

THE COMMISSION.

The Canadian boundary commissioners may not be absolutely unbiased in sentiment, but they will approach the questions to be submitted to them with an absolutely unbiased mind, and they are "jurists of repute." Lord Alverstone, Chief Justice of England, Sir Louis Jetté, late Chief Justice of Quebec, and Mr. Justice Armour, a puisne judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, are to represent the Dominion on the Commission, and, as has been well said, their appointment is the most effective protest that could be made to the American interpretation of a treaty calling for "jurists of repute." Sir Louis Jetté is an accomplished French scholar, and his knowledge of what was once the exclusive language of diplomacy is of great assistance to his colleagues apart from his legal attainments. Lord Alverstone is a member of the Canadian-American Joint High Commission, and is already familiar with all the bearings of the case which will be laid before the court by that gifted son of Canada, Edward Blake. Mr. Armour is an ex-Chief Justice of Ontario, a man of keen intellect and of almost unequalled experience on the bench. With such representatives and such a staff as has been appointed to prepare their case, Canadians may be prepared to receive the findings of the commission with equanimity. Messrs. Root, Lodge and Turner are no doubt very "smart" men, but if they prevail against our half of the tribunal, it will be because they have the stronger case and deserve to win. If they refuse to concede points upon which an impartial court would give way, at least our case will be strengthened and we can abide our time.

CANADA'S PROGRESS.

Hon. W. S. Fielding has had the privilege of submitting to Parliament several remarkable financial statements. We regret exceedingly that Mr. George B. Foster has been denied the privilege of criticizing the budget speech which will be delivered in the course of a few weeks. It would be so very interesting to observe what form the fault-finding of the most captious of political critics would take. It is admitted there is no other member on the opposition capable of offering serious criticism of a budget speech. It has been said that Mr. Foster is a political failure because he lacks imagination and is devoid of human sympathy. The ex-Finance Minister is down and out now, and we do not like to kick a man who is prostrate; but we have heard men of his own political faith describe him as a "cold-blooded creature." As for lack of imagination, no one who remembers the budget speeches he used to deliver will bring such a charge against him. His works while he was Finance Minister were practically all of the imagination. After he crossed to the opposition side and his prediction that the people of the Dominion would be ruined under the Liberal policy had failed of realization, Mr. Foster took refuge in the position that the alleged prosperity was a myth. He contended that the apparent activity was produced by an inflation of values, and that the wealth of Canada had, as a matter of fact, not increased at all. Now that all the financial and industrial journals of the Dominion, or organs which hold themselves entirely aloof from politics, are filled from cover to cover with glowing accounts of the remarkable prosperity of the times, it would be specially interesting to read what Mr. Foster has to say on the subject. But that cannot be, we are sorry to say, for Mr. Foster is not only defeated and ill, but he has been viciously assailed by the newspapers from which it was his right to expect sympathy in his day of tribulation.

Whoever the successor of the ex-Finance Minister may be, we do not envy him his task of attempting to combat certain facts. The year 1902 was the best in the history of the Dominion. There was a remarkable increase in the country's wealth. Capital investments were large. Manufacturing and agricultural outputs were unprecedented. Banks increased capital to extend business by opening new branches, and bank stock prices advanced. Commercial failures greatly decreased, while immigration rapidly increased. Railway earnings and commerce and bank figures reflected an exceptional prosperity.

Government income for the last half of 1902 was \$31,262,862, a surplus over ordinary expenditures of \$11,713,174. Comparing with the last half of 1901, income shows an increase of over \$3,500,000 and expenditures less than \$500,000. Canada's total foreign trade for the last half of the year was \$231,342,201, or \$18,110,592 more than for the same period of 1901, and \$10,839,384 more than for the whole of 1896. Exports were \$125,301,466, an increase of \$11,732,706, and imports \$106,040,735, an increase of \$7,637,428.

The three leading Canadian railroads, Canadian Pacific, Grand Trunk and Intercolonial, reported combined gross earnings for the year of \$75,678,842, a joint increase of \$7,364,562, or 18 per cent., and far exceeding any previous total.

Traffic passing through the Canadian canal at Sault Ste. Marie was 4,714,004 tons, against 2,791,280 tons, an increase of 69 per cent.

