The Colonist.

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BLUNDERING AGAIN.

The organ of the Opposition has made another discovery. It is continually making discoveries. It has found out that the Attorney-General intends, to use its own classic phrase, "to cinch" the owners of land through which railways may, after the passage of the bill now before the House, run. It represents the arbitration clause of Mr. Davie's bill as an unique piece of legislation. The fine scorn with which it contemplates this obnoxious clause is delightful to witness. It characterizes it as "one of those neat strokes of attempted legislation which should insure the originators a period of private life." "Has" it, in its indignation, asks, "the Attorney-General become so besotted with the idea of class legislation that he dares to take the chances of a civil insurrection, that a railway may run whithersoever it may?"

Would it not have been well for our contemporary, before it consigned the Attorney-General to outer darkness, to enquire what other provinces of Canada and the Dominion itself have done in similar cases. British Columbia is not the only province in the Dominion in which railways are built and in which land is valued for railway purposes. It strikes us that any one possessing the least prudence and not wishing to make an exhibition of his ignorance and his shallowness, would see how this business of valuing land to be taken for railway purposes is done in other parts of the Dominion. Whatever the Times may think of the Attorney-General of British Columbia it will admit that the law officers of the Crown in the Dominion and Ontario are not "besotted with the idea of class legislation" and that they do not deserve for the laws they have not only framed but placed on the statute book to be relegated to private life. It will have to admit that Sir John Thompson and the Hon. Oliver Mowat have some knowledge of the principles of law, and that they have some regard for what is just and equitable. They would not frame a railway law which in one of its principal provisions was so manifestly unjust as to rouse the indignation of patriotic laymen. And even if they were so ignorant and so stupid—if they could not get it through their "thick noddles that the occupancy of land for railway purposes not unfrequently means a loss of value to the extent of the entire property," the hundreds of legislators who examined those laws and who sided in carrying them through the legislatures of the Dominion and the province of Ontario would be too intelligent and too honest to sanction "barefaced robbery."

The clause with which the Times finds so many faults and which has raised its indignation to the boiling point is, as quoted by it, as follows:

"The arbitrators, in deciding on such values, are authorized to take into consideration the increased value that would be given to any land through which the railway passes and to set off the increased value against the inconveniences that might be sustained," etc.

The passage is within quotation marks and we are therefore justified in concluding that it is the "ipsissima verba" of the clause objected to. But it is not. This is the sub-section as it appears in the bill:

(9.) The arbitrators, in deciding on such value or compensation, are authorized and required to take into consideration the increased value that would be given to any lands or grounds through or over which the railway will pass by reason of the passage of the railway through or over the same, or by reason of the construction of the railway, and to set-off the increased value that will attach to the said lands or grounds against the inconvenience, loss, or damage that might be suffered or sustained by reason of the company taking possession of, or using the said lands or grounds as aforesaid.

Now, let us see what the Dominion Act has to say on the same subject. This is Section 153 of the Railway Act of 1888, not abridged, but in full:

"The arbitrators in deciding on such value or compensation, shall take into consideration the increased value that will be given to any lands through or over which the railway will pass by reason of the passage of the railway through or over the same, or by reason of the construction of the railway, and shall set off the increased value that will attach to the said grounds against the inconvenience, loss or damage that might be suffered or sustained by reason of the company taking possession of or using the said lands or grounds as aforesaid."

There is no mistaking the purport of this clause in the Dominion law. If it can be shown that the construction of the railway will enhance the value of the property as a whole in assessing the value of that part taken by the Company the arbitrators are required to take that fact into consideration. This is simply common sense. It is absurd for a man to ask damages for land taken for a railroad which will increase the value of his property, say, one hundred per cent. The man is greatly benefitted by the construction of the road, and it does look singular to be required to pay him for putting money into his pocket. In equity he should be required to pay the Company for enriching him. But the law does not give the arbitrators the power to make the land owner pay for the privilege of having the road pass through his land. It simply requires them to consider whether he is helped or hurt by the road, and to value the land taken according to the decision at which they arrive. This is the law of the Dominion, and we have heard of no protests against it. No Opposition journal has denounced the Government for allowing such a law to be placed on the statute book nor called the Minister of Justice all sorts of names, because it was enacted under his administration.

