British Journalists Reach Victoria

Party Welcomed by Official Representatives at the Wharf Last Night.

Visit to the City Council Chamber and Then Through Chinatown.

According to programme the distinguished party of representative British newspapermen who have been touring Canada in the interests of their papers to obtain first-hand information regarding conditions in this country, arrived in Victoria by the steamer Amur from Vancouver last evening, and were heartily welcomed at the wharf by the city's representatives and members of the local press.

Mayor McCandless, Mr. Herbert Cuthbert, Captain Frank I. Clarke, Mr. W. E. Ellis, superintendent of the provincial immigration bureau; Mr. Abbot, representative of the C. P. R.; Mr. R. E. Gosnell, chief of the bureau of provincial information, accompanied the guests to the Driard hotel, where they are staying during their visit. Mr. E. J. Coyle, passenger agent of the C. P. R., came over with the party from Vancouver, and was most assiduous in looking after their comfort. The party are under the personal direction of the inimitable George H. Ham, representing the C. P. R., and the testimony of the party is unanimously to the effect that he is a host in himself as an entertainer. Mr. W. J. White, representing the Dominion government, also accompanied the journalists.

In order that no time should be lost, and every member of the party expressing the utmost willingness to improve each shining hour, it was determined to visit the city council chamber that the representatives of some of Britain's greatest newspapers might have an opportunity of hearing Victoria's city fathers lay down the law. After they had had a brief look in at the city hall, Chief Langley undertook to pilot the visitors through Chinatown and show them the wonders of the Orient as fresh and balmy as if in old Canton itself. To all the visitors this was an experience full of novelty and surprises. Copious notes were taken and abundant useful information absorbed.

The handsome store of Tai Yune & Co., Government street, was first visited, and the manufacture of opium from the poppy leaf quids up to the finished article with which the pipe is "thi," was shown and explained by a courteous Chinese attendant. Then the bookkeeper of the establishment proved to them that although Chinese writing looks like an explosion in a well-filled think tank, that an expert Chinese cheirographer can shove down the Celestial rabbit tracks pretty nearly as quickly as the most adroit white man with a steel pen.

Next a move was made down Cormorant street, and the chief showed the visitors dens and dives galore. Games of Chinese domino were in progress for small stakes; nearby a Chinese barber was shaving the inside of a customer's ears and nostrils with a razor like a quill pen; another fellow was having his skull shaved till it looked like a peeled onion. In another joint two Chinamen were just about to commit an assault on the pipe, but when they saw the door crowded with illustrious strangers they took refuge in their devotions and refused to smite the dream-inducing dhudeen until the distinguished foreigners had withdrawn.

Then the Chinese theatre was reached by climbing, and the party were well filled with Chinamen enchanted with a marionette show. Most of the visitors sought the gallery in order to gain a better view. A miniature figure, clad like a tightrope walker, played antics on a string; he was followed by a clown, harlequin and pantaloon, who went through the usual thrilling wickedness of smashing windows, stealing links of sausage and licking the policeman.

Next the visitors threaded their way through many intricate and perfumed passages to a tiny den in which, at a small table several Chinamen were playing Chinese whist, while over in the corner a sad-faced descendant of Confucius played discords on what looked like a discarded syrup can, upended, which he struck monotonously with two small sticks. It was hinted that he occasionally accompanied this appaling jingle by singing sweet songs for Cathay, but at the very suggestion the whole crowd hacked out of the room precipitately, and did not consider themselves out of danger until they saw the electric lights and the stars.

Visits were then paid to other dwellings and curio stores, where polite Chinese obsequiously made plain the mystery of joss sticks and other products of the Flowery Kingdom.

It was late last night when the visitors, one and all of whom had been perfectly delighted with the trip to Chinatown, returned to the hotel, greatly impressed with Victoria's varied assortment of cosmopolitans.

The party consists of the following journalists: Messrs. E. B. Osborn, Morning Post, London; Sidney Higham, Graphic, London; Harold Rylett, New Age, London; W. J. McAliece and Mrs. McAliece, Midland Express, Birmingham; Arthur Yarrow, Chronicle, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Neil Munro, The Evening News, Glasgow; Barclay McConkey, Telegraph, Belfast; John Derry, Independent, Sheffield; Henry Alexander, jun., Free Press, Aberdeen.

A pleasant reunion of felllow-craftsmen took place when Mr. Neil Munro met here Mr. John Minto, news editor of the Victoria Daily Times, and Mr. T. L. Grahame, of the Victoria Colonist staff, former colleagues of Mr. Munro's on the staff of the Glasgow Evening News some years ago. Mr. Munro was delighted to meet old comrades again, and a long and very pleasant chat was enjoyed. A brief sketch of Mr. Munro's career appears elsewhere in this issue, accompanying his portrait.

