Horse Booming

hat It Will Be Made ot of Yukon Public Works.

the Goods Arriving Are From Canadian Points.

to news received by the nube, the depot of the public rtment in the Yukon Terri- be moved from Dawson to e. The White Horse Trib- ust 18 says:

une is in possession of infor- he effect that there is to be a he management of the affairs on Territory. The change been decreed, and the new ings will be in effect in a time.

ache, who arrived from Ot- week and went on to Dawson, to White Horse in a day or t of his mission was to re- inistrator Ogilvie of the re- of all affairs which issue epartment of public works, me control of them himself. ake his headquarters where ally belong, at the central territory—White Horse—and point will radiate all orders improvement and develop-

men with teams are now at g a foundation for large gov- uildings, which will be com- ut October 1. The main ll be about 30x32, and in it post office and the offices of superintendent of public d Robert Miller, mining Two extensions, each 26x50, l to store supplies, 80 tons of now on the way here.

lso reported that the police gish is to be removed to e, and that barracks capable odating from 25 to 50 men cted close to the government In this event a district court also be put up.

n the Canadian Development permanent building has com- d a large staff of men will sily at work till the structure d. The new building will ntage of 50 feet on the water, tend back to the White Pass tracks, along which it will a frontage of 150 feet. Half ding will be two stories high. offices on the ground floor 0 will be used for traffic and e departments.

vidences of the fact that rse is bound to be the dis- entre of the Yukon are being every day. Two wholesale rms are now doing a large here. They have slaughter l stock yards a mile and two of town, where meat of all in large quantities is being every day for home consump- hipments. Everything that a ells can be had in this market. terprising firm of N. P. Shaw ve about 150 head of cattle in s, 350 sheep and 50 hogs. tock arrives every week, and n to this all the shipments of for Dawson are laid over here days' rest. At Shaw's slaugh- 25 cattle a week on an aver- killed, 30 sheep and 10 hogs. this is shipped to Atlin, to and other surrounding points, even goes to Bennett. Then consumption amounts to con-

hing noticeable about the s coming and going is that the ents of American houses are scarcer and scarcer every day. adian concerns were a little move at first, but when they did otion it was fatal to their com- of the other side of the bound- The amount of dutiable goods on nowadays does not amount entage large enough to be seri- nsidered."

LIZATION OF TROOPS.

Issued by Lieut.-Col. Gregory, manding the Fifth Regiment.

Col. Gregory, commanding the egiment, yesterday issued the order in connection with the nual mobilization at Esquimalt to be held on Sunday and Mon- t:

The regiment will parade at the ll at 8 p. m. on Saturday, 1st er, for the purpose of taking the first annual mobilization of alt fortress.

Dress, marching order, and each ll provide himself with cleaning , brushes, etc., knife, fork, plate and cup.

The regiment will leave the Drill 9 p. m. and march to Macaulay where they will go into camp for s.

The quartermaster, quartermas- eant and eight gunners(those de- will be notified by the sergeant- will parade at Macaulay Point at on Saturday, to take over camp- ent and pitch the camp for the t.

As the government only issues kettles, axes and tin pails, the commanding companies will ar- for extra messing, and detail or their respective companies, and e that all additional cooking uten- quired are furnished. These ar- must be delivered not later than lock noon on Saturday, at the all, when transport to Macaulay will be furnished.

ers commanding companies are zed to grant leave of absence a. m. on Sunday, the 2nd Sep- , in urgent cases; but attend- t the camp from that hour until breaks up is compulsory upon all and any member of the regiment to attend will be dealt with under litia Act.

period spent in camp will form ays of the annual training.

e following rations will be issued during camp to each officer, non- ssioner officer and gunner present: . bread or 1 lb. biscuit, 1 lb. meat, otatoes. 1-3 oz. coffee, 2 oz. cheese, tea, 2 oz. sugar, ½ oz. salt, 1-36 pper.

is proposed to hold an open-air parade at 3:30 p.m., and a band concert in camp at 8 p. m. nday, 2nd September."

Povincial Legislature

Very Little Business Remained When the House Reached Adjournment.

A Number of Important Resolutions Passed—Bills Pass Third Reading.

Yesterday's sitting at the legislature was marked by the passage of a series of important resolutions, all upon subjects relating to the jurisdiction of the parliament of Canada, and all urging strenuously the rights of this province. It is needless to say that all carried, and that so far as the desires of the assembly could reach, the judges of this province should be better paid, the Indian lands opened to prospectors and miners, a mint should be established and a Natal Act passed to keep out the ever-cropping-up Chinese. A large number of other bills were also advanced through their final stages, but the desire half expressed by several of the members, that all the bills of the session should be polished off at one long night sitting, was unfulfilled.

Bishop Cridge read prayers, after which Messrs. Green and Houston took turns in presenting petitions signed by hundreds of merchants, business men and miners from various parts of their ridings, against the appointment of a mining commission.

