Provincial Legislature

Mr. Justice Martin to Be Sent North to Settle Mining Disputes.

Mr. Tatlow's Bill Aimed at Restriction of Chinese Is Introduced.

Yesterday was a routine day at the assembly, the monotony of the formal staging of bills and similar exercises being only relieved by a visit from His Honor Sir Henri Joly, and a brief but interesting debate upon the situation in the Atlin country. The Lieutenant-Governor gave assent to several bills, and the Atlin question arose over the bill to send in a commissioner to straighten out the tangled titles to many of the mining claims, as had been done a year ago. During the discussion Attorney-General Eberts announced that Mr. Justice Martin would go up to take this work, and that the first sitting of the court at Atlin would be held on the 29th instant.

Rev. E. S. Rowe having read prayers, a couple of petitions came up. That from Phoenix, in favor of the Grand Forks & Kettle River railway was ruled out for not complying with the required formalities. The five others, regarding the game law, were received and ordered to be printed.

In the absence of Mr. Tatlow, Mr. Garden, of Vancouver, introduced the bill to regulate immigration, and Chinese immigration in particular, into this province. This provides for the issuance of an immigrant's license upon a writing test, and prohibits, on the penalty of $500 fine, all unlicensed immigrants to reside or carry on trade, or to vote, or to work in the mines within the province. The bill was read a first time.

In committee of the whole upon the Land Registry Act amendments, some discussion ensued upon the fees charged for registering a lis pendens. Often these had included a percentage of the value of the interests concerned in the claim out of which the lis pendens arose, which was held to be a hardship, especially in mining lawsuits where large sums might possibly be concerned. The bill, however, was reported complete without amendment in this regard.

A like discussion came up over the committee work of the Judgments bill, regarding the costs and expense of registering judgments, but this matter was stood over for further consideration.

The technical amendments to the Official Administrators Act were accepted and the report of the committee adopted.

Mr. Curtis objected to the grading of the rates in the Succession Duties Act, and Mr. Neill pointed out how much lower they were in the bill than in England, but the system of the rating and the rates per cent were both retained, and the report passed.

On the second reading of the Bennett-Atlin commission bill, Attorney-General Eberts pointed out that exceptional powers had been granted in the act of last year, and that it was proposed in committee on this bill to limit these. However, the titles of many claims were still in dispute, owing to re-staking time and time again. It was hoped that at an early day regular courts would be established there, and the administration of those districts be carried on upon the usual lines.

Mr. Martin would not oppose the reading, but he considered that Atlin should not now meet with such exceptional treatment. People up there seemed to have a mania for jumping claims and then expect such extraordinary remedies for their troubles. This act almost encouraged them in this form of madness, whereas they ought now to be in a position to work along under the ordinary laws of the land. The granting of such extraordinary powers to a single judge, and that without right of appeal, too, would work to the disadvantage of the district, he thought, in arousing the suspicions of possible investors in the mining properties of that part of the province. It was a great hardship when property worth millions perhaps was at stake, to lose it without any right to appeal from the decision of a single judge. He knew what these decisions were worth and how utterly frivolous some of these judgments were. An appeal was often necessary to get anywhere near what was right.

Hon. Mr. Eberts then explained that it was in the Porcupine district that the commission was most needed at present. The boundary line had for some time been uncertain, but now it was approximately located. Between it and the 60th parallel lay the Porcupine, where numerous claims had been staked under the American system, as well as that of this province. Thus matters had become very much mixed. Indeed, Mr. Graham had advised the government that the condition of matters was quite as bad as that in Atlin last season. It might be wise, perhaps, to confine the working of the commission to this particular section, although a good deal of trouble over quartz claims was also existent in Atlin itself.

Mr. Clifford did not know anything personally of the Porcupine country, but had no doubt there was a lot of trouble there. The American and the British Columbia placer claims differed in size, which would also tend to make matters worse. There was plenty of trouble, however, in Atlin itself and he hoped a judge would be sent there soon. Last year it had been placer jumping, and this year the mineral claims (quartz) were being so treated. The tying up of titles was doing a great deal of harm in keeping back work. He knew one case, that of the Yellow Jacket, where a 5-stamp mill would have been working but for the prohibition resulting from this trouble. These things could not be straightened out by the Gold Commissioner, and he thought a judge should be sent up there without delay. From what he had heard, however, it might take the whole of the season for a judge to straighten out the trouble in the Porcupine.

