Salmon Running On the Skeena

Belated Run of Sockeyes Has Commenced on the Northern River.

Fishermen Were Taking One Hundred to the Boat on Wednesday.

Telegraphic advices have been received from the Skeena River announcing that a decided improvement had taken place in the run on that river, the boats having averaged 100 fish on Wednesday night.

Until the receipt of this welcome news, the run on the Skeena this season had been almost a total failure, and cannerymen had about given up all hopes of getting anything of a pack.

Up to Wednesday the season's pack on the Skeena did not amount to 50 per cent. of the average of the last four years. In 1901 the season was very late, but the pack on the corresponding date was a great deal larger than this year. While the Skeena River canneries will be unable to put up an average pack this year, if the run lasts for a few days they might make up for some of the lost time and get up a fair amount of fish, so that the season's operations will not be the total loss anticipated a few days ago.

On Rivers Inlet a low average pack will be put up, according to latest advices. The run has been a little better than that of the worst years, but nothing like what it has been in some former seasons.

The steamer Cassiar, which has returned to Vancouver from the North, brought news from Rivers Inlet of a considerable improvement in the salmon run. The Wadhams and Brunswick canneries have each put up 18,000 cases already. From Alert Bay the reports show that the run is about the same as last year, so far.

Mr. H. O. Bell-Irving says that his company, the Anglo-British Columbia Packing Company, had already sold a large portion of this season's pack in Canada and Australia, while most of the fish put up at its Sound canneries would be disposed of in the United States. No sailing vessels have been chartered this year, as the company intends to inaugurate a new departure in the shipment of its pack to England by utilizing the steamers of the China Mutual Line. At present, says the News-Advertiser, the rates on this line to England operate rather disadvantageously to Vancouver, as compared with Victoria, the freight rate being 2s. 6d. per ton higher from the Terminal City than from Victoria. The insurance charges were also, until recently, higher from Vancouver than from Victoria, but they have now been equalized.

There were many fish running in the Straits yesterday, and many boats were out trolling, with good results. Mr. Haynes, of Oak Bay, got into a tide-rip and was several hours in reaching shore. The Indian fishermen made big catches yesterday, and several canoe loads were sold at the public landing.

Reports received from the various canneries regarding fishing on the Fraser state that the average ranges about 15 to the boat, 80 being the highest catch. The advices from the different canneries were as follows: Imperial, 80 boats out, average 18; Scottish-Canadian, average 16; Gulf of Georgia, 16; Phoenix, 10; Vancouver, 15; Richmond, 15; Wadham's, 17. The St. Mungo reported an average of 5 for up-river boats, and 35 for those fishing down river.

Advices from Anacortes state that one cannery got about 9,000 fish, 4,000 being from the Lopez Island traps and 5,000 from those at Point Roberts. The majority of the fish were sockeye, only 600 humpbacks being amongst those caught at Lopez Island.

PROTESTANT ORPHANAGE.

Satisfactory Report Received at Regular Monthly Meeting.

The regular monthly meeting of the ladies' committee of the Protestant Orphanage was held yesterday afternoon at the home, Hillside avenue. There were present: Mrs. W. J. McCulloch (in the chair), and Mesdames Higgins, Wilson, Berridge, Andrews, Scowcroft, Van Tassel, Mugridge, McTavish, Munsie, Shakespeare, Bickerdike, Spragge and Going.

After the disposal of routine matters and the approval of accounts for the month, amounting to $184.95, two applications for girls to serve as helpers to farmers' wives were deferred for the present, on account of none being old enough to leave the home.

An application for a boy for adoption was received and referred to a special committee for report.

Mesdames Scowcroft and Van Tassel, the visitors for July, reported "having visited the home several times, and found the inmates well supplied with food of good quality, well cooked, and that the children were happy and well cared for." Referring to a had recently placed in a foster home, they had received a very encouraging letter which, amongst other complimentary things, stated 'that the boy was a credit to the home, and to the watchful care of the matron. In everything he does and says can be traced the good influences that have surrounded him."

The lad Neil Grant, the committee regretted to report, notithstanding the best of medical treatment, including a prolonged stay at the Jubilee hospital, had entirely lost his eyesight, and was now returned to the home. It was feared he would remain totally blind. Pending better arrangements, a lad had been engaged to take care of him. The report was received and filed, and Mrs. Berridge and Mrs. Munsie named as visitors for August.

