THE NEWS FROM LONDON.

Sealing Indemnity Before the House of Commons—Nicaragua Canal Operations Not Unobserved.

Impending Trouble Between Norway and Sweden—British Steamer Seized by Japanese.

LONDON, April 9.—In the House of Commons to-day, Sir Edward Grey, replying to an interrogation by Sir Geo. Baden-Powell, said that the government has received no proposal that they advance money to pay damages awarded to sealers under the award of the Paris tribunal pending the settlement of their claims by the United States.

Sir Edward J. Harland asked whether Sir Edward Grey was aware of the fact that the United States government had appointed a commission to examine into the question of the Nicaraguan canal and to survey the proposed route of the canal? Would the British government appoint a commission to co-operate with that of the United States?

Sir Edward Grey replied that he was aware of the appointment of the United States commission, and that a board of inquiry, consisting of three engineers, had been ordered to report before November 4. The British government, he said, could not consider the question of sending anyone to act with the American commission unless the United States desired such co-operation. The British government are fully sensible of the great importance of the question, and in the event of the canal enterprise being undertaken by the American government would take care that British trade and commerce received as favorable terms as these accorded to other nations.

The Morning Post to-morrow will print a dispatch from Friedrichsruhe saying that Prince Bismarck's health is less satisfactory than is to be desired. This is the result of the recent fetes and receptions, which overtaxed the old Chancellor's strength. It is doubtful, the dispatch says, whether the Prince will be able to receive all the other deputations that were to have visited him.

Madrid advices state that the official Gazette appears to-day with a black border and contains a formal announcement of the loss of the cruiser Reina Regente, with an expression of the deep sorrow felt by the Queen Regent and the government over the disaster.

The New South Wales assembly, by a large majority, has passed the motion to reduce the salary of the Governor-General to £5,000.

The project to hold a special session of the parliament of Victoria (Australia) for the purpose of discussing tariff reform has been abandoned.

The general elections in Denmark have resulted in a great victory for the radicals, who will have a small majority in the folkething. Copenhagen is excited over the unexpected defeat of the conservatives. Seven socialists, five radicals and four rightists have been returned in that city.

A dispatch from Shanghai to the Central News says that Japan has seized the British steamer Yiksang with a quarter of a million cartridges.

Before a crowded house yesterday the Speaker of the House of Commons, Right Hon. Arthur Wellesley Peel, announced his resignation and delivered his farewell address.

A Calcutta dispatch says that the tribes north of the Swat river were again defeated in a fight with the British last evening. It is reported that the free-booter Umra Khan has withdrawn his troops from Chitral. This, if true, will relieve the British garrison in the Chitral forts.

It is reported from Christiania that the estimates to be submitted to the storthing cause much comment. They gave fresh impetus to the wild rumors of an impending war between Norway and Sweden. The estimates far exceed any amounts previously required. The sum of $4,000,000 is to be devoted to the construction of ironclads. In addition large credits will be asked for the purchase of munitions of war, and for the completion of forts in Tonsburg harbor.

Col. Shervington, an English officer, who was commander-in-chief of the Malagasy army, has resigned, owing to a disagreement with the Hovas government. The French cruisers Papin and Du Petit Thouars, after being attacked by a land battery, bombarded the Hovas at Foerafat, near Tamatave. The reply of the Hovas was without effect.

The annual report for 1894 of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, the largest body of organized labor in the world, has been issued. It contains some astounding figures. The great strike and lockout of 1893-94 involved an expenditure of $423,000, and this entire sum was raised by levies on the various districts. The general fund account, separate and distinct from the strike fund, shows a total income for the year of $450,000, and disbursements sufficiently large as to leave a balance of $25,000 in the treasurer's hands. Hence, this single trades union received and disbursed nearly $1,000,000.

LONDON, April 10.—The Scotch newspapers comment very favorably on the report made by Hon. A. R. Angers, the Canadian minister of agriculture, regarding the restrictions upon the importation of Canadian cattle. Herbert Gardner, president of the board of agriculture, is understood to be studying the report. As yet he has given no sign of the effect it may have upon his policy.