Immigrants numbered 67,370, an increase of 18,230. The Manitoba grain crop passed the 100,000,000 bushel mark, against 85,000,000 bushels in 1901.

The remarkable growth in banking

may be indicated by the fact that paid-up capital increased from \$67,548,000 to \$71,137,000, circulation from \$57,364,000 to \$65,926,000, deposits from \$309,805,000 to \$408,182,000, and loans from \$379,803,000 to \$413,821,000. Since 1872 capital has increased 85 per cent. and deposits 717 per cent. Bank clearings for the year were \$2,475,877,393, an increase of 21 per cent.

The lumber industry had a pronounced growth, as indicated by the increase in transatlantic shipments from New Brunswick from 398,874,725 to 451,578,691 feet. A remarkable expansion is expected to be shown also by the statements of the iron and steel output.

THEY DO NEED IT.

Rev. Dr. Caven, an eminent Presbyterian divine of Toronto, says editors need praying. The doctor is right. If the preachers had to toil as incessantly as editors, and in the midst of their work were subject to such interruptions as editors are, they would need praying too, and that most fervent.

We wonder the idea of praying for editors had not occurred to some of the ministers before. We have heard many of them express supreme contempt for the press when they might have been better employed interceding for it and petitioning that its representatives might be endowed with the strength necessary to bear their cross.

We think Dr. Caven was perhaps irritated by the thought of recent occurrences in Ontario. The press is apparently of the opinion that the people of that most righteous province have been educated up to the point of being in favor of prohibition of the liquor traffic. Editors suggest that prohibition has been very far from a success in the states where it had been given a trial. There were the records of the courts and the reports of competent authorities in substantiation of this. Since then several of the municipalities in the prohibition states have reverted to the license system after many years of trial of the more drastic method for the suppression of the vice of drunkenness. Many of the preachers will not be convinced by such evidence that it would not be better for Ontario to be under an absolute prohibition rather than a strict license law. The editors are satisfied that it would be very unwise to attempt to enforce prohibition. They move in a circle composed of practical men of affairs. They know that many law-abiding persons, solid citizens, the backbone of the country, would refuse to be bound under the provisions of such a law if it were passed. Therefore, apart altogether from the antagonism of other elements, this factor alone would be sufficient to render nugatory the attempts to entirely stop the sale of liquor. For such reasons the press generally advocates strict regulation of the traffic rather than the passage of what are termed summary laws, abhorred by the Britisher, who is a devout believer in the fullest amount of personal liberty. The preacher is an idealist, and is surrounded by idealists. Rev. J. A. MacDonald, recently appointed editor of the Toronto Globe, has probably found this out, has imparted his information to his reverend brethren, and is perhaps responsible for the idea that editors need praying for.

OUR WATER SUPPLY.

Water Commissioner Raymur explains in defence of his scheme for putting every water service in the city under meter that "he does not think one house in five hundred, of the dimensions mentioned (four, five and six-roomed houses) 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." Does it not strike Mr. Raymur as the maximum of absurdity to propose to install five hundred and one meters at an average cost, we understand, of from ten to fifteen dollars, for the purpose of checking the one household in the lot that is in the habit of wasting water? Surely that would not be an economic movement, and it would seem to be a hopeless task to attempt to convince any reasonable person that it would not result in an increase of prices to the consumers of water. If only one household in five hundred of the classes specified would be affected by the installation of meters, it would manifestly be necessary to impose a heavy burden upon the mere fractional remainder, because the water works must be made self-sustaining. Obviously, therefore, the interest and sinking fund on account of the first cost of the meters, the expense of installation and the salaries of the readers and repair men would fall upon the fractional few. They would be compelled to bear the burden for all. That would be a fine arrangement for the occupants of all houses of six rooms and under. But we fear it would not be tolerated. There would be a clamor for an equitable distribution of the load. Private purveyors of such necessities of life as light find it necessary to impose a charge—and they do not hesitate to clap on a good stiff one—for meter rent. The city would be compelled to do the same. If the impost were not brought about automatically through the change of system, it would be adjusted in some other way.

