Seek Tariff Revision

Deputation of Merchants Ask Ottawa Government For More Protection.

Judge Armour's Appointment a Good One—Jette Not Brilliant.

Sir Oliver Mowat's Health the Subject of Lively Debate In Commons.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, March 17.—Tariff deputations galore are here these days. The cotton manufacturers, granite workers and market gardeners saw the ministers today and asked for more protection.

The appointment of Governor Jette as one of the Alaska boundary commissioners occasions great surprise. He was for twenty years on the bench, but not particularly brilliant.

The Canadian government has submitted to the British government for the Alaska boundary commissioners the names of Mr. Justice Armour, of the Supreme Court of Canada, and Sir Louis Jette, Quebec. Sir Louis is at present lieutenant-governor of Quebec, but his term has expired. He was for many years judge of the Superior Court.

Judge Armour's appointment is regarded as a good one.

As the British government has asked Canada to submit the names, this means that they are appointed, and that the commissioners will be as Canada requested: The Chief Justice of England, Mr. Justice Armour and Sir Louis Jette.

Hon. Clifford Sifton, British agent, sails from New York for England on Wednesday. He will be accompanied by Fred. Wade, K.C., assistant counsel, A. P. Collier, the minister's private secretary, W. F. King, Joseph Pope, F. Maher and E. E. Turton. They go by the White Star steamer Cedric.

The Ottawa Irishmen had a monster parade today.

Senator Edwards took his seat in the Upper House today.

Mr. Lequok introduced railway conciliation.

Another lively debate in the Commons on the position of the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario was initiated by Mr. MacLean, who quoted the speeches of Liberals in 1885 against governors being continued in office after five years. Premier Laurier made a lame defence to opposition criticisms.

Sir Louis Jette was born at L'Assomption, Quebec, on January 15, 1836. He was educated at the college there, where he was a fellow student with Sir Wilfrid Laurier; he studied law and was called to the bar in 1862. He practised in Montreal. At the general election in 1872 he was returned to the House of Commons as Liberal member for Montreal East, defeating Sir Geo. E. Cartier. He continued to sit for that constituency up to the period of his appointment as puisne judge of the Supreme Court of Quebec on September 2, 1878. He was appointed lieutenant-governor of Quebec by the Laurier government.

Mr. Justice Armour, of the Supreme Court of Canada, has had an exceptionally successful career since his admission to the bar forty-nine years ago. The youngest son of Rev. Samuel Armour, an Anglican clergyman, he was born in Otonabee, Peterborough county, Ont., on May 4, 1834. He attended Upper Canada College previous to his course at the University of Toronto, where he was winner of a double scholarship, and at his graduation in 1850, won the gold medal in classics. His law studies were in the office of his brother, Robert Armour, and the office of the late Chancellor van Koughnet. On being called to the bar in 1853 he began practice in Cobourg as a partner of Hon. Sydney Smith. Four years later the partnership was dissolved, and Mr. Armour practised alone for some years, until he formed a partnership with Mr. H. F. Holland, which lasted until Mr. Armour was appointed to the bench. In March, 1858, he was appointed county crown attorney for Northumberland and Durham, and in May, 1861, was made a Q. C. He was appointed to a judgship in the Court of Queen's Bench, in November, 1877. Ten years after appointment to the bench he was promoted by Sir John A. Macdonald to the presidency of the Court of Queen's Bench. In July, 1901, he was appointed chief justice of the Ontario Court of Kings Bench, as successor to the late Chief Justice Burton, and last year was transferred to the Supreme Court of Canada.

FREIGHT TRAINS IN COLLISION

Head on Wreck Near Toronto Results Two Deaths Six Injured.

Toronto, March 17.—A head-on collision occurred near Islington, nine miles West of Toronto, on the C. P. R., this morning, in which two men were killed and six injured, two badly. The trains were freights and were piled in a heap.

The dead men are David Taylor, brakeman, of London, Ont., aged 22, and Charles Winger, fireman, of Windsor, Ont.

William Morrison, engineer, aged 34, was badly scalded.

CONFERENCE AT WORK.

Toronto, March 17.—An important conference of Presbyterians and Methodists is being held here today to arrange for co-operation in the home mission field, and to allocate the districts.

FREEZING OUT FOREIGNERS.

Duties on Imports Very Materially Increased by Colombia.

Colon, Colombia, March 17—In accordance with the decree issued at Bogota, the Capital, February 13, all foreign-import duties have been considerably increased, in many cases ten-fold. Merchants of Barranquilla and Cartagena have cancelled all their American and European orders. The Isthmus is exempted from this increase.

FIRE AT ST. STEPHEN.

Blaze in Confectionery Shop Does $75,000 of Damage.

St. Stephen, N. B., March 17.—The total loss of Ganong's confectionery establishment, which was destroyed by fire on Saturday, is $75,000 with insurance of about $46,000.

INSOMNIA THE CAUSE.