In the last week several newspapers have directed attention to the growing favor in which Canadian horses are held here. The omnibus and van companies, however, report that they have found several cases of septic pneumonia among the horses recently brought over. They suggest that the vessels in which the horses are imported be more carefully disinfected.

The leading military clubs have elected to honorary membership the officers of the permanent force in Toronto and Quebec who are here training with the Imperial troops.

Lord Rosebery and Lord Herschell, lord high chancellor, will introduce in parliament, after the recess, a bill to enable colonial judges to sit in the judicial committee of the privy council.

A company will be formed here privately in the near future to engage in converting into oil and guano the waste fish and offal from canneries on the rivers of British Columbia.

A dispatch from Buenos Ayres to the Globe says the steamer Tartar Prince, with Jabez Spencer Balfour on board, sailed from that port for London this afternoon.

The railway commission which on March 8 heard an appeal of the trades association with a view of preventing the London and Southwestern railway company from carrying American and Canadian products between Southampton and London at cheaper rates than those charged for the transportation of home products, rendered its decision to-day. The commission decided in favor of the railway, except in the matter of carrying hops, hay and fresh meats, in regard to which products the appeal of the traders' association was sustained.

The Daily News correspondent in Berlin says De Bereght von Kotze is determined to get to the bottom of the anonymous letter scandal. He is trying to ascertain the name of the real malefactor as well as those of the persons who first laid the suspicions at his door. It is understood that he has three duels impending.

Francis Kossuth, son and political heir of the late Louis Kossuth, was elected to-day to represent the Tarpoliza district in the Hungarian reichstag.

In the house to-day William Court Gully, Liberal, was elected Speaker, defeating Sir Matthew Ridley, Conservative. During the discussion the Conservative leader, Balfour, attacked the selection of Gully as dangerous to the efficiency of the house because of his lack of experience. Harcourt criticised Balfour for making the speakership a matter of party discussion. The Parnellite members voted for the Conservative candidate.

Wm. Court Gully, the new Speaker, is a son of James Manby Gully, M D, and was born in London in 1835. He was educated by private tutors and at Trinity College, Cambridge, being admitted to the degree of M D in 1859. In 1865 he married Elizabeth Anne Walford Selby. He was called to the bar at the Inner Temple in 1860, became a Q C in 1877, and was made a bencher of his inn in 1879. He was appointed Recorder of Wigan in 1886. He unsuccessfully contested the Whitehaven division for parliament in 1880 and 1885. Since 1886 he has sat for Carlisle. In politics he is a Liberal and a supporter of Mr. Gladstone's Irish policy.

The house has adjourned until April 22, the interim being the Easter recess.

A Shanghai dispatch says much indignation is expressed there at the shippers of cartridges on the English steamer Yiksang, and also at the customs officials here who passed the cargo. It is believed the latter are implicated. The owners of the vessel are believed to be blameless. English vessels are strictly searched, while German vessels are not.

Mr. John Sweetman, who was returned to the House of Commons from the East division of Wicklow in the anti-Parnellite interest, will accept the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds, thus resigning his seat. He will then seek re-election as a Redmondite. Mr. Sweetman complains that the Liberals are shelving the home rule question.

It is said the marriage of Lord William Beresford to the widowed Duchess of Marlborough, formerly Mrs. Louise Hammersley, of New York, will take place shortly. Lord William has written to several friends announcing their engagement and saying the wedding will not be long delayed.

Emperor William has sent to Varzin a splendid wreath, which will be placed on the Princess Bismarck's tomb to-morrow, the anniversary of her birth.

The Standard's Berlin correspondent says: "I learn from a Chinese source that there is reason to doubt the present optimistic expectations of peace. Japan has not abandoned her excessive demands, especially as to the cession of part of Manchuria, to which China on no account will assent."

