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CITY AND PROVINCIAL ITEMS

From Thursday's daily.

—Word has been received of the death by drowning at Bute Inlet of Harry McDougall, a logger. He was 28 years old and came to this country from Milton, Ont.

—A young man named Bidgegood has been missing from his boarding house in this city for three weeks. He left all his clothes and other belongings, even his pipe, behind him. If anyone knows anything about him he will confer a favor by communicating with the chief of police.

—G. A. Roedde, practical bookbinder, paper ruler and blank book manufacturer, Horne block, Cambie street, Vancouver. Orders from the country will be promptly attended to. Correspondence solicited.

From Friday's daily.

—A writ has been issued for a new election in Cowichan-Alberni district.

—A J. Rowbotham a Victoria merchant in business difficulties, suicided by hanging on Thursday. He tried to shoot himself some time ago.

—During July the Union colliery shipped 18,000 tons of coal; the Wellington colliery 16,375, and the New Vancouver Coal Company 26,748, a grand total of 54,981. This is nearly 10,000 tons less than the June output.

—The inland revenue returns for Victoria for July were as follows: Spirits, $7,762.82; malt, $2,357.65; tobacco, $3,588.87; cigars, $100; licenses, $1,350.00; inspection of petroleum, $32.30; rent of land, $50.00; total, $15,656.14.

—Augustus Hewitt, of Vernon, gives notice in this week's British Columbia Gazette of his application for a license to prospect for coal on the west side of Okanagan lake in the Osoyoos division of Yale district.

—Warden Moresby has handed over the keep of the provincial jail to head jailer Armstrong, but he has not yet removed to the penitentiary. It is said that besides a new warden for the jail a new superintendent of Provincial police for the mainland will be appointed.

—R. D. Kinmond received word this morning of the sudden death at Hermon Hill, Broughty Ferry, Scotland, of his father, Thomas Kidd Kinmond. The deceased was a prominent jute manufacturer, and his demise was not in the least expected. He was one of the leading citizens in the community and will be greatly missed.

—F. C. Gamble, Dominion Government engineer, gives an emphatic denial to the rumor that the Government is paying private parties for rock for mattresses on the Fraser taken from the Government's own quarry. He says that the work was done by men engaged by the day, and that not a cent was paid for rock.

—The Columbia Hydraulic Mining Company (foreign) has been registered for business within this Province. Its head office is in Chicago, and its capital $100,000. The Western Loan and Trust Company, Limited, (foreign), with headquarters at Winnipeg, and capital of $5,000,000, has been registered; its chief office in this Province will be in this city.

—John W. Powell ex-State Senator of Nevada, is visiting his old friend, Dixi H. Ross and other Cariboolies of Victoria, after an absence of 21 years. Mr. Powell came to this country in 1864 and mined on Williams, Grouse and Lightning creeks. For the last 17 years he has been mining engineer for the Dafoe mine in Nevada. He has just returned from Trial creek, where he was sent by capitalists from California and Oregon. Mr. Powell is well satisfied with the outlook in that country and bespeaks a roaring camp for the next year.

—This week's British Columbia Gazette publishes the amended regulations for homesteading Dominion lands in New Westminster district. The order-in-council dealing with this matter states that "Whereas all the lands within the railway belt in the Province of British Columbia are open for homestead entry, with the exception of the agricultural lands in the New Westminster land district, which are held for sale at the rate of five dollars per acre," it is ordered "that, in view of the great cost of clearing and preparing for crop the heavily timbered lands in the Fraser valley and the depreciation in the price of farming lands elsewhere, the provisions of the regulations at present in force in regard to homesteading throughout the remainder of the railway belt, shall be and the same are hereby made to apply to the New Westminster land district."

From Saturday's daily.

—Thos. Laird, partner with Charles Law in a mining claim near Barkerville, was seriously hurt a few days ago in a runaway accident.

—The man S. Z. Cheseboro, who lost his pocket bills that is now in possession of the acting chief of police, has not yet been located. He went from here to Victoria and it is not known where he first journeyed to.

—The latest thing in journalistic rankes is The Idea? published in this city. It made its appearance to-day and is a very bright and humorous little eight-paged sheet, neatly printed. Seneca G. Ketchum is editor, Percy Whitworth manager, and John Fulton superintendent. Mr. Ketchum has a reputation as a humorist and will no doubt sustain it. It is a good idea, and when matters get settled down a bit in the office an all-round improvement is promised. The "overture" states why it was ushered into the cold, relentless newspaper arena. Luck to it!