Ralph Smith, chairman of the special committee appointed to investigate the complaints of certain settlers on the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway belt lands (Rothwell's report), presented a report recommending that the commission be empowered to sit during the recess, and to present its findings next session, as the consideration of this subject would require more time than the present session would permit. After some discussion, the matter was stood over for further consideration.

Mr. Tatlow presented a petition from certain residents of Vancouver against the Assessment Act; but on it appearing that the petition did not comply with the rules of the house, it was, on leave of the house, withdrawn.

Mr. Neill's resolution regarding Indian reserves was then reached. Its text was as follows:

That this house urge upon the government the necessity of negotiating with the Dominion authorities with a view to the settlement of the dispute now pending between the Dominion and Provincial governments, as to the actual and ultimate ownership of the Indian reserves in this province, and that, pending such settlement, mutually arranged regulations may be issued, under which free miners may locate and work mineral claims on Indian reserves, and obtain rights of way through such reserves, when necessary for the working of any mineral claims.

In support of it Mr. Neill pointed out that in his riding the large number of small reserves, often unoccupied by the natives, made this matter a very serious grievance. The question was an old one, and had been bandied back and forward twixt here and Ottawa for some time. He believed that the Dominion government was now not unwilling to co-operate with the provincial authorities in effecting some remedy, and he hoped that the matter would not be treated by the government as a hackneyed annual. It was often found, too, that quartz veins led into some of these reserves, and so could not be followed, and that reserves had often to be crossed to get at mineral properties, and also contained the sites most accessible for roads and wharves.

Mr. Fulton pointed out that during the past two years this question had been shifted back and forth between the two governments, and in the interests of his constituents he hoped that some settlement or it would soon be reached. Previous to two years ago the Dominion government had granted mining leases of such lands, but since then they had regularly replied that the right to grant these leases was in dispute. He thought that by a little trouble this matter could be settled, just as some six years ago the similar question regarding minerals in the railway belt had, through the efforts of the late Hon. Mr. Davie, been successfully solved.

Mr. A. W. Smith had found the matter a source of complaint in his riding, too. Some time ago a reserve had been created on the Bridge river, and several miners had been driven off their properties and had suffered considerable loss. Many other instances of similar trouble could be mentioned, and he hoped that the government would take some steps in that direction. He knew only one case where a lease had been secured covering lands included in Indian reserves, but it had taken fully two years to get it through. He would support the resolution.

Hon. Mr. McBride saw no reason why the resolution should not meet the unanimous approval of the house, and he was pleased to be able to inform the house that the government had already taken some steps by corresponding with the Dominion government in the hope of effecting a settlement. There were several applications for leases now before the department regarding lands affected by the reserve question, and the government was fully aware of the importance of the matter, and would use their utmost endeavors to effect a satisfactory solution.

The motion then passed unanimously.

Mr. Garden then introduced his anti-Chinese resolution. This was an appeal to the Dominion government to pass a measure restricting immigration after the manner of the Natal Act. The resolution spoke for itself and ran as follows:

That whereas the wave of Mongolian immigration is increasing in volume at such an alarming rate that it threatens to overwhelm all the industries connected with the development of the natural resources of the province, whether the fisheries, lumber, mineral, or agricultural:

That during the first six months of the present year over 7,000 Japanese alone have landed on our shores; a number of whom, however, are said to have crossed to the United States:

And that out of a total population of say 200,000, or about 40,000 working white men, we have a probable Mongolian working population of 20,000.

That the above proportion is continually being changed by a constant influx of these undesirable people, and white immigration is deterred by dread of competition with them:

And that the well known low conditions of life under which the Mongolians live render it impossible for white men, with their higher standard of living, to compete successfully:

And that, being loyal to the throne and constitution of our country, we consider the highest form of loyalty is fidelity to our own race:

And that British Columbia, being an integral portion of the British Empire, we consider that, hand in hand with the development of its enormous wealth, the efforts of legislators should be to gain a population who will understand the principles of self government and enhance the prestige of our country, besides affording an opportunity for the working people of our own race to make a respectable living for themselves and families:

And because, also, on the broader and more general ground that civilization and Christianity are said to be particularly safeguarded and advanced under the British constitution, it is therefore unwise to permit the extension of heathenism outside of the countries in which it now exists:

Therefore, be it resolved, that a copy of this resolution, signed by the members of this house as may desire to do so, be forwarded to the Governor-General in Council praying that the Natal Immigration Act, or such modification of it as will suit our urgent needs, be passed and enforced, and that other legislation which falls within the powers of the Dominion House of Commons, be passed, which may tend to remedy the evil with which this province is at present struggling.