Mr. Stables supported the bill if amended as Attorney-General Eberts suggested. Otherwise he would not have accepted it. Things had changed in Atlin since last year. Then the extraordinary powers had been absolutely necessary, and they had been most satisfactorily exercised by Mr. Justice Irving. Of course some people had not been satisfied, but that was inevitable, and all united in praising the straightforward dealings of the Judge. At present the troubles in Atlin were only those of any other mining district, and could be dealt with quite well by the ordinary courts. He thought it would be very unwise to send a judge up there this year with such powers as Mr. Justice Irving had exercised last year, although the boundary troubles in the Porcupine district might make it quite necessary there. In Atlin, however, the miners were relying upon the general law and attempting to abide by it, and so did not require a judge who was untrammelled by its procedure. He hoped as little delay as possible would occur in the sending of a judge.

Attorney-General Eberts then explained that the government had been pressing the matter as much as possible. It had been necessary to amend the Jurors Act before the court could be held, otherwise a jury would have had to be taken from Vancouver. This had now been done and the government had arranged to send Mr. Justice Martin up to take the court, which would begin to sit in Atlin on the 29th instant.

Mr. Clifford then gave his opinion that a right of appeal should exist in all cases coming before the court.

Hon Mr. McBride spoke of the interest he took in the Atlin country, and so in this and all questions connected with it. For once, too, he was glad to find Mr. Martin's ideas in line with what was right in the premises. The general mineral law was, he thought, ample for the needs of that country to-day, although it must not yet be overlooked that Atlin was 1,000 miles away and for half the year reached with some difficulty. Last year the commission had achieved excellent results, but the responsibility of such extraordinary powers was enormous too. However, the matter would receive careful consideration. The government was fully impressed with the needs of the case and would strive to meet them. If, as Mr. Clifford suggested, the troubles in the Porcupine country would take all the season for a commissioner, it might be necessary to send up two officials to cover all the ground.

The bill then passed its second reading.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor having entered the house, and being seated in the chair, Mr. Fell, the clerk of the house, read the title to the following bills:

(No. 3) An act to amend the law respecting the liability of trustees.

(No. 5) An act respecting liquor licenses.

(No. 6) An act to amend the "New Westminster Relief Act, 1899."

And announced the following: "In Her Majesty's name, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor doth assent to these bills. Sir Henri then bowed thrice, once to Mr. Speaker, once to the house and once to the clerk. The bills having thus become laws, His Honor retired.

The mechanics lien law was then taken up in committee. After a little discussion, during which the Attorney-General twitted Mr. Brown very ably over his change of opinion on the matter of affording any protection whatever to the men supplying material for the work, progress was reported and leave given to sit again.

Hon. Mr. Turner then explained that as the work of the day was well advanced and several important deputations were waiting to interview the ministry, an adjournment was in order.

After a little humorous discussion upon having their pictures taken, which ended in the fixing upon Tuesday at 1:50 p.m., for that function, the formal motion was put and the house adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Hon. Mr. Wells replied to Mr. McInnes' questions as follows:

1. Did the contract for the reconstruction of the Victoria court house provide for the putting in place of a marble stairway with iron railings? Answer:—No.

2. Has permission been given the contractor to substitute therefor a stone stairway with wooden railings? If so, when, and at the instance of whom? Answer:—No.

And the Hon. Mr. Eberts in reply to Mr. Oliver's questions:

How many hotel licenses at $100 per year, and how many hotel licenses at $200 per year were in force under the Liquor License Act, 1899, on the 23rd day of April, 1900? Answer:—249 and 157 respectively.

QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED.

On Tuesday next, by Mr. Stables:—

In the event of a hydraulic lease being granted covering ground held by individual free miners, and in the event of said claims lapsing in any way, who is entitled to the said claims, the crown or the lease-holder? Also:

1. Has a gold commissioner power to issue an injunction against any free miner and stop him from working his claim, when complaint has been laid against said free miner for any cause?

2. If not, to what extent does his power extend in the matter of settling disputes that may arise from time to time among free miners?

NOTES.

An important notice was given yesterday morning in the railway committee, when Chairman Pooley stated that the government had decided to adhere to the policy of desisting from granting further charters to roads which would possibly be affected by the present unsettled condition of the Alaska boundary question. This decision is said to have been reached through a desire to conserve Canadian interests for the benefit of an all-Canadian line, an enterprise upon which they are at present exchanging views with the Ottawa administration. It would also have a deterrent effect upon the upbuilding of towns by the United States in territory under dispute. The consideration of the Mike King charter to Lake Bennet was then stood over.