From Monday's Daily.

—W. J. Gallagher, of Telegram fame, has started another paper at Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, under the name of the Commercial Journal.

—W. H. Bullock-Webster, of Victoria, has been temporarily chosen to perform the outside duties formerly attended to by Capt. Moresby. Nothing official is yet known about the wardership.

—Panthers are still causing great annoyance and loss to Gabriola Island farmers. The brutes are getting more impudent daily and their depletions of sheep herds and poultry yards are frequent occurrences.

—Mrs. Albert Meakin, of Needham St., Nanaimo, was out swimming the other evening just above the Indian Reserve near that city. Whilst some distance from the shore she was seized with a cramp, and sank twice and would have drowned had not Ernest Gartley happened along just in time. Young Gartley at once plunged into the water with his clothes on, and reached Mrs. Meakin just as she was sinking for a third time, bringing her to the shore in safety. To Gartley's prompt and plucky action Mrs. Meakin owes her life.

—A Rossland despatch of Aug. 2nd is as follows: Two weeks ago State Senator Edward Boyce, of Idaho, came here from the Coeur d'Alenes and organized a miners' union of about 300 members. Boyce is a leader of the union men in the Coeur d'Alenes, and served a term in the United States penitentiary at Boise for complicity in the labor troubles in the Coeur d'Alenes two years ago. Ever since the discovery of the Trail creek mines the standard of wages for miners has been $3 per day. On Saturday the miners waited on the mine owners and demanded an advance all around to $3.50 per day. The owners uniformly refused, and last night a strike was ordered. The owners remained firm, and the strikers went back to work to-day at the old wages.

From Tuesday's daily.

—At Clayoquot the cannery is unable to handle all the fish that are coming in.

—R. H. Cairns, for three years teacher at the Nanaimo Indian Reserve school, has been appointed principal of the Mission City school.

—The Winnipeg Free Press of August 2nd, says that the Saltcoats creamery took prizes at Brandon and sent butter to British Columbia, the result of about seven week's work.

—The authorities of the Municipality of Burnaby are using every precaution to prevent the further spread of diphtheria. One case has been discovered in the residence of Mr. Jackson, not far from the New Westminster boundary.

—The Sydney News of July 1st contained the following paragraph, anent a gentleman whose name is familiar to World readers: Captain J. C. Rounding has announced his intention of standing for Cowra in the free trade interest. He says he is in favor not only of reform of the Upper House, but also reform of the Lower House.

—A prominent school teacher of the Royal City returned to-day from the Okanagan country, where he has been spending the vacation. He reports that a rich discovery in free milling gold quartz has been made at points south of Vernon, and not far from the lake. A number of Vernonites are departing for Rossland, and a few of them have engaged in business there. The crops in the Okanagan are heavy, and the prospects for better times are encouraging.

—The sluice box at the Van Winkle mine turned up a nugget in peculiar form some days ago. It was in the shape of a sovereign made in Her Majesty's mint, London, in 1852. It was black and discolored and had evidently been partially buried in the earth for years. It was probably lost by some miner in the early days, has the distinction as gold of having been twice mined, and is a peculiar example of an accidental here on earth. The coin is preserved by the owners of the Van Winkle as a curiosity.

From Wednesday's daily.

—The Empress of Japan, due here on Aug. 14th, is bringing 60 saloon passengers, 225 Chinese and a full cargo.

—Ralph Smith has appealed against a reduction of his salary of the miners of Vancouver Island. His duty will be to promote union.

—An important meeting of the directors of the Royal Agricultural and Industrial Society of B. C., will be held in the Board of Trade rooms, Library building, New Westminster, at 8 o'clock on Friday evening Aug., 16th next.

—A deputation, consisting of H. Thrift and C. D. Moggridge, two prominent residents of Surrey municipality, are in Victoria for the purpose of endeavoring to interest the city in having a good road built to White Rock, near Mud Bay, with steamer connection to Victoria or Sidney.

—Bad air killed a miner in the Blue Bell opposite Ainsworth, a few days ago. Two miners on the night before had about beginning work in an gassy mine. They were overcome. They fell, lodging part way down the upraise. They were quickly got out, but one of them died in a few minutes. The miner who died was named Charles Lundholm, a native of Finland, aged 32, and single.