It may be said that this is a Tory law and that it is folly to expect anything good from the Tories. Well, we have before us the Grit law on the same subject, and it is so like the Tory law that the Tory administration might be suspected of stealing its ideas from the Grits, or that both Tories and Grits obtained their inspiration from a common source. Sub-section 9 of section 20, Chap. 170 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1887, reads as follows:

"The arbitrators in deciding on such value or compensation are authorized and required to take into consideration the increased value that would be given to any lands or grounds through which the railway will pass by reason of the construction of the railway, and to set-off the increased value that will attach to the said lands or grounds against the inconvenience, loss or damage that might be sustained by reason of the company taking possession or using the said lands or grounds as aforesaid."

Surely the righteous Oliver Mowat has not been guilty of "barefaced robbery." His "noddle" is not "thick." He does not give "the railway an opportunity to "cinch" every landowner who may chance to come in its path." He is surely not "so besotted with the idea of class legislation that he dares to take the chances of a civil insurrection that a railway may run whithersoever it may." Yet his law setting forth the principles on which lands taken for railway purposes shall be valued is precisely the same in every respect as that contained in the bill which the Hon. Theodore Davie has introduced into the Legislative Assembly of this province. But the truth is the Times has again been denouncing what it has not enquired into and does not understand, and consequently it has made itself ridiculous."

THE BY-LAWS.

The City Council has been treated far better by the ratepayers than it deserved. They have been indulgent and have not stopped the supplies. We trust that the Council will take thought and mend. It has had a narrow escape. It might have been for the remainder of the year with an empty treasury with heavy debts to pay and with services suffering for want of immediate attention.

The ratepayers have been the reverse of exacting. They found fault with the Council for misappropriating money raised by loan for specific purposes. This is not a question of mere bookkeeping. It is a matter of good faith and of common honesty. The Council obtains leave from the ratepayers to borrow money for a specific purpose. It is bound in honesty to devote every dollar of the proceeds of that loan to that purpose. It cannot be honestly diverted to any other use. The Council may, we presume, bank the money in any way it sees fit, but it is in good faith bound so to regulate its expenditure that every cent of the loan shall be available for the purposes for which it was borrowed, and, if at the end of the year the whole of the money is not expended, the balance should be in the bank to the credit of the city. We have been told that if there is a deficiency the Councillors can be held personally responsible. We are not well enough acquainted with the law to know whether this is the case or not, but if it is not the law, it ought to be. The Councillors when they divert the proceeds of a loan from the purpose for which they were authorized to contract it, commit a breach of faith and should be held responsible for the consequences. This is nothing but fair as between the councillors and the ratepayers. For instance, the Councillors yesterday obtained leave to borrow $12,000 to be expended upon the cemetery. They are in honor and in honesty bound to spend that money on the cemetery to the best advantage. If they spend $8,000 of it this year the remaining $4,000 should be left in the bank in such a way that it should be immediately available for the use of their successors. If it had been spent, no matter how, the out-going councillors should not consider themselves ill-used if they were required to make good the deficiency. Business should be done by the council on business principles. If they get money in trust they should be compelled to be faithful to the trust. The money raised under a by-law for which the sanction of the ratepayers is required is trust money. The councillors are trustees who are entrusted with the expenditure of the money under the provisions of the law, and they cannot depart from those provisions in the slightest degree. They have no discretion in the matter. Good faith requires the most scrupulous observance of the conditions of the trust. An end should be put at once and forever to the loose way in which the money raised by loan has been handled by the council. Its members should fully understand their obligation, and should insist upon their being fulfilled to the letter.

PLACE FOR THE LADIES.

That the ladies are coming to the front in Great Britain and the United States there is abundant evidence. Not only are they asserting themselves as workers entering fields of action that have been hitherto monopolized by men, but they are coming before the world as daring thinkers and venturesome reformers. They exhibit very little of the timidity that is commonly supposed to be characteristic of the softer sex in advancing new and strange theories on delicate subjects. We have instances—shall we say of the temerity—of literary and philosophical ladies in two of the reviews for February. There is an article in the Fortnightly written by Amelie Rives Chanler, headed "Was It a Crime?" in which the gifted and thrilling writer wants to know whether or not it is a crime to put a person afflicted with an incurable disease, whose life is a burden to him, out of pain by administering a dose of poison. Of course, Mrs. Chanler does not put the case in this plain, unvarnished way. She propounds her question in the form of a parable. She tells of a wife who idolized her husband. That husband met with disappointment and misfortunes. He broke down under his affliction. He was stricken with a painful disease. The agony he suffered was dreadful to witness. It was torture to his wife. There was hope of his recovery at first. But the crisis came, and after that the husband was doomed. The wife learned from the doctor that there was no hope. Her husband might linger for a few days, but his death was certain. His awful suffering continued. The wife, who who sat by his bedside was nearly, if not altogether, beside herself at witnessing suffering which she was unable to alleviate. She administered laudanum to the dying man. The physician told her that she must not give him more than nine drops at stated periods. But the time came when the opiate had no appreciable effect. The agony continued. He prayed for rest—for help. His wife, unable to endure the sight of his suffering any longer, gave him, not nine, but thirty drops. The dose killed the patient. Was it murder? Take away the romance, and the story is not an edifying one. Let the principle which Mrs. Rives Chanler contends for, or rather tacitly approves, be admitted to be legitimate, and the door is set wide open for crime. Treachery and greed and jealousy would then have opportunities that our present code denies them. The tortured wife's crime was murder. Society dare not make it anything else.

