed in heavy black letters across a design of a new parliament house in College Green, the background showing grass of a sunburnt hue. The paper is to be considerably larger than the Freemans Journal, and starts with forty columns of advertisements, and a subscription list of 50,000.

A Select Audience.

LONDON, March 6.—The entire company from the Savoy Theatre, under the management of D'Oyly Carte, gave a performance of "The Gondoliers," this evening, in the Waterloo chamber of Windsor Castle. The audience was composed of twenty members of the Royal family and fifty invited guests.

The Emperor is Irritated.

BERLIN, March 6.—Emperor William is greatly irritated at the opposition evinced by the Centrists and others to the measures he has instituted for the augmentation of the German navy, and is endeavoring by all possible means to win over the leaders of the opposing forces.

A Desperate Break For Liberty.

BERLIN, March 6.—A life prisoner named Wozeniak, confined in the prison at Bromberg, Prussia, made a desperate attempt to escape from confinement yesterday, which resulted in the serious injury of one guard; the death of another and the loss of his own life. Wozeniak had wrenched one of the legs of his iron bedstead, and with this weapon he attacked his immediate keeper, felling him insensible to the floor. He made a dash for the prison yard, where he was confronted by a guard, who attempted to stop him. Wozeniak struck the man on the head with the iron bedstead leg, crushing his skull and killing him almost instantly. By this time he was near the next barrier, which he tried to cross, but the sentry on duty was too quick for him and shot him dead.

Died at the Gaming Table.

MONTE CARLO, March 6.—An English physician, named Seegart, who has lately been winning enormous sums at the gaming tables here, while engaged in play last evening, was attacked by apoplexy and died at the table.

Collision off the Lizard.

LONDON, March 6.—The British steamer Westburg was in collision off the Lizard, yesterday, with the German steamer Wandrahm, from Hamburg, March 1st, for New York. The Westburg reached Plymouth today in a damaged condition, while the Wandrahm proceeded to her destination.

Can He Be the Ripper.

DUBLIN, March 5.—Gavin, who made a ferocious assault with a knife upon passengers in a railway carriage Tuesday, has been declared of unsound mind. The police are impressed with the man's likeness to the description of the appearance of Jack the Ripper, and are making further inquiries.

Famous Basso Dead.

MUNICH, March 6.—Herr Kendermann, the famous basso, of the Royal Operahouse, died here to-day.

Prince Jerome Dying.

ROME, March 7.—The condition of Prince Jerome Napoleon is rapidly growing worse, and his doctors have abandoned all hope. He is in a comatose state, with rare intervals of consciousness.

The Anti-Betting Law.

PARIS, March 7.—The betting booths and stands have been removed from the Auteuil race grounds. A force of 600 policemen are on hand to guard the grounds to-morrow (Sunday) and see that there is no violation of the anti-betting law. Despite these precautions, twenty prison vans are also kept in readiness to convey law-breakers to jail. Several papers suggest that the government should take entire charge of racing, should arrange societies and courses, and hold meetings under the supervision of the authorities, the proceeds to go to the treasuries of the various municipalities. In this case, the government would tolerate Paris mutuals.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Bradstreet's Report.

NEW YORK, March 6.—Throughout the Dominion of Canada interest in the election of the 5th inst. tends to interrupt business generally. The Dominion of Canada reports 30 business failures this week, against 43 last week, and 48 this week last year. The total number from January 1st to date is 456 against 438 last year.

The Situation at Buenos Ayres.

BUENOS AYRES, March 6.—The government hopes to effect a settlement of the financial troubles that will be satisfactory, but the general opinion is that the issue of forced paper is inevitable.

The Fatal Railway Crossing.

LIMA, O., March 6.—A terrible accident occurred at Sharkey's Crossing, near this city, at 5 o'clock this evening, by which Lyman Hyde, and his 23 year old daughter, Judith, lost their lives, and Emeline, his 16 year old daughter, was fatally injured. The trio were driving toward Lima, and at the point named, which is at the end of a deep cut and on a curve, they attempted to cross in front of a freight train. The horse balked and the frightened occupants of the buggy became too bewildered to even try to save themselves. Lyman and Judith were killed instantly, and Emeline had her skull crushed.

A Singular Accident.