—William Todd, aged 59 years, and a native of Dublin, Ireland, died at the Nanaimo hospital on Monday afternoon of heart disease. The late Mr. Todd had been long a resident of the Black Diamond City, and well-known to old timers. He was single and has no relatives in this Province. He passed through Vancouver a week or so ago on his way home from a hopeless trip in search of health.

—Rumors are in circulation in Nelson of still another new steamboat for the Kootenay lake and river trade. It is said that Manager Alexander of the International Navigating Company has purchased the machinery now in a steamer on Flathead lake, Mont., and will place it in a hull to be built on Kootenay lake. It is more than likely that if the reported purchase has been made, the machinery will be placed in the Alberta, in order to make that boat a little more speedy.

—A. R. Langley, of Victoria, is this week receiving the congratulations of friends on his fortunate escape from blindness and disfigurement for life, the natural outcome of an accident of which he was the victim on Monday. He was handling a small phial of sulphuric acid, corked, when an explosion occurred, the result of an unlooked for generation of gas. The acid was distributed over Mr. Langley's face and hands, causing him excruciating pain, and the worst results would have undoubtedly have occurred had not the assistant in the store quickly applied sweet oil freely. The application was effective, and though slightly scarred Mr. Langley will not be permanently marked by the accident.

WANTS THE CITY.

Some people want the earth but Capt. W. P. Lamothe is moderate in his views. He only wants the city of London, Ont. An Alton, Ill., despatch says: Capt. W. P. Lamothe, who has just consummated the sale of 700 acres of land on the Missouri point to a Chicago syndicate, was in the city this afternoon. The captain is being congratulated on every hand over the discovery of a still greater fortune than that which he possessed in 1887. He has been notified to this effect by parties who understand the situation, and tells his story in substance as follows: "My grandfather came over from France in the middle of the eighteenth century and located in Canada, where he acted as an interpreter of the Indian languages and as a guide the greater portion of his life, securing possession of a tract of 7,000 acres of land, in the north central part of Canada, in what is now the Province of Ontario. In 1798 he leased the land, 6,000 acres for a period of 99 years, and 1,000 acres for 50 years. At the expiration of the lease upon the 100 acre tract the descendants of Peter Lamothe took possession of and sold it, getting therefore $1,500. Since then, however, the land has increased in value, the city of London has sprung up upon it, and it is now worth a snug fortune to the heirs, and I will endeavor to secure possession of it as soon as the lease expires, in 1897. I have never seen the property, but I distinctly remember when our folks sold the first portion of it. Just as soon as I get things settled across the river I will go to Canada and pesonally push my claim. The tenants there have not good titles to the property and I do not anticipate trouble in securing it."

HAVE IT READY.

J. T. Wilkinson, known all over the Province as The World Man on the Wing, is visiting Ladner's Landing this week in the interests of this journal. Subscribers are requested to meet him generously and pay up what they owe. The amounts are small but in the aggregate large.

In a well-considered editorial the Orillia Packet urges that the treaty be strictly adhered to in regard to the Alaska boundary question.

TWO CLEVER LADIES.

Native Educationalists Bound for Japan —Friends of the Empress.