General Duchesne, who will command the French forces in Madagascar, left Paris for the south this evening to embark. He was accompanied to the station by General Zurlinden, minister of war; General Boisdeffre, and many other high officials. A large crowd on the open space before the station entrance cheered him enthusiastically.

The Central News correspondent in Simonoseki says there was a two hours' conference between the Chinese and Japanese negotiators to-day. Li Hung Chang was present, with all the other members of the Chinese mission. Of the Japanese negotiators only Mutsu, the minister of foreign affairs, was absent. He has the influenza.

In a leader on the circular sent out by the Canadian copyright society the Daily Chronicle will say to-morrow: "Everything in this circular has been refuted over and over again. The society wastes its time in flooding this country with such inaccurate and misleading documents."

AMERICAN NEWS.

WEST CHESTER, Pa., April 10.—An amusing sequel to the Chinese horrors and barbarities that were anticipated in the case of the United States cruiser Concord's marines, arrested in China for accidentally shooting a coolie while ashore shooting pheasants a month or two ago, has just come to hand in letters from Surgeon McLurg, of the Concord, to friends here. Instead of killing the Chinaman, as was at first reported by cable and incurring a possible death penalty, the Concord's huntsmen, it seems, merely wounded him with bird shot. For this they have been tried and fined a total of about 50 cents, and subsequently banquetted by the officials of Chinese justice, because Surgeon McLurg was so painstaking for three weeks and nursed the wounded coolie back to complete health and comfort in a Chinese hospital.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Official cable advices from the Colombian government today announce the complete subjection of the rebellion and the restoration of a normal condition of peace in all the departments of the confederation. Sporadic cases of guerilla attacks in the mountainous districts are still to be expected, and statements of these may reach the coast in a highly exaggerated condition, leading to reports of engagements or even battles, but the telegraph lines are again in operation and commerce and business have been resumed throughout the country.

PHILADELPHIA, April 10.—It was learned this afternoon from an authoritative source that President Harris of the Reading railroad has notified the committee of presidents of anthracite coal carrying roads, appointed in New York last week to secure an adjustment of the difficulties among the various companies, that the Reading will decline to submit its claims to arbitration. In taking this action it is understood that President Harris is supported by the largest interest in the Reading company as well as by the Olcott Earl committee on re-organization. The Reading receivers, who have persistently refused to accept less than 21 per cent., claim that as all statistics and data show the company to be entitled to that proportion of the output they see no reason to arbitrate.

NEW WHATCOM, Wn., April 10.—The victims of Blue Canyon coal mine explosion were laid at rest in Bay View cemetery this afternoon. The religious services presented the saddest scene ever witnessed in this vicinity. The Masons, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias buried those of their orders. All the flags in the city were at half-mast and business was suspended for the day.

NORWOOD, April 9.—The house of George Hendren was entered yesterday and $300 in cash belonging to his son stolen.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Salmon Fishing up North May Commence Two Weeks Earlier—Chinese Immigration Returns.

Fishery Commission Coming Here in June—Banquet to the Newfoundland Delegates.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, April 8.—The conference between representatives of Newfoundland and Canada is progressing, it is stated, with every possibility of an agreement being reached. The visitors came to Ottawa with preconceived notions as to the terms which they should get, but it is said on good authority that they have seen the necessity of receding from the position which they first took.

Local church people are indignant because Mrs Langtry is billed to appear here on Friday. In several pulpits yesterday the matter was referred to.

OTTAWA, April 9.—A banquet to the Newfoundland delegates given by citizens of Ottawa to-night was a splendid success. The visitors got a magnificent reception. Hon. Mr. Bond made the principal speech. It was eloquent and comprehensive, furnishing an interesting account of the resources of the island. Referring to the question of union, he said it was not true that Newfoundland is knocking at the door of the Dominion; for the door has been open for twenty years, and now the island is seeking to enter. This sentiment was greatly cheered. The other speeches were appropriate and well received.