Mrs. McAliece, who accompanies her husband, has thoroughly enjoyed the tour, and has had some experiences which ought to make excellent reading when duly set forth, as they no doubt will be. One of these was a ride up Sulphur Mount at Banff on the back of a mountain pony, the first experience Mrs. McAliece ever had of equestrian locomotion. The trip is one that tests most men, but Mrs. McAliece came through it like the plucky Englishwoman she is. Mrs. McAliece keenly enjoyed the strange sights and sounds of Chinatown, and will probably have plenty of fun recounting those queer experiences to friends in England.

Mr. Lee Mong Kow, Dominion government official Chinese interpreter in Victoria, and special Chinese agent for the C. P. R. here, entertained Mr. Neil Munro to a genuine Chinese dinner at his residence last evening by special invitation. Needless to say, Mr. Mong Kow, who is a Chinese gentleman and quite au fait as an entertainer, upheld the honor of his country and its reputation as a land of epicures, and charmed the Scottish novelist, not only by the excellence of his wines and his viands, but by his witty conversation.

Mr. Henry Alexander, junior, the other Scotsman, writes himself junior because his father, of the same name, is a proprietor and the editor of the Aberdeen Free Press. That journal has a special reputation for the completeness of its literary survey. Young Alexander is the junior member of the touring party and one of its most painstaking gatherers of information. He is personally interested in the details of agriculture, and the journal he represents circulates in one of the best farming districts of Scotland. As part of his training in journalism, Mr. Alexander served two years in the press gallery of the British House of Commons. He has crossed the Atlantic before and has traveled in New Zealand and Australia.

Mr. W. J. McAliece is here on behalf of the Midland Express, one of the journals issued by Mr. C. A. Pearson, the proprietor of Pearson's Magazine. Mr. McAliece has been well known as a press man in the Birmingham district for twenty years. He has a special interest in sport. A particularly happy feature of the tour has been the inclusion of Mrs. McAliece. She has been a delightful comrade for all, has shrunk from none of the rather trying exertions inseparable from long and rapid journeys, and has given an air of domesticity to travels which sometimes might have seemed cold and formal but for her womanly influence.

Mr. Barclay McConkey, the representative of the Belfast Evening Telegraph, is a Protestant Irishman, born in Glasgow. He has held a responsible position on the staff of the popular journal he represents for ten years. Most of the members of the press party are Freemasons, and Mr. McConkey is the most enthusiastic member of the craft. In the course of the trip he has been very active in collecting personal experiences of farmers' success from small beginnings.

Mr. John Derry is a local administrator when at home. He is a proprietor and the controlling editor of the Sheffield Daily Independent, one of the oldest established journals in England. He is chairman of the Finance committee of the Sheffield city council, chairman of the committee of management of primary schools, deputy chairman of museums and free libraries, councillor and a member of the executive committee of the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce. He has traveled in twelve European countries, but had not crossed the Atlantic previously.

Mr. Arthur Yarrow is the linguist of the party. He speaks nearly all of the tongues of northern and central Europe. He has traveled in all the continents except Australia. He is the solid informational leader writer of the Newcastle Daily Chronicle, and has held the position for many years. His stock of knowledge is immense. Few men have so direct and complete a knowledge of the press of Europe. Mr. Yarrow is, perhaps, the most quiet and retiring member of the traveling group. He and Mr. Derry are the only two who knew each other before the present joint journey began. They met in Moscow at the coronation of the Tsar in 1896.

Rev. Harold Rylett, edits a weekly journal, The New Age, and on this trip represents Reynold's Newspaper, a weekly Republican Labor paper. Twenty years ago Mr. Rylett, who then lived in Ulster, was closely associated with the Home Rule agitation. He is a tall, distinguished-looking man, who has, to a remarkable degree, the saving gift of humor.

Mr. Edward B. Osborn, the representative of the aristocratic Morning Post, was one of the "young men" found by the late W. E. Henley when that sledge-hammer critic and powerful poet edited the National Observer. Mr. Osborn has not only lived in Canada for several years, but has written a book on the Northwest, under the title, "Greater Canada." He is a leader writer for the Morning Post on literary, dramatic and economic topics. The making of a graceful, epigrammatic and humorous speech is one of his accomplishments.

Mr. Sydney Higham, artist and correspondent for the Graphic, has traveled widely. He has been in Canada before, and has lived in Texas. He is a clever artist, with a fine sense of the elements that go to the composition of a picture, and his portrait work is particularly good. Though he has a slighter physique than any other member of the party, he is its athlete. Mr. Higham has furnished the journey with romance by his engagement to a young lady now in Vancouver, whom he met for the first time on the Lake Manitoba, outward bound. Mr. Higham remained in Vancouver.

The itinerary and programme for today and tomorrow, as drawn up by the Victorian reception committee and embodied in a handsome souvenir card, are as follows:

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11TH.

9 a. m.—The party will be conveyed by train on the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway upon a tour of inspection of some of the leading industries tributary to the city of Victoria.