Mr. Tom Armstrong, sheriff of New Westminster, represented the sheriffs of the province yesterday in an interview with the ministry. The complaint was that in 1898 their living was taken from those officials whose offices are said to be of less value now than an ordinary mechanic's pay. Salaries were cut down and perquisites lopped off to what appeared to them an aggravating extent. Their complaint was promised the serious consideration of the government.

Hon. Mr. McBride takes a numerous party of the members over to the Fraser river this morning. From New Westminster they go down the river on a special steamer and will take in the canneries, returning in the evening to Vancouver. Amongst the party are Messrs. Green, Fulton, Neill, Houston, Taylor, T. C. Smith and several others.

Messrs. Garden, Kidd and Oliver left this morning on their week-end visit home.

Judge Bole and Mr. Charles G. Major, both of New Westminster, interviewed the government yesterday over the Pitt Meadow question. The old offer that the government take over half the lands under this dyking scheme and assume all the cost of the same, is said to have been again discussed, but the matter is one which will require a great deal of consideration.

Messrs. Thrift, of Surrey, Hill Tout, of Abbottsford, Speirs, of Port Kells, Harris, of Langley, and Kickbush, of Chilliwack, waited upon the ministry yesterday on behalf of the Settlers' Association. They were accompanied by Messrs. Kidd, Oliver and Munro, all the cabinet ministers except the Premier, being present. A great many interesting subjects were suggested and talked over, amongst them being government assistance in obtaining cheaper explosives for clearing land, fertilizers and steam stumping and logging machinery, systems of road making, encouragement of pulp wood and shingle industries, assisted passages for white settlers and free homestead grants, were advocated as was also a bridge across the Fraser river at Westminster. It was asked that the government remit its charges for interest on arrears for the purpose of settlers' lands, also that the payment of the rates for the Matsqui dyke be postponed for five years to enable the settlers to get their land under cultivation before this tax was felt.

A GREAT POWER CANAL.

Industrial Works of Large Size to Be Built at Welland.

From Canadian Manufacturer.

The first sod on the Hamilton & Lake Erie Power Canal was turned with appropriate ceremonies at Silverdale, near Welland, Ont., on July 18. It became necessary, in order to start the canal, to find a market for the power. For this Mr. A. C. Pew, the promoter, organized the Canadian Steel Company, with a capital of $18,000,000, to locate at Welland, and an act of parliament was passed authorizing the steel company to guarantee the bonds of the power canal, and they did so, also contracting for 15,000 electric horsepower, which they get at $20 per year, a horsepower for twenty-four hours a day. The map approved by the government shows a canal starting at Welland river, and running six and one-half miles to the Jordan river, where it runs six miles to the Jordan village. A diversion canal will be built by which a fall of 255 feet will be secured. The canal will be completed about the same time as the steel works, about September 1, 1901, and power will also be transmitted to Toronto and Hamilton, at about half the steam rates. Electric power, Mr. Pew claims, can be produced at this point at a lower rate than any other point where electricity is developed, as there are no engineering difficulties to be overcome. The installation plant will develop 25,000 horsepower, which can be increased to 50,000 or 60,000 as required. The canal will be 150 feet wide at the top, 60 at the bottom, 12 feet deep with a current of 3½ miles an hour. The cost is estimated at about $1,000,000.

The water for the power canal comes from Lake Erie, via Niagara river and Welland river, and its success means much to Welland and vicinity, not only as to starting the steel works but other manufactories in the section.

A RAILWAY WRECK.

New Brunswick Train Goes Through a Trestle—The Killed and Wounded.

St. John, N. B., Aug. 10.—A terrible accident occurred this morning on the Central railway at a place called Sargeson's Bridge, ten miles from Norton, King's county. The morning train from Chipman to Norton broke through the trestlework of the bridge and plunged 70 or 80 feet into the gully below. Driver John Duncan was killed; William Morrison, fireman, probably fatally hurt; Frank Campbell, brakeman, fatally injured; Conductor Ryan, badly cut; Robert V. Barker, of this city, leg broken; Mrs. Isaac Van B. Helpering, of Cody's, slightly injured, but her child received terrible injuries; Sectionman James McBriarty, seriously hurt; Sectionman Bernard, badly hurt.

The whole trestle collapsed. Workmen were engaged in repairing it at the time.

Sargeson's bridge crosses a deep gully and is over 100 yards long, with a sharp curve in the centre. The entire train, consisting of locomotive and tender, baggage and passenger cars, with several freight and lumber cars, went through the trestle and were shattered to pieces on the rocks below. Fortunately the passenger list was small, for everyone on the train was injured. Duncan was literally torn to pieces, and Fireman Morrison so terribly battered and bruised he can hardly recover. Frank Campbell, it is feared, will die.