Alice Bodington discusses "marriage from a scientific standpoint" in the Westminster. She does this fearlessly and frankly, and is not prevented from giving free utterance to her thoughts by what she, no doubt, considers the prejudices of race and education. We have not space to give a synopsis of her article, which is very well written. She does not believe in the indissolubility of the marriage tie, and she does not discuss it from a religious point of view. She looks upon marriage as a civil contract which should not necessarily bind the parties for life, and which could be dissolved if found disagreeable or irksome by one of the parties. She does not say for how long a period it should be binding, but she evidently regards five years, as suggested by Professor Cope, too long. She believes, however, that twelve months' notice should be given. It is hard to imagine the state of society in which the kind of marriage that this lady favors obtains. But we did not set out with the intention of discussing her theories. What we wished to do was simply to show the progress that some ladies are making in the world of science and philosophy? Are these two ladies going backwards or forwards?

COWICHAN NEWS.

No such winter as the past has been experienced by even the oldest settlers. The word "past" is scarcely appropriate, as there are still two feet of "the beautiful" on the ground and more of it coming, the snow falling to-day at such a rate as to give promise of another foot. The temperature has been playing "hide and go seek" with nearly the whole gamut of the thermometer, at one time down to four below zero, and at another up to early summer heat. These antics of the weather do not tend to produce very favorable impressions of our climate in the minds of new comers. It is to be hoped that the present month will bring a genial "Chinook" which will last long enough to melt the snow and ice, and enable the now anxious and impatient farmers to begin spring work. Fortunately, farmers were not caught "napping," nearly all having a sufficient supply of fodder for their stock, and some a surplus for sale, though in one instance the severity of the winter caused a slight loss.

It is a source of some gratification that T. D. Jones, of Nanaimo, has commenced boring for coal on Mr. Joseph Dougan's estate. His commendable enterprise has had the effect of leading others on the same track.

Messrs. Kenting and Crozier held a meeting of the farmers a few days ago, for the purpose of bonding their lands, with the view of boring for coal. It is to be hoped that these enterprises will be crowned with some measure of success.

Last week a social entertainment and dance was held in the Koksilah school house, which attracted numerous visitors from this and neighboring districts, the fair sex being well represented. Dancing was continued till past midnight, when the participants drove to their homes, highly delighted with the night's entertainment.

RESIDENT.

1st March, 1890.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers; there is no mistake about it. It cures Dysentery and Diarrhœa, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children teething is pleasant to the taste and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP," and take no other kind. myzl-sod-w

The Universal Supply Store.

The only one of its kind in British Columbia, Russell, McDonald & Co., 134 Douglas street. Dry goods, clothing, boots, shoes, tinware, glass and crockery, remarkably cheap. Boys' suits made to order, $5.00; boys' pants made to order, $1.25; mens' pants to order, $3.00. Tickets are now being issued for half yearly drawing; $210 cash prizes, $300 in silverware. w

THE WREN'S NEST.

I took the wren's nest—
Heaven forgive me!
Its merry architects as small
Had scarcely finished their wee hall
That, empty still, and cold and fair,
Hung idly in the summer air.
The mossy walls, the dainty door,
Where Love should enter and explore,
And Love sit carolling outside,
And Love within chirp multiplied,
I took the wren's nest—
Heaven forgive me!

How many hours of happy pains,
Through early frosts and April rains
How many scouts at eve and morn,
O'er springing grass and greening corn;
What labors hard through sun and shade
Before the pretty house was made!
One little minute, only one,
And she'll fly back and find it—gone!
I took the wren's nest—
Bird forgive me!