Hamilton Girl Whose Body Was Recovered from Bay a Victim.

Hamilton, March 17.—The body of Addie Mitchell, who disappeared from her home last November, was found in the bay yesterday. The girl had been suffering from insomnia and had disappeared on the night of November 15, without fully dressing herself.

PAY OF POSTMASTERS AND OFFICIALS

How the Increase Affects Them.

In the Commons yesterday the despatches yesterday m[illegible] ruled that the federal [illegible] current year include [illegible] 200 in the salary of [illegible] Victoria, $100 increase [illegible] the assistant postmaster, and a [illegible] increase in the pay of the postmen. Inquiry made of Postmaster Shakespeare yesterday elicited the fact that the additional appropriation affecting the salaries of himself and Mr. Cairns are not in the way of an increase at all—simply a decision to abide by the statute which fixes the salaries of postmasters in cities in accordance with the revenue. The Victoria office had not for some years been treated strictly in accordance with the provisions of the act, but the matter has now apparently been adjusted so as to comply with it strictly.

Six of the postmen in the local office will get a slight increase in pay, owing to their having decided to go under new regulations recently issued by the Postmaster-General. The effect of such regulation on the positions held by the letter-carriers is thus explained by Mr. Shakespeare:

"In the event of their desiring to avail themselves of the provisions of the bill those letter carriers who have served over six months and under two years may at once have themselves transferred to grade "B," the pay of which is $1.50 per day, or $469 for 313 days, with two weeks' leave each year with pay. On the completion of a total period of two years' service they may be promoted to grade "C" at the pay of $1.75 per diem, or $547 per annum. On the completion of two years' service in grade "C" they may be promoted into grade "D" at $2 per diem. In addition to these payments, where the letter carriers' service during the year have been satisfactory they may be given ten days' extra holidays or at their option a bonus of $20. If a letter carrier now in the service has been employed for a longer period than two years and a lesser period than four years, he may at his option be transferred to grade "C" above mentioned. If he has been four years and longer in the service he may be transferred at once to grade "D."

Library Vote Passes Council

An Appropriation Made For a Site For the Carnegie Building.

New Departure Regarding Street Work and Sewerage System Management.

As far as the City Council is concerned the question of the building of the Carnegie library is settled—and settled in the affirmative. A vote of $4,500 for the purpose of purchasing a site for the structure was included in the estimates dealt with at yesterday evening's regular meeting of the aldermanic board. The meeting was an important one in another respect—the decision being reached in the adoption of a report from the Streets, Sewers and Bridges committee that hereafter the superintendence of the sewerage system is vested, after April 1, in the hands of the city engineer instead of the sanitary officer, as at present, and hereafter to permit the latter official to nominate the portions of the city on which street work shall be earliest undertaken up to an amount not exceeding $5,000.

His Worship Mayor McCandless presided, and there were present Ald. Kinsman, Cameron, Vincent, Grahame, Barnard, Yates, Goodacre, Stewart and Dinsdale.

In the absence of City Clerk Dowler, Mr. Bradley assistant city clerk, officiated in a very satisfactory manner.

F. Elworthy, secretary of the Board of Trade, aprprised the council of the action of the board respecting the appointment of a committee to discuss the question of harbor commissioners.

The letter was received and filed, the Mayor to arrange a meeting with the committees.

The secretary of the Chamber of Commerce forwarded a letter giving similar information. Received and filed.

E. E. Billinghurst called attention to a letter which had been sent by Capt. Inman re the consolidation of civic loans. He understood that the letter had not been answered, and he believed that an answer should be sent.

The Mayor explained that an answer had been forwarded. The letter was received and filed.

J. N. Muir wrote expressing his disapproval of the action of the city in refusing him city water. The letter was filed.

The city clerk wrote as follows:

Victoria, B.C., March 16th, 1903.

To His Worship the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

Gentlemen,—I have the honor to inform you that since the last regular meeting of the City Council the following communications have been received and referred to the City Engineer for report, J. W. Laing, M.A., offering to contribute the sum of $50 towards the work of sewer extension on Belcher street.

James Sellick, asking that sewer be extended along Kings road to the Hillside school house.

C. J. V. Spratt and 21 others, calling attention to the condition of Turner street between Work and David streets.

W. J. DOWLER, C.M.C.

The letter was received and filed, Ald. Barnard expressing the hope that Mr. Laing's application should receive immediate attention.

The city barrister wrote as follows:

Victoria, B.C., March 12, 1903.

W. J. Dowler, Esq., Clerk Municipal Council, City.

Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 10th inst., and beg to say: That as at present advised this claim arises out of the fact that the corporation erected a dam at the head of Colquitz river and claimant asks compensation for the diminished flow of water down the Colquitz in the dry season alleging the cause thereof to be the dam. If this assumption of fact be correct in view of the decision in Carey v. Corporation I should advise that a reply be sent stating the corporation does not acknowledge liability.