The following donations during July were thankfully acknowledged: Emmanuel Baptist church, cake and sandwiches; Mr. Campbell (Mount Tolmie), cherries and strawberries; Mrs. Jackson, 24 quarts of raspberries; Mrs. (Dr.) Milne, clothing; Mrs. McCulloch, vegetables; Mrs. Van Tassel, cherries and vegetables; A Friend, pictures and clothing; A Friend, clothing; Mrs. Scowcroft, clothing, shoes and milk (daily) during the month; Mrs. J. W. Dabald, vegetables; Mrs. Reed, six bottles of jam, and clothing; Mrs. Finleyson, milk, part of month; Mrs. Morley, clothing; Mrs. McKilligan, eggs; E. & N. railway (unclaimed goods), 21 bottles of raspberry wine and 2 sacks of sugar; Congregational Ladies' Aid, cake; Mrs. Spencer, stockings; Miss Spencer, clothing; A Friend, 50 cents.

RUSSIAN OIL LANDS.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 4.—Rich naphtha wells, extending over a distance of 200 versts, have been discovered in the Kuban territory of Caucasia.

CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE.

New Westminster, Aug. 4.—(Special)—Conservatives delegates from the various districts of the Chilliwack constituency met at Upper Sumas yesterday and nominated J. L. Atkinson as government candidate to oppose the re-election of Mr. Munro. The names before the convention were Atkinson, Cawley and Hill-Tout.

Shakespeare was asked why he had put the donkey into "Midsummer Night's Dream."

"Well," explained the bard, "you must remember it was just following Welsh rabbit."

Rejoicing that he had escaped from Avon it worse, they begged him to go on with the play.

CURTAILING COTTON OUTPUT.

Boston, Aug. 3.—In addition to the mills that have announced a suspension during August, because of the cotton situation, others today followed this action in Amesbury, Mass.; Middletown, and Higganum, Conn.; Nasau, N. H.; and Lewiston, Maine. The extent of the curtailment in Fall River this week is about 750,000 spindles in the Bufee, Cornell, Syfford, Border City, Davol, Union, Chace, Naragansette, Robeson, and Westamoe corporation.

GERMAN ARMY ABUSES.

Berlin, Aug. 4.—The details re-published today of a court-martial held at Metz on a non-commissioned officer named Dunkel for maltreating private soldiers at Moerchingen, Lorraine, 500 instances of brutality, occurring since last December, were cited. The evidence showed Dunkel's fertile inventiveness in novel methods of punishment, such as compelling a soldier to run at full tilt across a room and ram his head against a wardrobe.

The court decided that 360 counts of the indictment had been proven, and sentenced Dunkel to two years and a half imprisonment and degradation to the ranks. The scandal became known to the military authorities through the suicide of one of the maltreated men, which an anonymous letter ascribes to Dunkel's brutality.

RUSSO-GERMAN TREATY.

Berlin, Aug. 4.—The papers today print a statement which is regarded as semi-official, to the effect that Russia will insist on two conditions as indispensible to the new German commercial treaty with Russia. Firstly, a heavy reduction in the duties on animals; secondly, to confine the minimum duties on grain to states entering into treaty relations with Germany to the exclusion of the United States and Argentine.

Coroner Used Wrong Influence

Which Led to a Verdict of Suicide Being Rendered in the Case.

San Francisco Paper Says Dead Man Was Wronged and Jury Re-Consider.

The jury at Berkeley which sat to investigate the death of Capt. Howard brought in a verdict of suicide, but the San Francisco Examiner charges that the jury were wrongfully influenced by the coroner, and now regret their verdict. The San Francisco paper states that "seven of the eight jurors, were ready to state that demise was caused by gunshot wounds by unknown persons. At this juncture the coroner was allowed to see them, and with unofficial statements that were not evidence persuaded the jurors to sign a verdict of suicide. The members explain their change of front by stating that the coroner told them the bruises and abrasions on the head might have been caused during the autopsy. But Dr. Rowell, who was present, challenges this statement as "tommyrot." In view of this it is likely the jury will be again impaneled, the verdict reversed and one returned in accordance with the testimony.

The Berkeley correspondent of the San Francisco paper says:

"Throughout the inquest, from the evidence submitted and from the trend of the questions asked by the jurors, it looked as if the verdict would unquestionably be that Captain Howard was murdered. As a matter of fact, when the testimony was complete and the jury had been in private session for an hour a verdict equivalent to murder was rendered, drawn up by the clerk of the court and signed by six of the jurymen—C. R. Lord (foreman), J. S. Linscott, H. Martin, George Schmidt, C. H. Townsend and William Kelley. C. R. Hoessli stood out for suicide from the first and John Fitzpatrick was inclined to the same theory, but was afterwards convinced that nothing else than murder caused Captain Howard's death. Both these men agreed to sign the verdict, which then read in part:

"'Death was caused by a gunshot wound in the head, inflicted at the hands of persons unknown.'