The Deputy Minister of Marine wired Colonel Prior, M.P., to-day stating that the department will allow fishing to commence on the Skeena and other Northern rivers on the 15th of June—two weeks earlier than usual. There will be no relaxation, however, in the close season with regard to the Fraser.

Chinese immigration returns for March show the total number of arrivals last month to have been 166 as against 174 in the same month last year.

The Canadian "Soo" canal will be opened by electricity.

The International fishery commissioners will proceed to the Pacific Coast in June.

(United Press Report.)

OTTAWA, April 9.—Nearly two hundred guests sat down to a barquet in the Russell house to-night tendered by the citizens of Ottawa to the Newfoundland delegates. The members of the Dominion government were present by invitation. Mayor Borthwick presided. Among others present were Lord Aberdeen, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Hon. John Costigan, Hon. John Haggart, Hon. J. F. Wood, Solicitor General Curran and Sir Adolphe Caron. Lord Aberdeen, replying to the toast of his health, said relative to confederation that he had no doubt some day the question would be satisfactorily solved. Sir James Grant, M.P., proposed the toast "Our Guests," speaking strongly in favor of union with Newfoundland.

Hon. Robert Bond, in replying, dealt extensively with the resources of Newfoundland, denying that the island is bankrupt and pointing to the fact that when the crash came there were $4 500,000 deposited in the bank, or about $20 per capita. He hoped the result of the conference would be that terms of union could be arranged between both parties which would be satisfactory to all concerned.

Hon. Messrs. Morris, Emerson and Harwood spoke in similar strain, after which the toast to the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada was proposed. Sir Mackenzie Bowell replying said that it is the duty of all parties in Canada to do what they can to accomplish the union of Canada and Newfoundland.

OTTAWA, April 10.—Hon. T. M. Daly received a telegram of a reassuring character from Superintendent Vowell to-day in reference to the alleged outbreak among the lower Kootenay Indians.

The Governor-General attended the Newfoundland conference to-day.

The total subscriptions to the Sir John Thompson memorial fund to date amount to $35,070.

The reports from all the fish hatcheries are of the most successful character.

George Chapman, of Toronto, a grain dealer, laid a charge of discrimination in rates against the Canadian Pacific before the railway committee to-day. He argued the case himself, but could not cope with Mr. Clark, counsel for the company. The decision of the committee was that the case was one of breach of contract, and that they had no jurisdiction.

THE FOUR BYE-ELECTIONS.

TORONTO, April 10.—(Special)—The bye-election in Haldimand will from present indications be an easy thing for the popular Secretary of State, the nomination to-day resulting in an outsider named J. A. McCarthy being put up against Hon. Dr. Montague, as a Dalton McCarthy candidate. At the general election Dr. Montague polled 1896 votes against 1818 for his Liberal opponent Mr. Colter, yet the Liberals thought it better not to put up any candidate this time.

MONTREAL, April 10.—J. Bissillon was nominated as the government candidate in Vercheres to-day. He will be opposed by C. A. Geoffrion, Liberal, brother of the late member, and well known as the able advocate who defended the McGreevy hoodlers.

QUEBEC, April 10.—R. R. Dobell, the well known lumberman, and for a generation one of Quebec's most prominent citizens, was nominated in Quebec West to-day as the government candidate, the opposition faction putting up Hon. Thomas McGreevy, who went out of politics a few years ago under a cloud. His successor, Hon. John Hearn, died, hence the bye-election.

HALIFAX, April 10.—Joseph Chisholm, brother-in-law of the late Sir John Thompson, was nominated government candidate in Antigonish to-day. His opponent is Hon. Colin F. McIsaac, Liberal, who has represented the county in the local house.

Only Made a Noise.

BOSTON, April 9.—The steamship Ethelred, from Jamaica, recently fired on by a Spanish gunboat, arrived to-day. The captain says the incident occurred on April 1, when the vessel was about a mile off Cape May. The gunboat only fired blank across the Ethelred's bow, and when she came near enough to discern the English flag she passed without further demonstration. As she went by the captain of the Ethelred made out the word "Neuvas" on her bow.

