Sham Battle Called Off

Admiral Palliser Orders That the Navy Shall Not Take Part.

Ships However Will Be Open to Public—Celebration Appropriations.

It was rather discouraging news that the celebration finance committee received when they met last evening to advance the arrangements for the Queen's Birthday celebration. The bad news was contained in a letter from Captain Frank Finnis, R. N., the senior naval officer on this station, who stated that he had received orders from the commander-in-chief, that is, Rear Admiral Palliser, who is on his way home, that the men of H. M. navy were not to take part in a sham battle during the celebration. This, of course, put an end to the idea of a sham battle, and the visit of the Mainland battalion of the Fifth regiment, not, however, before the matter was fully discussed and the suggestion was made but not acted upon that a dispatch should be sent to the Admiralty, protesting against Admiral Palliser's order.

Captain Finnis' letter, which was addressed to Mayor Redfern, follows:

"Amphion," at Esquimalt.
May 9, 1899.

Sir: I have to inform you that I have received orders from the commander-in-chief that no pageant or sham fight is to be carried out by Her Majesty's naval forces during the celebration of Her Majesty's birthday this year, owing to the small number of men present.

2. Her Majesty's ships at Esquimalt are to be dressed and fire a royal salute at noon on the 24th of May, and will be open to visitors during the celebration.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) FRANK R. FINNIS,
Captain and Senior Officer Northern Division.

To make up, as far as possible, for the failure of the sham battle, Captain Finnis has decided to decorate and throw the ships open to the public during the celebration. All the ship's boats will be placed at the disposal of the public, to row to and from the ships, and one thing is certain, everybody will be given a royal welcome by officers and men.

Having lost the sham battle, the committee proceeded to make up as far as was in their power for the loss, and the funds were divided as follows: Illumination $1,100; regatta, $900; reception, $500; printing and advertising, $375; band, $150; school children's parade, $100; firemen's tournament, $200; rifle match (if collected), $100; navy, for arranging for regatta, $50; making a total of $3,675. The committee has already in hand and guaranteed $3,495, including the city's vote of $1,000 and $30 left from last year.

A letter was read from Hand & Co., who are supplying the fireworks, stating that the goods had been shipped on April 25, and should arrive a week prior to May 24. A man is being sent out to arrange and discharge them. One of the special devices shows John Bull and Uncle Sam shaking hands, with their respective flags over their shoulders. Underneath are the words: "Shall we divide the world?"

The secretary announced that most of the steamboat and railway companies had promised low rates and special steamers and trains; that the government had promised to illuminate the interior of the parliament buildings, and that Mr. J. S. Yates had granted the public the privilege of using his property along Victoria Arm during the regatta.

A resolution was passed holding each sub-committee responsible for any over-expenditure, and the meeting adjourned.

The programme committee will meet this morning.

THAT CORONERS' ORDER.

Attorney-General Martin's Ridiculous Rules Again Cause Some Trouble.

Attorney-General Martin's order to coroners, under which they are unable to hold inquests unless certain that the death to be inquired into was caused by foul means, seems to have been made to be broken, not by the coroners, but by himself. For the second time within a couple of weeks he has been forced to give Coroner Crompton an order to hold an inquest, so that bodies could be buried. On Monday, when a badly decomposed body was found floating in Esquimalt harbor, the fact was reported to Dr. Crompton. Not being able to say that the man met his death by foul means, the coroner could not hold an inquest, and no doctor could give a death certificate, so that the body could not be buried. The undertaker appealed to the Attorney-General's department, and the order was given for the inquest, which was held yesterday afternoon, when a verdict of "found drowned; identity unknown." was returned. Coroner Crompton referred to the fact that on account of the order of the Attorney-General, the badly decomposed body had to be kept upwards of 24 hours. Under the old rules, the inquest and funeral would have taken place a few hours after the finding of the body.

GUN DRILL EFFICIENCY.

No. 3 Company Heads the List With 76.5 Points Out of the Possible Eighty.

In a battalion order issued yesterday by Lieut.-Col. Gregory, commanding the First battalion, Fifth R. C. A., the result reported by the district officer commanding, Lieut.-Col. Peters, upon his recent inspection in gun drill, is published for the benefit of those concerned. The honors are taken by No. 3 Company, Major Hibben, which scores 76.5 out of the possible 80—a very high average indeed. No. 1 Company, Major Monro, came next with a total of 71; and No. 2, Major Williams, has 54. The marks of the individuals making up these totals are appended:

No. 1 Company—Sergt. Nevin, 9; Sergt. Trimen, 9; Sergt. Bailey, 9.5; Corp. Wilson, 9.5; Corp. Dickinson, 8.5; Corp. Brinkman, 7.5; Sergt. Russell, 9; and extra squad, 9.