Among the cabin passengers on board the Empress of India, which left for the Orient on Monday afternoon, there were two Japanese ladies of very high distinction among the educational societies in their native country and also holding quite eminent positions among the ladies of the nobility. One is Hon. Madame Shimoda, head mistress of His Imperial Majesty's college for the education of young ladies of the nobility, Tokio, Japan, and another is Hon. Miss Horiye, a teacher in French, classics and languages of the same institution. Hon. Madame Shimoda comes of a noble family of very old lineage in Kioto and only 30 years old. However, she is highly distinguished and much respected by almost everybody in Japan through exerting herself in educational matters. She has been tutor to the daughters of His Imperial Japanese Majesty and is a favorite companion of Her Majesty the Empress. Hon. Madam Shimoda is a woman of rare character, being highly talented, thoroughly educated, and is remarkably well acquainted with Japanese female life of both ancient and modern times. With this lady's efforts the colleges of the ladies of the nobility were established in 1886 under the patronage of Her Majesty the Empress, who contributed $50,000 per annum out of her own privy purse. Hon. Miss Horiye is a daughter of Major Gen. Horiye and a graduate of the college. She is recognized as being a very highly talented and cultured young lady. Both of them were dispatched to Europe two years ago by the direct order of the Empress, the whole expense being defrayed by herself. Hon. Madame Shimoda to England, and Hon. Miss Horiye to France, these to study and enquire into the system of educations among the young ladies of noble birth both in England and France. Hon. Madame Shimoda has seen a great deal of the ladies societies in England and may make some changes in her system of education, though still believing that some of her own ideas far surpass European ones. Both of the ladies traveled in the old land frequently without any gentleman or servant with them, but they met with the most polite and kind treatment everywhere they went, except that Hon. Miss Horiye was twice asked at Montreal if she was a Chinese woman! While at Ottawa they were the guests of Lord and Lady Aberdeen, of whose kindness and hospitality they spoke very highly and appreciatingly pronounced the scenery in the western part of Canada very much like that of their own home. The college was established with the purpose of giving to the young ladies of noble birth suitable to their birth and life, and is entirely supported by the Imperial household, under direct supervision of the Minister of State. The principals are chosen among the oldest members of the councillors of the court. There are now 22 teachers, 17 of them being ladies, the others gentlemen. Among the lady teachers there are three graduates of Vastar College, N. Y. There are 385 young ladies attached to the institution, which includes schools for primary classes and also kindergarten, where children from the age of four are admitted. The building is one of the finest in Tokio being three stories high of granite and brick, with very spacious gardens and promenade around it. It contains its own library, chemical laboratory, museum, etc. The gentleman who accompanied the ladies is K. Mochizuki, a barrister of Oxford, and lately editor of the English and Japanese Industrial Magazine, published by the Pelham Press, Fleet street, London. This journal, written both in Japanese and English, is very much engaged in business circles. Mr. Mochizuki has a number of acquaintances among English statesmen, such as Rt. Hon. G. N. Curzon, Sir Charles Dilke, Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett, who are deeply interested in the policy of "the Greater Britain."

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

Present Dull Condition of the Stock Market Accounted For.

The banking house of Henry Clews & Co., New York city, favors us with the following advance proof of its weekly annual review dated July 27th., ult:

Midsummer dullness prevails on the Stock Exchange. Some activity was displayed in the industrials, with which the professionals seem to fill up their entertaining game of battledoor and shuttlecock; but the railroad list was comparatively neglected, and in spite of the many favorable conditions there was only moderate buying except to cover the short contracts put on by a few venturesome traders.

The present inactivity can be attributed to several causes. In the first place the artificial condition of the Exchange market and the attendant possibility of gold exports inevitably check outside buying. It makes little difference that the well-informed feel comparatively unconcerned about gold exports, so long as the average investor and speculator feels uneasy and holds aloof from the market on that account. Nor is this the principal reason for uncertainty. The critical period for the crops has now quite passed, and confidence has no sure foundation to build upon until the harvest is absolutely a certainty. Then, too, Europe seems backward for the moment in taking any except our best securities. The foreign demand has not by any means been satisfied; but the markets over there have been unsettled by possibilities connected with the Bulgarian difficulties, and there is still remaining some distrust in England and Germany concerning our national finances; a fear that our political jealousies will delay currency reform to a disturbing degree. Finally, the restless attitude of labor threatens the peaceful progress of the industrial future; for many workmen are demanding a restoration of wages out of all proportion to the improvement of their employers' position, until the latter are often embarrassed by such uncertainties. These are the conditions which account for the present dull condition of the Stock Market. We know they will delay the recovery which is sure to ensue, only time will determine. The general trend of affairs is strongly toward improvement, and the market will certainly anticipate the future when the time for action is considered ripe by the large capitalists and operators who have so much at stake in the reorganization schemes now in progress. When the coal trade and trunk line difficulties are settled, and when the financial status of Northern Pacific, Reading, Erie and other like properties is restored, then the market will be free to respond to the effects of a big corn crop, the industrial revival and bettter railroad earnings. Important developments in these quarters may be expected almost any day; but while uncertainty lasts no boom rise can be established.