GEORGE JILTED HER.

His Family Made Him Beware of the Widow.

Woodstock, Aug. 10.—On behalf of Mary Elstone, a writ for damages for breach of promise has been issued against George King Hickston. The plaintiff is 40 years of age.

time wooer is one of the wealthiest farmers in the county and is about 60 years of age. The marriage was announced to take place a couple of weeks ago, but through the influence of the King family the match was broken off. When the would-be bride learned that she had been jilted, she at once instituted an action for damages. She herself is a wealthy widow.

C. P. R. STRIKE.

Conference Between Men and Management Postponed Till To-day.

Winnipeg, Aug. 10.—Owing to certain arrangements not having been made the conference between the strikers and C. P. R. management was not held to-day. It will be held to-morrow. Messrs. Hardy and Secretary Carmichael will represent the men of the allied orders, and Manager Whyte, and Messrs. Osborne, Ord and Cross the railway company.

A HOT TOWN.

Toronto Is Suffering From a Torrid Climate Just Now.

Toronto, Aug. 10.—Extreme heat continues. The thermometer hovered around 96 and 97 in the city during the afternoon. The mortality is slightly less. Some additional factories have closed down and many more will give their men a holiday if the heat continues next week.

YELLOW FEVER.

Fifty-Two Cases of Yellow Jack Reported in Cuba.

Havana, Aug. 10.—Fifty-two cases of yellow fever are now under treatment in Havana. Of the victims 18 are Americans. Thus far the mortality rate has been about 25 per cent. of those attacked.

A BROCKVILLE FIRE.

Sash and Door Factory Injured to a Slight Extent.

Brockville, Aug. 10.—J. Briggs & Sons' sash and door factory was damaged by fire last night to the extent of $2,000; loss covered by insurance.

His Suit Genuine

London Press atisfied At the Latest Developments In China.

Further Details of the Victory of Allies at Yang Tsun's Capture.

The Enemy Were Completely Demoralized and Fled From Lyddite.

London, Aug. 11.—(4:10 a.m.)—The morning papers express satisfaction at the latest developments in China. The average comment is that China is now genuinely suing for peace through Li Hung Chang.

Despatches printed this morning give further details of the taking of Yang Tsun.

According to the Daily Mail's correspondent, the attack was led by the British and United States troops. The Chinese position consisted of seven lines of entrenchments.

The enemy fell back from one to another until, driven from the last line, they fled toward Pekin, completely demoralized. The Chinese say they retreated because the British "poured poison" into their troops. This refers to the lyddite shells, which the Chinese then experienced for the first time.

The correspondent adds that the British casualties were 200 and the American 250, but this latter estimate, it will be noticed, is four times greater than that of Gen. Chaffee's report.

A St. Petersburg special says the Chinese minister there, Yang Yu, has received a telegram announcing that Li Hung Chang is dangerously ill and confined to his bed, and that he has been granted a month's leave. Another St. Petersburg despatch asserts that the Russian general staff have been notified that the Chinese 12,000 strong, are moving from Hu Nan and Hun Hei to Pekin and Tien Tsin.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily News, wiring Thursday, announces that the Chinese merchants are petitioning the authorities not to land troops.

Washington, Aug. 10.—In the light of latest despatches from Minister Conger received by the state department through Minister Wu to-day, the attitude of the administration is that there is only one thing to be done in the present circumstances—to press to the relief of the besieged garrison at Pekin. This was made known after extended communications between Washington and the President at Canton.

The Conger despatch was accepted as showing conclusive justification for the imperative demand of the United States sent to the Chinese government on Wednesday night, insisting that the imperial troops co-operate with the international forces in the rescue of the ministers, and until this condition, as well as that for the cessation of the bombardment, is fully conceded by China, there is no other course open but to press steadily onward in the mission of relief.

The discussion with the President led to the determination to reply to the Conger message at once, and accordingly Secretary Root and Assistant Secretary Adee conferred on the terms of reply. The text was ready by 3 o'clock, and it was forwarded late in the day. It was announced officially and positively that the message would not be made public. It was made plain, however, that the message was sufficiently guarded as not to increase the jeopardy of the United States minister in case the Chinese have access to the cipher. As to the terms of the message, they are believed to make plain that the government will not advise, much less direct, that Mr. Conger leave Pekin under Chinese escort, when the minister had advised Washington that this would mean certain death. Moreover, the reply doubtless lets the minister know that there is an unaccountable error in the statement of the Chinese government as conveyed to him through the Tsung Li Yamen, that the foreign government had charged repeatedly that the minister be sent out of Pekin under suitable escort.