Mr. Martin thought that this was a peculiar resolution to come from his colleague from Vancouver. There was little use in suggesting that the Dominion government were negligent in their duty when in this very assembly everything that could be done was not being done. It was all the more peculiar when it was remembered that both the mover and the seconder of the motion (Mr. Tatlow) had already opposed every effort of the opposition to have anti-Chinese clauses inserted in railway charters, timber leases and many other contracts entered into by the government regarding the natural resources of the province. Again, he had no doubt that the political opinions of Mr. Garden had no small weight in leading him to suggest that his (the speaker's) friends at Ottawa were slack in doing their duty, and he did not propose to sit still and see these friends of his accused unjustly. The present resolution he considered to be but a political move, and not one arising from principle, as its mover had repeatedly placed himself on record as only supporting half measures upon this matter.

Mr. Tatlow considered that the attack of Mr. Martin upon himself and Mr. Garden was both wholly uncalled for, and wholly without foundation in fact. Mr. Martin was well aware that the government had assured the house that a general measure covering this question would be passed, and that one of the sections would refer particularly to the case of railway charters. Upon this assurance they had been quite justified in opposing the numerous amendments offered from across the floor, by which the opposition had endeavored to encumber and hamper the various bills that had come before the house. These had accordingly been voted down, but he considered that there were quite enough members in the house to pass the general measure which would cover the whole matter, whether the opposition favored it or not.

Mr. Garden fully concurred in the remarks of Mr. Tatlow, adding that, so far as the charge of working for the C. P. R. was concerned, he had only to remind the member making it that in another matter—the Grand Forks & Kettle River railway bill—they were both working hand in hand against that corporation. He had thought that everyone in the house was at one upon this matter, and when he saw gentlemen of the opposition captious in their criticism concerning it, he could not but consider that their efforts had all along been moved by a desire to play to the country and embarrass the government, and their many speeches upon the matter but lip service.

Mr. Hunter expressed his sympathy with the honorable leader of the opposition at feeling somewhat badly on seeing the wind taken out of his sails over this question. It had not the form of the old stereotyped resolution, but had all the ear-marks. Civilization was mentioned, and Christianity was mentioned, and heathendom was mentioned, and it was along the lines that they all wanted, and so the opposition should be content to see it passed.

As the resolution was somewhat long and had not been printed, some objection was then made to passing it without an opportunity of carefully considering the statements that it contained. After a brief discussion, in which the opposition criticized the position quite freely, it was moved in amendment that it be dropped until the resolution could be printed, and on a division of 14 to 11 the amendment was carried.

In introducing his motion regarding the salaries paid by the Dominion government to the Supreme court judges of the province, Hon. Mr. Eberts reminded the members of the remarks made on either side of the house upon this question. Here both sides were in absolute agreement, and beyond mentioning the fact that mining and admiralty cases added to their labors a variety of law scarcely met with by many Eastern judges, he would let the resolution speak for itself.

Whereas, in the opinion of this house, it is apparent:—

That the work of the courts of British Columbia is rapidly increasing, latterly to such an extent that it became necessary to create three new registries of the Supreme Court during the year 1899, and five new registries during the present year;

And that the five judges of the Supreme Court of British Columbia are constantly called upon, in the discharge of their duties, to adjudicate upon matters of magnitude, especially where mining interests are concerned;

And that the questions coming before the said judges for adjudication are, as regards the weight of litigation in other provinces, out of all proportion to the population in this province;

And that, in addition to the duties above referred to, the said judges were last year constituted a Court of Appeal from the Territorial Court of the Yukon, without any provision having been made for remuneration for such extra duties;

And that the judges of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec who occupy positions corresponding to those of the judges of the Supreme Court of British Columbia are paid by the Dominion government one thousand dollars per annum more than the judges of this province, although the cost of living here is much greater than the cost of living there, with the result that the salaries of the judges here are, in effect, further reduced by at least twenty-five per cent.

And that the principle of an increase of salary as a fair compensation for an increase in the cost of living has been recently recognized by the Dominion government in the case of judges of the Yukon Territory by making them an extra allowance of $1,500 per annum in consequence of the great cost of living there;

And whereas this house is of opinion that it is unfair that our judges should, in respect of compensation, be placed on a worse footing than the judges of Ontario and Quebec occupying corresponding positions as above mentioned;

Therefore, be it resolved, that an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada, praying that the judges of the Supreme Court of British Columbia be placed on the same footing, as regards salary, as the judges holding corresponding positions in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

Mr. McPhillips, in support of the resolution, offered the following figures regarding salaries paid elsewhere: In Ontario the Dominion government paid the judges at the following rates: Four judges were paid $6,000 a year, while 11 more received $5,000. In Quebec, too, two judges got $6,000, while 18 received $5,000, and 14 others were paid $4,000 a year.

The motion then passed, as did also its sequel regarding the County court judges. This was offered by Mr. Helmcken. During a recent debate the extra grant of $500 to three judges for sitting as stipendiary magistrates had been discussed, and at that time all agreed that the sum should not be a charge upon the treasury of the province. The resolution run:

Be it further resolved, that the salaries paid to the judges of the county courts of the province of British Columbia are inadequate, and should be fixed at the sum of $3,000 per annum, which sum should be wholly borne by the Dominion government.

