The Colonist.

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W. H. ELLIS, A. G. SCANLAN. } ELLIS & CO.

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THE DOMINION CENSUS.

Something Concerning the Information Sought for and the Methods of Obtaining it.

To Begin on April 6th and be Continued till Completed—Public Co-operation Sought.

The time fixed for the Census commissioners and enumerators to begin their work of numbering the people of the Dominion, and getting together all possible facts of public interest respecting their conditions, is the sixth of April next. The scope of the census is a very comprehensive one, there being eight schedules which the citizens will be called upon to fill in. The first of these relates to vital statistics and immediately incidental matters. It covers the number of members in the families, their sex and age, their birthplace, the birthplace of their parents, religion, profession, who are their employers, how many in the family are wage-earning how many were unemployed during the week. Whether they can read or write, or are of unsound mind.

Another schedule deals with industrial matters, and may be briefly summarized as follows: The fixed capital in lands, buildings and machinery, the working capital, average number of employes, over and under 16 years of age, of both sexes, aggregate amount of yearly wages, descriptions of which the establishment is composed, the extent and nature of the power used, the kind and quality of materials used, the kind, quantity and value of the produce.

As concerns agriculture inquiries are made from the farmers with respect to the number of acres then occupied, their average yield of wheat, barley, oats, rye, peas, buckwheat, beans, hay, corn, root crops and other products, the number of horses, colts and fillies, oxen, milch cows, other horned cattle, sheep, swine and poultry, the pounds of home made butter and cheese, the number of hives of bees and pounds of honey, the number of pounds of wool, the amount of home made cloth, flannel and linen, the amount paid for farm labor, the number of weeks paid labor upon the farm in 1890, &c. &c.

Real estate owners will be required to give the total acreage of their property, the number of town and village lots, number of acres occupied, the number of acres of pasture, number of acres in wood land and forest, the number of acres in gardens and orchards.

The forests, mines and fisheries are also to be closely inquired into and, it is believed, that the product of the labors of the Commissioners will be the most valuable statistical statement ever prepared in British North America, and will throw an immense amount of light upon matters of which existing information is by no means satisfactory.

A COLONIST reporter waited upon Mr. G. A. Sargison, chief census officer for British Columbia, who recently returned from Ottawa, where he had gone to receive the necessary instructions. From that gentleman he learned that for the purposes of the census the province had been divided into five districts, under nine Commissioners, as follows,—Victoria 1, Westminster 2, Yale 2, Cariboo 2, and Vancouver 2. Which last includes all the island of Vancouver except that which is covered by Victoria, and the adjacent islands. The reports are to be made direct to Ottawa. Personally, the chief commissioner said, he had been much pleased with the fullness of the schedules which, if carefully handled by the enumerators will be productive of much benefit so soon as their results shall have been made known. They will unquestionably be the means of placing before the world the position which the different provinces occupy towards each other and to the Dominion, as well as the relation, from an economical point of view, of the entire Dominion to the world at large. He felt most enthusiastic as to the ultimate outcome from the paths, as a means of settlement, interprovincial relationship and commerce and development generally.

The Chief Commissioner referred in very strong terms to the immense value of the two last volumes of the first Dominion census. This was far more comprehensive. He trusted that the press of the Dominion would take an interest in the subject and lay it before the people with a view of impressing upon them the necessity there was in the public interest of co-operating with the officials in this important work. The greater the public interest shown better would be the results. Mr. Sargison particularly desired to have it understood that everyone connected with the work of enumeration was sworn to secrecy, and no facts that were obtained could by any possibility be used to the detriment of any interest—private or corporate—the results being all that would be made public when the statistical results were announced. The enumerators would be obliged to go from house to house even in the most remote districts, and everything would be completed as rapidly as possible with a due regard to fullness and accuracy. It would take several months before all the returns could possibly reach Ottawa.

THE DEADLY KEROSENE CAN.

A Woman Frightfully Burned at Seattle While Trying to Light the Kitchen Stove.

SEATTLE, March 22.—Mrs. Johanna Shall, a Norwegian woman, was terribly and fatally burned, today, while attempting to start a fire in a kitchen stove, with oil from a kerosene can. The can exploded, and the woman enveloped in flames, fled into the street, where she was caught by her husband. On his endeavors to smother the flames he burned his face and arms, and his hands were charred. Before he could tear the clothes from his wife the unfortunate woman was blacked and seared from head to feet. Though she is still alive, the attending physician says she can hardly live. Shall, with his wife and two daughters, lived at 615 John street, North Seattle. The family have lived in this city under a year and a half, having come here from Norway. It is thought they have neither money nor friends. Charitable neighbors are caring for the injured and the two children. The fire department put out the fire in the dwelling with only a slight loss.