The government has assurances from the other powers that they have not advised their representatives to accept Chinese escort from Pekin. It was officially stated at the close of the day that no further representations have been made to the Chinese government since the Adee note of the 8th, and that none will be made until the Chinese government gives some indication of the attitude it will assume in complying with or denying the demands of the United States. While the state department is continuing to despatch messages to Minister Conger upon the assurance of the Chinese government that communication is uninterrupted, it is doing so with comparatively small hope of their delivery. This assertion was borne out to-night when Secretary Root said that there was no convincing evidence that any of the despatches had really reached Minister Conger. This indicates that the minister had not given a direct and satisfactory answer to any of the queries that have been addressed to him by the department of state.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 10.—It is reported that 12,000 Chinese troops are marching from the provinces of Hunan and Hu Pei towards Pekin and Tien Tsin.

Official reports say that three separate Russian columns succeeded in surrounding a large Chinese force at Hai Chau, and that seeing the Russians arriving from all sides the Chinese fled in an easterly direction, leaving a dozen obsolete guns behind them. The Russians pursued the Chinese for 35 versts until they were exhausted and compelled to abandon the pursuit.

Brussels, Aug. 10.—The foreign office has received the following message, "De Cartier" (E. De Cartier de Marchienne, first secretary of the Belgian legation at Pekin.)

"Shanghai, Aug. 10.—An imperial decree names Li Hung Chang as minister.

The foreign office has also received from the Belgian minister at Pekin a despatch identical with that received yesterday by the French foreign office from the French minister at Pekin, M. Pichon, telling of attempts made by the Chinese to secure the foreign ministers' acceptance of Chinese escort to Tien Tsin.

Washington, Aug. 10.—Orders have been issued for additional teams to be sent from Manila to China to increase the available transportation necessary for the movement of Gen. Chaffee's army. These teams can be procured much sooner from Manila than from this country.

BANK OF B. C.

The Annual Meeting and Success of the Amalgamation Proposals.

From Financier and Bullionist.

The ordinary general meeting of the Bank of British Columbia was held yesterday, July 25, at the Cannon Street Hotel, London, E. C., Sir Robert Gillespie (the chairman) presiding.

The secretary and manager (Mr. S. Cameron Alexander) having read the notice convening the meeting, that also calling a subsequent extraordinary meeting, and the resolutions to be submitted,

The chairman said: The first object we have in meeting you to-day at the ordinary meeting of the half year is to pass a resolution for the declaration of a dividend. We cannot give you the accounts at the present time, as you are doubtless aware, because they have only just come to hand, and they have to be audited; but as soon as they have passed the audit they will be printed and sent to every individual shareholder. The result of the half year is, on the whole, satisfactory, because it shows a small improvement on the two previous half years. That, doubtless, has arisen from an unusual prosperity—a progressive prosperity—which has attended the great province of British Columbia. I trust that will continue, and there is no reason to fear it will not; but we must trust that the scheme that we shall propose to you presently will increase the chances of that prosperity. I only hope it will prove to be a wise and advantageous step for the shareholders. The profits for the half year ended in June last were £20,128.18.9, and the dividend we propose to distribute among you is 5 per cent., which will absorb £15,000 and we shall then carry forward a sum of £5,128. I hope that that will be appreciated by you, and that you will give your cordial consent to the declaration of a dividend. I may tell you that I am suffering from a very severe illness at the present moment, and it is only from a wish to pay a compliment to you that I am present to-day; but I hope you will support me in the declaration of a 5 per cent. free of income tax payable on or before the 28th inst.

Mr. T. G. Gillespie seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

An extraordinary general meeting was then proceeded with, for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, passing the following resolutions:

1. That the agreement dated April 30, 1900, between the Bank of British Columbia and the Canadian Bank of Commerce, submitted to this meeting be and the same is hereby sanctioned.

2. That the court of directors be and they are hereby authorised to carry the said agreement into effect, and for that purpose to wind up the affairs of the Bank of British Columbia, and to take all such steps and proceedings and do all such acts as they may deem expedient, including an application to the high court of justice in England for an order to wind up the said bank under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1898.