The outlook for the future is promising, and eventually we look for a higher market, but present operations need to be conducted with more or less caution. Four days more will bring us to the date of August 1st, when the corn crop will have about passed any serious exposure to danger, especially such as occurred last year. The damage then was from drouth, which almost cut the crop in two. The cause of damage which occurred last year commenced in the middle of July, and ten days later the country suffered an aggregate loss of at least $400,000,000. From the present outlook this year's corn yield will be the biggest on record by several hundred million bushels, in which event it will bring an amount of prosperity to the country that will gladden the hearts of almost everybody. The new crop will give good business in all directions will then have a basis for its continuance until the result of next year's crop is ascertained. The crops of this country each year are the measure of our prosperity as much as gold is the true measure of valuables.

A member of our firm has just returned from an extensive Western trip, including the corn belt, and reports that the corn crop could hardly be in better shape than it is at present. There have been numerous rains of late and sufficient moisture is now in the ground to obviate the likelihood of any damage by the hot winds to be looked for at this time of the year. The corn is full of vitality and about three weeks ahead of the season, which considerably lessens the probability of damage by early frost. Farmers are jubilant and the railroad people say they will not have cars enough to carry the corn out of the country if present prospects continue. There is any number of well informed people in the West who are looking for $2,400,000,000 corn crop."

In connection with the advance in securities generally, which has been quite considerable within a few months, the general and erroneous opinion entertained is that the established high quotations of the various properties dealt in on the New York Stock Exchange are based solely upon the increased intrinsic value consequent upon improved earnings. While it is partially attributable to that cause, it is more largely due to the changed value of money, not only in this country but all over the world. It now takes a million dollars to produce the same income which was formerly obtained with $500,000 through sound investments or temporary loans. Money has really been displaced in connection with business undertakings by the value of credits based upon increased confidence. This has caused an accumulation of money at all the great money centres of the world. The investment, and new investment properties of a solid character have not been created to any great extent during the past five years, since the Baring panic in 1890. The competition for sound investments where the principal is absolutely safe has been so keen as to absorb all this class of securities.

The difficulty in making good investments both here and in Europe is now perplexing those who have a large surplus of funds on hand. This condition of affairs prevails in New York, London, Paris, Berlin, Amsterdam, and all the other money centres, and is likely to continue until some new and safe means are devised for profitably employing capital.

THE PRODUCTION OF GOLD.

A gold production throughout the world in excess of $200,000,000 is now regarded as assured for the present calendar year, says a Washington despatch. Reports received by the mint bureau from the producing districts of the United States and from the big mining regions of Australia and South Africa, which indicate that unless the rate of production which has thus far prevailed this year is suddenly checked, it will be easy to raise the 1894 product of $181,500,000 to above $200,000,000 for 1895. The monthly returns published in the London financial papers from South Africa indicate that the Witwatersrandt region alone is now producing gold at the rate of about $4,000,000 per month, or $48,000,000 per year. This was about the average for May, which showed a production of 197,000 fine ozs. The earlier months of the year would pull down this average slightly, but the tendency has been so steadily in favor of a progression, one month after another, that the remainder of the year is counted upon to carry the total to $48,000,000. The other districts of Africa are counted upon to supply the deficiency, even if the Witwatersrandt falls to reach quite the figure named. The whole African product in 1894 was valued at $40,246,000, so that a gain of nearly $8,000,000 will be afforded on a single continent. The Australian product is also climbing toward, and promises to largely exceed the $41,760,000 attained in 1894. The race is getting to be a hot one between these two countries and the United States for the highest record for the year. Australia was the winner in 1894, with Africa a close second, and the United States third. Africa seems likely to take the lead this year, with Australia and the United States fighting for second place. The Colorado people are promising to raise their product from $2,250,000 in 1894 to around $17,000,000. The mint officials scarcely credit such an increase in this, but they admit that Colorado will show a big gain. The Cripple creek region, which until lately has been averaging the $300,000 per month, has of late suddenly climbed to $500,000 per month, indicating a gain of about $1,500'000 for the year. The Leadville district is also showing an increase, and old mines are being worked with improved machinery all over the state. Hydraulic mining is now allowed, under certain restrictions, in California, and is counted on to increase the production of that state. The facts regarding the production of Mexico are also likely to indicate a seeming increase because of the apparent suspension of the silver product, which for some years, under the influence of the export duty on the precious metals. Even the distant territory of Alaska is promising a larger product than in 1894, and tests are being made in South America, which are thought likely to increase the gold output of those unexplored countries. A production of $200,000,000 in a single year will equal the aggregate production of both gold and silver as recently as 1886, and will be twice the average gold production during the years from 1881 to 1885.