Mr. Helmcken's resolution regarding a mint was then reached, and without discussion was unanimously passed. Its text was as follows:

Whereas the establishment of a mint in Canada will be of great benefit, commercially and otherwise;

And whereas the province of British Columbia is the most suitable province wherein it should be established;

Be it therefore resolved, that an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor requesting him to communicate with the Dominion government urging upon that government the desirability of the establishment, at the earliest possible date, of a mint, such mint to be erected in the province of British Columbia, or some other means of securing to the commercial community of Canada the full benefit and otherwise of the output of gold in the Northwest Territories and of this Province.

In moving the adoption of a model railway bill, Mr. Martin reminded the house that the railway committee had in one of its reports recommended that uniformity in regard to these charter bills be secured by insisting on a common form. This was the case at Ottawa, and it was upon the model used there that the one offered in his resolution was framed. Besides the usual sections which were contained in some form or other in all these bills, it was provided that special ones could be added, if desired, but that these latter must be marked by being bracketted. The committee would thus be able to pass without loss of time upon all but these particular clauses. Another point was the requirement of insisting in the newspaper advertisement notices of these special clauses, so that parties whose rights might possibly be infringed or affected by the provisions of the bill should be the better able to protect themselves. He had consulted with the chairman of the committee upon the matter, and the model bill had met with his approval.

Mr. Pooley, the chairman of the committee, stated that he fully agreed with the views of the leader of the opposition. It would save his committee a great deal of time and labor and prove a great convenience. He had himself examined this bill and had found it a good and fair one.

Mr. McPhillips considered that the change was a somewhat important one, and so should not be accepted too quickly. He suggested that the matter be held over until further information regarding it could be gathered. There were some sections in the bill, too, to which exception could be taken and which appeared to him to be somewhat more drastic than were the provisions of the Dominion model.

Hon Mr. Eberts gave Mr. Martin great credit for the interest and labor that he had bestowed upon this subject, but as the matter was so important, it occurred to him that the matter might well be left to a special committee to consider during the recess and report next session. This was the more reasonable, he thought, because there were some differences between the present model and that of the Dominion committee, which probably arose from the differences between the two general acts.

Mr. Martin came to the defence of his offspring, urging its immediate acceptance. If adopted now its provisions would cover the acts coming up next session, and then should any defects be discovered they could at that time be made good.

Mr. Helmcken could not agree with Mr. Martin's suggestion to pass it now and amend it afterwards. The leader of the opposition had a great many pet sections, which he was always trying to tack on these bills, and doubtless, from his standpoint, no bill would be a perfect model without these. It would be a good idea to let it stand until next session, by which time the Speaker's decisions and other authorities could be looked up and a good model draughted.

Mr. Hunter quite agreed with the motion. The two gentlemen of the railway committee, who had framed the model, were to be congratulated upon their labors, which would save further committees many hours of valuable time.

The resolution was then passed unanimously.

The Judgment Bill, Elections Act amendments, Land Act amendment and the act confirming the title in discovery claim on Pine creek, were then read a third time and finally passed.

On the third reading of the Tramways Act amendment, Mr. Martin moved to strike out the section prohibiting tramways from running within half a mile of the international boundary line, and substituting therefor a clause which prohibited the paralleling of the Nakusp & Slocan and the Kaslo & Slocan railways. This was opposed by Mr. McPhillips, who pointed out that during the elections Messrs. Martin and Curtis had promised to run lines to the boundary in spite of the Railway Act, and he would not consent to see the policy of such a handful dominate the house. The amendment was then voted down and the bill read a third time and finally passed.

On a message from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the house went into committee of the whole and passed an amendment to the Municipal Clauses Act. This was then read a first time. Its second reading immediately followed and its committee stage fixed for the evening session.

Mr. Helmcken then obtained leave to introduce a bill to amend the Elections Act, which, like the above, had been recommended by the municipal committee, and which then made like progress up to the committee stage.

A further message from the Lieutenant-Governor transmitted to the house a bill to amend the Dyking Act. This was read a first time. The usual stages then followed and the bill was finally passed. This provides for the borrowing of the balance of $94,000 remaining yet unexpended from the sum of $249,000, authorized by the Dyking Act, 1898, to be raised for expenditure as follows: Chilliwack, $155,000; Agassiz, $10,000; Hatzic, $50,000; Surrey, $27,000, and New Westminster district generally, $7,000. The $94,000 is to be appropriated to unfinished works at Coquitlam, Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, Matsqui and Chilliwack.

At this stage the printing committee reported that the recently submitted return showing the number of votes cast during the late election, should be printed, and the recommendation was adopted.

The committee work on the Mineral Act was resumed, and on its report having been accepted, the bill was read a third time and passed. The Railway Assessment was similarly advanced, and now also awaits only the Governor's assent to make it law.

The bill imposing a tax on coal and coke was then put through the committee stage and subsequently given its third reading and passed.