Thou and thy mate, sans lee, sans fees,
Ye have before you all the year,
And every wood holds nooks for you
In which to sing and build and woo.
One pheon cry of hirdish pain,
And ye'll begin your life again,
Forgetting quite that I, too, have home
In many a page your home to come.
But I? Your wee house keep I must
Until it crumbles into dust.
I took the wren's nest—
God forgive me!

—New Orleans Picayune.

Always Ready to Fish.

"I like West Virginia," said a gentleman recently, "for its physical features remind me of New England, and its vegetation is about the same, save the mountain land and rhododendron. Up around Aurora you see rough bearded men loping by on stout horses, looking for the world like some of 'Jeb' Stuart's cavalry on a forage. In the valleys are the best farms, and they generally belong to the Amish, a strange, quiet sect of Dutch, who wear clothes fastened with hooks and eyes, entirely destitute of buttons. They are all thrifty and well to do, close at a bargain, but scrupulously honest. The records of the Lutheran church at Aurora were kept in German until within a generation. That church was established over 150 years ago. The people thereabouts dig their coal from the hillsides, and it is cheaper to dig it than to cut wood from their own forests.

"Not one in the section I have traveled through is wealthy or has much money, yet no one suffers want. No one is ever so busy that he can't stop and give you a fishing. The storekeeper at a little village on the Potomac used to close his place in the afternoon to go with me and fish for bass. They are all great hands to have agencies for the sale of various articles. I met several native driving around the country, ostensibly selling fertilizers, but none that I asked was ever able to name a single customer. One old chap had a little cobbler's shop. He was a notary public and justice of the peace, was postmaster, sold shoes, ran an express business and had a dozen agencies for agricultural implements, organs, pianos, carriages and wagons, patent medicines and the inevitable fertilizer. The man who wouldn't do business with him didn't have much business."—Washington Post.

The Automatic Photographer.

The latest development of automatic machines will take the form of a self acting photographic apparatus. The ingenious contrivance, which will be offered to the public some time in December, is the invention of a Spaniard named Lopez. In outward appearance the machine is very similar to the innumerable engines for luring the humble penny from a curious public that may be seen at any London terminus. The mechanism is simple. The person to be operated upon stands on an iron plate, and duly puts his penny in the slot.

This brings into play the machinery; the cap is removed from the lens, at which the "subject" is expected to look steadily during the few seconds of exposure. Then, by a remarkably rapid process, lasting from two and a half to three minutes, the photograph is developed and ejected from the machine. The photograph is not, of course, on sensitized paper (which would require at least twenty-four hours for its development); but it is developed on a metal plate—some preparation of tinfoil probably—and is really an improved form of daguerreotype. The proprietors of the patent evidently think that "there is money in it," as they have given an order for 2,000 machines to a well known firm in West Bromwich.—St. James' Gazette.

Royal Lepers.

There is, I think, no doubt that Henry IV of England and Robert Bruce were lepers. About Henry III I am not so sure. But I have tried to discover any authority for what I am quite sure I read some years ago—but where I cannot remember—that Adelicia of Louvaine, second wife of Henry I, became a leper, and that was the real reason why, when a happy wife and mother, she left her second husband, William de Albini, to whom she was tenderly attached, and entered a convent. Miss Strickland makes no mention of it, and considers her conduct quite unaccountable.—Notes and Queries.

There's Money In It.

"How can I turn an income of $3,000 into $12,000 a year?" suddenly asked a thoughtful looking man.

"Let me see," replied an Atlanta man; "what are you doing now?"

"Nothing."

"What do you want to do?"

"Nothing—I simply want to enjoy life on my income."

"Well, I'll tell you how to practically turn your $3,000 into $12,000. Go and live in a small town thirty or forty miles from Atlanta—a town with a few rich men in it. You will find that your expenditure of $3,000 a year there will make you a nabob and your wife will be regarded as the Lady Bountiful of the place. You will be a bigger man there, and have more fun than you could on $12,000 a year in the city. Of course, you would not be confined to the country. You could make an occasional raid into the city and have a good time."

"Good idea," remarked one.

"There's money in it," said a feeble looking clerk.—Atlanta Constitution.

Ambiguous Advertisers.