THE PRESS AND CRIME.

Good people who mean well, particularly ministers of the Gospel, are prone to condemn the publication in newspapers of reports of crimes. Therein they are in hearty sympathy with the views of the criminals—at the time they are with them thinking. The sensationalism of the press is looked upon with great disfavor by the burglar, the footpad, the swindler and the murderer. They feel deeply pained that newspapers print news which prejudically affects their interests. They know that were it not for these indectionable displays of so-called enterprise they would be able to rob, to swindle and to murder with much less likelihood of detection. There have been cases without number where the newspapers, by giving wide publicity to the details of a crime, have supplied the missing link in the chain of testimony against a criminal; in many instances the actual discovery of the crime has been due to a newspaper's eagerness to print the latest news. The Hooper arrest, trial, conviction and sentence resulted from the inquisitiveness of a reporter in Montreal. The Hyams brothers owe their arrest and prosecution on a charge of murder to the enterprise of newspapers in publishing their peculiar relations with insurance companies. The discovery of the bodies of the Pietzel children in Toronto last week, which was the starting point in the unravelling of that horrible story of secret murder which is now shocking the world, was directly due to the newspaper press. It was a Toronto carpenter who recognized in a newspaper article about Holmes and the missing children a description of parties who had been his neighbors last fall, and gave the information to the police which solved the mystery. Had the matter not got into the public press, the bodies might never have been found. These are only samples, but they are enough to establish the truth of the contention that the newspapers, incidental to their regular business, render to civilization the greatest services as police agents.

An odd circumstance happened once at Wilmington. As Dr. Wilson was one Sunday morning going through the streets towards the cathedral, he heard a woman cry: "Mackerel! All alive, all alive, O!" And on his arrival at the church he began the service as follows: "When the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive, alive, O!" These last words the doctor proclaimed aloud, in the true tone of the fishwoman, to the great surprise of the congregation. But the good doctor was so studious and absent that he knew not what he had done.

In Paris they call a bunco game "robbery in the American style." The Paris journals say that a certain gay Frenchman an American who had a letter of credit for 25,000 francs fell a victim recently in the French capital to his honesty in industry, and was relieved of his money by an obliging chance acquaintance.

OUR KAMLOOPS LETTER.

Intelligence Concerning the Inland City—Off to the Mines—Grasshoppers' Work.

Kamloops, Aug. 5.—We read, with somewhat mingled pleasure, the many encouraging and glowing reports from Kootenay of its unlimited rich mineral deposits. If all we hear and read, is true, and we have every reason to believe it is, Kootenay's fame will assured-ly rival that of California, hence it must, in the natural course of events, spread its beneficient shadow over the whole of the Province. With the success that is now attending the many hydraulic mines in Cariboo, British Columbia can with some degree of certainty peep through its present dark clouds to a clear and bright future. I am sorry to say that we cannot boast of any activity in the mining line in our immediate vicinity. The hydraulic mine at Tranquille has been shut down for a short time, yet in the past three weeks there have been no less than 10 placer claims recorded on that creek, from which good prospects have been obtained. The Cariboo mines will soon be in full blast, and it is expected that a suitable plant will soon be placed on the ground for the successful treatment of the refractory ores.

CHILLIWACK GOSSIP.