No. 2 Company—Sergt. Northcott, 7; Corp. Winsby, 8; Sergt. Patton, 10; Corp. Clarke, 7; Sergt. Short, 4; Corp. Richardson, 5; Sergt. Watts, 5; and Corp. Hitchcock, 8.

No. 3 Company—Sergt.-Major MacDougall, 9.5; Sergt. Lettice, 10; Sergt. Hollyer, 9.5; Sergt. Lorimer, 9; Corp. McTavish, 9.5; Corp. Brown, 10; Corp. Futcher, 10; Corp. Lorimer, 9.

MANITOBA AND NORTHWEST.

Corporal of Police Degraded—Ploughmen Struck by Lightning—The Endeavorers.

Winnipeg, May 8.—(Special)—Corporal Donovan, in charge of the Mounted Police canteen at Regina, has been tried for irregularities connected with the management thereof, and sentenced to one month's imprisonment, to be degraded from his rank, and be dismissed from the force.

James Simpson, of Virden, was nominated to-day by the Conservatives of Dennis to contest that constituency for the legislature.

Charles E. Brooks, aged 18, son of Edward Brooks, a farmer of Fairville, N. W. T., was instantly killed by lightning, and his brother Ben badly scorched while ploughing on Saturday.

The Manitoba University examinations commenced in Winnipeg this morning. There are 320 students writing.

The eighth annual convention of the Manitoba Christian Endeavorers has opened in Brandon.

IN THE WOODS.

From Forest and Stream.

There are two kinds of Adirondacks, and few see the real; usually one gets no further than some hotel piazza, and sitting there adorned in negligee shirt, blazer, golf cap, link buttons and an electro-plated gold watch that sounds like a stock-ticker, as you wind it to attract attention—you gaze at your imitation Scotch golf stockings and shapely legs (?) and wonder if your money will hold out for the week; then you seek an introduction to some limpid summer girl, and get it. Then you ask her if cigarettes are offensive to her, and before she can reply you are blowing clouds of smoke through your nostrils, hoping thereby to convince her that you are a man of the world; then you entertain her with your profound familiarity with the writings of Ibsen, Balzac, Tolstoi, Browning, George Eliot and George Sand, and suddenly cease talking, inasmuch as you have doubts as to the sex of the last two. As you lift your cap to leave her you hear her tell her mamma in a stage whisper "that Mr. Ballbearings is a most chawming gentleman, and such a scholar." You realize that you are not, also that she is out for a husband. A few more days of piazza and parlor life and you are home again admitting that all you have had that you could not get at home is fresh air; then some noon you dash into a "quick lunch" death-trap and bolt a lot of indigestible pastry, and as you pay your check your eyes meet those of the cashier, and you know the voice as she twitters: "It looks like 30 cents."

Oh, come away from such scenes, come miles out into the forest with us, away up on a mountain side to our camp among the balsams; come where high collars and Hamburg edging have no place and are not seen; come where the bluejays and the squirrels guy us, where the owls hoot of nights as we sleep on the ground, and the pensive skunk spreads a balm impartially over all nature in the wee small hours. Then up at dawn, a cold scrub at the spring, and rustle with us for breakfast. The viscosity of the coffee will shame a chef and the venison steak and flapjacks send rich blood hustling through your veins, and you will go out and kick stumps for exercise. Then, "Johnny, get your gun," and take a long tramp among the beeches; go where the spruce gum is not alloyed with rubber, and as you pass a clump of mountains ash some gay cock partridge caroms off into space with a whirr like that of an electric motor. You smile quietly and admit that you were frightened, that you did not have time to shoot, and don't care a rap anyway. Anon, you come to some gurgling brook, and as you part the alders and peer down into clear water you see the scurrying trout dart off towards some dark pool; then you lie down and drink deeply of the pure water, and as you regain your feet your eyes glance up to a crest of yonder ridge, and you see the white flag of a fleeing deer shaken at you derisively as it disappears into the valley on the other side.