If any land of the estate has been appropriated for right of way for pipe line and not paid for I should advise that compensation therefor be given. However, I understand this is not the case.

W. J. TAYLOR.

Received and filed. Mr. Grant to be informed of the terms of the letter.

The city solicitor wrote as follows:

Victoria, B.C., March 11th, 1903

His Worship, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Victoria.

Gentlemen:—I have the honor to report upon the request of the Victoria Terminal Railway Company for the postponement of the laying of the Railway line between the Market Building and Store street to connect with the E. & N. Railway, and I beg to advise as follows:

I have considered the authorities and am of opinion that although the Council cannot without the assent of the rate-payers agree to dispense with or diminish the consideration which the Terminal Railway have to furnish to the city under their contract, the council have authority, without such assent, to relax the operation of the condition as to the time fixed by the contract for the furnishing of such consideration, with the pre-requisite, that it is reasonable so to do.

If the E. & N. Railway Company notify the Council that they do not at present desire connection arrangements to be made or the council are otherwise sufficiently satisfied upon that point, and if the council are of opinion that the construction of the railway lines is prejudicial to the interests of the citizens, I am of opinion that the council can by resolution or bylaw give a conditional and "without prejudice" promise of an extension of the time to comply with this term of the contract.

I have accordingly prepared the necessary by-law, which, before the final passing thereof, should be submitted for the consent of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, pursuant to section 70, sub-section 3a.

J. M. BRADBURN.

Received and filed.

The city engineer and purchasing agent advised giving the contract for street sprinkling to W. Williams at 49c. per hour, this being the lowest tender.

The report was adopted.

The Finance committee recommended the payment of accounts amounting to $1,558.60. Adopted.

Ald. Cameron, in regard to the complaints about chemical fumes asked the council to adopt the following resolution:

"Resolved that with reference to the complaints received by the council in respect of noxious fumes emanating from the Victoria Chemical Works, this committee recommends that a copy of the correspondence passed between the council and the Victoria Chemical Works Co., Ltd., in regard to said complaints, be forwarded to the petitioners, for their information."

The resolution carried unanimously.

Tenders for police clothing were referred to the Finance committee, and purchasing agent for report.

The Streets, Sewers and Bridges committee reported as follows:

Victoria, B. C., March 12th, 1903.

To His Worship the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

Gentlemen:—Your Streets, Bridges and Sewers Committee having considered the undermentioned subjects, would recommend the following resolutions for adoptions by the council, namely:—Resolved that the sum of $5,000 be placed at the disposal of the City Engineer to expend on street work which is most urgently required, but that before any expenditure takes place, the City Engineer report as to the street work so required, the total estimated cost of which shall not exceed the sum of $5,000."

"Resolved that the care and maintenance of the sewers be transferred on April 1st, next from the Sanitary Officer to the City Engineer, both officials to be notified of this resolution."

"Resolved that the City Engineer be requested to report upon the best way of deverting the sewage flowing down the Johnson street sewer from entering the harbor, and that a special committee of the council be appointed to wait upon the Provincial Government, with the view of consultation as to the best way of dealing with the disposition of sewage entering Victoria Arm."

"Resolved that the account of H. P. Hobbis for damage to his conveyance, owing to an accident when passing over Point Ellice bridge on the 8th of January last, amounting to $11.50 be paid."

"Resolved that Fort street from Blanchard to Vancouver streets be surfaced with rock. Estimates cost $975.00."

"Resolved that the City Engineer be authorized to purchase three Miller automatic syphon flushing tanks."

The report was adopted.

Twenty-two applications for the position of manager of the Old Men's Home were received, dealt with and John MacKintosh was elected on the third ballot.

On motion of Ald. Stewart, leave was granted to introduce a bylaw to extend the time for the Victoria Terminal Railway Company to extend its line of railway down Cormorant street. It was read a first and second time.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY.

The matter of the Carnegie library was next alluded to. His Worship said he thought it was only right that if the council intended going ahead with the project a sum for the site should be placed in the estimates.

The council went into committee of the whole on the Revenue bylaw. Ald. Stewart moved that an appropriation of $4,500 be included in the estimates to provide a site for the Carnegie library building. Ald. Dinsdale seconded the motion.

Ald. Grahame reiterated the arguments he had advanced on previous occasions in opposition to the project. He did not think the city was in a financial position to proceed with the undertaking. As far as the expenditure of $5,000 per year in maintenance was concerned, that sum was insufficient to properly maintain a library costing $50,000. A matter which the ratepayers ought to take into consideration was the fact that for 20 years to come the city had to pay $15,000 per year to the Victoria & Sidney railway. This was a serious drain on the finances of the city. He of course was in favor of a library, but not on the terms offered by Mr. Carnegie. But if the people wanted it, as appeared from certain correspondence in the press, they would have to pay for it; and that settled the matter. He doubted, however, that the correspondents who had made themselves prominent were heavy property holders. He had taken his present attitude because he wanted to define his position clearly and keep his skirts clear of a proceeding the expediency of which he had grave doubts.