The train will proceed to Ladysmith, arriving at 11:45 when the party will inspect the smelter of the Tyee mine, the coal shipping bunkers of the Wellington Colliery Company, and other points of interest.

12:30 p. m.—Lunch at Ladysmith.

1:10 p. m.—Leave Ladysmith for Chemainus, arriving at 1:30. Inspection of the splendid saw mills.

2:15 p. m.—Leave Chemainus for the interior of the forest, some 10 miles distant, where the party will witness the cutting down of a giant Douglas fir tree and other "logging" operations.

5:00 p. m.—Leave Duncans for Chemainus.

6 p. m.—Leave Chemainus for Duncans.

6:30 p. m.—Leave Duncans.

7:00 p. m.—Dinner at Strathcona Hotel.

8:30 p. m.—Leave for Victoria, arriving in the city at 10 p. m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12th.

9:30 a. m.—The whole party will leave on the Tally-ho and in carriages upon a drive around the city to various points of interest, and to inspect some of the local industries.

1:30 p. m.—Visit to Parliament Buildings Government Museum and the Reclamation Works, and dredger King Edward VII. at James Bay.

3 p. m.—Visit to Esquimalt and inspection of H. M. Dock Yard and Dry Dock, and the Engineering Yards of Messrs. Bullen & Co., and of the Victoria Machinery Depot. Return to city at 6 p. m.

11 p. m. to 1 a. m.—Take steamship Charmer to the city of Vancouver, B. C.

Save the King.

NOT FOR CHINA.

Washington, Aug. 8.—The United States Navy Department today authorized the denial of the report that the European squadron is destined to Chinese and Japanese waters.

THE SOCKEYES ARE NOW RUNNING

Long Expected Shoals Have Made Their Appearance at Traps.

The long-looked-for sockeye salmon has made its appearance in Puget Sound in the usual place in the river in showing up. It came on Friday 70,000 strong. That number was taken by the Pacific Packing and Navigation Company, according to telegrams received at the general offices from Fairhaven.

For the past two weeks straggling sockeyes have been in evidence, but never anything like a school has come upon the fishing banks.

Friday's catch of this company alone, it is estimated, will not be less than 100,000 sockeyes. Other companies, the Alaska Packers' Association and smaller concerns, did proportionately well yesterday. The Pacific Packing and Navigation Company put up over 3,000 cases of salmon yesterday at its Blaine, Friday harbor and Fairhaven canneries. At the latter alone 2,500 cases were canned, with 1,800 for Blaine and 1,200 for the Friday harbor plant.

If the sockeyes come to-day in the countless thousands and in subsequent days as the canners confidently expect they will, the pack this season will yet be, or at least bids fair to be, as great as that of average previous years.

Still there is no doubt that the fish speculators have oversold and undersold as to price. All of the orders cannot be filled at any price, and the indications are that those made good will represent a greater price than what they were sold for.

Meanwhile fairly good catches have been made of other grades of salmon, especially in southeastern Alaska, where the canneries are reported to be doing a great business. No report so far has been received from the salmon canneries at the mouth and on the Nushagak river, which is a tributary of Bristol Bay.

Library Contract Still Undecided

Council to Get Legal Advice as How Best to Proceed in Matter.

Messrs. Hooper and Watkins ask Privilege of Calling for New Tenders.

The serious hitch which has arisen in the matter of the awarding of the contract for the erection of the proposed Carnegie library building, owing to the excessive sums asked by the various contractors who submitted tenders, has not yet been straightened out. The council held a special meeting yesterday afternoon in an attempt to arrive at some agreement as to further action, but a decision was reached that it would be advisable to get legal advice on the question as to whether the city is bound to carry out the terms of the plan of competition on which the drawings were submitted and go through the formula of calling for tenders for designs No. 2 and No. 3 in an attempt to get a bid within the stipulated sum of $45,000, which is all the money the council is empowered to expend on the building. The only allusion made to the matter at last evening's meeting of the council was in respect to the reception of a letter from Messrs. Hooper & Watkins, who claimed the right to call for new tenders upon drawings amended so as to comply strictly with the terms of the competition.

His Worship Mayor McCandless presided and all the aldermen were present.

The city of Rossland extended an invitation to the summer carnival. Accepted with thanks.

Messrs. Dean & Mack, of San Francisco, asked to be permitted to tender for water pipes. Referred to water commissioner.

R. Jackson, re light on corner of Simcoe and Carr streets, asked that certain trees be cut down in the vicinity. On motion of Ald. Cameron, it was referred to the engineer for report.

George F. Waites, on behalf of residents of Gotham street, called attention to the impassable condition of that thoroughfare, and asked for a change of name of the street. Referred to the city engineer for report.

Messrs. Hooper & Watkins, re the Carnegie library, wrote asking to be again permitted to call for tenders on the drawings first submitted.

Referred to special committee for report.