"Hoessli requested at this juncture that Coroner Merhmann be called into the room. This was done, and while the coroner was there he offered his testimony, not as sworn evidence, but merely as personal opinion. He said he had seen the remains shortly after the autopsy, by which he probably meant the night of the first session of the inquest, nine days after the autopsy, and that in his opinion the abrasions on the top of the scalp and the forehead were post-mortem bruises, due to decay and embalming, and also that the chiseling of the skull to remove the brain matter might have caused the long fracture. 'As the jury had lodged upon these abrasions as one of the strongest indications of murder, this suggestion of Merhmann's was a staggering one, and caused them to reverse their decision within the half hour.

"Discussing the verdict today, Juror C. H. Townsend said: 'I am convinced that the jury made a mistake in placing any value whatever upon Coroner Merhmann's testimony, as it was not sworn evidence, though I was the last to sign the verdict for suicide and simply did so for the sake of unanimity. I do not now believe that the verdict rendered last night changes the facts. I firmly believe that we have not heard all the testimony relative to this case, particularly that which would cover some part of the five days prior to the Captain's death. I have talked with several of the other jurors, and they think very much as I do, so I shall request C. R. Lord, the foreman, to call a meeting of the jury for Saturday night, to consider the advisability of reconsidering the verdict, as I am advised we have the right to do.'

"Dr. H. M. Rowell, who was present at the latter part of the autopsy in an unofficial capacity, but who was not summoned as a witness to the inquest, today characterized the statement that the abrasions on the top of the scalp were post-mortem as 'tommyrot.'

"'I saw the body, as did many others, within a day after death ensued, and there cannot be the slightest doubt that the abrasions on the forehead and top of the head were ante mortem. They were such as might have been caused by a blunt instrument or slungshot, which, if directed to an oblique direction, could have caused the fracture on the left side of the head without breaking the skull at the point of impact.'"

WIZARD OF WALL STREET.

New York, Aug. 4.—Russell Sage, still the largest loaner in Wall Street, said to have more ready money than any other individual in the Street, today celebrated the eighty-seventh anniversary of his birth.

BEGIN THE MANEUVRES.

So-Called Enemy's Ships Prepare for the Attack.

Bar Harbor, Me., Aug. 4.—The manoeuvres began today when the so-called hostile squadron withdrew from the combined North Atlantic fleet and departed from the harbor. The squadron was in command of Rear Admiral Sands, and consisted of the battleship Texas, Indiana and Massachusetts and the torpedo-boat destroyers, Lawrence and Wilmple.

Along the Waterfront

Empress of Japan Arrives From Orient With Many Passengers.

Capt. Gosse Honored By Fellow Workers---Big Ocean Raft.

Steamer Empress of Japan reached port yesterday morning from the Orient with seventy-two saloon passengers, including a number of naval officers on furlough bound to England, United States citizens from Manila, several scientists, including K. Inouye, Japanese government geologist, who is bound to Australia to attend a convention of geologists. Those who left the steamer at Victoria included Mr. Volney T. Hoggart and wife and J. A. Carson, who have been to Manila, where Messrs. Carson and Hoggart have been engaged in taking evidence in connection with a suit regarding a mining property in the Klondike; Irving H. Frank and Wilton A. Frank, W. B. and Mrs. Morton, S. Weiss, M. H. Samson, wife and child, Major King, J. T. Bibb, R. Hawker and wife, J. S. Baker, S. Osborn, and Paul Thomas. Among the naval officers bound to England by the liner were Lieut. T. L. Goldie, Lieut. Roland Hunt, Lieut. Francis Lewin, Lieut the Hon. R. Plunkett, Sub-Lieut. Paton and Mr. J. T. Wright. Wong Hoe Min, a wealthy New York Chinese, arrived en route home from a visit to China. There were ten intermediate and 282 steerage, of whom 40 debarked here. The steamer brought a cargo of 2,440 tons of general freight. She had an uneventful voyage.

During this trip of the Empress Mr. Bush, a wealthy Newchwang merchant who was a passenger, presented the steward, Mr. Hawyes, with a handsome gold watch value at $150, and the purser, Mr. F. B. Emory was the receipient of a handsome silver cigarette case. Mr. Emory, who has a wide circle of friends in Victoria, for he is a very popular officer of the Empress liner, is about to leave the position of purser on board the Empress of Japan, and will shortly leave for North China to engage in business there. Mr. D. Lamont, purser of the steamer Athenian arrived from Yokohama as a passenger on the Empress and he will take Mr. Emory's place as purser on the Empress liner, to which he was promoted on the retirement of Mr. Emory. Mr. Lamont is well and favorably known to Victorians as purser of the Athenian, and many friends here will congratulate the popular purser on his promotion.