The question of a water supply is a very serious one, and any proposed radical departure from established custom should be very carefully considered before they are concurred in by the representatives of the people. Other cities have wrestled valiantly with the problem. Not one in Canada (and very few of prominence in the United States) has thought it advisable to impose meters upon households. There are good reasons for this, we may be sure, and they are easily discovered. Consciousness of the fact that every gallon of water used was measured and would have to be paid for would necessarily in a great majority of houses have a tendency to promote economy. Only by the practice of the strictest economy in every department of administration in the average household can the head of it make ends meet. The sanitary and health officers in all cities believe that by encouraging the use of water, the most effective sanitary agent, the physical well-being of the community is greatly promoted. Hence we find that in almost every city the problem of a sufficient water supply is constantly arising. The individual who is wasteful, extravagant and which has been considered by most of them, but we have yet to hear of one who has proposed to impose a check upon five hundred consumers for the purpose of preventing wastefulness on the part of one.

There is another reason why this matter should be gone about cautiously. The weakness about the Victoria system is a lack of pressure at certain seasons of the year. Would the general installation of meters remove that weakness? It certainly would not if the consumption should be checked in merely a fractional part of the households. The great object of civic water works is to furnish a plentiful supply of water at the lowest possible rate to citizens. To accomplish this it is necessary that the works shall be operated at the lowest possible cost. Would the installation of meters upon every service have the effect of decreasing the cost of operation? That is a question for the aldermen to consider and answer. There should be but little difficulty in arriving at a decision. There are meters in the service at the present time. Do they work satisfactorily at all times and to all concerns? Has the experience with them been such as to justify their general adoption? In what way could the cost of procuring, installing, repairing and reading meters be met without increasing the cost of water to the consumers? These are the matters, we presume, that are puzzling the minds of ratepayers.

We are glad to observe that the Colonist takes such a deep interest in the policeman of Toronto. A dollar and a half a day does not seem to be adequate remuneration for an able-bodied man. (We understand that all Toronto policemen must approach six feet in height.) But it must not be forgotten that the Ontario point of view and the British Columbia point of view are quite widely divergent. The Glasgow, the London, or even the Edinburgh, bobby might consider the Toronto guardian very well paid indeed. And we can remember the time when there were about a dozen applications for every vacancy on the ill-paid Toronto force. But the great N. P. was in operation then. Now it is considered necessary to raise the pay in order to keep men on the force. Wages are so high and labor so scarce in other occupations that the policeman's lot is not considered an enviable one.

We call the attention of our readers to a letter on the water problem from Mr. Justice Martin. Our correspondent deals with the subject frankly and vigorously, and carries it into new and, we believe, more acutely controversial regions. Practically we do not know why, if we can buy water more cheaply from the Esquimalt Water Works Company than it costs us delivered under our own system, we should not take advantage of the privilege. It is asserted that such is the case, although we beg to express doubts upon the subject until we have received a confirmatory report from some one who can speak with authority. Even if the correctness of the report can be demonstrated, it will be found that there is a very strong sentiment in favor of the city retaining absolute control of its water supply. The subject is an interesting and important one.

A bill has been introduced into the Imperial House of Commons to amend the Label Law. It provides that no action for the recovery of damages against the proprietor, editor or publisher of a newspaper shall be commenced without first convincing the Attorney-General or the Solicitor-General that there is reasonable ground for action. The object of the bill is to prevent the instituting of proceedings on frivolous pretexts with the object of leaving blackmailers, scoundrels, and other scoundrels in possession of the money they need in Canada. There are few law newspapers that have not been at one time or another compelled to deal with those blackmailers and to fight or settle vexatious suits that were but legally disguised attempts at robbery.

Oh! Paddy, have you heard the news? Shamrock Hill has been launched and is going to lift the America Cup, all the tenants in Ireland are soon to become landlords, and it is said the present government has been almost persuaded to grant home rule. This is a great day for the Emerald Isle. May the prospects become more rosy with each recurring 17th, and may all the worthy sons of a brilliant race forget the sufferings and misunderstandings of the past—evils from which Ireland was not the only sufferer—and join heartily in the work of the Empire builders.

Vienna, March 17.—A dispatch from Bucharest, Rumania, published in Die Zeit to-day, says: "Miss Astor, daughter of William Waldorf Astor, is engaged to marry Jonel Bratianu, the Rumanian foreign minister. Miss Astor is now visiting the Rumanian Crown Prince's family. Bratianu is a son of the late Jean Bratianu, the distinguished statesman whose monument shortly will be unveiled at Bucharest."