PITTSBURG, Penna., March 7.—A special to the Leader from Scottdale, Pa., says: "A singular accident occurred on the South-West railroad, this morning. The "Possum-Run" accommodation trains which leaves this place at 6 o'clock was derailed near Connelsville by a misplaced switch. It was running swiftly and when derailed it ran into a dwelling house near by. The engine entered the lower apartment and penetrated it as far as the back room. It demolished everything in its course. The inmates of the residence escaped and the engine stopped alongside a cradle where a baby was sleeping. It was unharmed.

A Little Hero.

READING, Pa., March 7.—John Sellers, aged six, fell into the Schuylkill canal, this evening, and his brother, Samuel, aged 8, jumped in to save him. The task proved too much for the little fellow, and both boys sank. Help arrived in a few minutes and the boys were taken out of the water. Samuel was found to be dead, but his brother was revived with great difficulty.

FUNERAL OF SENATOR HEARST.

WASHINGTON CITY, March 5.—Funeral services over the remains of Senator Hearst, who died Saturday, were held at the residence at noon to-day, and were of a brief and simple character. Rev. Douglas, of St. John's church, read the service for the dead, after which he recited the hymn "Jesus, Lover of My Soul." The casket rested in the large drawing-room of the house, and was hidden by flowers, offerings sent by President and Mrs. Harrison, Vice-President Morton, Senator Stanford and others. Among the first to arrive at the house were the president and wife, and Secretary Rusk, followed by the congressional committee appointed to attend, and General Schofield. Gathered around the casket were Mrs. Hearst, her son, Miss May Bayard, the Misses Hearst, and friends in Washington City, while in the room opening into the parlor, where the body lay, were Senator Stanford and wife, Senator and Mrs. Stewart, Senators Frye, Gray, Cockrell, Evarts, Cullom, Blair, Cameron, Walthall, Vest, Shoup and others. At the conclusion of the services the many present filed through the room and took a look at the deceased California senator. The casket will be removed from the house Saturday, and will leave here on a special train over the Pennsylvania line for San Francisco, accompanied by Mrs. Hearst, her son and the Congressional committee.

NANAIMO HAPPENINGS.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

NANAIMO, March 6.—Mr. McElmen died early this morning and the remains were taken to Hilbert's undertaking parlors to await interment. It is expected his sister will come from Sussex, N. B. Mr. Elliot of your city, who is a distant relative of deceased arrived to-day.

All the talk is the great Conservative victory, and the excitement was considerable as the bulletins were placed in front of the Free Press office last night. Vancouver district would have snowed under a Liberal candidate equally as well as Victoria or New Westminster.

Althur Spink, a young Englishman working on the Wellington collieries, had a wonderful escape from instant death from a ten ton falling rock.

Ships Ericsson and Valley Forge arrived to-day for cargoes of N. V. C. Co.'s coal.

BRIGHTER AND BRIGHTER.

Sir John's Majority Steadily Mounting Up.

It is Now Estimated to be Thirty-Three.

And When Parliament Next Meets the Empire's Estimate of Forty May be Reached.

Blake Blamed for Withholding His Letter Until After the Election.

Rumors that Several Seats Will be Protested—Later Returns from Doubtful Constituencies.

(From our own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Ont., March 7.—As later returns are received the Government's majority is on the increase. Late last night, a careful estimate was made and, giving all independents and doubtfuls to the Opposition, Sir John's majority is 29. Since then it appears that Montague has been elected in Haldimand, by 50, sure, and Daoust in Two Mountains, by 240. These two Conservatives make the majority 33. There is not the slightest doubt, however, but that Tarte and Vaillancourt will support the Government on its general policy, and the Empire's claim of 40 will be about right. Thus, it will be seen, the actual result of the polling on Thursday is better than it was four years ago. The Premier has good reason to be proud of his victory.

Blake's letter is a crushing blow to the Grits. Had it been published two weeks ago, the general impression is the Liberal party in Ontario would have been annihilated. Blake's action in withholding the letter is strongly commented upon. While it was but natural he should desire not to injure his former supporters, still the fact that the Grit policy in his opinion would clearly lead to annexation, should have induced him to have some regard for the future of his country. However, Canada is safe without Blake's assistance. On top of his letter comes the announcement that B. B. Osler, one of the leading jurists of the Ontario bar, and a life-long reformer, is entirely out of harmony with the Liberal party.

It is clearly evident the Grits are in a bad way, and will have to hunt a new policy before they can appeal to the people with success.