During the passage through committee of the Assessment Act, Mr. Curtis took exception to that section of the portion respecting the taxation on minerals which exacted double taxation from the mine owners who wilfully misstated the quantity and value of mine outputs. If such a fine, for such it was, were to be extorted, it should equally be exacted of all others giving false returns to the assessor. This was especially pertinent in the case of the tax on incomes. It was unfair to thus discriminate against this class of ratepayers, he thought. An amendment upon these lines was then offered, but failed to carry. On the general question of the increase of the mineral tax to two per cent., Mr. Curtis repeated his arguments against such an impost, and read at some length from an open letter sent down to each of the members by certain of the mine owners of the Kootenay and Vancouver. The question, he suggested, should be left to the mining commission.

Hon. Mr. Turner pointed out that Mr. Curtis, while making use of this letter to advocate a remission of the taxation, had practically discredited it by casting doubt upon its reflections on the eight-hour law. As to taxes on mines in the State of Washington, taxes were levied upon the real estate and the output taken as personal property, and this up to about 3 per cent. Thus it appeared that a mine like Le Roi, if across the line, would pay $30,000, while here it only paid some $1,000. Mr. Curtis replied that across the line the taxation was very different, as even free miners' certificates were required. The committee, however, reported the bill complete.

Upon the report, Mr. Curtis moved in amendment that all taxpayers making wilfully false returns to the assessor be taxed double rates. This amendment was then accepted and the report passed.

Through Hon. Mr. Wells, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor transmitted a message introducing a bill empowering the government to grant certain foreshore rights and property on False Creek and Coal Harbor, within the limits of the city of Vancouver, to the said city. After being duly committed, a favorable report was adopted and the bill was read a first and second time and set down to be committed to-night.

Upon motion of the Premier, the house was then adjourned until 10 o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

Upon the house resuming its sitting at 10:15, Mr. Tatlow, chairman of the committee, presented a report which justified the action of the magistrates in their action calling out the militia. On this adoption Mr. Gilmour stated that he had heard a rumor in Vancouver that the fishermen had not been properly represented at the investigation. To this Mr. Tatlow replied that the union had sent its two witnesses, as requested, just as the canners had, and although a telegram had since been received offering further evidence, but as the case had been closed, the committee had not considered that they could reopen the matter. To this Mr. Brown added that the shortness of the time at their disposal had compelled the committee to conclude its labors, as by further delay they had been shut out by prorogation from making a report at all. Mr. Kidd then explained that all parties had been summoned to attend before the committee, and that all but the non-union men had accordingly been represented, and that by the men of their own choice.

The report was then adopted.

Mr. Ralph Smith then brought up the subject of the complaint of certain settlers on the lands in the E. & N. railwey belt. The committee had been unable to perform its task and asked leave to continue through the recess. Upon his motion to this effect, a brief discussion took place, Mr. A. W. Smith opposing it, and Mr. McInnes speaking in its favor. His chief ground of complaint was that the Adam of the cabbage is agreed by botanists to have flourished way back there in Central Asia, where they say Caucasian race came from. The Romans ate cabbage salad, and, according to count, there are nearly as many varieties of this sturdy old green goods as there are different races of men.

"There is another Roman delicacy," continued the customer, pointing to a box of beets. "They do say that the Greek philosophers thought a dish of boiled beets, served up with salt and oil, a great aid to mental exercise. For my part, though, I don't know a vegetable that should be prouder of its family history than the radish. Radishes came from China, but a scientific journal the other day announced the discovery from a translation of Egyptian hieroglyphics that Pharaoh fed his pyramid builders on radishes. He even went so far as to spend 1,900 silver talents in order to regale his masons with the crisp and juicy root. Again, if you read the old testament carefully, you will be sure to come across the announcement that in Egypt the children of Israel ate melons, beets, onions and garlic, and, evidently, in travelling through the wilderness, Moses had a great deal of difficulty in persuading them to cease yearning after these Egyptian dainties.

"Besides the melons, peaches and geraniums," continued the garrulous customer, "for all of which we have to thank productive Persia, watercress comes from her valleys and brooks and she taught the world how to grow head lettuce. However, the Roman gourmands, who adopted both these salads, ate green peas and string beans that their gardeners found growing in France and South Germany, and cucumbers were as popular with them as with the Jews and Egyptians.

"To Arabia honor is due for the burr artichoke. They ate it for liver difficulties and, as a matter of fact, there is no vegetable so good for men and women who lead a sedentary life, just as carrots, that first grew in Belgium, are an admirable tonic for the complexion, spinach for the blood, potatoes for the hair, and celery for the nerves. Rhubarb they say was never known until the fifteenth century, when the Russians found it on the banks of the Volga. and, if you will believe it, the only European people who appreciate the eggplant as we do are the Turks. North Africa first produced this vegetable; in France it is eaten raw often as not; in obstinate England they use it for decoration. However the potato had to make a desperate struggle for popularity and for nearly a century nobody could be persuaded to touch it. Finally Parmentiar gave it a boom that in two centuries has not diminished, and twice this little tuber has saved Europe from what promised to be cruel famine." Whereupon the customer hurried off down the street, leaving the green-grocer staring at his stock of truck with a refreshing expression of pride and interest.