W. J. Dowler, city clerk, reported that the petition of M. Goudy and others, and P. J. Whitting and others, and M. A. Morrison, had been referred to the city engineer.

Received and filed.

The water commissioner recommended that a five-years' lease of certain land at Elk Lake be given Josiah Bull at an annual rental of $135. Adopted.

The Finance committee recommended the payment of accounts amounting to $3,096.35. Adopted.

The Streets committee reported as follows:

Your streets, bridges and Sewers committee having considered the undermentioned subjects, beg to recommend the following resolutions to the Council for adoption, viz:

Resolved, that the establishment of a Dominion Division for Good Roads for promoting the objects set forth by the secretary of the Eastern Ontario Good Roads Association, in his recent letters to this Council, is, in the opinion of this Council, highly desirable and urgent, that this Council heartily approves of the movement, and would respectively press upon the attention of the Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa, the importance of providing such measures, as soon as possible, as shall accomplish this end:

And that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Hon. Mr. Fisher, and to Mr. H. B. Cowan, secretary E. O. Good Roads Association.

Resolved that the City Engineer be authorized to give Fort street from Government street to Douglas street, a coating of tar and gravel.

Resolved that the City Engineer be instructed to proceed to erect a concrete wall along the foreshore, Dallas road, easterly from Montreal street, to protect the said road from encroachment by the sea, this work to take place of the riprapping decided on July 4th last. Cost not to exceed $2,000.

Resolved that the City Engineer be instructed to lay a permanent sidewalk eight feet wide, between Douglas and Blanchard streets on Fort street, south side, if funds are available.

Resolved that an 8-inch vitrified pipe surface drain be laid on Langley street from Bastion street to Fort street.

Re communication from Hon. J. S. Helmcken and the Victoria Chemical Company Works, Ltd., objecting to the removal of rock on Huron street. Recommended that the writers be informed that it is not intention of the Council to remove any rock from said street at present.

Re communication from the B. C. Land & Investment Agency, desiring the remission of the sewer frontage tax on that portion of the Fairfield Estate, owned by Messrs John and J. A. Douglas. Recommended that the agents be informed that the Council cannot see their way to grant the request.

Re communication from Col. F. B. Gregory, asking the Council to undertake the work of laying a wooden curb on Belleville street, south side, from Douglas street west. Recommended that the City Engineer be instructed to furnish the street lines for this work, the work to be done by the property owners interested, subject to the supervision and approval of the City Engineer.

Re communication from A. W. Knight, requesting the extension of the sewer on the north side of Pandora avenue from Cook street, easterly. Recommend that the work be done.

Also recommended that the City Engineer be instructed to prepare a plan showing the alternative route (via North Pembroke street), proposed, to the Agricultural grounds, and report as to the cost of providing such alternative route.

Received and filed.

Ald. Cameron's motion asking for leave to introduce a bylaw aiming at the paving of Yates, Bastion and Langley streets, carried.

The bylaw was then put through its initial stages.

The council then adjourned.

During the session of the council the chamber was visited for a short time by a delegation from the party of touring British journalists in charge of Messrs. Herbert Cuthbert and W. H. Ellis.

ROSSLAND ORE SHIPMENTS.

Rossland, Aug. 8.—Ore shipments from Rossland camp for the week ending tonight were as follows: Le Roi, 4,470; Centre Star, 1,560; War Eagle, 1,410; Kootenay, 398; Le Roi No. 2, 533; Giant, 60; Jumbo, 85. Total for week, 8,055; for the year to date, 225,217 tons.

INTERNATIONAL TYPOS MEET.

Washington, Aug. 10.—The fourth session of the International Typographical Union opened here today, Chairman Whitehead of the local committee on arrangements presided. The services were opened with prayers. Commissioner Macfarland delivered the address of welcome, followed by Prof. Willis Moore, chief of the weather bureau. Mr. Moore was at one time a printer. He spoke of the president of the United States as a friend of labor and congratulated the convention upon that fact. President Jas. M. Lynch responded to the welcoming address and formally called the meeting to order. Adjournment was taken just before noon until tomorrow. Delegates were given an excursion on the Potomac.

IN POLICE CIRCLES.

Prosecution of Clothier Under Early Closing Act.

There were but two cases called in the police court yesterday. One drunk had his bill of ten dollars estreated, having failed to connect when his name was called, and Henry Rutland was called for an alleged infraction of the ready-made clothing early closing bylaw. He had left his doors open to trade, it is said, after the statutory hour for closing. He was remanded until tomorrow morning, at the request of City Solicitor Bradburn. Mr. Crease appeared for the prosecution.

Mr. E. Wardale Bradley, assistant city clerk, occupied the post of police court clerk yesterday, this being his first appearance in the police court. Mr. Page is on a vacation.