Wending your way back to camp, you congratulate yourself that you have not destroyed life; you tighten your belt hole by hole to appease a growing hunger, and wonder if the process can be continued till you reach another meal. The pungent odor of burning greenwood and the gray smoke from the camp-fire greet you, and a sublime feeling of satisfaction with all things is about you like the halo of a pictured angel. There are no signs, "Keep off the grass," and you doze on the bench in the sunshine with no dread of an unfriendly locust or of a gruff voice saying, "Gwan outer that!" I hear a voice—the spell is over and I wake up feeling as fresh as a drummer on his first trip.

THE RETAIL MARKETS.

Price of Butter Goes Down—First Shipment of Cherries Received From California.

The general state of the market this week is unchanged. Potatoes show a tendency towards cheapening, and merchants are looking for something to happen soon that will greatly reduce prices.

British Columbia creamery butter has been marked down 5 cents a pound this week, and retails now at 30 cents. Wich fruit dealers cherries—the first which have been received from the California market—help to give variety to a rather depleted stock. The following are current retail quotations:

Ogilvie's	$ 5 50
Lake of the Woods (Hun.)	5 50
H. B. (Hungarian	5 50
Three Star	5 00
Premier	5 25
Snowflake	5 00
Hungarian (Armstrong)	5 50
XXXX (Armstrong)	5 25
Graham, per 10lbs	35
Wheat, per ton	30 00@ 35 00
Buckwheat, per 10 lbs	50
Straw, per bale	60@ 75
Onions, ped lb	02½
Rhubarb, per lb	03@ 04
Oats, per ton	28 00@ 30 00
Barley, per ton	28 00@ 30 00
Bran, per ton	23 00@ 25 00
Middlings, per ton	25 00@ 26 00
Chop feed (B. & K.)	25 00@ 27 00
Corn, whole, per ton	26 00@ 28 00
Corn (cracked), per ton	27 00@ 28 00
Cornmeal, per 10 lbs	35
Oatmeal, per 10 lbs	40@ 45
Rolled oats, 7 lbs	30@ 35
Cabbage, per lb	04
Potatoes, per cwt	1 40@ 1 75
Cheese, per lb	20
Red peppers, per lb	15
Hay (baled), per ton	9 00@ 13 00
Eggs (Imported), per doz	25
Eggs (Island), per doz	25
Butter (fresh) per lb	25
Butter, dairy (East), per lb	25
Butter (Cal.), per square	50
Butter (B. C. crmy.), per lb	30
Hams (Canadian) per lb	16
Hams (American), per lb	15@ 18
Bacon (American), per lb	16@ 18
Bacon (rolled), per lb	14@ 16
Bacon (long clear), per lb	12½
Bacon (Canadian), per lb	14@ 16
Shoulders, hams, per lb	12½
Beef, per lb	09@ 15
Sides, per lb	09
Veal, per lb	10@ 15
Mutton, per lb	10@ 15
Carcase, per lb	10½
Pork (fresh), per lb	09@ 12½
Ducks (Brant), per pair	1 00@ 1 25
Turkeys (Eastern)	15@ 18
Turkeys (Island)	20@ 25
Geese (Eastern)	14@ 16
Geese (Island)	18@ 20
Apples, per box	1 50@ 2 25
Apples (Island), per box	1 50 2 25
Lemons (Cal.) per doz	25@ 35
Oranges, per dozen	20@ 35
Oranges (Navals), per doz	40@ 50
Bananas, per doz	35
Tomatoes, per lb	20
Cherries, per lb	25
Salmon, per lb	10@ 12½
Halibut, per lb	10
Rock Cod, per lb	06@ 08
Ling Cod	08@ 10
Smelts, per lb	08@ 10
Flounders, per lb	08@ 10

The Angeles Proposition.

Guarantee of Transcontinental Connection for Subsidy of $350,000.

Promise of a Steamer to Carry Cars and Fast Passenger Ferry.

Following the example set by Mr. James Dunsmuir, vice-president of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Co., the promoters of the scheme to give Victoria connection with the transcontinental system of railways by means of Port Angeles, have submitted a definite proposition to the railway division of the Committee of Fifty—that is, they have put in writing what they had previously stated at conferences of the committee. Last evening the railway committee met and prepared a report, which they will submit to the general committee on Friday evening.

The proposition of the Port Angeles Eastern railway, made public yesterday, is as follows:

Port Angeles, Wash., May 4, 1899.

Hon. N. Shakespeare, Chairman Committee No. 5 of Committee of Fifty, Victoria, B. C.:

My Dear Sir.—In accordance with your request, the Port Angeles Eastern Railway Company hereby submit the following proposition, outlining and embodying a plan for steam ferry and passenger steamer accommodation between the city of Port Angeles and the city of Victoria, which shall give the city of Victoria transcontinental connection.