The chairman then said: Ladies and Gentlemen having concluded the ordinary meeting, I have now the honor to invite your attention to a matter of great importance, viz., the amalgamation scheme proposed to your directors by the directors of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, and which has received the most careful consideration, and we have come unanimously to the conclusion that the acceptance of it will tend greatly to the advantage of both institutions. I may here state that, under the provisions of our charter, your directors have full power to carry out this scheme on their own authority; but, looking at the importance of the proposition, they have deemed it more consistent with their duty to you to ask you to approve it, and, by resolution, to authorize your directors to carry out the agreement already made, subject to your sanction. The purport of the agreement has already been explained in the circular of July 7 last, which has been sent to all the shareholders, from whom in great numbers we have received loyal support. The object of your directors is solely dictated by the desire to endeavor to meet, in some measure, the increasingly keen competition of the Eastern Canadian banks; and I may mention here that our friends and correspondents, the Canadian Bank of Commerce, have intimated that, owing to their increasing business in British Columbia and San Francisco, they will be compelled to open branches in these parts, as well as in London, but before acting on this course they wished, as our correspondents in Eastern Canada, to make the overture of amalgamation to us in the first place, and so to avoid an opposition and competition that might prove antagonistic to both institutions. We have every reason to believe that the business of the Canadian Bank of Commerce is conducted on sound banking principles, that their position is one of ample responsibility and strength, and that the management is well controlled by a board of directors in Toronto of undoubted influence, in whom the Canadian public have confidence, and who are well supported by local influences. In some few quarters we have received the expression of opinion that there seems no hope of greater success in our business, and that we are not likely to see again the prosperity that attended our labors for many years. I think this is a pessimistic opinion, for we have not lost ground in the extent of business of the bank and in proof of this I may state that since the year 1895 we have obtained no less than 550 fresh accounts. The reduced profits have entirely arisen from the great fall in the rates of interest, and the increased charges, owing to keen competition. When the Bank of British Columbia first started business, it was the only bank in the province of British Columbia, and rates of interest then ruled just about double what they now are. The terms on which the Canadian Bank of Commerce are prepared to purchase our bank's business are on the whole, I think, equitable, for we shall obtain for the shares of this bank the price of £22 per share while in the stock exchange they were recently quoted at £17 to £18, but since the announcement of the proposed fusion they have risen to nearly £20. Then, again, as regards the liability in case of liquidation, the shares of the Canadian Bank of Commerce will only be liable for £10 per share in place of the £20 now existing on the shares of the Bank of British Columbia; or, in other words, the three shares of the Bank of British Columbia that are to be exchanged for four shares of the Canadian Bank of Commerce are now liable to the extent of £60, while the four shares of the Canadian Bank of Commerce are only liable for a little over £40. What we ask you to do is to pass the two resolutions given you in the notice of July 7. The first gives your directors the sanction of the shareholders to the agreement between the two banks, and the other authorizes them to carry it into effect; but, before the final consummation of the agreement, the two banks, respectively, must be satisfied on a further examination of the accounts made up to the latest date, and including the taking over of all the liabilities of the Bank of British Columbia. I may also mention that the proposed arrange with the Canadian Bank of Commerce will not involve any change in the board or in the staff generally of the Bank of British Columbia; the same directors and the staff in London and abroad will remain as now existing. It is gratifying to find that the scheme has been received very favorably in the city, and I have had many approvals of the scheme from leading men in the commercial and banking world. In conclusion, I may state that by the Canadian law governing banks and banking, as amended at the present session of the Dominion parliament, certain formalities are prescribed to govern transactions of the kind we have entered into and these formalities will necessitate our calling you together again later on. Whatever is done will be done under the advice and guidance of our solicitors, but I mention the subject now in order that you may understand that completion of the arrangements may occupy some little time. You may be assured, however, that there will be no unnecessary delay in dealing with the matter. I have now simply to say that, to the best of my ability, I shall be prepared to answer any questions that may be put me by any shareholder. I now beg to move the first resolution.

Mr. H. J. Gardiner seconded the resolution.

Mr. J. H. Mackay remarked that it was hardly fair to ask shareholders to exchange three shares worth £70 for four shares and cash worth together £66. The scheme gave the Canadian Bank of Commerce all the advantage of the premium now on the shares. But in all other respects he thought the proposed amalgamation was desirable.

Mr. Robert Ward and Dr. Drysdale both supported the policy proposed by the directors.

In reply to a lady subscriber the chairman said arrangements would be made for a stock exchange quotation and for the transfer of shares in London.

Mr. H. J. Gardiner, replying to the discussion, as deputy for the chairman, said that Mr. Ward and Dr. Drysdale had practically answered the points raised by Mr. Mackay. Every bargain made must allow for advantages to both parties to it and if all the advantages of this proposed amalgamation were held by this company, the shareholders of the other bank would object.