Thos. Price, able seaman of H. M. S. Amphion, was humming "Rollin' 'Ome to Merry Hengland" yesterday afternoon from behind the steel barrier, for he knew that his ship was outward bound for home, and just because he had been found in an Indian hut on the reserve with a bottle of whiskey hidden under his coat, he must stay in durance vile in Victoria for two months—while his comrades are putting the miles between them and this port on their homeward voyage. And Thos. Price, seaman, wonders how he is going to catch up with the warship when she has two months' start on him.

Over on the Indian reserve on Saturday night there was something doing, whether in revenge for the arrest of Price or for "pure cussedness" none can say. It is an established custom of the sailorman that, when he is going home, he leaves "is bloomin' trademark on somethin'—and over on the Indian reserve the side of the foot bridge which crosses the flats has been torn away, fences have been laid low and pickets by the dozen torn from the fences. Some persons—and the presumption is that they were departing blnejackets—have been laying violent hands on fences and other improvements on the Indian reserve.

All of which has caused annoyance to Mr. Deasy, special constable on the Indian reserve—for he was absent at New Westminster on business when the cyclone struck the reserve.

The Riches Of Poplar Creek

H. C. Briggs, of This City, Returns From Scene of Lardeau's Gold Find.

Tells of the Undoubted Richness of the Mines---Scenes of Excitement.

H. C. Briggs, traveler for R. P. Rithet & Co., who has just returned from the upper country, visited the scene of the recent rich strike in the Lardeau during his trip, and from him it is learned that the new strike is rich beyond doubt—a veritable Golconda in fact. Before Mr. Briggs left Trout Lake great excitement prevailed, and stampeders were hurrying into the district on every steamer.

The lead discovered is no less than three feet wide, and has been traced for two hundred feet, with gold showing all the distance. The lead is shown in a continuous break for that distance, and it can be traced off and on for a distance of no less than two miles. The samples of ore taken from the claims staked in the district are wonderfully rich, all showing free gold to the naked eye, in fact on some claims the outcroppings are seen to be so rich in gold that men are sitting on their properties with shotted guns to prevent anyone carrying off samples, so rich are the samples on some of the claims.

"Before I left Trout Lake," said Mr. Briggs to a Colonist reporter yesterday, "great excitement prevailed over the new find, and there was much laughter over the fact that a party of linemen who had been in the district a short time before had made their camp and slept over the identical spot where the rich discovery was made on the discoverers' claim, which has been sold to a company for no less than one hundred thousand dollars, and this before any cut has been made."

General assays of the ore taken from the lead have gone as high as from $11,000 to $16,000 to the ton. One mining expert of thirty-five years' experience who was talking of the new find at the hotel at Trout Lake after returning from the scene, said he would stake his reputation on the fact that the discoveries were not pockets, but that the strike was a most substantial one, and would show the Lardeau district to be one of the richest producers in British Columbia.

One locator was offered no less than $30,000 for his property as a result of the showing of samples exhibited by him, and there were many other rich offers made for properties. The excitement at Trout Lake was great. When I was coming out on July 27th, passing through Trout Lake City, there was a big rush on. Crowds were hurrying away on the steamer Victoria with their outfits, and much excitement was going on. The scenes on the wharf were striking. Many women went, and others sought to go, in fact, many of the miners who wished to do so had great difficulty in keeping their wives from rushing to the scene of the new strike. At the other end of the valley there were similar scenes, for the stampeders were hurrying in from there. Some, on the other hand, were taking things quietly, stating that there was room enough in the new district for all.

Mr. Abrahamson, of Trout Lake, is going to the scene of the discovery, which is located on Poplar Creek, to build a new hotel, for he is satisfied that the discoveries will result in a permanent camp being located there of no small size. Everywhere in the upper country the feeling is the same, and one and all have great hopes for the future of the Lardeau.

It is expected, too, that there will be rich placer strikes made in the district, for there are crevasses in the rocks which are very rich, and four or five dollars to the pan is being taken from some. And, as stated, the gold is sticking out of the rock on some of the claims, and the miners are sitting on their properties, armed with rifles and shotguns, to protect their gold and keeping people from carrying off samples, which in themselves represent money.

The route from the coast to the new find is via the C. P. R. to Revelstoke, and thence to Arrowhead and to Beaton by boat. From there the traveler goes by stage to Trout Lake, a distance of twelve miles, and thence the steamers take him sixteen miles to the railway, and two miles along this line lands the would-be miner at the scene of the find on Poplar Creek.

MOONLIGHT EXCURSION.

A Large Number of People Enjoyed Delightful Outing.

Over 400 excursionists enjoyed last evening the delightful moonlight excursion planned and successfully carried out by the Ladies' Aid of the Centennial Methodist church. The train left the city terminal of the V. & S. shortly after scheduled time, and after a speedy run Sidney was reached. Here the palatial steamer Victorian was boarded and a cruise taken among the beautiful Gulf Islands. The glorious panorama of scenic beauty was rendered all the more beautiful under the witchery of the silvery moonbeams. The waters of the Gulf were as smooth as the proverbial mill pond. An orchestra on board discoursed sweet music, and appetizing refreshments served to make all aboard realize that they had made no mistake in deciding to patronize the evening's delightful outing.