The Port Angeles Eastern Railway Company will purchase, operate and maintain a twin screw ferry boat with a capacity of ten loaded freight cars, or six to eight passenger coaches and whatever quantity of broken freight the requirement of such connection will call for, running the same between the city of Port Angeles and Victoria one or more trips per day. The speed of such ferry boat to be about nine miles an hour, the same to be constructed in such a manner and to be of such dimensions as to be seaworthy and able to make the passage in any weather; plans and specifications of such ferry boat to be submitted to your committee or such committee or committees as the city of Victoria may elect, for their approval.

STEEL PASSENGER STEAMER.

To purchase, operate and maintain fully equipped a steel passenger steamer of sufficient capacity to accommodate the travel between the said cities, and also to carry all fast freight and express matter between these two points; said steamer to have a speed of not less than 18 knots an hour, and to be sufficiently seaworthy to make the passage in any weather, plans and specifications of same to be submitted to such committee aforesaid for their approval.

DOCKS AND TERMINALS.

To build such wharves, docks, slips, sheds and depots and lay down such tracks and provide all other conveniences, and maintain the same, that shall be necessary for the accommodation of such freight cars, broken freight, fast freight, express matter and passengers as shall be found necessary for the complete and satisfactory handling of any and all business, both for the present and for the future, and to purchase or lease for a period hereinafter to be stated, sufficient lands and tide lands in the city of Port Angeles to accommodate such wharves, docks, slips and terminal facilities.

To purchase or lease or otherwise acquire lands and tide lands on the harbor front of the city of Victoria that shall be of sufficient acreage for terminal facilities and to build wharves, docks, slips, depots and other conveniences necessary and sufficient for the accommodation of such and all business the requirements of such connection may necessitate, and maintain the same.

To give to the city of Victoria by such passenger, ferry boats and railroads, a transcontinental connection in Olympia, in the state of Washington, that shall be acceptable to Victorians in speed, comfort and convenience, and to arrange through fares and freight rates and thereby positively establish an all rail route to your city.

We will arrange with our connections in Olympia for an interchange of traffic and equipments so that passenger cars go through without transfer, and freight from or to the East can be handled through to Victoria without breaking bulk. The arrangements will be extended later so as to embrace all the transcontinental lines if possible.

The amount required from your city for such expenditures and the securing to your citizens all the benefits of complete transcontinental connection will be $350,000, the same to be paid to the Port Angeles Eastern Railway Company or its representatives upon the full and satisfactory performance of all its promises, contracts and agreements.

Should the proposition meet the approval of your committee and the city of Victoria, the company will prepare plans and specifications and submit the same at an early date for your consideration and acceptance, and will be ready to proceed with the work at once, agreeing to complete the same within one year from the date of signing agreements.

Representatives of the company will meet with your committee or citizens at any time to confer on the matter, and will be pleased to give you any and all information in their power bearing on the project.

In conclusion we respectfully request that you act upon this proposition at your earliest convenience, as it is important we should know your decision as soon as possible. Respectfully submitted.

PORT ANGELES EASTERN RY. COY.
ISAAC C. ATKINSON,
V. P. & G. Manager.
C. A. CUSHING, President.

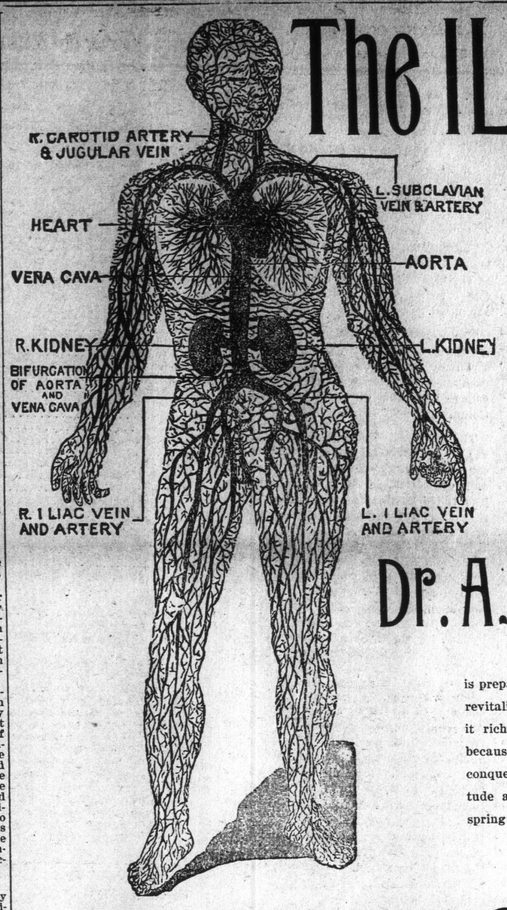
PYTHIAN GRAND LODGE.