Ald. Stewart said no doubt Ald. Grahame did not see the need of a library as did other people, as he had had good educational advantages; but the bulk of the people were in need of the facilities which a good library would afford.

Ald. Yates said he would have to oppose the motion. The city was not able to have the sum taken out of the revenue. He was, however, in favor of putting the question as to whether the sum for the site should be spent or not being put before the people, included in the bylaw asking for the selection of a site. They then could decide whether they wanted the money devoted to a library building or spent upon improvements to the streets.

Ald. Barnard moved in amendment that the sum of $2,500 be put in the estimates to provide for the expropriation of a portion of land adjoining the site near the new post office, if the ratepayers decided on choosing that site. He was glad of the stand Ald. Grahame had taken, because now Ald. Grahame to be consistent must support his amendment, which aimed at saving the ratepayers' money. Regarding the lot near James Bay causeway, two arguments had been presented against it as a site for the library—(1st) that it was not central; (2nd) that there had been too much large expenditure in that part of the town already. It reply to the first objection, he believed that a little examination would show that it was quite as centrally located as any site which had been offered—it was reached by all the street cars; and that could not be said of any other site. There was no use winking at the matter, the sum of $4,500 was proposed because it was intended to buy the lot on the corner of Yates and Blanchard streets—the whole thing was cut and dried. If the two sites were compared, the site at the new post office would be found to be the better of the two—it was more convenient owing to its being reached by all the street cars. It was true that a lot of money had been spent in that portion of the town, and it had not been spent by the city, but by the Dominion and Provincial governments.

Ald. Yates was of the opinion that if the council was sincere in its desire to get the best site for the city, it should put a much larger sum in the estimates—say $10,000. The proposed vote of $4,500 practically limited the choice to one lot—that on the corner of Yates and Blanchard streets.

Ald. Kinsman, while he thought that Ald. Grahame's arguments were sound, was of the opinion that the people were insisting that the project should be gone on with, so he would exert his endeavors now to have a central site chosen.

Ald. Yates—The citizens plainly said they would not spend any money at all on a site.

The Mayor—Where did they want to put the building?

Ald. Yates—I don't know; but they did not vote to spend money on a site.

Ald. Stewart—The ratepayers simply said they would not spend the large sum of $2,000 on a site. It is not fair, to say they voted not to spend any money at all. In regard to the lot near the post office, half of the sum of $4,500 would be eaten up in the foundation, as the rock shelves very abruptly to the water.

Ald. Cameron explained that when the bylaw for the selection of a site was last before the council, he had urged it be laid over until the estimates had been prepared and passed upon. Now however, he felt it compulsory that the council should do something in the way of arriving at a decision. It was an unfortunate year in which to undertake the additional expenditure which the project entailed, but the people were forcing the council into that position. He would vote for the appropriation on the distinct understanding that if the revenue was to be increased from any source expenditure would still be maintained within the limit set by the council after careful consideration. He would not be a party to any deficit. There was too little money allowed for street work already, and it appeared it would still further have to be pared down to get money for the library site.

Ald. Vincent said he would support the motion. He had always been in favor of proceeding with the project.

Ald. Dinsdale—It is only fair that we should pass the selection of a site up to the people.

Ald. Yates—Well, then, raise the amount up to $5,000—get a good site or a better site.

Ald. Barnard withdrew his amendment and supported Ald. Yates in asking for $5,000.

The amendment was then put and lost—Ald. Yates, Cameron, Barnard and Vincent voting in the affirmative.

The original motion then carried, only Ald. Yates and Grahame voting in the negative.

Discussion of the estimates then proceeded. The sum of $2,000 was placed on the list for repairs to Dallas road embankment, and $1,000 for compulsory sewerage connections.

Some diversity of opinion was manifested in regard to the expediency of placing the Boxer bell sent from China in the park. A better place, it was thought, would be the museum. The matter will be further considered.

The council adjourned to sit again on Thursday next.

No Need To Fear Meters

Declares Water Commissioner Raymur Yesterday In An Interview.

Lawns Will Not Suffer Nor Will The Pockets of Consumers.

Water Commissioner James L. Raymur does not believe that any hardship will be imposed upon the water consumers by the general use of meters as proposed, nor that the beautiful lawns, of which Victorians are so proud, and visitors so loud in praise, will suffer one whit from the same circumstance.

He believes that the general use of meters will result in putting a stop to the useless waste of a large quantity of water, at the same time allowing of the use of an ample quantity for sprinkling purposes without imposing a particle of additional burden upon the general consumer.