News was brought by the Empress that the Portland and Asiatic Steamship company of which Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. are the present agents at Yokohama, contemplates adding two liners to its fleet, and running tri-weekly regular services, instead of one in every five weeks as is now the case. The establishment of an independent branch office here is also contemplated. The company is operating the steamers Indravelli, Indrasamha, and Indrapura, which make occasional calls at this port.

News was brought that the American ship Atlas, Captain McKay, from New York for Yokohama went ashore, during thick weather, near the middle fort on Futsu on July 19th. Assistance has already been sent to her and it is expented that she will be floated without much delay. The Atlas made the passage from New York in 111 days, which is considered one of the quickest passages on record.

From Shanghai, news was received that the lumber cargo of the stranded schooner Carrier Dove, which went ashore near Saddle rocks when nearing Shanghai with lumber from Vancouver, had been looted by Chinese.

CAPT. GOSSE REMEMBERED.

Presentation Made Yesterday to Retiring Master of the Princess May.

Capt. J. Gosse, who has retired from the command of the C. P. R. liner Princess May, to become a member of the board of Nanaimo pilots, vice the late Capt. Bendrodt, was the recipient of two presentations on board the liner yesterday, when he turned over the vessel to her new commander. On behalf of his fellow-officers, Purser Kennedy presented a handsome pair of marine glasses, which are engraved: "Presented to Capt. Josiah Gosse by his fellow-officers, S.S. Princess May, August 5th, 1903." Chief Steward Petrie, on behalf of the steward's department, also presented a splendid meerchaum pipe. Both of the presents were acknowledged in a few well-chosen words by the popular mariner, and others present spoke of his worth and good-fellowship. Capt. Gosse is one of the most popular of the local steamboatmen, having made friends by the legion during his 17 years of work on local waters.

FOR SKAGWAY.

Steamer Cottage City Sailed Yesterday Morning—Spokane in Afternoon.

There were two departures from the Ocean dock yesterday for the North. The steamer Cottage City sailed for Skagway yesterday morning and the steamer Spokane, the excursion steamer of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, sailed yesterday evening, after her passengers had spent several hours in this city. The steamer Spokane had all of her first-class accommodations engaged. While her crowd includes many well known local people, by far the greater number is from the East. The Easterners include business and professional men from nearly every principal city beyond the Atlantic.

Milwaukee is contributing eight or ten, notably George Raab and F. Leighton. Mrs. Sproull, the wife of a St. Louis millionaire, and her two daughters, are passengers; also W. H. Boyle, of the Missouri metropolis. Raymond & Whitcomb have a party of 40 or 50 on the Spokane.

BIG OCEAN RAFT.

Several Million Feet of Timber Being Towed to San Francisco.

The feat of towing a great pile raft containing the equivalent of 3,000,000 feet of lumber over the treacherous Columbia river bar has been successfully accomplished by the Unget Sound Tugboat Company's tugs Tatoosh and Sea Lion, commanded, respectively, by Capt. Buck Bailey and Capt. C. J. Mauter.

The raft passed out over the bar Saturday at 8 o'clock. Capt. John B. Libby, general manager of the tugboat company, who directed the affair, reported on Monday upon his return from Astoria to the Sound. The tugs made a continuous voyage from Stella, where the great cigar-shaped raft was built, to the sea, a feat which, owing to the enormous size of the tow and the dangers usually involved in an attempt to cross this menace to navigation, is regarded as most remarkable.

San Francisco is the port of delivery, and unless unfavorable weather should be encountered, the rest of the voyage will doubtless be made without difficulty.

TATOOSH REPORT.

Tatoosh, Aug. 4.—8 p. m.—Clear, wind northwest five miles. Inward, steamers Titania, San Francisco to Nanaimo at 4:20; Empress of Japan, Hongkong to Victoria at 5 a. m.; Tootenham, Portland to China via Seattle at 10 a. m.; Inverness, San Francisco to Puget Sound at 6:30; schooner Mawecma, Monterey, Seattle at 4:30 p. m. Outward, steamers Jeannie and Ohio, Seattle to Nome; ship Canada Vancouver to United Kingdom.

SONS OF ST. GEORGE.

Local Representative Returns From San Francisco Convention.