AN ASSAULT UPON CAPITAL.

Justice Field Thus Strongly Denounces the Income Tax—His Alarming Prediction.

Treasury Officials Chagrined at the Court's Decision Which Cuts Off Twenty Millions.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Treasury officials are greatly dispirited over the Supreme court's decision on the income tax case, and express the belief that the net result of the decision will be the loss of at least 50 per cent. of the expected receipts of the tax. In most cities the loss will be far greater than this, notably the city of Washington, where the loss is expected to reach 75 per cent. In 1890 the rented houses in New York city were nearly 94 per cent. of the whole. In Boston it was 81 per cent.; in Brooklyn and Jersey City, 81; in Cincinnati, 80. In the other large cities the percentages ranged down to 36 per cent. at Rochester. The total number of rented houses in the United States in 1890 was 18,120,487, which during the last five years has undoubtedly increased very materially. Dwellings, however, represent only a small part of the capital invested in buildings of every character, which produce enormous rentals. Comparatively little was expected on state, county and municipal bonds, but the total loss, it is thought, will not fall short of $15,000,000 or $20,000,000 for the first year, and this loss is expected to increase rather than diminish in succeeding years should the law remain unchanged.

The loss of this revenue, however, is not the only cause of regret among the officials. The fact that the court was evenly divided on the main constitutional question, it is expected, will result in almost endless litigation, thus very materially adding to the expense of collecting the tax.

Nevertheless, the internal revenue officials will proceed at once to prepare supplemental regulations to conform to to-day's decision, and from now on until next Monday, when the time expires within which returns may be made, any returns in which incomes from rents and bonds are deducted will be regarded as a full compliance with the tax. Persons who have already made their returns and paid the tax will be advised of the change in the regulations, and as soon as possible the proportionate amounts of the tax paid by each on rents and bonds will be refunded to them under the general law which authorizes the commissioner of internal revenue to refund taxes wrongfully collected.

It was stated when the decision was rendered yesterday that upon the question of whether any of its provisions are valid in view of the unconstitutionality of part of the law, the court is evenly divided, and no opinion therefore was expressed on this point.

Mr. Justice Field, who considered the law altogether unconstitutional, thus strongly denounced it: "I am of the opinion," he said, "that no income tax could be lawfully assessed and collected upon the salaries of the President or any of the judges who were in office at the time the statute imposing the tax was passed. Here I close my opinion. I could not say less in view of questions of such gravity that go down to the very foundation of the government. If the provisions of the constitution can be set aside by an act of congress where is the usurpation to end?

"The present assault upon capital is but the beginning. It will be but the stepping stone to others, larger and more sweeping, till our political contests will become a war of the poor against the rich, a war constantly growing in intensity and bitterness. If the court sanctions the power of discrimination in taxation and nullifies the uniformity mandate of the constitution, it will mark the hour when the sure decadence of the present form of government will commence.

"If the purely arbitrary limitation of $4,000 in the present law can be sustained, the limitation of future congresses may be fixed at a much larger sum, or the limitation may be designated at such an amount as a board of walking delegates may deem necessary. There is no safety in allowing the limitation to be adjusted except in strict compliance with the mandates of the constitution, which requires taxation to be uniform in operation and so far as practicable, in proportion to their property, equal to all citizens."

THE INCOME TAX.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Attorney J M. Wilson, who represented John G. Moore in the court of appeals in the recent income tax cases says, that further proceedings will be begun immediately. "Several points of the law will be attacked," said he, "the principal one being the exemption from taxation of incomes under $4,000 annually. This will be attacked as an unjust discrimination. I cannot say just now who the complainants, or of what title the suits will be, but they will be instituted probably within a few days, and be pushed as rapidly as possible."