Annual Convention to Open in This City This Morning—Entertainments.

The annual convention of the Grand Lodge of the Knights of Pythias of British Columbia opens in this city this morning at 10 in the Pythian hall. Most of the delegates arrived on Sunday evening and spent yesterday renewing old and making new acquaintances. It is expected that the business will occupy the attention of the members all day today, this evening and to-morrow morning. To-morrow afternoon it is proposed to show them the city and district, returning in time for the banquet in the evening.

Of the visiting brethren, the Dominion Hotel has a large proportion, including Grand Chancellor James Haddow of Nanaimo, Grand Vice Chancellor W. D. Mearas of Vancouver, Master-at-Arms J. L. Brown of Kamloops, Grand Inner Guard E. V. Gould of Vernon, Supreme Representative H. J. Anstie of Vancouver, Supreme Representative T. Ackermar of New Wessminster, Past Grand Chancellor J. E. Evans of Vancouver, and the following representatives: G. D. Brown, Kamloops; A. H. Ferguson, New Westminster; H. Hoffmeister, Vancouver; J. G. Allan, Revelstoke; G. W. De Beck, Vancouver, and Robert F. De Beck, Vancouver; M. Binns, Trail; A. Creelman and A. W. Graham, Rossland; John McDonald, Langley; C. S. Nelson, New Denver, and Robert F. Brooks, Vancouver.

The ILLS OF SPRING



No season of the year brings more sunshine and joy than does the glorious spring, when all nature awakens from its long winter's sleep. But as this delightful season approaches the discomforts of the body are many. After the artificial life of winter the system is run down, the blood is thin, weak, watery and diseased, and the nerves shattered and exhausted.

From IMPURE BLOOD the nerves can derive no nourishment, and in this poisoned condition the blood flows through the body to the various organs, causing the liver and kidneys to become sluggish and inactive, the heart to become weakened, and the digestive system to fail entirely in its functions.

There are headaches and backaches, nervousness and irritability, biliousness and dyspepsia, feelings of lassitude and despondency, sleeplessness, exhaustion and nervous prostration, loss of appetite, energy and ambition, brain fag, confused memory and loss of interest in life.

Dr. A. W. Chase's Nerve Food

is prepared from the favorite prescription of Dr. A. W. Chase. It restores and revitalizes the system by supplying to the blood the very elements which make it rich, pure and healthy. This great food cure marks a new era in medicine, because it builds up the wasted tissue and fills the body with the vitality which conquers disease. Despair and doubt give place to hope and confidence, lassitude and despondency are replaced by ambition and happiness. The ills of spring give way to health, vigor and strength when Dr. Chase's Nerve Food,

The Greatest Spring Restorative

is used. It makes the blood rich and pure, and creates new brain and nerve tissue.

Dr. A. W. Chase's Nerve Food, 50 cents a box, at all dealers, or by mail, along with a copy of Dr. Chase's new book, "The Ills of Life and How to Cure Them," on receipt of price, by Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

"ROBIN HOOD" PROFITS.

Benevolent Society's Part in Helping Along the Performance and Their Disappointment.

To the Editor of the Colonist:

Sir: Mr. E. A. Powell's long letter in your issue of the 7th inst. containing an expression of his ideas about the "Robin Hood" performance has statements in it which are so manifestly incorrect that I am at a loss to see how he could have been so mistaken, and I am compelled to ask your kind indulgence to trespass on your valuable space, my excuse being, a public duty, defence of an old and noble society and also of my humble self. In the first place, the arrangements entered into by a number of musical men with the B. C. Benevolent Society was that the opera of "Robin Hood" was to be performed for the benefit of the said society, and the proposal of the opera company was to give two nights, and if it so happened that the two nights did not produce enough to cover the expenses they would give one or more extra nights, the Benevolent Society undertaking to meet all the expenses out of the gross receipts, provided that I or some other person deputed by the society were allowed to take the admission money.