The resolution was then carried unanimously.

On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. Guy Oswald Smith, the second resolution was then carried unanimously.

Votes of thanks to the chairman, directors and staff was moved by Dr. Drysdale and agreed to. The meeting then terminated.

DOCTORS IN COUNCIL.

Medical Association Meeting at Vancouver—Officers For the Year Selected.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Aug. 10.—At the British Columbia Medical Association meeting to-day, Doctors Davie of Victoria, Lebau of Nelson, and Lambert of Kamloops, continued the discussion on surgery in appendicitis. Papers on pulmonary tuberculosis, its prevention and cure, were read by Dr. Tunstall, of Vancouver, and Dr. Proctor, Kamloops, Dr. Jakes, of Midway, and Dr. Duncan, of Victoria.

Discussions were also conducted by Dr. Jones, of Victoria, Dr. Drew, of New Westminster, and Dr. Morris, of Vernon.

To-night the medical men of the city entertained the visiting doctors to a banquet at the Hotel Badminton.

The following officers have been elected: President, Dr. R. E. McKechnie, Nanaimo; vice-president, Dr. Walker, New Westminster; treasurer, Dr. Helmcken, Victoria; secretary, Dr. Pearson, Vancouver.

A BOER PLOT.

General Roberts Was to Be Captured and Officers Shot.

London, Aug. 10.—A Boer plot to make a prisoner of Lord Robetts and shoot all the British officers possible, discovered on Thursday, included the recapture of Pretoria and the shooting of Lord Roberts and an attempt to induce the burghers to rise en masse.

A number of accomplices of the conspirators have been conducted across the border.

The British authorities are awakening to the danger of allowing Boer sympathizers to remain in Pretoria, and the issue of passes to the burghers has been stopped.

Ottawa, Aug. 10.—A cable has been received by the militia department from Sir Alfred Milner, which is as follows:

"Capetown, Aug. 10.—Captain Howard, a prisoner of war at Novingedacht, is in good health. (Signed) Milner."

This is Capt. D. M. Howard, N.W.M.P., (not "Gat" Howard). He has been a prisoner since June 1.

The general commanding cables the militia department as follows:

"Westpruit—The following casutities reported at Armspoort, August 7, Lord Strathcona's Corps, 305, Pte. W. B. S. Monteith, severely wounded. (Signed) General."

Monteith is a son of Col. E. F. Monteith, Southampton, Eng.

ANOTHER CABLE.

One Is to Be Run to Germany With the United States.

New York, Aug. 10.—The laying of the first telegraph cable to connect the United States directly with Germany will be started at 6 a.m. to-morrow from the Commercial Cable Co.'s station on Coney Island. It will make the second cable between this country and the European continent.

A LAWYER IN TROUBLE.

A Quebec Municipality Says He Spoiled the Voting on a By-Law

Quebec, Aug. 10.—F. X. Choquette, police magistrate of Montreal, has been appointed by the Attorney-General to receive the complaints of the municipal council of Chicoutimi against Beeley, an advocate, charged with unlawful interference in voting on municipal by-laws last Monday. It is alleged that Beeley destroyed the votes registered and escaped with the valuation book.

Chafed Skin, Piles, Scalds, Cuts, Chilblains, Chapped Hands, Sore Eyes, Sunburn, Earache, Neuralgia and Rheumatic Pains, Throat Colds and Skin Ailments are Quickly Relieved by the Use of

CALVERT'S CARBOLIC OINTMENT

Large Pots, 1s. 1½d. each.

Editor "Household Words" says: "We are constantly appealed to for remedies which can safely be used in domestic practice for such ills as skin eruptions, burns, scalds, and inflammatory rheumatism, also neuralgic pains as well as colds on the chest. In all such cases, and, indeed, in a host of others, we have found CALVERT'S CARBOLIC OINTMENT invaluable."

F. C. CALVERT & CO., MANCHESTER
Awarded 85 Gold and Silver Medals, etc
AGENTS:
HENDERSON BROS., - VICTORIA, B.C.

How Blanchard Fell in Battle

Hit by a Shell as He Stood, His Face to the Enemy.

Private Hughes Tells the Story of the Fight—The Last Letter.

The following letters taken from the Halifax Herald tell the story of Capt. Blanchard's death. As Mr. Hughes writes:

"At the time he was hit he was standing without cover and with his face to the enemy; more cannot be said for any man."

