

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Miners' Licenses on Lulu Island—Vancouver's New Police Magistrate—Charged With Forgery.

Mining at Alberni and on the Mainland—Indian Potlach at Nanaimo.

(Special to the Colonist.) WESTMINSTER, Oct. 31.—During the past week 105 miners' licenses have been taken out and 59 quartz and two placers claims recorded on Lulu Island.

John Wilson, young man living at Ashcroft, is standing trial on the charge of seducing a girl living in Mission City, 20 years of age, who has since become a mother.

WESTMINSTER, Nov. 1.—Tramps of the toughest type are swarming in from the Blaine way. Seven of them tried to steal a ride on the freight train bound for Vancouver, but the C. P. R. officials were too watchful for them.

The annual inspection of Company No. 4, B. C. G. A., took place to-day. The company have been practicing hard to make a creditable showing, and a marvellous improvement has been noticed, considering the short time at the disposal of the officers.

WESTMINSTER, Nov. 2.—The grim reaper gained a little late month on the population of Westminister. There were 9 births, 12 deaths and seven marriages.

VANCOUVER, Oct. 31.—J. A. Russell, barrister, of the firm of Russell & Godfrey, has received a commission to act as police magistrate of Vancouver, at a salary of \$1,800.

There is no longer a battery band; rather than drill the members of the band have severed their connection with the militia. The city is swarming with tough characters.

Mr. G. E. T. Pittendrigh, son of District Coroner Pittendrigh, of Westminister, and Miss Lily Fowler were married yesterday.

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man was largely attended and conducted under the auspices of Judge A. F. & A. M. Mr. Freeman was one of Vancouver's best known citizens, and was connected since his arrival in Vancouver about eight years ago with the Union Steamship Company, being a stockholder in the company as well as acting as its wharfinger. He was popular among all classes of the community.

Mr. H. Abbott, general superintendent, C. P. R., returned from the Kootenay yesterday. He reports that the wholesalers in Victoria and Vancouver are increasing their business in Kootenay. The work of the new branch line from Rosland to Columbia is progressing. The work of construction on the smelters of Nelson and Trail Creek is being hastened and the smelters will be running by January 1.

The Governor-General and the Comptroller of Accounts have accepted an invitation to be present at the St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society ball here.

One of the most important social events of the season took place last evening on the occasion of the ball given by Hon. J. N. N. Japanese consul for Canada, in commemoration of the natal day of His Imperial Majesty the Mikado of Japan.

The Agassiz excitement is said to be occasioned by gold bearing ore being found at Trout Lake, five miles northwest of Harrison Lake. The gold is in an 80 foot ledge and runs \$45 to the ton. There is a horde of miners to the spot.

NANAIMO, Oct. 31.—The Nanaimo Indians have decided to complete the new school house by their own labor without a contract. A "bear" dance by four Cowichan Indians and the christening of two Cowichan girls and giving them the names of the wives of noted chiefs of the Cowichan tribe were part of the proceedings at the Indian potlach yesterday afternoon.

At a meeting of the directors of the Mineral Creek Gold Mining Company on Friday the representatives of the Vancouver syndicate reported favorably respecting the general C.P.R. property. They have, they determined to open a tunnel with a view to crosscutting the veins already discovered.

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Several big deals are on, which will doubtless be consummated in the near future. The camp never looked better, and those who were classed as enthusiasts six months ago now see their fondest hopes about to be realized.

The assembly then adjourned singing "God be with us" in the morning. The next general temperance mission will be held (D.V.) in the Somers school house, on Tuesday, November 5.

The Lillicoet, Fraser River & Cariboo Gold Fields, Ltd., has acquired an option on the branch line, about 20 miles from the Nelson and St. Elmo Consolidated claims, at Rosland.

Business continues to improve at Sandon, the building goes on despite the dispute between the owners of the ball given by Hon. J. N. N. Japanese consul for Canada, in commemoration of the natal day of His Imperial Majesty the Mikado of Japan.

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CONSERVATIVE DEMONSTRATION. TORONTO, Nov. 2.—The Conservative demonstration in London marked the opening of what will probably be the start of the Conservative campaign for 1896. The first speech was made by Dr. Montague, who said the Conservative party was always glad to see Hon. Mr. Laurier in Ontario uttering any words that would be sweetly.

Regarding Mr. Laurier's challenge as to the bye elections, Mr. Montague announced definitely that the government would hold elections for the vacant seats before the house met. He said Mr. Laurier stood everywhere on the Manitoba school question, and faced every breeze that blew.

Hon. Mr. Foster congratulated the gathering on the brilliant Conservative prospects in London. He attributed Canada's greatness to the industrial policy of the Conservative party. The question which the Conservative world wide was not whether this or that man should obtain power, but what is best for the trade development of the country.

OTTAWA, Nov. 1.—Sir Mackenzie Bowell and Sir C. H. Tupper returned from Washington to-day. Speaking to your correspondent the Premier stated that the Minister of Justice and he had been cordially received at Washington. While not in a position to indicate the nature of the conference with Secretary Olney, the Premier said he had every reason to believe that an amicable basis would be reached under which the claims of the B. C. sealers for compensation would be submitted to arbitration.

The New Zealand legislature by a majority of two has rejected the proposed trade treaty with Canada. The militia department to-day placed an order for 2,000 greatcoats with Shorley Bros., of Montreal. The contractors have undertaken to waterproof this supply as an experiment without extra cost to the department, and if the coats prove serviceable it is likely both coats and trousers will be waterproofed hereafter.