The last of the British Columbia delegates to the Grand Lodge convention of the Sons of St. George returned last evening. The session just concluded was held in San Francisco and was one of the largest gatherings ever held. Mr. W. H. Price represented Victoria, and Mr. J. H. Cocking the Northern end of the Island. The mainland representatives to the Grand Lodge came back on the Queen. Intense interest was aroused this year by reason of several changes being suggested in the methods of election, which, though strongly opposed, eventually carried. In the future all Grand Lodge officers will be elected from the floor of the lodge. Subordinate lodges will also elect all officers, changing the existing method, which are partly appointive. Other changes were made in the interest of the government of subordinate lodges. The present system of funeral assessment was found to be working successfully. The Grand President Bro. J. H. Cocking of Nanaimo, in his address to the grand body, congratulated the delegates on the success which had attended the order during the preceding year, the membership and finances showing considerable increase. He spoke on the great change that had been exhibited in public opinion, and exhorted all those present by their method of living, dealings and example to so live that they would command the respect of those in whose midst they dwelt. The California brothers made the stay of their British Columbia brethren a pleasant one, several banquets being given to celebrate the election of a British Columbian to the presidential chair of the order in this jurisdiction.

A WASTE OF TIME.

Flunegan—Don't be so lazy an' discouraged about it. The best way to find out what ye kin do is to try.

Flanagan—Ay! But that's the worst way to foind out what ye can't do.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Chinese Rebels Kill Missionaries

Three Roman Catholic Priests Victims of Insurgents in Shansi Province.

Korea Opens Wiju to Foreign Trade--Commercial Depression at Tientsin.

According to advices received from the Orient the Korean government has now decided to open the port of Wiju to foreign trade. In this connection the Kokumin publishes a despatch from its Seoul correspondent that in accordance with Russian objections Korea was inclined to abandon the proposal, but the Japanese minister notified the Korean government that Japan already considered Wiju to be open. Then the Korean government decided to form enterprises in Korea as a counterblast to Russia, and the Japanese-Chinese Lumber syndicate is very acuve on the Yalu. On the opening of Wiju a Japanese steamship line was at once organized from Chemulpo, and the first two vessels arriving at Wiju had large numbers of Japanese on board. The Russian telegraph line between Anunghsien and Yongampho has been removed in consequence of Korean protests.

News comes from China in despatches to the Asahi that three Roman Catholic missionaries have been murdered by Chinese insurgents at Ping-li, in Shansi province. The remaining foreign missionaries and their families, escorted by Chinese troops, have arrived at Hsuny-ang, whence they took passage for Hankow.

The commercial depression at Tientsin has grown worse owing to the war rumors. Customers in South China, although wiling to support the Tientsin merchants, are alarmed because of the situation in the north. There is no present prospect that business will be restored to a normal condition in Tientsin.

The North China Daily News says the charge of sedition preferred against Chinese journalists at Shanghai was being tried before a joint tribunal, consisting of the Taotai and Mr. Mansfield, Britsh acting consul-general.

A Wuchang despatch says the Chinese government, at the instance of the conservatives, has instructed the Hupeh authorities to prohibit the sale and reading of the history of the reformation in Japan. This step is considered the beginning of the conservative efforts to secure control, and following on the arrest of Chinese journalists at Shanghai is considered significant.

The Chinese government has consented to the opening of the following ports: Nganking, capital of Anhui province, Changsha, capital of Hunan Wanshien, in Szechuan, and the Tungchiang and Hsichiang (East and West rivers) in Kuantung.

Reliable news received in Shanghai states that Hunan is being invaded by the Kwangsi rebels, who now hold the Hunanese districts of Chenpu, Hsinning, Linling and Yungming in force, and roving bands of rebels, who are readily joined by local bandits and desperadoes, are operating in Tungan, Changhua, Taochou and Tungtao. The inhabitants of the districts mentioned are panic-stricken, and the highways are crowded with refugees.

The Osaka exhibition in Japan was to be formally closed on August 1.

Shiro Inouye, a Japanese astronomer, has discovered a new comet in the Cygnus constellation, not far from the Lyra, moving northward.

The Japanese telegraph companies have consented to the lowering of telegraphic charges on messages between Nagasaki and Hongkong for the Pacific cable.

TOURIST ASSOCIATION.

Encouraging Reports From the Central Bureau of Information.