THE O'SHEA DIVORCE CASE.

It is Now Said the Lady Objects to Marriage with Parnell.

DUBLIN, March 22.—The decree nisi obtained by Capt. O'Shea against his wife will assume the character and force of an absolute divorce in six weeks, which fact is greatly increasing the discussion of the question whether Mr. Parnell will avail himself of the opportunity offered to make the lady his wife. It has all along been admitted that the couple have intended to be married as soon as they could legally do so, but it is now stated that the wedding is extremely unlikely to take place, not, however, through any disinclination on the part of Mr. Parnell. It is learned upon excellent authority that the objection proceeds from Mrs. O'Shea, who, it is alleged, has become disgusted with Mr. Parnell's conduct, and now believes the gentleman is actuated by no higher motive in wishing to become her husband than to obtain possession of her money to bolster up his personal cause.

THE DOCK SCANDAL.

Arrival of Mr. Michael Connelly From the East—What He is Here For.

The steamer City of Kingston, which arrived yesterday afternoon from Tacoma, had among her passengers Mr. Michael Connelly, the man in charge of the construction of the Esquimalt graving dock, a member of the firm of Larkin, Connelly & Co. He said that he had had a beautiful trip and had been treated splendidly by the officials of the Northern Pacific railway. Improving as we are the cities of the East, he was pleased to notice that Victoria was visibly holding her own in the way of progress. In fact, he was somewhat surprised at the manifest improvement. He was asked if he had any information to give respecting the Esquimalt graving dock, and in reply said that he had received a communication from John Henry Pope, the Minister of Marine, to the effect that there was nothing to be done in the matter of the dry dock at Kingston, which was upon a much smaller scale, though similar in contract, out of which had been fought a little so much capital against Messrs. Larkin and Shakespeare. He remarked that he had seen Mr. John Henry Pope, while in Ottawa, and had partly arranged a modification of very little importance in the contract, which he had agreed to. He said that the delay had given full explanations, and which he had reason to believe would be satisfactory to publicity. He said that he was concerned the business relations between Murphy and himself, he (Mr. Connolly) had bought him out at his own price, but the job was hardly up upon the agreement when he and the well known Mr. Farris, of Quebec, had begun to abuse him in the most violent manner. At the present Murphy was one of the parties under bonds to appear for trial at Quebec upon a charge of conspiracy to defraud him (Mr. Connolly) of $300,000 by means of a pretended promissory note. Both Connolly and E. H. McGreevey were joint with Mr. Farris indicted for criminal libel upon Hon. Thomas McGreevey, and their trial was fixed to come off in April, when the public would be able to judge of the reliability of the statements which they might make. He wished to say that Hon. Thomas McGreevey had nothing whatever to do with his brother's contract. Indeed, when he had heard of it he was interested with him (Mr. Connolly) in certain Quebec harbor works, he had insisted that he should drop out of it. He had in fact decided that if the world should abandon them he would resign his position as Quebec Harbor Commissioner. His (Mr. Connolly's) object in coming here was to dispose of certain plant and material which had been used in connection with the Esquimalt Graving Dock. This consisted of a number of derricks and other plant, together with some dressed and undressed stone in the quarries on Salt Spring Island. The latter he intended to dispose of to the Dominion Government, which, to his own knowledge, had been conducted with more bitterness than that had taken place since Confederation. The Local Government at Quebec had evicted themselves in the most ludicrous manner to secure the defeat of Sir John Macdonald. At the port of Quebec, the Louise graving dock and the Princess Louise embankment had been completed and had proved to be almost unexpectedly satisfactory. Extensive improvements at the harbor of Montreal were being inaugurated, one being by the means the amount of accommodation necessary for the shipping at that port. The dry dock at Kingston, which was upon a much smaller scale, though similar in contract, out of which had been fought a little so much capital against Messrs. Larkin and Shakespeare, he remarked in the words of the late Hon. John Henry Pope, that there was nothing to be ashamed of in the matter, inasmuch as Mr. Pope had personally gone to Kingston and had made a thorough examination of very little, if any, more than the mere number of feet the work had gone down. The whole matter was fully explained, and which he had reason to believe was satisfactory to publicity. He said that he was concerned the business relations between Murphy and himself, he (Mr. Connolly) had bought him out at his own price, but the job was hardly up upon the agreement when he and the well known Mr. Farris, of Quebec, had begun to abuse him in the most violent manner. At the present Murphy was one of the parties under bonds to appear for trial at Quebec upon a charge of conspiracy to defraud him (Mr. Connolly) of $300,000 by means of a pretended promissory note. Both Connolly and E. H. McGreevey were joint with Mr. Farris indicted for criminal libel upon Hon. 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