OTTAWA, Nov. 2.—A banquet will be given to Hall Caine here on the 25th. Queen Long, a well-to-do Chinese merchant in Montreal, has been arrested for smuggling opium, fifty pounds of the prepared drug having been found in his possession.

Numerous complaints have reached the customs department from merchants who entered wines and other goods under the French treaty, but were refused entry because no proof had been given that the imports were of French origin. The department has issued a circular to collectors instructing them to demand from the consuls a certificate of origin in all cases where the origin of the wines, etc., was not plainly evident.

OTTAWA, Oct. 31.—Delaney, Johnson, O'Brien, Cuspage, Fruhl and Gill, all men of this class, aged from twenty-five to fifty, have been arrested on a charge of having disgraceful relations with young girls, some of them under fifteen. The men are being tried separately.

COBOURG, Oct. 31.—John Phillips shot Lawyer Crookshanks last night and was found this morning in St. Peter's cemetery lying on his daughter's grave with his brains blown out. A revolver was by his side and showed that he had taken place. Phillips was interested and which was decided against him. This was the cause of the shooting.

COBOURG, Oct. 31.—Hugh McMillan, ex M.P. for Vaudreuil and paymaster of the Laobine canal, died at Rigaud, Quebec, at the age of fifty-six.

WINNIPEG, Oct. 31.—Constable Colbrook, of N. W. mounted police, was shot and killed at Duck Lake, N.W.T., last night, by an Indian whom he was pursuing on a charge of cattle stealing. The murderer is at large. Colbrook served with the Big Bear column in the rebellion of 1885.

WINNIPEG, Oct. 31.—Sir Oliver Mowat entered to-day upon his twenty-fourth year as Premier and Attorney-General of Ontario, having entered upon these positions on October 31, 1872.

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"LIGHT WILL COME!" Durrant Professes to Be Full of Hope—Would Not Commit Suicide. "It Was a Newspaper Fight and the Newspapers Won," Says Durrant.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 2.—Theodore Durrant, convicted of murder, in the same self-possessed, quiet, un-nerved man he has been while on trial for his life. He still maintains his innocence, and after being taken from the court room to the jail said a reporter:

"They say my dear little mother screamed when the verdict was announced. It is all like a dream to me. The first thing I remember was her arms around my neck. Everything else was cruel, so sudden, so harsh. I felt safe in her arms. I could stand any injustice, any wrong, but for my mother and sister."

"What did you want to do, or say just after the verdict was rendered?" he was asked. "I wanted to get up and shout my innocence. Before God I am innocent of the crime. I wanted to get up and call to God to smite me where I stood if my heart and conscience were not as pure as those who were howling at me. I had been branded a murderer, and I told everything honestly and fearlessly when I was on the stand. I even told things that appeared against me. Do you suppose, if I were guilty, I would have done that?"

"Yes, I heard the judge, who was both judge and prosecutor, thank the jury for doing their duty. I cannot think of it all now, but yet I have within me a consciousness of my innocence and shall not break down. I feel the way must be clear and I will be vindicated at last."

"Then asked if he contemplated suicide, Durrant said: "Never. I am a coward who would commit suicide. But my lawyer will never do that. I am hopeful, believe me, that my way will be clear. I have kind letters from friends. My father came last evening with loving messages. I rest in the assurance that light will come."

Attorneys Dickenson and Durrant, who defended Durrant, insist that their client is innocent. They will ask next Friday for a new trial, which will probably be denied by Judge Murphy. Then the case will be appealed to the Supreme court, where it is thought the judge erred in a number of rulings during the trial.

Attorney Durrant, speaking of the trial and the verdict, said: "It was a newspaper fight, and the newspapers won." Miss Carroll Cunningham, the reporter who testified in the Durrant trial that Durrant had told her he saw Blanche Lamont murdered in the beily of Emanuel church, and who said that Durrant showed her an envelope containing a statement of Blanche after he was convicted, had made up her side of the story. She says that when she visited Durrant at the jail he told her a remarkable tale, with the idea that she was to be a witness for the defence. He said that he had been sworn to secrecy by his murderers, but felt that Miss Cunningham's first gave an inkling of what the story was he would be released from his oath. Miss Cunningham agreed to this, and Durrant told her the following story:

"While I was fixing the empanners of Emanuel church I heard a noise. I followed the sound to the beily, and ascertained that Blanche Lamont was murdered on the second landing. I encountered the murderer, promised never to reveal what I had discovered, and rushed down stairs to George King. I had an appointment with King, and I feared he might go searching the church for me. I was much distressed over what I had seen, and I felt nauseated, but I did not need King for bromo seltzer because I wanted the money. I sent him out of the church in order to give the guilty man a chance to escape." Miss Cunningham says that Durrant told her that the murderers exercised an unaccountable influence over him, and swore to spirit his mother away if he told what he had seen. He said that he had given the statement to his attorneys, but they had decided not to use it.

TORONTO, Oct. 31.—A writ has been issued in the common pleas division of the high court by Margaret Thomas, of Woodcock against W. A. Irwin, of Toronto, to annul their marriage, which took place last week, and cancel the marriage certificate. Maggie eloped from St. Thomas with Irwin.

Old gentleman.—You say your father lingered a long while and died a sudden death. Well, the Vigilance Committee told him to leave town in an hour, but he lingered for a day.

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