Parents Resent Extravagance

Needless and Costly Books Ordered for Scholars Cause Trouble.

Education Department Not to Blame for the Pernicious Practice.

When the scholars returned to their happy homes yesterday afternoon at the conclusion of the commencement exercises, they bore with them slips of paper containing a list of the books and other requisites which the teachers deemed necessary for their parents to provide for their children in order to proceed with the school curriculum for the ensuing term. The perusal of those innocent-looking lists caused many simultaneous explosions of righteous indignation on the part of paterfamilias—and materfamilias, too—and the air of Victoria's happy homeland rang with angry protests because of the needlessness of a large portion of the lists, and the uncalled-for expenditure expected to be disbursed by the head of the household for the goods.

In many cases the wrath of the parents was directed toward the Education Department as the "fons et origo malorum," but most unjustly, because the department has nothing to do with the case. The jurisdiction in the matter lies entirely with the individual teachers, and upon their devoted heads should descend the wengeance of the offended parents.

That the parents have good cause for complaint, the following facts will show pretty clearly. Here is a sample list brought home gleefully by a laughing youngster to his anything but gleeful father:

Article	Cost.
Third Reader	$ 40
New Canadian Geography	90
Cloth-bound slate	10
Two good exercise books	20
One scribbler	05
Copy-book No. 4	10
Drawing-book No. 1	10
Ruler, eraser, pencils	10
Slate cloth	10
	$1 95

Now it is asserted by those who are well-informed in those matters, that the foregoing list is absurdly extravagant, containing many items which could with perfect safety be done without for the present. As amended by those opponents of the little bill, the list of articles actually required by the scholars, and one that would cause no great amount of grumbling amongst parents, who do not go so far as to demand free school books, would be as follows:

Article.	Cost
Reader	40c.
Slate	10c.
Copy-book	10c.
Drawing-book	10c.
Eraser, etc.	10c.
	80c.

That is, just about two-thirds knocked off the first estimate, and not a bit of damage done to the scholars' prospects of becoming well and truly educated. It is very interesting to make a little calculation here and see what this first tender would amount to in the aggregate of a school room. Say there were 50 scholars in the room which had been ordered to outfit themselves according to programme No. 1; at $1.95 the women folk would amount to $97.50. Then supposing list No. 2 were to go into effect, the saving would be $1.15 per head to 50 scholars, or $57.50; that is, list No. 2 would cost the class of 50, $40, instead of $97.50.

As to the new Canadian geography at 90 cents, nobody disputes that the book is worth that amount of anybody's money, but it is not wanted or required in the class rooms, and, according to very well-informed persons, is placed on the list simply to save the teacher from doing his or her duty. It is distinctly directed by the Education Department that geography is to be oral up to a certain point, and teaching means more labor than telling a lad to "get up" so many pages of dry geographical names which often mean absolutely nothing to him. It is easier to heave a new Canadian geography at an urchin's head and order him to learn "how the trades winds blow, than to form up the class into two long lines and march them obliquely upon a point in the class room at which they must converge and march on together, to illustrate how a trade wind is formed, and thus stamp forever on the mind of the dullest the origin of the fact we call a trade wind.

It is to get out of this sort of graphic example and demonstration, to escape the labor of experiment, that teachers order new Canadian geographies for their pupils, say the critics of the unrevised list No. 1. To blame the Education Department for this to to lay the blame on the wrong shoulders. Then, again, City Superintendent Tolmie has done everything in his power to stop the practice of getting books that are not wanted, particularly blank books, which are as costly as they are useless. He deserves praise for his efforts to stop an abuse which means much to many families if allowed to continue.

Parents who have spoken to the Colonist on the matter, say that these most recent demands by the teachers upon the pockets of the parents simply emphasize the urgency of improving our school system to the extent of supplying books, etc., absolutely without cost to the scholar.

TRAP PIRATES OF PUGET SOUND

United States Government Appoints Marshals to Protect Traps.

The United States government has authorized the enrollment of a number of deputy marshals to protect the fish traps on the Sound from pirates. A good insight into the boldness of the operations of the fish pirates is given in a formal report made to the Pacific Packing & Navigation company by one of the trapkeepers. The writer says:

"In regard to the robbery of our trap No. 3 in Boundary bay last Thursday morning, will say that four men came to the trap at 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning and at first offered to pay each of the two watchmen $20 if they would permit them to fish the trap. This the watchmen refused to do, after which the four men climbed upon the trap and proceeded to sink their seining apparatus into the spiller. After the fish had collected upon it they drew the thing together, making it into a sack, lowered the web of the spiller and towed their trap to a sailboat lying close by, and took the fish out at their leisure. As near as the watchmen could estimate, they took about sixty fish, all that were in the trap.