Imperial Yeomanry Field Hospital, Rhenoster River, June 13,1900:

Dear Father,—You will no doubt have seen by the official wires that I was "severely wounded," at this place. I, however, hastened to relieve your anxiety by wiring "slightly wounded, well."

We had a great fight one hundred and fifty of us being cooped up in a station yard and shelled for over six hours without being able to reply, not having any guns. I got wounded in four places. Towards the end of the game one piece struck me on the chest just below the collar bone, penetrating about an inch and rebounding. When the piece hit me it felt as if somebody had struck me with his clenched fist. Another piece struck me on the inside of my right foot midway between ankle and toe joints. This piece penetrated down towards the sole of the foot and remained there until it was operated on.

Another little piece made a slight flesh wound a couple of inches long on the inside of the left calf, which does not amount to a row of pins.

What I thought was of no account at all at first has turned out to be the most serious wack of the lot. This was a piece of shell which hit me on the right knee cap. It must have hit dead straight on, for it hardly left any mark and gave me no pain whatever until the next morning, when my knee began to suppurate. This abscess was opened, and I now have a hit in the skin of my knee cap almost two inches long with a drainage tube in it. None of these wounds are at all serious, but as you may imagine some of them are considerably painful.

I had a pretty narrow escape, as there are several more holes in my clothing and one in the brim of my hat.

The whole of this damage was done by one shell which I was just a little too late in getting out of the way of.

You must not worry with any thought about chances of recovery, or things of that sort, for it is only a matter of time and ordinary care at the hands of the surgeon in whose care I am placed. I am being well looked after and receiving every attention. One of my men who has volunteered to act as special nurse stays with me all the time, and is really a good Samaritan. As the doctor will not allow me to sit up on account of the hole in my chest, I am getting him to write this for me. I will try and get a letter off by each mail, if situated where there are postal facilities or can get a messenger. Give my kind regards to all friends and as much love to yourself and family. I remain your affectionate son,

(Signed by himself.)

M. J. BLANCHARD.

P. S.—I forgot to say that after the show was over practically, all the mails for the last few weeks were blown to pieces and burnt. Also, the officers' kits were destroyed by mistake.

M. G. B.

Rhenoster River, June 19, 1900.

Dear Mr. Blanchard,—I enclose a letter which I wrote for your son and my officer and patient, Lieutenant Blanchard. It is with deep regret that I have to report to you that he has passed away. I cannot express my feelings now as I feel like a ship without a rudder now that poor Mr. Blanchard is dead. You will see by the letter which he dictated to me and which he himself signed, that he was as plucky as ever, even though he was in great pain. It is useless me attempting to describe the whole business. I can only say that the Boers cooped up one hundred and fifty-two officers and men of different regiments in Roodeval station, 32 miles north of Kroonstad, (O. R. C.). They sent in a messenger to ask us to surrender, but Capt. Grant of the Cornwalls said, "No." Then they started to shell us, first with one gun, gradually increasing the number to five.

We could not reach them with our rifles, but held out until shortly after mid-day, (we started at 5:45 a.m.), and then surrendered.

Mr. Blanchard was hit (before we hoisted the white flag) in four places, and lingered on until 5:30 a.m. on the 15th, when he died in the Yoemanry field hospital, 15 miles from Kroonstad.

He was buried in Kroonstad military cemetery with full military honors and well deserved them.

At the time he was hit he was standing without cover and with his face to the enemy; more can not be said for any man.

I did my best to pull him through, but it was not to be. He was cheerful until the last, and took his misfortune like a man, insisting on the other wounded being attended to first and never thinking of himself.

If I am able, on my return to Canada to call upon you and give you any more details, or if you want any more information from me, my address is Private E. N. Hughes, A Company, Royal Canadian Regiment, or care of R. B. Hughes, Winnipeg.

You will excuse my rather vague and rambling note, when you consider I have been with him since the beginning of the march from Paardeberg till the finish. Most of his kit and personal effects were taken by the Boers, but a few of his things I have saved, and handed over to our storekeeper and to Lieutenant Kaye. Colonel Otter will, no doubt, arrange all his affairs out here to your satisfaction, and send his things out to you.

Yours respectfully,

E. NORMAN HUGHES.

Benevolent Person (to old tramp). You ought to be ashamed of yourself to be begging at your age.

Tramp (indignantly). How on earth can I beg at any other age now, I'd like to know. Give me a penny.—London Tit-Bits.

"Is she what you would call a summer girl?"

"Oh, dear, no. Why, she hasn't learned how to lie in a hammock gracefully yet, and you know that's the first requisite."—Chicago Post.