Most of the tourists who reach Victoria wend their way toward the office on Fort street, presided over by Mr. Cuthbert, and there learn all that they desire about Victoria and its environs. The imparting of this information has been reduced to a science, and every word of the tourist is anticipated. Hence the tourists who now visit Victoria see much more of its numerous beauties, and to much better advantage, than former tourists could. The tally-ho coach is a source of endless pleasure, and the bracing drives behind a spanking team, with a jolly driver on the box, amidst scenery not surpassed for romantic beauty on the whole Pacific Coast, is an experience not readily effaced from the memory of any tourist. The trips up the Arm are also attracting their full share of delighted patrons, who, by means of cameras of every size and make, bear away with them many a fine souvenir of "the prettiest place I ever saw." Since the fine weather returned, there has been quite a large increase in the number of tourists arriving from different points, south and east. August is expected to be the record month for this season, but great expectations are entertained for a big list in September, which, of late years, has been gradually shaping as the sunniest and hottest month of the year.

RUSSIAN RAILROAD STRIKES.

A Few Battalions of Infantry to Guard Station in Kieff.

Kieff, Russia, Aug. 4.—The employees in the workshops of the Southwestern railway and other works have struck. A few battalions of infantry have occupied the railroad station and the neighboring workshops. Quiet has not been maintained.

The Situation In The Orient

Russia Is Mobilizing Armies Toward the Yalu and Making Warlike Moves.

British, Japanese and Russian Navies are Assembling in Northern Waters.

Japanese Requisition Merchant Steamer to Carry Goods to Formosa.

Steamer Empress of Japan, which arrived yesterday afternoon from the Orient, reports that the massing of Russian troops on the borders of Korea and in Manchuria is being continued. Advices received by Japanese papers state that four battalions are being carried over the Siberian railway, and barracks for 20,000 soldiers are being erected at Port Arthur.

A correspondent writing from Tokio by the Empress, under date of July 23, says the Jiji, one of the most responsible Japanese papers, says that in consequence of the trans-Siberian railway being required for experiments in the transportation of troops to Manchuria, no Chinese subjects will be allowed to travel on that line.

RUSSIA MOBILIZING.

Advices are also received from Pekin by the Jiji that two divisons of the Russian army have reached Chita, Siberia, from home, and that the Russian forces in Kirin are being moved southward. Unofficial advices have also been received at Tokio of the massing of Russian troops and of the construction of barracks at Chita and Hairal. A Tokio paper says the two divisions which were despatched from European Russia to Siberia are the 15th and 35th army divisions.

The Kokumin's Pekin correspondent learns from a traveler, who returned to Pekin on Wednesday night, and whom he believes reliable, that the Russian troops in Kirin and Moukden provinces have been all moving southward, otherwise concentrating in the Haicheng direction from the Liao-yang direction. They arbitrarily commandeer tracks, cattle and provisions and considerable tension prevails among the Chinese people there. The new Russian movement appears not to be a mere show.

WARLIKE MOVEMENTS.

The Asahi says that Russia has sent more troops to the Amur from home under the pretext of ascertaining the transport capacity of the Siberian railway. Their numbers are alleged in Pekin to be two divisions, but actually they are not such a large reinforcement. It may be surmised, however, that the troops in Siberia will be gradually reinforced hereafter. The mobilization is generally supposed to be the result of the Port Arthur Conference.

In its comments on the Russian mobilization the Jiji says: "As a result of the conference held by the Russians at Port Arthur, a 'council of war' is appears that Russia has organized a mixed brigade, consisting of two brigades, belonging to the 35th and 15th divisions, and despatched it on the plea of testing the transport capacity of the Siberian railway. It is expected, therefore, that this force has arrived by this time somewhere near Chita, as reported in a Pekin telegram. No fresh force seems to have arrived at Harbin, but the barracks seem to have been increased. A certain foreigner, who visited Harbin, told the Russian commander at that place that the garrison was too small, but the Russian commander replied that the force was sufficiently strong to deal with Chinese bandits but in case of a collision with Japan, Russia would be able to get re-inforcements by availing herself of the railways, so that by the time Japan set her foot in Manchuria, Russia would be completely prepared to meet it."

The Jiji further reports that the Russians have been improving the roads from Ton-Man-Chiang to the Yalu, while at Lung-Yuen-po barracks are being constructed. The Korean chief of the Wiju telegraph office is being paid by the Russians, and the means of communication in that part of North Korea are in the hands of the Russians. Ordnance is being actively transported for fortification purposes in various places in Manchuria. The object of Russia in taking these measures is probably to make sufficient preparations by the forthcoming autumn for the purpose of maintaining at least the existing statue in Manchuria, and the Port Arthur conference has doubtless arrived at a decision in this sense. Evidently Russia is trying, the Jiji states, to maintain the status quo, but is making preparations for an emergency, while watching the attitude of the powers.