In support of his argument, he quotes figures which seem to dispose at once of the chief objections which are raised against the meter system. Under the present system, the charge for an indefinite supply of water to a four-roomed house is 70 cents per month; for a five-roomed house, 85 cents per month; for a six-roomed house $1.10 per month—with 10 per cent. off for prompt payment. When meters shall have been installed in such houses, a maximum use of 3,500 gallons per month will be allowed in the case of the four-roomed house without a cent of extra charge; 4,250 gallons in the case of the five-roomed house, and 5,500 gallons in the case of the six-roomed house. Any excess use of the maximum allowance as mentioned will be charged at the rate of 10 cents per thousand gallons.

That such a system will prove an equitable one, a sensible one and the reverse of burdensome, is contended to be shown by the citation of the fact that the average lawn and garden in the city of Victoria can be thoroughly watered and kept in prime condition by two hours' judicious sprinkling per day, through an ordinary sized hose. The amount of water thus consumed would be 360 gallons per day, or 10,800 gallons per month. The cost of this consumption would be $1.08. Even supposing that this sum would be required to be paid by tenants occupying the three classes of house mentioned above, it would not, it is contended by the commissioner, be an exhorbitant rate. But he does not think the two hours' sprinkling per day will result in the collection of such a sum under the meter system, for the reason that the maximum quantity of 3,500 gallons for the four-roomed house, 4,250 gallons for the five-roomed house, and the 5,500 gallons for the six-roomed house would not be utilized for household purposes solely and require to be exceeded when sprinkling is undertaken. Putting it another way, he does not think one house in 500, of the dimensions mentioned, uses anywhere near the monthly maximum allowance under the present rules, and which will continue under the meter system—the latter only becoming really operative when an excess of the maximum allowance is used.

The reporter inquired of Mr. Raymur if he knew of any lawn properties in the city the owners of which would feel the meter system to be burdensome if they undertook to keep their lawns and gardens in the same state of delightful efficiency as has been the case under the old system—that is, the system now in vogue? For answer, he turned to his books and let the reporter see with his own eyes the amounts which large consumers of water have had to pay since meters were installed on their premises. In no instance was it shown that a charge had been levied which could be termed burdensome. For instance, one of the handsomest lawns in the city is that which surrounds the residence of the late A. J. McLellan, on the Gorge road. It is a beautiful piece of green sward, large in area and always a delight to the eye, being invariably kept in excellent condition. The charges were in no instance of a greater sum than $3.75 per month, and the general average ranged around the $1.25 per month mark.

"To put the case in a nutshell," said Mr. Raymur, "the meters will only do one thing with the water supply—stop the extravagant, senseless and absolutely useless waste. The lawns and gardens will not suffer one iota; the pockets of the owners of the lawns and gardens will not suffer one iota—but there will be no more throwing the hose under a tree or in a corner and allowing the water to run all night just for fun, or because of the owner's laziness to turn it off. That is all."

Mr. Raymur says all the officials of the water department are duly impressed with the fact that it is not the aim of the city to make the water supply a source of money making. The object which all have in mind at all times is to bring the cost to the consumer down to the lowest possible point. Everything that is being done aims at that objective point. When the meters shall have been given a test the city will know more about its water consumption than at present; and when that information is available, no opportunity will be neglected to improve the service in every way possible, reduce the cost to the consumer, and generally approach as far as possible the minimum in the matter of handling a great public utility.

INFLAMMABLE SUBSTANCES.

Regulations Respecting the Manner in Which They May Be Stored.

Apropos of the recent fire which occurred in a Yates street dye-shop, said to have been due to the explosion of a quantity of gasoline, inquiries have been made regarding the regulations for the use and storage of combustible substances in buildings in the city of Victoria. The Fire Prevention Bylaw contains the folowing clauses:

"No person shall keep any larger quantity than eighty gallons of coal oil or other oil of a similar combustible character in wooden casks, or three hundred gallons in tin, iron, stone or earthenware or twenty gallons of crude oil, burning fluid, naphtha, benzole, benzine, or other similar combustible fluid in any wooden building; and no person shall keep any larger quantity than one hundred and fifty gallons of coal oil, or other oil of a similar combustible character, in wooden casks, or seven hundred and fifty gallons in tin, iron, stone or earthenware, or eighty gallons of crude oil, burning fluid, naphtha, benzole, benzine, or other similar combustible fluid, in any brick building, unless the same shall be kept in a cellar properly ventilated and without a floor, or with a floor of brick, stone, cement, or other incombustible materials, in which case three hundred gallons of coal oil, or other oil of similar inflammable character, in wooden casks, or one thousand gallons in tin, iron, stone, earthenware, may be so kept; and no person shall permit or suffer any of the fluids mentioned in this section to flow into any municipal drain or sewer.

"Notwithstanding anything in the last preceding section contained, when fire-proof buildings, so constructed as to insure at all times a thorough ventilation thereof and used exclusively for the purpose of keeping or storing coal oil, building fluid, crude oil, naphtha, benzole, benzine, or other similar combustible materials, are located or detached at least two hundred feet from all other buildings, then any of the fluids may be kept and stored therein without limit as to quantity, subject to the provisions hereinafter contained.