A certain advertiser wanted "a young man to take care of horses of a Christian disposition;" a shop in a London street exhibited a card warning everybody against unscrupulous persons "who infringe our title to deceive the public;" on the door of an eating house in London may be read the following announcement: "Sailors' victuals cooked here;" a boarding house keeper announced that he had a "cottage containing eight rooms and an acre of land;" a dealer in cheap shoes was equally ambiguous when he counseled "Ladies wishing these cheap shoes will do well to call soon, as they will not last long;" still another advertisement announces: "This hotel will be kept open by the widow of the former proprietor who died last summer on a new and improved plan," and a manufacturing wireworker invites the public to come and see his invisible fences.—Printers' Ink.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, March 5.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Christ Church Lecture Series.

The lecture on "Ancient MSS.," which was postponed last Wednesday, will be given this evening in the cathedral school.

Fire at Seattle.

A despatch from Seattle says a fire started there yesterday morning at 3.30 o'clock in the Recherche restaurant on Third street, and spread to Thrall's lodging house and the residence of J. F. Handsacker, which were destroyed before the flames were extinguished. Loss, $5,000.

A Change Needed.

A subscriber wants to know why postage stamps cannot be purchased at the post office after 4 o'clock p.m. except in very limited quantities. It does look a little queer in these days to be told that you can only buy a few dollars' worth of so necessary a commodity unless "you wait till to-morrow."

The Coast Steamers.

The steamship Umatilla was to go on the dry dock at the Union Iron Works, San Francisco, yesterday, to receive final touches before commencing to take on freight for Victoria and Puget Sound. The Umatilla has been laid up for about six weeks, undergoing extensive repairs. Captain Holmes, of the Queen of the Pacific, will go in command of the Umatilla. The Queen will be laid up for repairs.

From the North.

The steamer Princess Louise, which arrived from the North last evening, reports that the ice in the Skeena had completely disappeared and rain was the order of the day. When the steamer left for Victoria nothing was heard about the trouble at Alert Bay, all the Indians being away on a potlatch. The Boscowitz was spoken off Salmon river.

P. O. Home.

The ladies committee thankfully acknowledge the following donations in February: 4 sacks vegetables from F. D.; boots, Mr. McConnan, Mrs. Heathorn; crockery, Mr. J. Bowers; meat and dripping, Miss McCandlish; cake and pies, ladies of Baptist church, the Salvation Army; clothing, Mrs. Christie, Mrs. Stevenson; 5 tons coal, Mr. Dunsmuir.

Court Notes.

In the city police court yesterday morning, Hon. A. N. Richards presiding, Mary, an Indian, paid a fine of $5 for being drunk, and the eleven fantan players remanded until the 11th inst. after a few legal technicalities had been discussed between His Honor and J. P. Walls, solicitor for the defendants.

One prisoner, charged with wife beating, enjoyed sole possession of the police station last evening.

The Seized Sloop.

Geo. Sands, the owner of the sloop seized by the customs on Monday last, called at this office yesterday and stated that ten days ago he purchased the sloop at Cowichan, and moved her down to Victoria. Here some sails were placed in and a quantity of goods purchased. Mr. Sands states that the only goods on her at the time he purchased the sloop was a 20 cent. package of tobacco. All other supplies were secured in Victoria. A canoe purchased less than a week ago was seized with the sloop.

Provincial Museum.

The following is the list of contributors to the Provincial Museum for the month of February:

Victoria—Joshua Davies, Master Douglas McTavish, Miss McTavish, Capt. Jemmitt, Sir Mathew B. Begbie, Miss Charlotte E. Crutch, John Crutch, Ashdown Green, Chas. Vernon, James Morison, P. Steele, Alex. Anderson, A. L. Powdrie, H. C. Halpenny, Fred. Neeves, Master Jack Wolfenden.

Ashcroft—Hon. C. F. Cornwall.

Clinton—Ewin Edwin Bell.

Parson's Bridge—Henry Price.

The Recent Collision on the Sound.

The collector of customs at Port Townsend, after enquiry, found that the steamer Skagit Chief carried more passengers than she is allowed at the time of the collision with the steamer Evangel. It is claimed that the Skagit Chief carried fifteen passengers in excess of the number, 120, allowed by law, and for this penalty over that limit a fine of $10 was exacted from the vessel in addition to forfeiting the fares, amounting to $15. This subjected the vessel to a payment of $165, notwithstanding the captain's sworn testimony to the contrary that his vessel carried only 120 passengers on that occasion. The fine was paid Saturday.

Jail Breaking of a New Type.