It has long been an established fact that Chilliwack never ranks second to any part of our favored Province, in the production of any desirable article, brain-power not excepted. As a new illustration of this time-honored truth reference is made to the result of the recent examination for teachers' certificates. From the Chilliwack school, which notwithstanding the name, represents the Sardis portion of the valley, not the village—five pupils obtained certificates, viz., Hester H. Melhuish, Caroline Louisa Webb, Jane E. Higginson and Clarinda E. Stevenson second E, George Telford, 3rd B. In addition to this, four pupils from the same school passed the examination for entrance to High school, their names being John Telford, Anson Knight, Franklin Wells Templer and John E. Stevenson. The people generally congratulate themselves heartily on their rare good luck in having secured the services of one in the person of Mrs. Chas. Templer, who understands so thoughly the difficult art of training the young idea how to shoot.——The Chilliwack Valley Fruit Growers and Shipping Association is sending out large consignments of fruit daily. S. M. O'Kell, managing director of the firm of Messrs. O'Kell & Morris, Victoria, has recently purchased from the above association close upon 50 tons of plums and apples for use in their preserve and jam factory. Chilliwack is just commencing to distinguish itself as a fruit growing centre. A representative of the Sun Life is expected here daily to visit the Sumas lands. If his report is favorable it is expected that this company will take up the dyking.—The Cheam mountain climbers arrived from its dizzy heights safely on Friday last, rather tired, but thoroughly satisfied over their outing. The majority attained an altitude of about 6,000 feet, whilst two of the party, Messrs. White and Lawrence, reached 7,000 feet, and were rewarded with new botanical specimens. The party had a camera along, so some interesting photos may be expected.—A number of our farmers attended the convention at Agassiz, which, however, was held, for agriculturists, at a very busy season of the year.—There will be a cricket match between our team and one from Agassiz on Saturday next.——The Presbyterian church picnic at Henderson's grove on Wednesday, July 31st, was a decided success. The music furnished by Profs. Cramer and Capobianco, was highly enjoyed. The grounds were in good shape, and everything passed off pleasantly. About 200 were present. Dr. Mellard held a Court of Revision on Monday last, for the purpose of revising the Provincial voters' list.—R. Rae has secured the contract for building our new schools and is just starting to work on them.—The council met on Saturday and, amongst other business, determined to take action against thistle growers. This should have been attended to earlier, so that farmers could have avoided leaving their haying and harvest during the fine weather.—J. R. Greenfield, of the Post-office Inspector's department, was here Friday and Saturday last on business.—Miss Mary Turner, daughter of Charles Turner, always known as a bright, clever young lady, recently became deranged. No cause can be given. She was kept at home for some days, in hopes that she would improve, with the result that she became worse. On Sunday she was taken to the asylum at New Westminster.—Mr. and Mrs. G. Wolfenden and Mrs. F. Broad, of New Westminster, were here on a visit last week.—Miss Bertha Reece has returned from an extended visit to Portland, Oregon, and Similkameen.—The farmers have finished haying, and are now at their harvest. The hay crop has turned out well, and grain everywhere looks good. The recent dry spell has put back late crops somewhat, and root crops are badly in need of rain. The fruit crop on the whole is above the average.—C. Wolfenden, of Sardis, called the writers' attention to a row of Baldwin apple trees, that are more than laden, every tree being supported by a number of props. Mr. Higginson considers the Baldwins and King, two of the best varieties to grow in his section. The peach and pear trees are also heavily laden and breaking beneath their load.

MISSION TALK.

Mission, Aug. 6.—Farmers have finished haying and judging from their full barns their stock will not suffer during the coming winter.—A large number of the boys are engaged in fishing and they report fair catches. To a number it will be a great help as it is very difficult to get much employment these times.—The hum of the mosquito-is still to be heard among us, but it is to be hoped that its days, for this summer, are about over.—A social is to be given on Thursday evening, the 8th, in the Mitchell church, for which the youth, beauty and otherwise are invited, to partake of the delicacies which are provided for that evening. A good programme is being prepared, the proceeds are to be used in defraying expenses in connection with the building of the parsonage.——We were pleased to get the name of Hulet M. Wells in the 1st B list and Miss Lena Abercrombie's among the 2nd B at the teachers' examination. It speaks well for the young people of our school.——J. D. Gillis, after six years' faithful service as teacher here has resigned to accept the principalship of that at Wellington. We wish him the same success there that has attended his efforts her. We are sorry to lose him, and it will be difficult to replace him.——Miss Cora Dougan has been appointed teacher at Huntington.

A FUR SCANDAL.

An extraordinary scandal has just come to light in connection with Russia and the Bering sea patrol. About the middle of last winter a firm of furbrokers in Hamburg received 5,000 sealskins with instructions to forward them to London in time for the big February sale, which occurs here every year. It was noticed that the package did not bear the usual marks, and what also struck the people as peculiar was that not one of the skins had a bullet hole in it. It is now reported on good authority that these skins were sent by the officers of the Russian warship which left Robin's island last September and it is presumed that the enterprise was the private speculation of those who were sent to protect the seals. The Russians were encamped on the island for four or five months, and as is customary, no one was allowed to land on the island during their stay there. It is presumed that the crew employed their time in clubbing these seals. The skins were sold at Lampson's here last February.