Close of Convention. Delegates representing Chinese Empire Reform Association finished work Monday Night. The Chinese Empire Reform Association held another meeting Monday night in the rooms of the society on Government street, when the delegates from the Chinese Empire Reform Association met for the closing session. Most of the members of the organization from the mainland left Monday night for their homes. Leong Kai Cheu, Wong Wai Gen and Fow Chee will remain over until Friday or Saturday in this city. The latter, whose name appeared incorrectly as Palo Chen in yesterday's issue, acts as interpreter for the other two leaders. After leaving here they will go to the mainland of British Columbia and afterwards to San Francisco, where Wong Wai Gen will go to the meetings of his scheme for a banking house financed by the Reform Association.

In conversation Fow Chee says that by means of the newspaper published by Leong Kai Cheu in Japan the organization is rapidly growing in the Chinese Empire itself. The paper has a wide circulation among the official classes in China, and is doing much to foster a disposition for an "open door policy" in the Empire. The reforming of the Empire will be followed by the reform of the world, and Fow Chee has to act as his chief advisers. The former of these, who visited Victoria yesterday afternoon, is now visiting the British protection, awaiting the turn in the East to exercise his control over the government.

NEILL TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT

INSTRUCTED TO DO SO BY HIS COMMITTEE

Doesn't Think the Present Opposition Will Fill the Bill—General News of Alberni.

(Special Correspondence of The Times.) We have had a long winter in this the most westerly town of the Dominion. I think we are entitled to that small geographical distinction—if not, I apologize. The idea of geography reminds me that we have now three separate schools within three miles walk of the post office, and if we add the school at Beaver Creek, about six miles off, it would appear that education is not neglected in this locality. The latest official annual report, 1901-2, gives a total of 67 children, 29 boys and 38 girls, with an average daily attendance of 48. The trustees paid 17 and other persons 43 visits in the year. What a help and encouragement it would be to school teachers if parents and friends paid more visits to the schools. The latest report only refers to the two older schools, and these schools give the following educational results: "System good; interest keen; manual work fair; reading good; progress satisfactory." So much for the rising generation—our successors.

We have been a pretty much played-out locality during this winter, and we are all longing for a change. It is difficult to realize that this is the same Alberni which we used to talk so hopefully about only two or three years ago. The place is what one can imagine the doctors describing as abominably healthy. The local medical health officer reports 16 births and 4 deaths registered in 1902, and 17 births and 4 deaths for 1901. The area from which these returns come has a white population of about 500. The Indian population is given at 194, with 4 births and 4 deaths in the year.

With the exception of a case of measles in an adult who brought it from the "other side," the district has not had a single case of infectious disease in the last seven or eight years. Scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid and the like are absolutely unknown. What a splendid place for a sanatorium! If the energetic would endow such an institution at Sprout Lake among our local Alpine scenery we could hold out hopes of long life and a happy existence to many of your Victorian friends.

A. Neill, M. P. P., had a meeting with his committee on Saturday last. He has recently been to Victoria to "size up" the situation, and he gave them the benefit of his enquiries. He is by no means disposed to surrender himself tied and bound to the government, but he shares with a large number of persons the desire to avoid the injury, inconvenience and loss of time which a dissolution at present would involve, and he is by no means satisfied that the present official position is capable of filling the bill in the event of a change. He is prepared to support the government in their efforts to carry through necessary public business, and his committee have authorized him to do so, with a view to future developments. He is as keen as ever in his opposition to Mr. Martin, and so retains the support of all his constituents, whose sympathies go that way. He does not express any fear even of the Canada vote, if he should ever be called upon to exploit it.