"No person shall take, light or use in such storage building as is mentioned in the last preceding section any fire, either for heat, light or other purpose.

"No person shall at any time keep or store any fluid mentioned in this bylaw, in the unlimited quantity therein authorized or as mentioned, unless he has obtained from the inspector of buildings, within one year then last past, a certificate to the effect that the building in which such fluid is stored or kept, is in all respects of the character and description mentioned in that section; and for every such certificate the person obtaining the same shall pay to the inspector of buildings, for the use of the corporation, a fee of one dollar."

THE CHINESE REFORMERS.

A banquet was tendered to the leaders of the Chinese Reform movement, Leong Kai Chew, Wong Wai Gen and Pow Chee, who have arrived here to advance the reform movement, on Sunday afternoon, and in the evening a public meeting was held at the Chinese theatre, at which addresses were delivered by the visiting Chinese on the advancement of China, and closer trade relations between China and the outside world, and on the topic which is now absorbing the attention of all Reformers, viz., the reported death of Jung Lee. This death, judging from the manifestations of joy, will be the subject of general rejoicing among all reformers. Jung Lee has been recognized as the power behind the throne of China. His hand has been the hand that fomented disturbance and rebellion in the Flowery Kingdom.

WAS LEADER OF TAIPINGS

Head of Chinese Revolt Has Devoted His Life to Insurrection.

A strange story of lifelong devotion to the cause of rebellion and loyalty to a fallen dynasty that comes from Chinese sources serves to explain the genesis and active forces of the present threatening movement in the province of Canton. This movement has for its first object the overthrow of the existing Manchu dynasty and the reinstatement of their predecessors of the house of Haan.

The leader of this movement has devoted his life to the cause. Long ago he fought for the rebellion that was put down by the famous Chinese Gordon, who afterwards lost his life in the Soudan. The Chinese leader then a young man, fled the country and experienced many vicissitudes. He has worked in California and Singapore and elsewhere, but in all his ups and downs he has never lost sight of his object. He was able to impress Chinese merchants engaged in business in San Francisco, Singapore and other cities with confidence in his plans and they have contributed liberally to his war chest.

A letter from Hongkong explaining the status of the movement has been received by the Chinese World, the organ of the reform movement published in San Francisco. In explanation of the letter and aims of the leader the World prints an article, which being translated, reads:

"In Canton the people all during the year up to the first day of the Chinese New Year were planning this uprising. On the 30th day of their twelfth month (January 27) when the officials went to worship at the tablet of the Emperor they were to be captured and killed with queues cut off. All the inhabitants of Canton were ready to help. It was on the 25th day of January that the news of the scheme got abroad. The leader of this movement, Hong Kum Luk. He is a cousin of the noted rebel, Hung Shau Tsuen, who fought Gordon in the rebellion of thirty or forty years ago. In this rebellion the whole of the southern part of China was taken and the capital at Nan King, which translated means southern capital. This cousin, the leader of the present movement, was a young man of twenty years of age at that time, and has been engaged in over a hundred battles. When the former rebellion was crushed by Chinese Gordon, this young man fled to Macao, whence he sold himself into slavery over in America, and was probably disguised as one of the coolies who came in the early days of California. He is now an old man and has kept these plans and his paraphernalia in his house ever since. He has traveled all over the world in the interest of this rebellion. Many merchants told him they would give him money and he would have to get up the forces to do the work. There is now deposited in one of the foreign banks in Hongkong $70,000 collected in Singapore, $20,000 from other places, and this will be used in future to revive the rebellion. His whereabouts at present are unknown, but he is the silent force behind the movement.

A translation of the letter received from Hongkong reads:

There has been captured in Canton the ammunition and supplies made ready for this uprising. Among them was one suit of red clothes for the president of the new republic, and the capital was to be Canton City; ten black flags to be raised over the different gates of the city or guard houses, 2,100 soldiers' uniforms, 2,100 army blankets (red California blankets), 1,100 boxes of guns, 1,500 pairs of grass sandals, 885 boxes of soda crackers, 75 cans of corn beef, 20 bolts of red cloth, 120 pairs of scissors, 2,200 foreign hats (American), 9 tents, 18 bundles of lamp wicks, 75 knives, 1,750 cartridge belts, 9 hatchets, 38 horns, boxes of teas, Chinese sausages, other provisions and all sorts of war ammunition. These things were all sent from Hongkong. The governor of Hongkong on the night of the 28th of January sent soldiers to arrest the proprietor of the Kwong Saam clothing store, where the garments were made, and Yee Yuen, a commission merchant, where the food was purchased; also Yee Wa Tong, owner of the shipping boats which they were sent to Canton on. In this latter place proclamations against the present dynasty were found, telling them to do away with the present Manchu dynasty and return to the dynasty of Haan, the dynasty just before the present one.