"Mamma, was that a sugar-plum you just gave me?" asked little Maud. "No, dear, it was one of Dr. Ayer's Pills." "Please, may I have another?" "Not now, dear; one of those nice pills is all you need at present, because every dose is effective."

A YOUNG MINISTER GONE.

His Work in This City was Admirable—A Fine Character.

At 8 o'clock this morning a number of friends assembled to say farewell to Rev. J. W. Macmillan, B. A., and wish him Godspeed and happiness in his new home in the far east. He will go by way of San Francisco, stopping at places of interest, and expects to arrive in about three weeks at Lindsay, Ont., where he has been called to take charge of the large Presbyterian church. His departure causes our minds to revert to a period, which viewed by a Vancouverite, seems a long time, nearly four years ago, when a stranger arrived in this city. He was young, tall, robust, and energetic; he had a genial laugh, a winning manner, and an almost exhaustless store of anecdotes through which his witticisms sparkled; he was benevolent, charitable, and full of faith; a man of strong convictions, an earnest Christian, spoke with impressive eloquence, and was withal pleasantly unconscious of these and many other of his good qualities. He went to Mount Pleasant. A feeble mission was struggling in embryonic infancy and those who were watching it feared its existence would soon cease. The stranger imbued it with his zeal, marvellous success followed, and the Mount Pleasant Presbyterian mission became a self-supporting church. A place of worship was erected. This building was soon inadequate. An addition was made and now stands free of debt with a membership roll of nearly 200, a Sunday school second to none in Vancouver, an enthusiastic prayer meeting, and six or more societies working in conjunction with the church. It is not needful to name that stranger. But Mr. Macmillan is no longer a stranger. His more than ordinary ability, his companionable disposition, and his manly character have made him friends wherever he went. Whether hunting in the interior, climbing the peaks of the coast range, or breaking records by throwing the shoulder weight in Alberni; whether delivering a lecture for some order, or preaching in a neighboring pulpit, he was admired and respected, while at home in his own church on Mount Pleasant he was idolized. This was shown by the crowds who flocked to hear him preach; by the whole-heartedness with which all his congregation worked with him during these four great harmonously; by their private conversations and by their earnest pleadings before the Presbytery to persuade him to remain; when the question of his call to Lindsay was discussed. It is not to be wondered that Mr. Macmillan hesitated, hoping to see it his duty to remain among friends to whom he had become so greatly attached and we admire the character that could say he would because it was his duty, despite the fact that he was leaving friends of years, at strangers, and loving looks for critical stares. We wish him the success he deserves and, though Vancouver loses for a time one whom it is proud to have been benefited by, she hopes that he may some day return in the by no means distant future and remain. Success and happiness to him in the meantime and forever!

THE WIND BLEW.

Bimeby She Blew Some More—Serious Results.

A more undesirable time for a blow than last night could hardly have been found. While out in the woods all about the city the danger of a huge conflagration was imminent. On all points of the compass flames could be seen darting through the fallen fire brands. The Indian Mission, across the harbor, was for a time in danger. The brigade was kept on the run all night and one section did good service among the East End until this morning. For a time it was thought that it would be impossible to save Policeman North's residence, but hard work finally drove the flames back. Out Jericho way Sam Greer's residence caught and in the fierce gale it was soon consumed. There was no water handy and little could be done except to let it burn. Most of the furniture was lost, and there is only a small insurance.

In the city several awnings were ripped to shreds and the roofs kept making a great thunder all night. No serious damage is reported.

Along the water front several yachts were torn from their moorings but have since been recovered.

Out at English Bay the wind shrieked and howled and the waves piled high upon the beach throughout the night. The tents were blown down. The bath house float was piled high upon the beach.

From Steveston it was learned that four fishermen are missing. Whether they have been drowned or driven ashore is not yet known.

From Terra Nova and Alliance canneries to-day men were at work repairing damage to Steveston three. This means 20 men. Two men were rescued from the top of a boat belonging to the Alliance cannery at 8 o'clock last night.

RICHMOND DOINGS.

Heavy Wind Storms—Fishermen Missing —General News.

Eburne, Aug., 7.—Most of the farmers have their summers hay crop securely housed. Of course there are a few who do not begin to cut early to beat their neighbors but as we are blessed with such good weather they are pretty sure to have it all saved in good time. Most of the grain is ripe. Cutting will begin