During Monday night a large portion of the stone wall of the city lock-up tumbled outward with a crash, and to the great dismay of the inmate of the corner cell, an old klootchman, the moonlight streaming through a hole big enough for her to walk out of. She was too drunk and too sleepy, however, to be terrified, and so she curled herself up as far away as possible from the impromptu window and once more resigned herself to slumber. In the morning it was discovered that the mishap to the jail was caused by a little landslide, the excavations for the new addition having undermined the foundations of the lock-up.

Dinner at Government House.

The following is the list of guests invited to dinner at Government House last evening: Hon. John Robson, Hon. F. G. Vernon, Hon. J. H. Turner, Hon. T. Davie, Hon. C. E. Pooley, Hon. D. W. Higgins, Mr. Joseph Mason, Mr. I. B. Nason, Mr. George Cowan, Mr. John Grant, Hon. T. B. Humphreys, Mr. Henry Croft, Mr. Henry Fry, Mr. A. Haslam, Lt.-Col. Baker, Mr. A. W. Smith, Mr. E. Allen, Mr. G. Thomson, Mr. T. Cunningham, Mr. W. H. Ladner, Mr. James Orr, Hon. Robt. Beaven, Mr. S. Duck, Mr. J. Tolmie, Mr. E. W. Anderson, Mr. C. E. Semlin, Mr. G. B. Martin and Mr. Herbert Stanton.

Obituary.

Mr. Frank Sehl, an old resident of Victoria, and for many years proprietor of the Teutonia Saloon, Government street, died of typhoid fever at St. Joseph's Hospital yesterday morning, after about three weeks illness. The deceased was a native of Coblenz, Germany, and was aged 59 years. He leaves a wife and five children to mourn his loss. The late Mr. Sehl, who was a brother of Mr. Jacob Sehl, was an esteemed member of the B. C. Pioneer Society, and treasurer of the Vintners' Association, and the members of both organizations will attend the funeral, which takes place this morning from the family residence, Pandora avenue, at 10 o'clock, and half an hour later from St. Andrew's R. C. Cathedral.

The Jury Act—A Popular Error.

During the discussion on Wednesday afternoon on the motion for a return of the number of voters upon the respective voting lists in the province, the Attorney General took occasion to allude to a popular although mistaken idea that any one may free himself from jury duty by simply removing his name from the list of voters, and it was stated by Mr. Davie that fully 70 names had been removed from the Victoria city list simply for the purpose of escaping jury duty. Although about 70 was the number so far discovered by the selectors of juries, time would doubtless prove that still more had erased their names for the same purpose.

The Attorney General pointed out that the law provided that persons removing their names did not thereby avoid jury duty, but on the contrary rendered themselves peremptorily liable to serve, as under the act the first duty of the selectors was to put such names on the jury roll for the year, the result being that these gentlemen by removing their names had to serve another year, whereas had they allowed their names to remain they, or such of them as had already served, would have been exempt from duty for many years.

It is to be hoped that after this explanation, which was fully concurred in by the leader of the opposition, all persons who have, under the mistaken idea alluded to, caused their names to be struck off the list of voters will at once restore them.

Loss of Stock at Big Bend.

Mr. McCoy, a mail contractor, has arrived at Walla Walla from Big Bend. He says it is impossible to describe the condition of the stock in that region, and he believes there are not 100 head of cattle left alive in the Big Bend country. The snow in places is forty feet deep and it is four feet deep on a level. One farmer lost a big band and has only one cow left. He is feeding her on flour. In order to save their horses the men dig the snow away and the animals eat the brush, grass and roots.

Along the Docks.

Steamer Maude arrived from Nanaimo with a load of coal yesterday.

Steamer Albert brought down a barge load of coal yesterday.

Steamer Yosemite took on a cargo of tin and salt for Fraser River canneries yesterday.

A number of planks used for banking coal on the C.P.N. dock broke yesterday, letting about ten tons into the water.

Word has been received that the sealing schooner Lottie is once more safely afloat.

The steamer Princess Louise returned from an uneventful trip north last evening. She brought down five passengers and a small freight.

The ship Gatherer, which arrived at San Francisco a few days ago with coal from Nanaimo, after discharging cargo will load supplies for the Alaska canneries.

THE BY-LAWS.

Two Endorsed and Two Defeated by the Ratepayers Yesterday.

Voting upon the four by-laws—the first three to ratify loans for municipal purposes, the other to bonus the Victoria Lumber and Manufacturing Co. to the extent of $25,000—passed off very quietly yesterday, and only a comparatively small vote was cast. The results, as announced by the returning officer, Mr. W. K. Ball, at 5.30 o'clock, were as follows:

TO JUSTIFY A $25,000 LOAN FOR DRIVING PURPOSES.