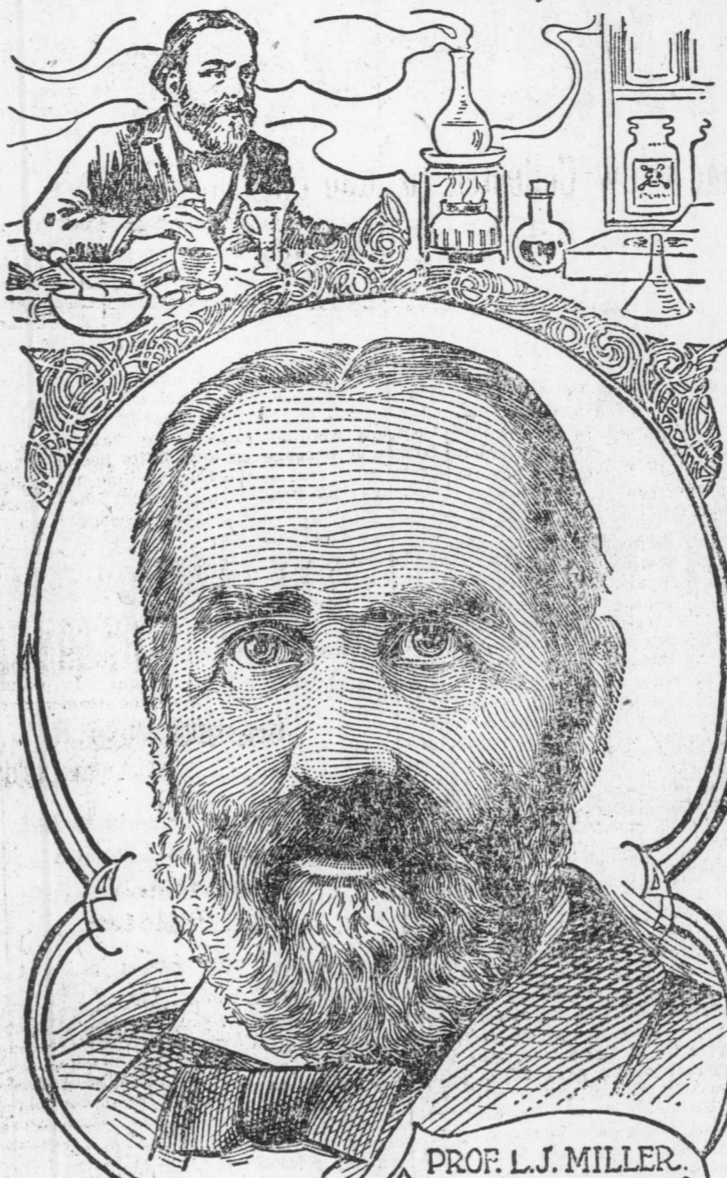
There is no doubt about the canneries. The contract for the lumber for building and for construction of the Bird and the other canneries, and already itself is let to Mr. Forrest, and already the piles are accumulating on the shore. The actual site is still a matter of choice between two localities, one at Stamp Harbor, below the new wharfe, and the other on the Sumas river at Alberni.

We are much interested in the anthracite coal field and other possible coal developments at Comox and Comoxland, and look forward to its finding its way to "Frisco via Stamp Harbor."

ENGAGED TO MINISTER. Vienna, March 17.—A dispatch from Bucharest, Rumania, published in Die Zeit to-day, says: "Miss Astor, daughter of William Waldorf Astor, is engaged to marry Jonel Bratianu, the Rumanian foreign minister. Miss Astor is now visiting the Rumanian Crown Prince's family. Bratianu is a son of the late Jean Bratianu, the distinguished statesman whose monument shortly will be unveiled at Bucharest."

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

Reveals That "Pe-ru-na is Calculated to Tone up the System, Restore the Functions and Procure Health."



Prof. L. J. Miller, late Professor of Chemistry and Botany of the Illinois School of Ypsilanti, Mich., writes from 327 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Ill., as follows: "As several of my friends have spoken to me of the favorable results obtained through the use of Peruna, especially in cases of catarrh, I examined it most thoroughly to learn its contents. 'I found it composed of extracts of herbs and barks of most valuable medicinal qualities combined with other ingredients, delicately balanced, calculated to tone up the system, restore the functions and procure health. 'I consider Peruna one of the most skillfully and scientifically prepared medicines, which the public can use with safety and success.'—PROF. L. J. MILLER.

FUNERALS TUESDAY.

Remains of Late Capt. Bendroit Interred Tuesday—Large Number Floral Tributes.