STORING MUNITIONS.

Major-General Wogack has left Port Arthur in the direction of the Yalu, to inspect the preparations in that vicinity. Meanwhile Russian agents are buying cattle, rice and other supplies in China and Japan. Coal supplies are also arriving in quantity at Port Arthur. At the same time the Russians have stopped the export of cereals, from Newchwang. In this connection Japanese Consul Segawa telegraphs under date of the 15th July, that it was notified by the Russian authorities on Wednesday that the exportation of cereals from Newchwang is to be prohibited from July 22nd. The present step has been taken by the Russian civil administration there in consonance with an alleged popular petition in consequence of the late considerable rise in the price of cereals.

NAVIES ASSEMBLING.

The warships of the powers in the Orient are gathering in the north. A despatch published by Japanese papers says the Russian Asiatic squadron will shortly assemble in the vicinity of Vladivostock. The Japanese standing squadron is now engaged in the summer manoeuvres off Hokkaido. Thus the main naval forces of Japan and Russia are "naturally" attracted to the northern waters.

Vice-Admiral Hidaka, commander-in-chief of the Japanese standing squadron, on board the flagship Shikishima, left Yokosuka on July 19 in the direction of Aomori with the Tokiwa. The proposed manoeuvres of the standing squadron will be commenced on the arrival of the Shikishima at her destination. The Hakodate Mainichi says that the principal warships of the British Far Eastern squadron will join the Japanese squadron and that general arrangements for the so-called Anglo-Japanese manoeuvres have already been completed.

The Japanese Herald says that Major-General Muda, commander of the Maizuru fortifications, has sailed for Oki province on board a torpedo boat to inspect that island. It is said that the Maizuru admiralty is taking stricter precautions in the Japan sea than before.

REQUISITIONING STEAMERS.

The N.Y.K. new steamer Niigatamaru has been requisitioned by the war department, says the Japan Herald. She will shortly leave for Formosa having on board guns from the Osaka arsenal.

The Japanese government seems to be urging the completion of the Fukuchiyama-Maizuru railway, as the diplomatic situation in the Far Ehe approaches a crisis. Recently the authorities invited tenders for the construction of from the first to the third sections, that is to say, between Fukuchiyama and Ilwegui.

FEELING IN JAPAN.

An idea of the feeling in Japan is obtained by reading the speeches of Japanese statesmen on the Manchurian and Korean questions. Mr. Oishi, a prominent Japanese publisher, says in discussing the situation: "Japan is being insulted by Russia. Now England is Japan's ally. Japan has a naval and military force. But even without resorting to this it should be possible by means of diplomacy to ensure the withdrawal of the Russian troops or to break up the old bond of the triple alliance. War is the ultimate resort after diplomatic means have been exhausted, and it is regrettable that before taking the latter step the nation should be forced to talk about war. This raises a question as to the competency of the authorities and Mr. Oishi sarcastically remarks that if such conditions be allowed, the nation could afford to do without the foreign office. The influential cabinet ministers are principlaly soldiers and as they would not scruple to resort to unconstitutional measures, they may precipitate a coup d'etat.

CABINET READJUSTMENT.

From Tokio news is received that Marquis Ito has been made president of the privy council, which clears his way to ascendency in the national councils. Count Matsukata and Marquis Yamagata have been made privy councillors, and the cabinet was reconstructed on July 17 by Viscount Yoshikawa, Barons Hirata and Kikuchi retiring, their portfolios being added to those held by Baron Kiyoura, Baron Soue and General Baron Kodama.

This readjustment of the cabinet is regarded as a temporary expedient, pending the construction of a new administration in the event of war. The real point of the domestic changes is the elevation of Marquis Ito to a position where he will be removed from the disabling odium of party management and be able at any time to take the reins. The so-called "domestic crisis" transparently made to seem like a ministerial squabble is believed to be a carefully arranged precaution against imminent war.

In the meantime though, Mars is seeing that his chariot is in repair.

Canada Cables For Canadians

Establishment of Independent British-Canadian Service Guaranteed.

Mr. Loy's Governmental Real Estate Deal is Duely Whitewashed.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Aug. 4.—Hon. Mr. Fielding gives notice of a resolution to assist in the establishing and maintaining of an independent and efficient service of telegraphic news from Great Britain for publication in the Canadian press. For three years the cost will be $15,000 per annum, fourth year $10,000, and fifth year $5,000.