BOERS BURY ARMS.

Horrible Mode of Hiding War Munitions With Their Dead.

Writing on July 18, the Capetown correspondent of the Chronicle said:—It is a far cry from the operations now terminating in the Free State to those with which Lord Roberts commenced his invasion of that territory; but some most extraordinary and interesting facts have just come to light which are worth summarising. It will be remembered that after the surrender of Cronje and what remained of his force at Paardeberg, there was some speculation as to what had become of large quantities of arms and ammunition which were known to be in his possession. It was commonly said that these had been buried, the object of their interment being twofold, namely, to keep them from falling into the hands of the British, and also in order that they might be used on some future occasion by the Boers themselves should luck again come in their way. About this extraordinary burial there is now no doubt. But your Boer is "slim," and when this work was done every imaginable artifice was employed to deceive those who might make investigations. But there are others at present in this country who are also "slim," and in this case what might be called the woodcraft of the Australian Bushmen has been of immense service. Some of these bushmen khaki-clad, spade in hand, and rifle slung handy to the grip, have been engaged for some time in unearthing the hidden spoils. It has not been nice work, but that is the fault of the Boers, who have shown but little respect for their dead. The stench is described as horrible—first carbolic, and then all the sickening horrors of dead oxen, dead sheep, horses done to death by hard work or shell, and it must be added, dead men. These bushmen were actually digging up the dead. Beneath the bodies of these dead Boers were buried, carefully wrapped in blankets, numbers of rifles.

"What does it mean? What are the rifles doing there? Is that box another coffin?" asked a visitor to the famous battlefield.

"See here," said the bushman, as he took off his hat to wipe the perspiration from his forehead, "this is the way the Boers treated their dead."

He picked up a rifle marked "H. Pienaar." "This I found near one body—poor devil. Under that body you see now I am going to pull out those guns and a lot of ammunition. Here, Jacob! December, lend a hand." And the two Kaffirs came up to assist the soldier gravedigger. First came six rifles, then two boxes, on opening which Mauser ammunition was found. Both boxes were full and uninjured. They had come via Port Elizabeth in the first place, consigned to Bloemfontein. The painting on the boxes was plain, and the three months' burial had done the cartridges no harm. At another spot some twenty Boers had been dug up, with the result that thousands of rounds of ammunition were discovered—put by for future use, it is to be presumed; otherwise, why not have tossed them into the river hard by? Some hundreds of graves and trenches were made to disgorge their contents; and frequently what appeared to be a dead man's last home turned out to be but a clever ruse to conceal pom-pom shells or artillery ammunition of heavier calibre. In one place was a headstone which marked the hiding-place for some dozen rifles, a tin box with clothing in it, and perhaps some 200 rounds of Martini-Henry cartridges. Then from another grave with a wooden cross at its head there came, first, an oliskin coat, next (3 feet from the surface) a long blanket stretched out upon a lot of crossed sticks. Suspended from the sticks, and carefully wrapped up in oil and thick blankets, were three new English Lee-Mettfords, a saddle under them, and a bundle of photographs bearing the names of colonial photographers. The total depth of this grave was 9 feet—good, hard, solid digging. The cunning displayed by the Boers in thus hiding arms and ammunition is marvellous, and but for the ingenuity of the bushmen doubtless shells, guns, and ammunition would have remained intact until the premeditated day for their recoil.

The skill of the Australians, remarks this visitor to Paardeberg, is a lesson to our own police. To the ordinary passer-by the ground is even, and differs nor from the yeldt generally; but the astute non-com. stops between two filled up trenches. He makes a mark with his spade, and bends for Kaffirs. The trenches are emptied, but though 36 square feet are dug out twice over no find repays the energy and industry of the perspiring party.

"Turn this up, boys," says the corporal, turning an inquisitive eye to a blade or two of grass, which, after handling gently, he plucks and throws aside. "This bit of ground has been taken up and flattened down afterwards, and the trenches have been filled in as a blind."

From under this innocent-looking ground were recovered a case of pom-pom shells and an unexploded Lyddite shell, a damaged saddle, and a tin case containing papers and old kit.

NEW FRENCH GUNS.

Some Doubts As to the Advantage Claimed For Them.

A great deal of curiosity is being felt in military and engineering circles as to the construction and even the advantages claimed for the new cannon which was fidet displayed at the Longchamps review.

So, closely, however, is the secret guarded that of the highest French officers only two or three are entrusted with it. I am told that a German officer, who last entered Paris at the head of his regiment in 1870, has been spending several days endeavoring to solve the mystery.

I obtained some information from the secretary of the Vickers-Maxim section at the exhibition. What he told me he confessed he was uncertain about, but at any rate it tallies with the results of other inquiries that I have made.