"One of the pirates was a particularly notorious thief, residing at Blaine. The watchmen protested in every way they could against the fishing of the trap, but they cold do nothing, as the four men were detached, and told the watchmen they would fish the trap at any cost.

"Our Kirby reef trap was also robbed Saturday night, but we are satisfied it was done with the permission of the watchmen, both of whom took money for the permission to rob the trap. One of the watchmen told a friend of his in the camp that he had been paid by those pirates that night.

"About the first of the week, during the night, some pirates fired a shot through the watchman's house on one of the Alaska Packers' association traps on the point. During one night three different boat loads of pirates came to one of our Boundary bay traps. This year they seemed to be operating with from four to six men in a boat, evidently for the purpose of more easily frightening the watchmen and overpowering them, if necessary.

"I am very glad to learn Judge Hanford is going to assist us in protecting the traps. If we can only arrest this bunch of pirates we now know robbed our traps and put them in Judge Hanford's hands, we will probably have very little trouble the rest of the season.

"These pirate boats are operating without a fishing license, issued upon their boats, as required by law, when engaged in fishing. This prevents us to a great extent from getting any clue to the boat or pirates, unless the men are known personally.

"Most of the watchmen tell me that they have visits every night from the pirates, who, upon looking into the traps and noting that there were no fish, remarked that they would be aroused later and would be willing to divide with the watchmen, but that in any case, when the fish came, they proposed to have them one way or another."

HURRICANE IN WEST INDIES.

Port de France, Martinique, Aug. 10.—Martinique was swept by a hurricane of great violence last night. Its duration was 10 hours. Hundreds of houses were unroofed here and several sailing vessels were badly damaged. No fatalities, however, have been reported. The streets were encumbered with debris, and the roads are impassable with fallen trees. Several towns on the island suffered considerably.

Kingston, Jamaica, Aug. 10.—The tail end of a hurricane going over the Antilles struck the eastern end of the Island of Jamaica this afternoon and did great damage to the property of the United Fruit Company and the Jamaica Company, Limited. The full extent of the injury is still unknown. The hurricane appeared to be moving northwards in the direction of Cuba.

Found Crawfords But No Millions

Another Exciting Episode in the Humbert Trial Yesterday.

Promise That Madame Will Produce These Witnesses in Good Time.

Paris, Aug. 10.—Romain Durignac testified that Madame Therese commissioned him to trace the whereabouts of the Crawford brothers. Once, he said, he located the room occupied by Robert and Henry Crawford at a Paris hotel. Henry came to the door and accepted copies of some legal papers. The defendant denied ever impersonating the Crawfords or writing the letter. Madame Humbert here made another declaratory statement, protesting her complete innocence.

"I have tried to find the Crawfords and their millions," she said, "I have not succeeded in finding the money, but I have found the Crawfords. They have made a terrible revelation to me, and I have told Maitre Labori all. He knows the real name of the Crawfords, for they have still themselves the name of Crawford. No one will suffer any loss. I will pay every one. Perhaps the Crawfords may not appear, but they exist. It is only their name that does not exist."

The judge, interrupting here, asked: "Then where are the Crawfords?" "If the Crawfords do not come I will give their name, and that will suffice," replied Madame Therese. "I have already told Maitre Labori that when the witnesses have been heard and the hearing is concluded I will tell all."

When the court intimated that the statement was vague, Maitre Labori answered that Madame Humbert engages herself to speak at the close of the hearing. The court then began the examination of the ninety witnesses called outside the family, which will occupy many days.

THE CAREER OF LATE PHIL MAY

The Famous Black and White Artist of Punch who Died in London.

Phil May, the celebrated caricaturist and humorist, the successor of Du Maurier on the staff of Punch, whose death was announced by cable in the Colonist a few days ago, was one of the most notable black and white humorous artists in the world.

Few workers in black and white have attained such fame as Phil May enjoyed. His work is known all over Europe and is familiar to Canadians. He did with pen and ink very much what Dickens did in his novels. He showed the life of the London streets with a touch that accentuated its humor.

He was thirty-nine years of age. His first work was as an actor, playing small parts with a strolling company. He began to sketch and made some theatrical posters. He came to London, but could get no chance to show his ability. He has told of how he walked the streets of the big city hungry.

He worked his passage to Australia and got an opportunity to do comic sketches for the Sydney Bulletin. Three years of work there created a demand in London for the drawings of the artist who had tried vainly to succeed in the metropolis.

He returned to London, and his work appeared in many English publications. After Du Maurier's death he was invited to join the staff of Punch. Since 1892 he has published "Phil May's Annual," and since 1890 "Phil May's Sketchbook."

Once in awhile the hankering for the stage returned, and he appeared several times with the Mollison company in London, playing the part of Pistol in "Henry V."

He toured America once and did clever work as a gently satirical, good-humored and witty pen and ink critic.

WIRINGS FROM WINNIPEG.

Brakeman Run Over and Killed—C. P. R. Manager on Tour of Inspection.