LONDON, April 10.—The Globe referring to the decision of the supreme court of the United States as to the constitutionality of the income tax, says: "Every man in this country will regret that there is no supreme court of the American variety here. Never, in all the long history of the English bench, have they soared to the heights of liberty reached by the American judges yesterday. It is quite impossible to establish such a tribunal here."

The St. James Gazette comments on the supreme court decision in a similar strain, and adds: "No one has suggested that this august tribunal can be bribed in a manner familiar to litigants in some of the inferior courts of the Union, still it is significant that the politics of the various judges are carefully mentioned in the dispatches."

NEW YORK, April 10.—Charles Allen has begun a suit in the Circuit court of the United States for the southern district of New York, against President Stuyvesant Fish and the directors of the Illinois Central railroad company, to prevent them from paying to the government the income tax of two per cent. on the earnings of the company for the week ending December 31, 1894. Allen says in his complaint that he is the holder of five shares of the capital stock of the company. He contends that the income tax is unconstitutional because it is a direct taxation, but if it should be held that it is not a direct tax, then Allen maintains that the tax is uncollectable for the reason that it is not uniform, many of the stockholders of the Illinois Central having incomes of less than $4,000, including the dividends from their holdings of the stock.

Allen says that the tax is not uniform, from the fact that it is imposed upon only about one per cent. of the people of the United States, namely those who have incomes in excess of $4,000 a year derived from personal property, while the remaining 99 per cent. of the people are exempted from payment of the tax, although they hold the greater part of all the personal property in the United States; also he claims that the mutual insurance companies, having an asset of $1,200 000,000 are exempted, while companies organized on the stock plan, with assets of $278,000,000 are made to pay the tax. Building and loan associations are also relieved from the tax.

PROTECTIVE FREIGHT RATES.

SEATTLE, April 10.—The receivers of the Northern Pacific railroad yesterday announced a new freight tariff to take effect to-day, which, if maintained, will almost if not entirely shut out St. Paul and the other Eastern cities from the markets of Eastern Washington and Idaho, and will hand over the trade of that section to Seattle and the other Puget Sound cities to the exclusion, also, of San Francisco. This change seems to have been made with a view to making the ports of Washington the supply points for the interior territory, which is naturally tributary, not only as regards home products, but for all kinds of commodities brought in by sea, instead of as now having goods shipped from the East through the Sound, thence to be re-shipped to the interior. This system has handicapped the Seattle merchants with a double freight for a double haul between the Sound cities and the point of consumption, and has given St. Paul, Minneapolis and Chicago a corresponding advantage. The receivers now seem to have adopted an entirely new policy, namely, that of encouraging the shipment of products to seaport towns by sea for distribution in the interior by rail.

An idea of the extent of the reduction can be formed from the fact that the former class rates from St. Paul to the points named were only about 30 per cent. higher than those from North Pacific coast terminals, while the reduction in commodity rates is even greater. Not only does the Northern Pacific thus give Seattle the advantage over St. Paul and Eastern points, but by a system of arbitraries it protects this and other North Pacific coast terminals from the competition of San Francisco, which is fostered by the low rates of the Southern Pacific and the low steamer rates caused by the present rate war.

THE TRAPPERS' WORK.

It is Profitable Now for Experts—A Good Supply and Prices Keeping Up.

White Men Giving Way to Indians—Fur Bearing Animals About Vancouver.

VANCOUVER, April 9. — (Special) — Furs are not so plentiful as during last spring, the chief reason given being that the less skilled Indian hunter is taking the place of the expert white trapper. Trapping is a vocation requiring great skill and experience, and though hunting is the natural calling of the red man his white brother can teach him in every branch of the trade. He will seldom shoot out of season; he will clean his skins better, and if an expert hunter he will trap everything there is in the vicinity, while an Indian will catch one animal but set his trap in such a way that the wounded creature has painful leisure to warn other animals of danger. A white trapper who knows his business will set his trap for beaver so that when the beaver is caught it is pulled out of sight under water and drowned, and the rest of the family do not see its death struggles.