On the 23rd February last, however, Mr. Powell sent a letter to the society intimating that Mr. Kent felt from a business point of view that he should be secured from possible loss, and accordingly refused to allow the opera company any further credit unless he had a personal guarantee from some of the members of our board. I called a special meeting to discuss this matter, at which there was a general expression of desire to protect the opera company from any obstructive delays and the outcome was that another gentleman and myself went on the same day to Mr. Kent and undertook to see the account paid in full.

The promoters of two musical entertainments, viz., "Farmer's Mass and "Glorza's Mass," given for the benefit of the B. C. Benevolent Society, proposed another entertainment for the same cause of a more extensive nature and the opera of "Robin Hood" was selected, not, as Mr. Powell says, "the society was selected to give the proceeds to." They said they chose an entertainment such as the opera of "Robin Hood" because they thought it would give us a good lift of several hundred dollars.

As to Mr. Powell's assertion that our society persistently declined to be responsible for the expenses, such is not the case. We always considered that we should have the control of the receipts, sale of tickets, contracts for expenses and payment of bills, and all these matters I should have been happy to attend to free of charge, but when I asked Mr. Powell at what time he should require me in the box office, he said they had their own man.

Mr. Powell says he doubts whether fifty people went to see the opera for the sake of the Benevolent Society. Why, he knows as well as I do that I asked him for a quantity of fifty and seventy-five cent tickets, as I could sell hundreds of them, and lots of people were anxious to buy more than one ticket, as they could not afford the $1.00 ones. These people nearly all expressed themselves as being glad of having an opportunity of giving their mite to our society if they could buy the cheap tickets. Mr. Powell's reply to my request was that they would sell the cheap tickets themselves in the box office. Moreover, if Mr. Powell had such a shrewd idea that so few would attend for the sake of the society, why did he or his company have the Benevolent Society's name printed on advertisements, tickets and everything? As I have already stated, I most emphatically repeat that "Robin Hood" was chosen as an entertainment to be given for a previously proposed benefit for the B. C. Benevolent Society.

Now, as to a more serious matter: Of course I cannot dispute Mr. Powell's figures and must accept his statement of receipts and expenditure as correct, but I must say that the paragraph inserted in the middle of the statement, to wit: "This statement is subject to the return of 155 exchange tickets at $1.00 each by the secretary of the Benevolent Society," is most unfair and correct, and the reference in a previous portion of his letter to these tickets, and as he says want of decency on my part, he must surely see might tend to bring the society and myself into contempt.

I certainly fail to see anything indecent about it; the fact is, I originally got from Mr. Powell 408 exchange $1.00 tickets. I sold of these 45 (with Mr. Powell's consent); I gave two to a gentleman for helping me to sell tickets; on the 15th of April by the time we will be ready to put on the opera in April this sum will be further increased by about $75 for orchestral parts and prompt books, to say nothing or rent of hall for further rehearsals. Mr. Kent will be satisfied if he receives a personal guarantee from some of the members of your board. As to the question of any possible loss arising from the production, I do not think that an opera has ever been given here for the benefit of a charity that did not result in a handsome net profit. If this guarantee is not given we will not be able to proceed further with rehearsals, the whole thing will be dropped, and we will have to face a bill of $125, $80 of which has been guaranteed by your society as a whole, but not individually, a guarantee which is not satisfactory to Mr. Kent.

This prevents us from ordering the prompt books and the orchestral parts, and is seriously impeding our present excellent progress.

Our bill at Waitt & Co.'s amounts at present to about $125, due for vocal scores, rent of Waitt's hall for rehearsals, etc., and by the time we will be ready to put on the opera in April this sum will be further increased by about $75 for orchestral parts and prompt books, to say nothing or rent of hall for further rehearsals. Mr. Kent will be satisfied if he receives a personal guarantee from some of the members of your board. As to the question of any possible loss arising from the production, I do not think that an opera has ever been given here for the benefit of a charity that did not result in a handsome net profit. If this guarantee is not given we will not be able to proceed further with rehearsals, the whole thing will be dropped, and we will have to face a bill of $125, $80 of which has been guaranteed by your society as a whole, but not individually, a guarantee which is not satisfactory to Mr. Kent.

Extract of letter from Mr. E. A. Powell to W. H. Mason:

February 23, 1899.

W. H. Mason, Esq., Secretary B. C. Benevolent Society:

Dear Sir,—I enclose you draf of letter of

Used daily, Abbey's Effervescent Salt Gives Health

The Canadian Pharmaceutical Journal says: "We have tried Abbey's Effervescent Salt, and find it an excellent compound. A morning draught of this stimulating preparation will send a man to his daily occupation invigorated and ready for any task."

SOLD BY DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE