

BREAKDOWNS ARE OF  
FREQUENT OCCURRENCE

## Victoria Wants More Reliable Communication With the Continent.

(From Friday's Daily).

The repeated breakdowns in the C. P. R. telegraph system on Vancouver draws renewed attention to the undesirable position which Victoria occupies in the communication as compared with surrounding cities. Here is a city with some 30,000 souls, a port of the largest tonnage, and with the increase, the capital of a province which is advancing by leaps and bounds, and it is questionable whether the telegraph system of the city is adequate. If, however, there is a city of even half the size, which is so inadequately supplied with the means of telegraphic communication, it is not surprising that the city is growing rapidly with its neighboring towns.

It is true that two telegraph systems run into the city, the Canadian Pacific and the Great Northern Union. But it is, moreover, true that each of these systems is operated by the same company, and is, therefore, subject to the same management. It is frequently out of commission, and the telegraph system of the city is in touch with eastern provinces, with the States or even with Vancouver, has some times to wait fully an hour for a message to be put in touch with some other city.

Another bad condition of affairs which has been reported is that the service in the immediate neighborhood is the delay occupied in the transmission of messages. Several of the messages have been delayed for 24 hours. Times in which messages sent from Vancouver as near as Portland, Ore., have been delayed for 24 hours, and in a half and often two hours after the calling time.

The remedy for these delays and breaches would appear to lie with the hands of the C. P. R. company as Canadian Institution. The majority of the messages are sent by the company to the wires on Vancouver Island. One of these accidents is sufficient to cause Victoria, as far as the telephone system is concerned, from the Dominion and consequently to a greater extent to dislocate business. The telephone company in the C. P. R. The telephone Company is increasing from year to year, but as yet Victoria has not approached the point of being a city. The saying of another wire but

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between here and the Vancouver cable could be accomplished at an expense of about \$100,000, according to the company like the C. P. R.

There is also another remedy which would save itself, and that is to have the C. P. R. had in commission a cable which ran from Beechey Bay to Seattle and in the event of a breakdown on the latter cable, the cable to Seattle could be had with the outside world by this means. About two years ago this cable was laid from Seattle to Vancouver, and the telegraph company made an investigation as to what was wrong but merely found that the cable was in commission to die a natural death. The cable, as far as is known, still lies across the bed of the straits of Juan de Fuca. It is not known whether the passage of time does not wear them out to any considerable extent, but it is possible that the cable functions at one time operated for the benefit of Victoria, is still capable of being repaired. If this were done, the cable would be a great help in the bad conditions with respect

communication under which the city laborers are present.

The question of an improved telegraph service is obviously one which the board of trade should interest itself in at once. The members of the board are all business men and many of them are perfectly aware of disadvantages which they, and Victoria, in general, suffer from the inadequate system. For the benefit of the city's improvement in her means of communication it is necessary that the board when the inhabitants are as isolated from the great world beyond as if they were in the wastes of some coral reef mid-Pacific.

**CANADIAN CLUB IS**  
**TO GIVE BANQUET**

**Annual Meeting to Be Held and**  
**Patriotic Dinner Given in**

The Victoria branch of the Canadian Club have been heard from of late but they have not been altogether idle. Yesterday afternoon the executive held a meeting in the club's hall, a suitable celebration of Paardeburg Day. It was the intention to have a big banquet of that occasion, but the fancy dress incident, which that evening makes it impossible. The banquet will be held on some other date and will be of a more patriotic nature. Probably all the members of the South African contingent that went from Bristol, Columbia and other prominent persons will be present. The affair will be held in the hall of the club. The executive will also hold the most important functions in the history of the club.

The annual general meeting will be held here after next when of

the people of British Columbia—that the number must be less than that stated because otherwise the members from British Columbia would not be satisfied. Now, I think I will conclude my remarks. Will the limit?

Mr. Gallihier: That is one of the features that the minister of labor states in this House for diplomatic reasons, he wants to be able to discuss the limit.

Mr. Lemeux: The statement made by some of the papers that the limit is fixed at 1,000 is published without authority.

Mr. Gallihier: I will hope so.

Mr. Taylor: If it should be correct, what then?

Mr. Gallihier: If it is correct the House will find me on my feet protesting against it and asking for the cancellation of that treaty.

Mr. Foster: The limit is not large enough.

Mr. Gallihier: The limit? I trust that both parties in politics and the press who supports either party in politics will consider that the arrangement is a fair trial and that nothing will be done to inflame the public mind one way or the other. Let us give the matter a fair trial, provide that the interests of the minister of labor are true and whether the Japanese government are in earnest in dealing with the government of this country and whether they will maintain the arrangement that we have made.

# THE TERMINAL FACILITIES

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## E. & N. WILL LIKELY BEGIN WORK AT ONCE

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Sir Thomas Shaughnessy Has  
Been Asked to Provide  
for it.

(From Friday's Daily).

The new terminals of the Esquimaux & Nanaimo Railway will be built at once. R. Marpole, who has charge of the matter here, immediately after the conference with the city council tele-

graphed to Sir Thomas Shaughnessy asking that the necessary amount be placed back in the estimates for the year, it having been dropped when negotiations were broken off.

This is taken as an assurance that the work will commence at once, it is causing much satisfaction throughout the city, especially among business men who have been caused much inconvenience by the delay.

In order to forward the work to carry out the provisions of the act, Aldermen Pauline has posted notice of his intention of bringing in the necessary by-law on Monday evening next. The notice simply states the intention to introduce the by-law subject to the terms and conditions of the agreement entered into with the Esquimaux and Nanaimo Railway Company.

## MEETING OF LOCAL HUNTERS AND ANGLERS

All Sportsmen Will Gather This Evening in the Driard Hotel.

(From Friday's Daily).

There will be a general meeting of all sportsmen at the Driard Hotel this evening.

pose of discussing the advisability of obtaining amendments to the game act during the present session of the Legislature. Bryan Williams, the vice president of the association, called on Vancouver especially for the purpose of attending the meeting. H. B. Thompson, M. P. F., and W. J. Thompson, M. P. F., also expressed their intention of being present as well as several other members of the legislature, and other prominent men in the city.

Many questions are likely to arise in connection with the subject of hunting and fishing and game preservation, and it is very desirable that the proposed meeting should be interested in the subject should turn out to the meeting to-night.

It is understood that there is considerable opposition to the proposed meeting on the part of some people. It would be a good plan for these to attend, in order that the matter might be discussed intelligently and both sides of the question be heard. An opportunity will be given to everyone to present his view of the matter.

It is hoped that Mr. Bryan Williams will be able to make a valuable explanation of the matter of protecting the game on Vancouver Island. There are a good many who think more attention should be given to the game on Vancouver Island.

should receive a small amount of cash but it seems to have been wholly neglected so far.

The leader also has been mentioned here as the leader of the opposition in the legislature, J. A. Macdonald, K. C., who, therefore accord with the idea of a conservative politician. Although he is not a sportsman, he feels that it would be good thing to conserve the game that is here. He expressed himself to the effect a short time ago to a Times reporter.

**SNOW ALONG BOUNDARY LINE**

Vancouver, Feb. 6.—The southern border of British Columbia was swamped by a snowstorm last night, from Nootka Bend to the summit of the Rockies, and along the boundary, a heavy snowfall occurred.

**\$5,000,000 FAILURE.**

Copenhagen, Feb. 7.—Owing to recent heavy withdrawals, the Copenhagen Freeholders' bank has temporarily suspended payments. The bank's capital is about \$5,000,000.

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