There was a large attendance of friends at the funeral of the late Capt. James Peter Bendroit, which took place Tuesday afternoon from the family residence, No. 30 Quebec street, at 2:30 o'clock, and later at St. James church. The religious services were conducted by Rev. J. H. Sweet. Appropriate hymns were sung at the church. The Old Fellows, of which deceased was a respected member, attended in a body. The I. O. O. F. brothers were conducted by Noble Grand Bro. E. Millington, assisted by Bro. A. Graham. The following acted as pall-bearers: Capt. Irving, Capt. Gaudin, Capt. Bucknam, Capt. Newby, Capt. Cox, W. Cullum, H. Saunders and P. Hickey. There were many beautiful floral tributes showing the esteem in which the deceased captain was held by his numerous friends and acquaintances. Among those who sent floral offerings were the following: Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Robinson, wreath; Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Fleming, cross; Mrs. Morrison and family, bouquet; Mr. and Mrs. Watson, bouquet; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, anchor; Mrs. Colin Black, bouquet; Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Macintosh, anchor; Mrs. W. Spring, bouquet; Mrs. Storck, wreath; Victoria Pilots, anchor; Mr. and Mrs. McGuire, bouquet; Mrs. Elliott, wreath; Mr. and Mrs. Widdowson, bouquet; Mrs. Logan, bouquet; Mr. and Mrs. Groer, bouquet; Mrs. Babbington, wreath; Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, bouquet; Mr. and Mrs. Morley, wreath; Mrs. Lang, bouquet; Mr. and Mrs. Kershaw, wreath; Mr. and Mrs. Foster, bouquet; Capt. and Mrs. Butler, broken column; Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, bouquet; Mr. and Miss Easton, wreath; Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Pound, bouquet; Miss White, wreath; W. W. E. Cullum, cross; Nanaimo Pilot Commissioners, anchor; Otto Gardner, cross; Mr. and Mrs. Otto Weiler, cross; Mrs. Jeffrey, bouquet; Brother Skippers, anchor; Mr. and Mrs. James Dunsinuir, anchor; Capt. Christensen, sr., anchor; Capt. Christensen, jr., links; Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin, wreath; Mr. and Mrs. Austin, scythe; Miss Davidson, bouquet; Capt. and Mrs. Yate, square and compass; Capt. and Mrs. Owen, cross; Capt. Pedersen, heart; Capt. and Mrs. Cutler, wreath; Mr. and Mrs. Hunter, Nanaimo, bouquet; H. Gordon, Nanaimo, bouquet; Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Cullum, wreath; Dr. and Mrs. O. M. Jones, wreath; Mr. and Mrs. King, bouquet; Mr. and Mrs. S. Shires, cross; Misses O'Sullivan, wreath; Mr. and Mrs. Vincent, wreath; Mrs. Bentley, bouquet; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Brown, bouquet; Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien, bouquet; Mr. and Mrs. H. Erskins, bouquet; Mr. and Mrs. T. Watson, wreath.

Yesterday afternoon the funeral of the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Gillis, of Johnson street, took place. Services were conducted by Rev. Father Latour.

The remains of the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Tite, of Johnson street, were interred yesterday afternoon. Rev. Westman conducted religious services. There was a large attendance.

The funeral of the late Angus McNeill will take place to-morrow afternoon from the family residence, No. 1 Fenwick street.

INQUEST POSTPONED. The coroner's inquest consequent upon the death of the late Alfred Anderson was postponed Tuesday afternoon until next Tuesday. The jury consisted of Capt. Wallace Langley, foreman, and Thos. Birks, William Johnson, Henry Turner, Andrew Blyth and Antoine Lynn. George Powell was present on behalf of the relatives of the deceased while Chas. H. Lugin has been retained to look after the interests of Jeffs. The jury inspected the remains at the morgue after which the inquest was formally adjourned.

Much sympathy is felt for the relatives of the deceased on whom his death inflicted a cruel and sudden blow. When he was carried to his room and put in bed it was thought that after a few hours' sleep he would be all right. He apparently began to improve and this strengthened the belief of his parents that he would be himself again in a short time. It was therefore with poignant alarm that it was noted about three o'clock that he hadn't changed his position in bed and it was not until the arrival of the doctor that they became aware of the seriousness of the case.

As stated he passed away a short time after the doctor arrived, and his parents are assured by medical men that even had surgical skill been summoned earlier, no relief could have been afforded. The funeral has been arranged for this afternoon from the family residence and St. Andrews' Presbyterian church.