	For.	Against
Johnson Street Ward	148	59
Yates Street Ward	69	77
James Bay Ward	119	125
Total	336	351

Majority against, 25.

TO JUSTIFY A $12,000 LOAN FOR CEMETERY PURPOSES.

	For.	Against
Johnson Street Ward	162	142
Yates Street Ward	64	71
James Bay Ward	121	117
Total	347	330

Majority for, 17.

TO JUSTIFY A LOAN OF $35,000 FOR CITY HALL ENLARGEMENT.

	For.	Against
Johnson Street Ward	178	112
Yates Street Ward	75	90
James Bay Ward	117	117
Total	370	279

Majority for, 91.

TO GRANT A BONUS OF $25,000 TO THE VICTORIA L. AND M. CO.

	For.	Against.
Johnson Street Ward	90	204
Yates Street Ward	35	97
James Bay Ward	80	159
Total	205	460

Majority against, 255.

THE TOTAL VOTE.

	For.	Agst.	Total.
Park By-Law	326	351	677
Cemetery By-Law	347	330	677
City Hall By-Law	370	279	649
Sawmill Bonus By-Law	205	460	665

Spoiled ballots, 2.

THE JUBILEE HOSPITAL.

Important Business Transacted at Yesterday's General Committee Meeting.

A well attended meeting of the committee of the Provincial Royal Jubilee Hospital was held in the board of trade rooms yesterday afternoon, T. R. Smith, Esq., in the chair.

The secretary having explained the object of the meeting, on motion it was resolved that Drs. Davie and Jones be a committee to draw up a report on what was necessary to furnish the wards and dispensary, the report to be presented at the next meeting.

Mr. Teague, the architect, presented his report, which was read and received, in which it was shown that on account of the recent cold weather the building would not be ready as soon as was expected.

The secretary, Mr. Chudley, said he had received several applications for the position of janitor and matron, the consideration of which was deferred.

Mr. Alex. Wilson moved that the architect be authorized to call for tenders for electric bells and lighting. The motion was carried.

The thanks of the committee were, on motion, ordered to be sent to R. D. Welch & Co., of Liverpool, for their kindness in presenting two flags for the flagstaff.

Minutes of the last general committee meeting were then read and accepted.

A resolution of sympathy was ordered to be sent to the widow of the late Wm. Blackmore, the deceased having been a member of the committee.

The question of finance then came up. The secretary pointed out that $15,000 was wanted for the completion of the work.

Mr. Alex. Wilson said the way expense was saved in Montreal was by the different churches furnishing a certain number of rooms each.

Mr. Robt. Ward pointed out that the fences and fixing up of the premises was going to cost quite a little, and he thought it would not be out of the way to ask the government for a further grant under the circumstances.

Mr. Joshua Davies thought that the government might donate at least half the amount required.

Mr. James Fell coincided with the former speaker, and said he thought that the committee could get up $7,500 if the government doubled the other half. He said that he would start the list with $50.

Some discussion arose as to whether or not the committee could raise the amount by mortgage, and as to whether it would be advisable to pass a bill of incorporation through the House which would release the trustees from liability, or whether it would be advisable to sell some of the land to clear the indebtedness.

Mr. J. S. Yates moved, seconded by Mr. J. Fell, that the bill of incorporation be presented to the House by Mr. Eberts after a few amendments in the act. The motion carried.

Mr. W. A. Ward moved that the president and secretary be authorized to negotiate for borrowing $15,000 on a mortgage on the property.

Mr. Eberts said that the trustees had no authority to sign a mortgage to raise money to furnish the building, but only to complete the structure. The motion was passed.

A letter was read from the Married Ladies' club stating that the club intend giving a dance at Assembly hall in aid of the hospital.

The offer was accepted with thanks, and there being no further business on hand the meeting adjourned.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria

From THE DAILY COLONIST, March 6.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Travelers.

The following passengers left by the Walla Walla yesterday for San Francisco: Mrs. McNevin, Mrs. Blanchard and child, R. F. Tolmie, M. Law, Mrs. N. T. Gabel, Mrs. Bunster, Mrs. Jamieson, Geo. Harrison, Chas. F. Bailey, J. F. McKay, Mrs. Woodham, W. Woodham, Robt. Norton and wife.

Ancient Manuscripts.

In the schoolroom of Christ Church Cathedral last evening Rev. Arthur Beanlands gave a highly interesting address on the subject of ancient M.S.S. to a rather small but decidedly appreciative audience. The interest of the lecture was intensified by a series of choice illustrations.