At Sun Yee Tong store, Tong Hing street, in Canton, a number of these proclamations were found, and all of the stores were closed by the government. In Honan (which means south of the river), the southern part of Canton, in the Fung village 500 boxes of bread were found. A suit of red clothes for the new president of the republic, a number of suits of soldiers' uniforms and flags were found; also a number of pamphlets called "the comfort of the heart of the people in regard to this new movement," telling them that it was for their good and that they would not be harmed.

Arrests were made and a number of men are confined in the jail at Canton at present, but no executions have taken place, because the officials are afraid, as practically the whole province of Canton belongs to this rebel organization, which is known by the name of Chinese Free Masons. The men who were arrested in Hongkong employed English lawyers and were released from custody.

Leung Mo Kwong, the first lieutenant of Heung Kum Luk, is now in prison in Canton. A number of boats belonging to this party were also captured.

The Foreign Concession, the Shamien, is guarded by three gunboats, and the bridges leading to the mainland are held by the foreign police. The Pearl of Pearl river, the island just below the Shamien, where the forts are located and which is practically in the middle of Canton City, is well fortified with soldiers and ammunition, and the Chinese guard boats are also there.

The rebels intended to enter by the north gate of the city, over which is built the five-story pagoda, one of the noted sights of Canton. This is doubly guarded, as is also the other gates of the city.

The Millinery Openings

Dame Fashion Has Decreed That Flat Hats Shall Be de Rigeur.

Many New Styles Noticed a the Shows Made By Local Milliners.

The spring millinery was "it" yesterday. The millinery was "it" with a capital I. In the various stores the invasion of femininity was on all day. The displays were—to quote the ladies—"too sweet for words." This phrase expresses it. There are many changes noticeable in the showings at the various millinery openings this season, and in the main the patterns shown at the various centres on the Pacific coast are similar. The flat hat, large and very flat with a [illegible] ors which ruled last year having been banished—in which flowers, fruits, foliage and ribbons played the chief parts in the decoration, will now and then a long buckle, in striking comparison with the small square buckles of last year, was most noticeable. The boat-shaped style with the standard crown, and the tricorne—a pattern from the Paris milliners which is different to any previously, being altered much at the back—vie with the flat shapes in the most noticeable styles. The flat and boat shape styles seem to be usurping the place of the Russian turban and the toque, although both turbans and toques of new styles are still very fashionable.

The patterns from Paris this season run mostly to clusters of fruit and foliage, with ribbons that are softer in tone than the more striking colors which marked last year's openings. In many cases the milliners have hidden the new work shape in a profusion of fruit, alder berries, or foliage. The fruit is modelled most naturally, and the flowers are perfected. The little square gold or steel buckle has given way to long buckles, some being noticed fully 15 inches long. Another noticeable change is in the manner in which the plumes are being used this season. Instead of running from front to back as last year, the plumes are stretched across the crown.

The colors are striking in their softness of tone this season, when the brilliant colors which were in vogue last season by reason of the Coronation, the bright red and even harsh colorings which were then worn. The colors of this season's hats run from the light fawn champagne color, gauzy in its soft tone, to the rich, but velvety-looking dark wood green. A pretty water green is also much in evidence, and many hats are seen at some of the openings in which the milliner knows as "bluette" form a large part in the composition. The shadings everywhere are softer, lighter, and lacking in any of the harsher tints which marked many of last season's productions of the centres of millinery.

At Spencer's Arcade, Misses Workman and Duff, and their staff were kept busy all day yesterday by the invasion of ladies who came to try on the new season's patterns. The millinery room on the first floor of the Arcade was tastefully decorated by the milliners, bromeries and screens being used, as well as palms and flora with artistic effect, and all told the cases and stands of the latest patterns of spring millinery presented a pretty picture.

At the Westside there was also a large display, and Miss Crowthers and her staff were kept on the move to try on and show the stock of millinery. The show room had been decorated in a green effect, in keeping with the day, and what with cosy corners, screens, draperies, etc., the effect was a bright one. The new jackets, which are short-cut Etons, strikingly different from those in vogue last season, and new skirts with slot seams, have arrived here. At the White House Miss Shannon has an attractive display, and the inrush of visitors to view the confections of the milliner's art was large. Here, as elsewhere, the flat hats predominate, and some striking effects in black and white were noticeable. The decorations, as elsewhere, were noticeably flowers, foliage, and ribbons.

At the show rooms of Mrs. Vigor, Mrs. Bickford, the Elite and other milliners' establishments, there was also a good showing—and a good attendance, the ladies having taken advantage of the bright weather to turn out in force.

A SOUTH AMERICAN EMEUTE.

Montevideo, Uruguay, March 16.—A revolution has broken out in the departments of Rivera, Floces and Maldonald. The government does not attach any importance to the movement.

ELECTION PETITION DISMISSED.

Protest in North Gray Thrown Out on Technical Grounds.