There are few expert white trappers living in the vicinity of Vancouver, but those that are here, it is said, average $100 a week during the season. A British Columbia trapper can tell by mysterious signs, unknown to ordinary mortals, the present or recent proximity of any fur-bearing animal. An expert recently demonstrated to a fur dealer that, on a spot 100 yards square, four miles from Vancouver in the woods near water, there had been in the past week bear, beaver, marten, otter, mink and coon; the bear was easily traced by its droppings, but all the other animals were known by different distinctive peculiarities. From these indications it would appear that civilization is not driving fur-bearing animals away very fast; already this spring fur-bearing animals have been caught in the outskirts of Vancouver, and bears are said to be numerous quite close to the city. This week a fir tree a foot and a half through was discovered just at the city limits gnawed almost in two by beavers. It had been intended for a dam and was gnawed with such precision that a slight push sent it tumbling across a stream close by. The work of the beavers of British Columbia shows that the little animal can gauge the spot where a tree will fall better than a man often does.

Though marten have advanced in price they are more plentiful than usual this spring, and there are more silver skin and cross fox east of the Cascades. Deer skins are not in so good demand as usual, principally owing to the fact that gloves, etc., are being made out of less expensive material which answers the purpose. The fur market is holding well in spite of the hard times; the long spell of cold weather taking an unusually large number of furs out of the market.

Bears are coming out of the winter caves, and never did so in better condition. They are still high up in the mountains, but will soon have to venture down and fish for salmon in the shallow streams reaching out from the Fraser river. November, December, January and February are the months comprising bruin's winter, in which he lies contentedly at home, living on the fat he has accumulated in the summer. In March or April he will wander from his retreat weak and almost famished. He doesn't think of gorging himself, however, before he consumes large quantities of skunk cabbage, which acts as a condition powder and prepares him for his meal of salmon.

KILLED IN THE STORM.

NEW WESTMINSTER, April 10.—(Special) —There was a terrific thunder-storm on the Mainland last night, between Blaine and Whatcom being the storm centre. Seven miles below Chilliwack two Indian women, a man and a five year-old boy were camped beneath a huge cedar tree, when the tree was blown down on them, and all were killed except the man.

The matters in dispute between the Maple Ridge dyking commissioners and the Western Dredging Co. have been settled, and dyking work is progressing.

Indian Agent Devlin, on behalf of the Dominion Government, is supplying seed to Indians who were flooded out last summer.

Jos. Bowyer, principal witness in the case of Williamson versus the Corporation, for damages because of a defective sidewalk, has been summoned for perjury.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Fatal Coal Mining Accident—Freight Rates For B C. Fruit Growers.

Interesting Weather—The Bishop of Salisbury at Vancouver—The Bridge.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, April 10.—The board of trade have resolved to ask for a mail service between here and Westminster by tram.

The police and fire estimates submitted yesterday amount, respectively, to $17,176 and $30,129.

In future a mail bag will be made up regularly for the North an hour before the Danube or the Boscowitz sails for the North. The Danube will call here on the 2nd and 16th of each month.

The Westminster and Vancouver tramway will be sold on Saturday by auction.

The Bishop of Salisbury, England, was met at the wharf on the arrival of the Warrimoo to-day by Rev. Messrs. Clinton, Tucker, and others, who presented him on behalf of the diocese with an address of welcome.

WESTMINSTER.