ARBITRATING LABOR DISPUTES. James Dunsinuir in Favor of Selection of the Chief Justice—A Report Denied.

An Associated Press dispatch couples the name of James Dunsinuir with the statement that there is a connection between the Western Federation of Miners and the Copper Trust of New York, which accounts for the present strikes in British Columbia mines. The statement ascribed to Mr. Dunsinuir is entirely misleading, and does not represent his opinion in the matter. Some days ago when the theory of a collusion between these two was first advanced, the opinion of Mr. Dunsinuir was sought by a representative of the Times. He then expressed himself as disbelieving that any connection existed between the Mining Federations and the Copper Trust.

Mr. Dunsinuir has pronounced views upon the question of arbitrating labor troubles. He does not favor the reference of these matters to politicians. Upon that ground he does not approve

of Premier Prior as an arbitrator in the C. P. R. strike. There are dangers, he contends, in politicians entering into all these matters. He favors as an arbitrator in all these cases the Chief Justice, against whom no partiality could be urged, and who could have no ends to serve in the decision given.

EMPHATIC DENIAL. Mr. Dunsinuir Contradicts Report That He Ordered Dismissal of Non-Unionists From Steamers.

President Thompson, of the British Columbia Steamship Union, stated Wednesday that he had received notice by telegram from James Dunsinuir, head of the firm of R. Dunsinuir & Sons, to the effect that all members of the union must be removed from his vessels. This action is the first that has been taken in regard to these. It will affect some five or six steamers, these being the City of Nanaimo, which plies on the Comox route, the Joan, which runs between Nanaimo and Vancouver, and the tugboats Pilot, Lorne and Czar. On all these steamers a union man will be employed. He out, says Mr. Thompson, and care will be taken to classify the steamers running in the coal service as "scab" vessels.

On the other hand Mr. Dunsinuir denies emphatically that he has given orders that members of the B. C. Steamships' Union are to be discharged from all vessels under his control.

He says that the tug Pilot left their work yesterday. When the information was brought him by the captain he gave instructions to get another crew. When asked whether it should be a union or non-union crew he said it did not matter to him. Later in the day the places not having been filled were brought that the old members were ready to return. He agreed finally to this, not specifying whether the men should be union or non-union. He has given no orders, however, respecting the discharge of the union men on his vessels.

VALUABLE CONCESSION. By Mexican Government to Company Which Is Building a Railway.

Austin, Tex., March 16.—A dispatch from Chihuahua, Mexico, says that the Mexican government has granted a concession to Arthur E. Stillwell, president of the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient railroad, for the utilization of the timber on two million acres situated in the western part of that state. It is the purpose of the railway company to establish a number of large mills in the timber region through which the road will pass.

London, March 18.—It is announced that the government is contemplating the appointment of a royal commission to consider the advisability of a reform of the marriage laws.

"Builds up the System." Hon. Joseph H. Ridgeway, Secretary of the American Anti-Traff Society, writes the following letter from the Grand Central Hotel, St. Paul, Minn.: "It is with great pleasure that I endorse Peruna as an honest medicine, competent to do all it claims. I have used it several times and know of nothing that cures so completely, and at the same time builds up the system."

"I have recommended it to a number of my friends and always feel that I do them a service for I know how satisfactory the results invariably are. I only wish every family had a bottle—it would save much sickness and doctor bills."—Joseph H. Ridgeway.

"Feel Better Than for Five Years." Mr. James B. Taylor, Roberts, Ind., writes: "I am at the present time entirely well. I can eat anything I ever could. I took five bottles of Peruna, and feel better now than I have for five years. I have doctored with other doctors off and on for fifteen years, so I can recommend your medicine very highly for stomach troubles. I take great pleasure in thanking you for your free advice and Peruna."—James B. Taylor.

"I Enjoy my Meals as I Used to." Mr. J. W. Pritchard, Wolf Lake, Ind., writes: "I am pleased to say that I have been cured of catarrh of the stomach by Peruna. I could hardly eat anything, but agreed with me. Before I would get half through my meal my stomach would fill with gas causing me much distress and unpleasant feelings for an hour or two after each meal. But, thanks to your Peruna, I am now completely cured, and can eat anything I want to without any of the distressing symptoms. I can now enjoy my meals as I used to, and it is all due to Dr. Hartman and his wonderful medicine, Peruna."