Gordon's return was gazetted to-day.

Sir Charles Tupper received a cable to-day stating that Her Majesty has contributed to the fund for the relief of the Spring Hill sufferers.

John Smith, M.P.P., has been appointed collector of customs for Toronto.

Sir John passed a comfortable night, and is greatly improved to-day.

The Ministers are returning to town. Caron, Chapleau and Haggart arrived to-day. They are naturally jubilant at the outlook.

ELECTION PROTESTS.

QUEBEC, March 7.—Hon. Mr. Langelier's election in Quebec Centre will be protested. Rumors are current that several arrests for bribery and impersonation will shortly be made.

LONDON, March 7.—It is likely that Hyman's election here will be protested, as the Conservatives claim bribery, impersonation and whiskey were the leading factors in Carling's defeat.

ECHOES OF THE CAMPAIGN.

TORONTO, March 7.—Brome returns are completed, and Dyer's majority is reduced to one.

TORONTO, March 7.—Prince, Conservative, is elected in Nicoet, Quebec, instead of Leduc, Liberal. Hon. Geo. E. Foster is elected in Kings, N. B., by 35 majority. McNeil, Conservative, is elected in North Bruce by 41 majority, instead of Bonnar, Liberal.

In Wentworth South, Carpenter (Conservative) claims a majority of two, and Middleton (Lib.) a majority of three. It will take an official declaration to settle the matter.

In Queens, N. S., Freeman, (Cons.) is elected in place of Forbes (Lib.).

In Queens, N.B., Baird is elected as a Conservative.

Muskoka is still in doubt.

Fifty spoiled and rejected ballots were cast in East York, Hon. Alex MacKenzie's constituency, and a re-count will be demanded. The returning officer will make a declaration on Tuesday.

TORONTO, March 7.—Premier Mercier telegraphs as follows from Quebec:—"I still adhere to my statement made before the election. We give in Quebec to Laurier at least 15 majority.

ENGLISH PRESS COMMENT.

LONDON, March 6.—The Globe this evening says of the Canadian elections, that the Canadian Government now has a free hand and can conclude the negotiations with the United States which were pending before the elections. The paper considers the most gratifying feature of the result to be its significance as a protest against annexation.

The St. James Gazette says it is a source of pride and pleasure to Englishmen to hear the response made to the cry for annexation, and adds: "Though England may sometimes be proud of the progress made by Anglo-Saxon America, she has more fondness for the fair young daughter of the empire adhering to the old flag."

The Daily News is surprised in view of the retirement of Blake, and the mud throwing of the Liberal leaders, that Sir John Macdonald's majority was not doubled. The News thinks the Canadian leaders have good reason to look forward with confidence to the future.

The Telegraph says it cannot call the victory a glorious one, but it is enough. The talk about annexation will not assist Sir John Macdonald's negotiations with America, but rather prove a hindrance. In fact, the situation confronting him is fraught with formidable difficulties.

The Chronicle says the election has shown conclusively that annexation is repugnant to Canadians, and past experience warrants the belief that Sir John Macdonald will long be able to maintain himself in power.

The Times thinks the heat of the Canadian Liberals, America's friends, will probably cool when they learn that no practical result has crowned their efforts.

The Standard thinks the success of the Loyalists remarkable, and it is also a significant fact that the constituencies represented by the McKinley bill returned Liberal representatives.

The consensus of English newspaper opinion is that Sir John Macdonald's position is strengthened.

IMPALED ON AN IRON SPIKE.

Fearful Accident to a Pipeman on the Seattle Fire-Boat—Thrown Thirty Feet by the Stream From a Nozzle.

Herman Lawson, second pipeman of the fire crew on the Seattle fire-boat Snoqualmie, met with an accident Friday afternoon of an alarmingly serious nature—possibly one which may result in his death. At about 3 o'clock the Snoqualmie was taken out on her regular weekly practicing trip and hauled up at the old dock of the Oregon Improvement company. Lines were laid and a stream thrown. Lawson was at the pipe, the nozzle of which, as is the custom, was attached to what is known as the "dead man," which in turn was made fast to the wharf. It was from this apparatus that the stream was being thrown in any direction that might be desired.