Toronto, March 17.—Judge Maclennan today dismissed the election petition against A. S. Mackey, M.P.P., North Gray, on the technical ground that a copy of the petition had not been filed at the office of the local registrar, Owen Sound.

Lumber Men In Council

Loggers and Mill Men Formulate Plans For Joint Action.

Meeting in Vancouver Discloses a Great Variance of Opinions.

School Board Seek Means to Reduce the Cost of Books.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, March 17.—The executive of the Tourist Association met last night and as a result of the resignation of the secretary, decided to ask for applications for the position, to be in before Saturday next.

Loggers and mill men met tonight and discussed the proposed amendment to the timber laws of the province. The loggers presented their views and the millmen said they would answer them on Friday in the hopes of presenting a joint petition to the government. The views of the mill men and loggers, however, appeared at the meeting to be widely at variance. The mill men fear over-production, and wish the special license law rescinded and the timber put up to the highest bidder. The loggers are satisfied with the license plan, but wish to make it still easier to take up timber.

Prof. Wesley Mills of the McGill College, who will act as judge in the forthcoming dog show in Victoria, will be in Vancouver on the 24th instant, and it has been arranged that besides lecturing to the Medical Society, he will give a lecture on the dog, illustrated with 200 lantern slides.

The city is arranging to give a fixed annual sum per year to the hospital governors for the maintenance of the aged poor.

The School Board has decided to communicate with a number of cities with a view of diminishing the high cost of school books to pupils. A committee was appointed to take the matter in hand.

The auditor's report shows that the Jockey Club has not paid in any percentage of gate receipts as per agreement, and that the Board of Works, Police committee, Water committee and Park committee had overdrawn their appropriations.

The secretary's report at the annual meeting of the Brockton Point Association shows the receipts to have been $6,707.13, and the expenditures, $6,005.30.

BRITISH SETTLERS FOR THE WEST

Train Load of the Finest Specimens Leave Montreal For Prairies.

Montreal, March 17.—A train of 12 cars left Windsor station at one o'clock today with 700 of the finest English, Irish and Scotch settlers for Canadian West that have ever been seen here.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADES.

Eastern Canada Witness Usual Gathering of Ardent Irishmen.

Montreal, March 17.—Irishmen of Eastern Canada celebrated St. Patrick's Day by the usual processions and services at the Roman Catholic churches. The weather was misty and dull in most places, but this did not dampen the ardor of Irishmen, who turned out in large numbers.

KING OF SAXONY TO HIS PEOPLE.

Condemns Princess Louise In an Open Letter to Subjects.

Dresden, March 17.—The King of Saxony has written an open letter to his people, thanking them with his whole heart for the proof of their sympathy with him in the "recent sad misfortune," which had befallen him and his family. His Majesty expressed the hope that the excitement "which seized on a large section of the people in consequence of the event last winter" will now give place to quietude and comfort. In conclusion, the King begs the people not to believe those that aver that behind all this miserable business lies a tissue of falsehood and deception," but to believe the word of your King that this infinitely painful affair arose solely from the unpardonable passion of a woman who had long since fallen.

REVOLUTION IN PORTUGAL

Rioting Leads to Veritable State of Seige and Eight are Killed.

Madrid, March 16.—Rioting broke out in Coimbra today. Coimbra is the capital of the province of Beira, Portugal, with a population of 13,400. It is situated on the Mondejo and is 110 miles North of Lisbon. According to a dispatch to El Liberal from Coimbra, the Portuguese government has prohibited the sending out of news regarding the rioting, but it is known that the tax collectors have fled and a veritable revolution exists. El Liberal asserts that a state of seige was proclaimed at Coimbra four days ago, and the disturbances continue. Eight inhabitants, it says, were killed and a number of persons, including several soldiers were wounded.

WRIGHT ARRESTED IN NEW YORK.

New York, March 16.—J. Whittaker Wright, the London promoter, accused of fraud in connection with various financial corporations, was arrested here yesterday at the request of London police upon his arrival on the French line steamer La Touraine. With Wright was a young woman who was on the passenger list as Miss F. Brown, and whom Wright represented as his niece. Wright was at once turned over to the United States authorities and taken to Ludlow street jail. Whittaker Wright, who was arrested yesterday at the request of the London police, was taken to the Federal building today to be arraigned before Commissioner Alexander. Miss Flora Brown, said to be his niece, who arrived with him yesterday, and who disappeared from Albemarle hotel later in the day, went to the office of United States Marshal Henkel with her counsel. She was not a prisoner.

A motion was made before United States Commissioner Alexander today to permit the United States marshal to turn over to Miss Brown a large portion of the money found upon Wright when he was arrested. Miss Brown claimed that £100 was her own and that a large sum in addition had been intrusted to her by her aunt, and that she in turn had given it to Wright for safekeeping. The marshal decided to turn £100 over to Miss Brown for her immediate necessities. The number of larger notes are to be cabled to England at once to see if they are wanted there in connection with any of the alleged swindles with which Wright is charged.