A Celebrated Case.

In the supreme court yesterday the celebrated right of way case of Farwell vs. the C. P. R. was before the Chief Justice. Evidence was received and the case adjourned for argument until today. The attorney-general appears for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. E. Pooley, Q. C., with Mr. H. D. Helmcken for the defendant company.

Mineral Specimens.

Bourchier, Croft & Mallette yesterday evening received five boxes of samples of the ores of British Columbia, the collection of Mr. W. J. Sutton, late assayer of the provincial government. There are over two thousand specimens in the collection, which is said to be the most complete and valuable in the province. It will be displayed in Bourchier, Croft & Mallette's office, together with the gold, ore, coal and woods specimens now on exhibition in their windows.

Nipped in the Bud.

A fiendish attempt was made about 4 o'clock yesterday morning to set fire to the residence of N. Pointer, Johnson street, while the family were asleep. Mr. Pointer being awakened by the smell of smoke, heard fire crackling, and immediately arose, and upon examination found that some fiend had built a fire of kindling wood and coal oil in the cellar beneath the house, which was blazing brightly, and which it took quite a little work to put out.

Presbytery of Columbia.

The next ordinary meeting of the Presbytery of Columbia will be held in the First Presbyterian Church on Wednesday next at 10 o'clock a. m. A full attendance of members from all parts of the province is requested, as being the most important meeting of the year. The Wednesday evening meeting, beginning at 7:30 o'clock, will be devoted to discussions on the reports on the state of religion, temperance, Sabbath schools, etc., to which the public are specially and cordially invited.

Runaway.

As Mrs. E. C. Baker was getting into her phaeton at the Transfer stables yesterday afternoon her horse took a sudden fright and threw her to the ground, giving her a bad shaking up, but fortunately inflicting no serious injury. The horse ran up Broughton street to Blanchard, along Blanchard to Fort, down the latter street and back to the stables, where he made a break to go through the window, which he took with his head. No damage was done to the rig, the horse only cutting his head slightly.

City Police Court.

Mike Riley, charged with abusing his wife, was remanded for one week.

J. Brown, charged with carrying concealed weapons, was bound over in the sum of $500 to keep the peace.

The charge against Sim Kee for carrying swill through Battery was charged, but the evidence was not proved and the defendant dismissed. B. H. T. Drake, of Drake, Jackson & Helmcken's office, for the defence.

John Riley and John Kelly, the two men with which larceny were let out on their own recognizances to appear in two days.

Buttery Released.

A San Francisco despatch says: "Norman Buttery, the Victoria, B. C., railroad clerk who was arrested on the arrival of the Queen of the Pacific, has been released. The crime of embezzlement, with which Buttery was charged, is not extraditable. Chief of Police Crowley telegraphed the chief of police at Victoria on Tuesday asking the latter official to wire information upon which to base a charge against Buttery. The police of Victoria did not send the desired information and Crowley considered he was not justified in holding the prisoner any longer. He was therefore set at liberty."

Street Loafers.

A married lady, attired in deep mourning, was grossly insulted yesterday by a loafer standing in front of the cigar stand opposite the postoffice, on Government street. Ladies constantly complain that they are jostled, stared at, and rudely and vulgarly criticised by some of the hackmen and others who frequently crowd the sidewalk. The police should enforce the law in regard to blocking up the sidewalk. If a merchant's packing case remains in the sidewalk longer than the vigilant officer thinks necessary he is threatened with the law. A street loafer is a bigger and more offensive impediment, and should be ordered to move on with promptness.

Victoria West Lodge, I.O.G.T.

Mrs. Lila A. Moore, of Kentucky, who has been lecturing in the province during the past three months under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I.O.G.T., lectured last night at Victoria West. At the close of the lecture a lodge was organized. The new lodge will be known by the name of "Victoria West." The following officers were elected: C.T., Bro. A. Semple; V.T., Sister McNaughton; Rec.-Sec., Bro. Cherry; Assist. Rec.-Sec., Sister Holden; Fin.-Sec., Bro. R. Semple; Treas., Sister R. Semple; Chap., Bro. Paton; Marshal, Bro. Watson; Asst. Marshal Sister Oldershaw; Guard, Sister J. Semple; S. J., R. Semple, jr.; Sentinel, Bro. Baker; Lodge Deputy, Bro. R. Semple.

Victoria to Johnstown.

There was a good attendance of men,