Lawson was standing on the right hand side of the nozzle which, from the very high pressure, switched, throwing him squarely in front of it. The great stream struck him full in the breast. Lawson was sent headlong a distance of about 30 feet. He fell and was hurled against an iron spike which projected from the wharf four or five inches. The force with which the stream was playing upon his body was terrific, and hurled him on the head of the spike, which penetrated his body, entering about three inches from the lower part of the abdomen. It tore its way downward through to the lower extremity of the abdomen and internal organs and laid the bladder bare. The wound is probably two inches deep and four long.

Lawson's comrades rushed to his assistance and picked him up. He was unconscious when removed to Providence hospital.

The stream that was thus suddenly dashed against Lawson, hurling him against the projecting spike, was of about 300 pounds pressure. It was thrown through a three and one-quarter inch hose and an inch and a half nozzle. Shortly before the accident they were throwing a stream nearly 400 feet high, and it was the full force of this pressure that Lawson received.—Seattle Telegraph.

PORT CRESCENT.

Another Big Blast to be Fired on Monday Next—Improvements in Progress.

Reward for Recovering of a Coal Barge—Progress of Work on the Breakwater.

(Special to THE COLONIST.)

PORT CRESCENT, March 7.—Next Monday another big blast will be fired in the cliff adjoining the breakwater. A tunnel 60 feet long, has been driven into the rock and will be loaded with a giant charge of several tons of dynamite powder. It will be fired by an electrical igniting battery located at a safe distance from the tunnel. This gigantic explosion will bring down an immense amount of broken rock. The new engine and the new machinery which recently arrived from San Francisco, will then be placed in position and the handling of the rock and building of the breakwater will proceed with much greater speed. Masses of rock, five tons in weight, can be handled by the new machinery with the greatest ease.

The tug Lottie, of Victoria, came to this place yesterday in search of a barge loaded with coal which escaped from her the day previous. The barge was sighted the day before yesterday by Manager John E. Lutz. It was then drifting near the shore of Vancouver Island. A tug was seen to approach the barge, but whether it took it in tow or not could not be determined. The captain of the Lottie said the barge was worth $1,000, and he was afraid it had been towed to some secluded bay, the coal removed and the barge turned adrift. He offered $250 for any information that would lead to the recovery of the lost barge and contents.

United States Surveyor, General Cavanaugh, has let the contract for the immediate survey of Lake Crescent township, which already contains a large number of squatters. There are, however, a great many claims yet untaken. As the township plat will in all probability be speedily completed, people who take up claims now, will be enabled to prove up this fall. All who intend to settle in the township can secure all necessary information and assistance by coming to Port Crescent.

Mrs. Sarah Barnes, of Washington, D.C., arrived here yesterday to spend the summer with her son, Mr. Paul Barnes, who has one of the best ranches on Lake Crescent.

County School Superintendent A. B. Dewsey is here seeking support for R. C. Wilkinson, Esq., one of Port Angeles' five candidates for the appointment of Superior Judge of Clallam county. The contest is causing great animosity and bad feeling.

Postmaster W. S. Miller and family are visiting relatives in Tacoma.

Contractor Haddock is building a large some new house and barn for T. A. C. Miller, the proprietor of the Port Crescent Cottage, and feed stable.

Mr. Paul Barnes, engineer of the Crescent water, sustained a painful injury recently by being struck in the middle of the forehead by a fragment of rock.

The spirit of improvement seems to pervade ranchers of this vicinity. Last year and sixty of them yesterday received a large number of fruit trees, which they had previously been ordered by them. These ranchers generally have such surprising confidence in the future of this country that they are disposed to build and improve their ranches.

The Gray's Harbor Times says the Port Crescent Leader is the handsomest newspaper in the state.

DEATH OF A LIGHTKEEPER.

William Wesley, keeper of the Harrison River lighthouse, died of heart disease at Port Moody, Case at Westminster.

(Special to THE COLONIST.)

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 7.—Word reached the city to-day of the death by drowning of William Wesley, light keeper of the Harrison River lighthouse, which is situated at the mouth of the Fraser river. He left here on Thursday afternoon in a canoe for his station, but he never reached his destination. The Government launch, stationed at Westminster, will go down and drag the canoe.

It is now certain that Michael Dwyer, who left Westminster on Sunday morning, was drowned. The men were under the influence of liquor.

Contractor Macrae is working a gang of men at his manufacturing business which is being done in this city, it is said, that the Albion Iron Works have under contract and in process of completion something like seventeen new boilers.