The secretary, who has discussed the gun with many authorities, believes that the advantages claimed for it are (1) a breech system something like the Nordenfeldt eccentric one; (2) a very long recoil; (3) to counteract the recoil a hydropneumatic buffer; (4) a great speed in firing.

With regard to the eccentric breech, my informant said as far as he could see there was no advantage in it over the othre forms, i.e., the ordinary hinge back and the block sliding right out. The recoil, of course, is important, as a long recoil means a heavy charge, and in the present gun a recoil of 1.30 metre is claimed, or about 4 ft. This amount, however, the secretary doubted, as he did the speed of firing, which he said he had been told was 20 per minute. As the gun is 76mm. one, this would be an enormous rate.

The buffe is the most interesting part, but here the secret is so well kept that even the artillery man who works it is ignorant of its construction, and if it gets out of order the whole machine is sent back to the Government Arsenal.

It is worth noticing that none of the great French gunmakers think much of the new weapon. The Schneider firm is particularly contemptuous on the subject.

Custom House Is Removed

Station on Dalton Trail Placed at the Entrance to Porcupine.

It Will Be Eighteen Miles Nearer Tidewater on Lynn Canal.

S. Weitzmann, of Haines, from whom news was received of the proposed removal of the Canadian custom house on the Dalton trail to the entrance to the Porcupine district, said in an interview in that regard to the Skagway Alaskan:

"The custom house is to be moved 18 miles nearer tide-water on Lynn Canal, and to the point of nearest approach of the provisional boundary to tide-water on the canal. This would mean the establishment of the custom house at the entrance to the American mining camp known as the Porcupine district. Under the customary rule, then, all goods going into the Porcupine would have to pass through Canadian territory. They would then be subject to duty or would have to be carried in bond.

"I have it that Gold Commissioner Graham of the Atlin district is to soon pass through Skagway en route to the Porcupine to have the custom house moved to the mouth of the Klaheena. The moving of the house to that point will mean payment of duties or shipping in bond in connection with all goods for the Porcupine district, including the city of Porcupine. It will not affect the merchants at Haines, but miners and others taking goods into the district will have to pay. At present the custom house is at Pleasant Camp, a Northwest Mounted Police post on the trail on the original boundary, seven miles back of Porcupine.

"The goods now go up the river by canoes handled by the Indians. The heavy freighting is done up the river in the winter over the frozen ice. The trail now following up the river is the only one possible to be built into the country from the coast, and this trail winds back and forth several times across the Klaheena river, now on the American side, now on the Canadian. The Canadians therefore have control of the stream proper is all on the Canadian side. The boundary line follows the southern bank of the Klaheena, and the Porcupine district is contiguous to and south of the southern side of the river.

"It has been said a trail could be built into the Porcupine country which would be wholly in American territory, but I say it cannot. This is because the Klaheena river furnishes the only entrance through a mountainous country. The mountains on the American side of the stream are too high to think of building a trail over them.

"Glacier creek, in which the Americans have claims, and which by the recent placing of the boundary posts is on the British side, is being worked for placers on several claims. Chatanika creek, a tributary to Glacier, also on the British side, is also being worked to some extent. In the Porcupine district proper, on the American side, McKinley, Calhoun and Nugget creeks are the best payers, and some are yielding well. There are 250 men in the Porcupine district, and, what is more notable, all are at work."

MOBILIZATION OF TROOPS.

Preparations in Progress For the Manoeuvres on Monday Next.

Preparations are proceeding apace for the mobilization of troops at Esquimalt Sunday and Monday next, when interesting defence manoeuvres will be executed. Over 800 men will participate in the exercises—the Royal Garrison Artillery; Engineers; "A" Company, Third R. C. R.; Fifth Regiment, C. A.; and Sixth Rifles, of Vancouver.

The programme to be followed is necessarily one about which the military authorities are disinclined to give particulars to the public. The approaches by sea and land will be paroiled, and the night attack on Esquimalt which was carried out a short time ago will be repeated.

The contingent from Vancouver are expected to land at Esquimalt on Sunday morning, but there will be no exercises undertaken on the Sabbath. At the Work Point barracks yesterday the men stationed there were busy getting their kits in shape preparatory to the manoeuvres, which are expected to prove of a highly interesting character.

VICE-REGAL RECEPTION.

All in Readiness For the Arrival of Lord and Lady Minto.

His Worship Mayor Hayward was yesterday busy completing final arrangements for the civic reception to the vice-regal party, who are due from the North on the steamship Quadra to-morrow evening.

The Fifth Regiment guard of honor for Their Excellencies will parade at the Drill hall to-morrow evening at 6 o'clock; and this evening the members of the Veterans' Association, which will take part in the demonstration, will hold a practice drill.

Definite announcement of the Quadra's arrival is expected to be received by Mayor Hayward from Comox some time to-day. The marshals, deputy marshals and representatives of the various societies intending to take part in the parade are requested to meet the mayor and aldermen at the city hall this evening at 8 o'clock.