NEW WESTMINSTER, April 10.—The transportation committee of the Fruit Growers' Association have held a meeting at the Guichon hotel, there being present, G. W. Henry, president; Thos. Cunningham, chairman of the horticultural board; Thos. Earl, member of the horticultural board, and A. H. B Macgowan, secretary of the fruit growers' association. After a brief discussion the meeting decided to wait upon Mr. Wm. Brown, general freight agent of the C.P.R., with a view to discussing freight rates. An interview was accordingly held yesterday morning with very satisfactory results. Mr. Brown agreed that a weekly car should be run from Vernon to the Coast, fruit and vegetables will be carefully handled and a mutually satisfactory rate will be charged. These rates will eventually be fixed as soon as the different station agents have been consulted. Cars will also be placed at the disposal of the fruit growers, to carry fruit to the Northwest territories. The question of the Okanagan valley and the surrounding country supplying the Kootenays was also taken up, and with reference to the same it is expected that an equally satisfactory basis of agreement will be arrived at. In the meantime it only remains for the fruit growers in the various sections of the province to put their shoulders to the wheel and develope the country to the best of their ability. The committee are perfectly satisfied with the assurances of Mr. Wm. Brown that the C.P.R. will do all in their power to encourage local fruit traffic and carrying.

On Saturday last Dr. Bentley, returned from a visit to Juneau, where he went to view the land with the intention of settling there. He travelled by the steamer City of Topeka. On arriving at that city he found considerable stir on every side. The town was full of people, including many on their way to the Yukon mines. As the result of his inquiries there he has decided to remove to that city with his wife and family, and he is to sell off all his household effects by auction.

A farmer named Jones on Monday, while clearing up around an old deserted cabin on his land at Hall's Prairie, discovered the skull of a man among the wild growth in the old garden. He at once reported the discovery to Reeve Armstrong and to Dr. Sutherland, of Cloverdale, who visited the spot. Search was made to find some trace of the body, but unsuccessfully, and the idea is now held that the skull has been carried some distance by some animal. Dr. Sutherland is of the opinion that the man died about a year ago. The skull was completely bereft of skin, hair and flesh, but the brains were still in the cavity, though sunken and partially decomposed. The Coroner has directed that a thorough search be made for the body, that by means of the clothing some clue may be obtained.

Some interesting weather has been experienced here, as witness the following official report, dated April 9: "A thunder storm occurred here from 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. Vivid lightning, both chain and fork, with pistol and heavy rolling thunder, gusts of south wind and heavy rain. This has never been seen before by the oldest inhabitant, particularly at this time of year. It appears to have been caused by two masses of clouds coming in contact, one from the south and the other from the east, which united and drifted off to the north. The nearest flesh was about two miles away."

At the meeting of the city council yesterday it was resolved that unless a satisfactory guarantee can be made by Mr. Rand's company, so that a definite arrangement can be made with him before the 22nd inst., the council proceed to let a contract for the building of a bridge, to take effect in case the debentures can be sold for a satisfactory price within a reasonable time.

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, April 10.—An inquest was held this afternoon into the death of Dan McKeegan, the miner killed in No. 1 pit yesterday. The jury found a verdict of accidental death. No blame is attached to any person.

Long Kee, charged in the police court yesterday with selling whiskey without a license, pleaded guilty and was fined $70, and ordered to procure a license at a cost of $150 and to pay $5 costs.

The E & N. railway are now in possession of the property lately held by P. Brodie. In a few days the land occupied by the Hoggans will be taken over.

The Quadra left to day for Shute passage to locate the rock on which the Joan struck last week. The rock is said to be in mid-channel.

Arrangements are being made for the Queen's Birthday celebration.

A YOUNG LAD AND HIS FAITHFUL FRIEND.

Ernest McGregor, of Whitby, Ont., Gives an Account of His Experience—Cured of Persistent Dyspepsia by B.B.B.

WORST KIND OF DYSPESIA.

GENTLEMEN,—I write to inform you that for years I had been troubled with Dyspepsia, and having tried other medicines which entirely failed I at last found relief and cure in Burdock Blood Bitters, of which I took two bottles the result being a perfect cure. Although only a young lad I had been troubled with Dyspepsia for four or five years, but I can say now that B.B.B. does its work faithfully in the worst kind of Dyspepsia, and has proved itself the only cure for me. ERNEST McGREGOR, Whitby, Ont.

KINGSTON, April 9.—The finance committee of the city council has fixed the rate for this year at 17½ mills.