Winnipeg, Aug. 10.—(Special.)—A brakeman named William Lee was killed at Maple Creek last night. He was waiting on a board between two trains, the board broke and at the same time one of the trains bolted and ran over him. He was instantly killed.

General Manager McNicoll, of the C. P. R., arrived in Winnipeg from the east this afternoon. He was accompanied by Chief Engineer McHenry, Assistant General Manager Leonard and Superintendent Brady. Mr. McNicoll is on a general inspection of the road, which will continue right out to the coast.

Bacon—What do you think of the man who goes about trying to peddle his own autobiography?

Egbert—Why, I think he takes his life in his hands.—Yonkers Statesman.

Macedonians Slay Many Turks

Further Statement of Insurgents as to Fighting Last Week.

Three Christian and One Musselman Villages Destroyed Near Monastir.

Sofia, Bulgaria, Aug. 10.—The representatives of the Macedonian revolutionary committee have published a statement saying that the number of insurgents in the district of Monastir is 8,000, and they are armed with rifles. It also states that on August 2nd 600 insurgents destroyed three detachments of Turks, numbering altogether 100 and attacked the town of Kitchevo, but failed to occupy it.

The insurgents, however, destroyed the Turkish village of Drougovo, whose inhabitants had come to the assistance of the garrison of Kitchevo. The statement further says that three Christian villages, Smalevo, Krouche and Bolino, near Monastir, have been completely destroyed by the Turkish troops.

Rome, Aug. 10.—It is stated that there has been an exchange of views between the powers regarding the situation in Macedonia, and that apparently the powers have decided to support Russia in her efforts to re-establish peace.

Salonica, Aug. 10.—The chief of the gendarmes at Salonica has been dismissed.

London, Aug. 10.—Mr. Balfour in the Commons acknowledged the ill success of the efforts of Europe in the Macedonian question since the signing of the treaty of Berlin, but he thought the critics of European diplomacy should not forget the extraordinary complications and difficulties of the task. He was still hopeful that the plan recently designed by Russia and Austria would prove the best way of dealing with the problem. Between the outrages deliberately planned by the revolutionists and the license of the Turkish troops, the historical truth required him to say that the balance of the criminality lay rather with the revolutionists than with the Turks. Mr. Balfour said everything possible would be done to impress the Porte with the necessity of keeping its troops well in hand, and every assistance would be given to the Porte in carrying out that object. The British government's policy, concluded Mr. Balfour, was to aid Autaria and Russia in introducing the elementary principle of sound government, which for the present constituted the best means of dealing with the deep-seated evil.

A despatch from Constantinople says the Macedonian insurgents are concentrating between Prilip and Dibra, for the purpose of interrupting the Turkish reinforcements from old Servia.

London, Aug. 11.—The Times this morning prints a despatch from Sofia, which says it is believed the Turkish government provoked the present Macedonian rioting, for not only has Turkey failed to execute the promises made to the Bulgarian government for the amelioration of the condition of the Bulgarian Macedonians, but she has increased her persecutions and ill-treatment, thus inviting them. If the Turks should try now to suppress the rebellion by the massacre of innocent people, the Bulgarian government would be obliged to intervene.

RETAIL MARKETS

The only noteworthy change this week is in bran, shorts and flour, all brands of flour having advanced 10 per cent. Strawberries are now off the market, but local apples are coming in in very good shape, and growers are getting very fair prices. The Gravenstein apples from Oregon are also arriving in splendid condition and in good supply. The following are the current quotations:

Wheat, per ton	$35
Corn, whole, per ton	$34
Corn, cracked	$32
Corn, feed meal	$32
Oats, per ton	$30
Oatmeal, per 10 lbs.	40
Rolled oats, B. & K., per lb	4
Rolled oats, B. & K. per 7-lb sack	35
Flour—	
Ogilvie Hungarian, per sack	$1.40
Ogilvie's Hungarian, per bbl	$5.50
Lake of the Woods, per sack	$1.40
Lake of the Woods, per bbl.	$5.50
Moose Jaw, per sack	$1.40
Moose Jaw, per bbl.	$5.50
Excelsior Flour, per sack	$1.40
Excelsior Flour, per bbl	$5.50
Hudson Bay Co. flour, per sack	$1.41
Hudson's Bay Co. flour, per bbl.	$5.50
Enderby Flour, per sack	$1.40
Enderby flour, per bbl	$5.50
Pastry Flour—	
Snow Flake, per sack	$1.35
Snow Flake, per bbl.	$5.25
Three Star, per bbl.	$5.00
Drifted Snow, per sack	$1.30
Drifted Snow, per bbl.	$5.00
Feed—	
Hay, baled, per ton	$16 to $18
Straw, per bale	75
Middlings, per ton	$30
Bran, per ton	$28
Ground feed, per ton	$28
Vegetables—	
Beans, per lb.	5
Chili peppers, per lb.