"It has been one year since I was cured, and I am all O. K. yet, so I know I am cured."—J. W. Pritchard. Dyspepsia is a very common phase of stomach catarrh. A remedy that will cure catarrh of one location will cure it anywhere. Peruna cures catarrh wherever located. That it is a prompt and permanent cure for catarrh of the stomach the above letters testify.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis. Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, Ohio.

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REGULAR MEETING HOSPITAL BOARD

INTERESTING SESSION HELD ON TUES.

Committee Report on Revision of Laws for Nurses' Training School—Other Business.

There was almost a full attendance at the meeting of the board of directors of the Provincial Jubilee hospital on Tuesday at the board of trade rooms. Results relating to the cost of maintenance of the isolation hospital were submitted by Mayor McCandless, and were referred to the house committee for report at the board at the next meeting. In meantime copies of the statistics were circulated among all the directors so that at the next session they will be in a position to discuss the matter fully and intelligently. Among those present were H. D. Holmbeck, Mr. P. J. who occupied the chair, and Messrs. Davies, Shaw, Braverman, Lewis, Humphrey, W. Forman, Drury, Todd, Pemberton, Day. After the reading of the minutes President C. A. Holland arrived, and chair was vacated in his favor.

Mayor McCandless wrote drawing attention of the board to statistics showing the cost to the city of the maintenance of the isolation hospital. He pressed the hope that the proposed Jubilee to assume direction of the institution would receive favorable consideration at the hands of the directors. This was laid on the table for consideration after the transaction of the most business. The statistics included figures showing the receipts and expenditure of the isolation hospital during the years 1901 and 1902. The number of patients treated yearly and the total days' care yearly were given. The latter was 1,426. The diseases treated each month were enumerated, and the total cost of maintenance was shown. These figures showed that while there was no increase in expenditure in the cost of the maintenance there was practically no income whatever.

A communication was next read from the secretary of the Women's Auxiliary referring to the inconsistency of the board's action in promising some time ago that the first work of improvement would be the construction of "A Children's Ward," and then deciding to construct "A Maternity Ward."

Mr. Lewis had forgotten the board's former action in favoring the building a maternity ward.

Mr. Davies did not think the board was breaking faith. The amount would be spent in the construction of a maternity ward was a donation for a purpose.

Mr. Humphrey thought the ladies had somewhat slighted, inasmuch as the board had solemnly promised that the first improvement would be in the direction of building a Children's Ward.

It would not be greatly unusual if it were admitted that a number of the staff, which the hospital at present was not in a position to stand.

Mr. Humphrey moved that a committee comprising Messrs. Wilson, D. Holmbeck, Lewis, and Dr. Hartman be appointed to meet the Women's Auxiliary to discuss the matter. This carried.

Dr. Hasell reported as follows for the month of February: Number of patients admitted, 65; number of patients treated, 115; total days' stay, 1,426; average of patients, 49.26.

E. P. Aloor, the matron, acknowledged the following contributions: M. H. D. Holmbeck, magazines and paper; Le Poer Tremek, papers; Mrs. J. Pemberton, butter; Justice Mary books and papers; Mrs. Lee, books, received and donors thanked.

The matron also tendered her resignation to take effect one month from date. Applications for the position were received from Miss M. O. McMillan, Mrs. Edith Miles, of San Francisco.

Mr. Drury moved that these applications be referred to the house committee. This was carried. The application of Miss Rankin for the position of nurse was referred to the same committee.

The house committee submitted the monthly report and Toronto: It occasionally happens that accidents are sent to the hospital and are more or less a matter of interest to the general public. The newspaper reporters are very anxious, when preparing an account of the circumstances, to state the condition of the sufferer. We see no reason why such information should be withheld but have given instructions that the resident medical officer, or in his absence, the matron, shall be the only officials to answer inquiries in such cases.

In the event of medical men requiring admission into the hospital it is customary to make no charge. In the opinion of your committee some concession should also be made in the event of the wives of medical practitioners requiring hospital treatment. We therefore recommend that such cases half the usual fees shall be charged.

Your committee are considering plans for the proposed maternity home and desire time for reporting upon same. Complaints having been received from some of the plumbers that they are