The Earl and Countess of Minto and party will be met at the custom house wharf at 7 p.m.; and the procession forming, they will be escorted to the Drill hall by way of Wharf, Yates, Government, Belleville and Menzies streets, where addresses will be presented and appropriate music rendered.

Re-forming, the procession will then proceed by way of Menzies and Michigan streets round the large lake to the park, where a display of fireworks will be witnessed, after which the procession will go through Government street to Yates street and there disband. Their Excellencies proceeding to Oak Bay.

At the conclusion of the demonstration at Beacon Hill, the Fifth Regiment band will give a concert.

THE STEVESTON STRIKE.

Committee on Calling Out of the Militia Reports.

After sitting all morning yesterday, and being then unable to arrive at a report acceptable to all its members, the special committee investigating the calling out of the militia at Steveston, a second sitting was held last evening at which the following report was agreed upon and at the evening session presented and adopted by the house.

Mr. Speaker:—Your select committee appointed to investigate the circumstances in connection with the calling out of the militia at Steveston beg to report as follows:—

Your committee held sittings on the 23rd, 24th, 25th, and 27th days of August, and examined the following witnesses: W. B. Wilkinson, reeve of Richmond; Edward Hunt, J. P.; Robert Whiteside, J. P.; Lt.-Col. Worsnop, Capt. Henderson, W. A. Munro, cannery manager; C. S. Windsor, cannery owner; G. W. Shay, chief of police, Richmond; Richard Lister, chief of provincial constables at New Westminster; Colin Campbell, provincial constable; Herbert Brooke, assistant collector of taxes; Frank R. Murray, provincial constable; Musqueen Jim, Indian fisherman; Hugh Campbell, Union fisherman; Frank A. Rogers, secretary Fishermen's Union.

The evidence of these witnesses has been taken down in shorthand, but is not yet typewritten. Your committee recommend that this evidence be printed and included in the sessional papers.

In addition to the bona fide fishermen in Steveston there was a tough element from across the border, which, aided by certain agitators, caused a state of excitement and unrest; that an organized effort was made to prevent any person from fishing until such time as the union fishermen should succeed in arriving at a price for his satisfactory to them; that the justices of the peace were of opinion that had the militia not been called out there would have been serious disturbances of the peace in the event of Japanese commencing to fish, with which disturbances, had they occurred, the provincial police admit, they would have been unable to cope. On the other hand, there is conflict of evidence, some witnesses swearing that there was no reason to apprehend danger, while others swore that they believed there would be trouble in the event of the Japanese commencing to fish.

There is no evidence to show that the provincial government were in any way connected with the calling out of the militia.

R. G. TATLOW, Chairman.

WHERE VEGETABLES CAME FROM.

The customer at a Lewiston market was in a reflective mood Saturday morning and would talk.

"How many of your customers know anything about what they eat?" said he.

"They ought to," said the blue frock; "they buy it and the order it."

"I don't mean that," was the reply. "Of course they know what they eat, but who of them know anything about the stuff? Take vegetables, for instance."

"Oh, lots of 'em know," said the market man. "Here's potatoes, for instance. They are native Americans. I guess Sir Walter Raleigh introduced them to Europe."

"I guess he never ate one, for in his time they were not considered fit to eat. They went to Europe from the hills of South America and a strange matter of fact, when you come to think of it, is that in the United States, where, barring a few sections, vegetables grow in greater abundance and beauty than any other part of the world, none save maize and ground artichokes are native products."

"Nonsense," ejaculated the amazed market man.

"No nonsense about it," said the contemplative customer. "Europe, Asia, Africa and South America are all more richly endowed than we. I used to think the watermelon was ours, but, bless you! the North African tribes grew the big, juicy fellows and gave us our first seeds. As to the musk-melon, it is a vegetable of such antiquity that, like the cabbage and the lettuce, nobody knows just who were their first wild progenitors. The melon, at any rate, came out of Persia as a developed table delicacy, while the Adam of the cabbage is agreed by botanists to have flourished way back there in Central Asia, where they say Caucasian race came from. The Romans ate cabbage salad, and, according to count, there are nearly as many varieties of this sturdy old green goods as there are different races of men.

"There is another Roman delicacy," continued the customer, pointing to a box of beets. "They do say that the Greek philosophers thought a dish of boiled beets, served up with salt and oil, a great aid to mental exercise. For my part, though, I don't know a vegetable that should be prouder of its family history than the radish. Radishes came from China, but a scientific journal the other day announced the discovery from a translation of Egyptian hieroglyphics that Pharaoh fed his pyramid builders on radishes. He even went so far as to spend 1,900 silver talents in order to regale his masons with the crisp and juicy root. Again, if you read the old testament carefully, you will be sure to come across the announcement that in Egypt the children of Israel ate melons, beets, onions and garlic, and, evidently, in travelling through the wilderness, Moses had a great deal of difficulty in persuading them to cease yearning after these Egyptian dainties.

"Besides the melons, peaches and geraniums," continued the garrulous customer, "for all of