It is made a condition that the benefits shall be open on fair and reasonable terms to all newspapers published in Canada, and not less than half the cost of establishing and maintaining the service is to be paid by the proprietors of newspapers participating in the benefits.

Mr. Loy, member for Beauharnois, was this morning declared by a majority of the committee on privileges and elections not to have committed any breach of the Independence of Parliament Act by reason of his selling personal land to the government. The adoption of a minority report declaring that Loy had full cognizance of the affair, will be moved in the House.

The House this afternoon decided to refer the question of printing the reports and evidence to the printing committee.

The House afterwards took up Hon. W. S. Fielding's resolution on the bounties to steel and iron. Hon. Mr. Fielding explained the resolutions, and R. L. Borden said he was glad to see that the government had wakened up to the necessity of protecting this industry.

Messrs. Deegan and Russell waited on Premier Laurier and Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick today and presented a memorial from the Manitoba Catholics in regard to the separate school question. Sir Wilfrid Laurier promised a reply on Thursday.

CELESTIAL CHOLER.

A Chinese Bossman Who Brought His Temper With Him.

In one of the city express offices yesterday afternoon a tyee Chinaman who had been notified that some goods were awaiting his orders, called in and demanded the packages. The clerk insisted upon identification by at least one other Chinese merchant well known to the office. John monotonously demanded his parcel, and the clerk as steadily declined to hand it over. Then the Boxer blood began to boil, and his pidgin-English became spattered with joss talk that should have burned wherever it hit; but the clerk kept on writing, quite undisturbed.

"Here," hissed the Chinaman, "You gibbe me my goods!"

The clerk smiled absently and gently shook his head.

"You no gibbe him?"

Again the bland smile and the gentle head shake.

"Hi yi yah tchi moka toon!"—the rest was merely an explosion of gutterals and sibilants which fairly made the office air sizzle.

"John, you fetch a man up here to identify you, and you'll get your package."

"No do it, no do it," snapped the Celestial, displaying a fine set of biscuit-nibblers the color of old dice.

"Very well, John; ve-ry well, my dear," calmly and irritatingly proceeded the clerk, not looking up from his writing; "no catchum man, no catchum parcel—see?"

"Yah, hi yi kip zee boom!" shouted the thoroughly impassioned son of Cathay, slamming the card on the counter with terrible emphasis; "I no fetchee man; I wantee my passel."

"Not this time, John, my darling," continued the clerk; "you know the rules. Go and get somebody to identify you, and the goods are yours."

"You go to ——!" yelled the infuriated Chinaman, disappearing through the office door, foaming at the mouth. The last word in his direction was not very distinct, but is thought to have been either Harrison Hot Springs, or some place in the ginger-growing districts of China.

HON. WM. PROUDFOOT DEAD.

Hamilton, Aug. 4.—Hon. Wm. Proudfoot, formerly vice-chancellor of Ontario Chancery Court, died at his summer home here today. He was 88 years of age. He was one of the best read lawyers in Canada and especially well up in Roman law.

VICEROY CURZON REMAINS.

Accepts Government's Offer of An Extension of His Term.

Simla, India, Aug. 4.—Viceroy Curzon intimated at council at today's sitting that he had decided to accept the government's offer of an extension of his term of office with permission to take a vacation in England in 1904, should he so desire. Lord Curzon said five years was too short a term for a governor who had embarked on wide schemes of reform, and it would be a neglect of duty to abandon his share of the work.

CERTIFICATES OF IMPROVEMENT

"RALPH," "PHAIR," "MOUNT SKIRT," "LUBBE," AND "TOLMIE" MINERAL CLAIMS, AND THE "RALPH FRACTIONAL," AND "PHAIR FRACTIONAL" MINERAL CLAIMS.

Situate in Victoria Mining Division. Where located: On Mount Skirt, near Goldstream River, upon Section VII, Goldstream District, and Sections 28, 81, 83 and 84, Highland District.

TAKE NOTICE that I, Theodore Lubbe, Free Miner's Certificate No. B76556, acting as agent for Mary Phair, Free Miner's Certificate No. B76559, Caroline A. Lubbe, Special Free Miner's Certificate N. 5911, and G. H. Burns, Free Miner's Certificate No. B76557, intend, 60 days from date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claims.

And further take notice that action, under Section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated the 16th June, 1903.

THEODORE LUBBE,
Agent for Mary Phair, Caroline A. Lubbe and Gavin H. Burns.

NOTICE

The "Copper King," "Copper Queen," "Nonesuch," and "Klondyke" Mineral claims, situated in the Victoria Mining Division of Chemainus District, on Mount Brenton.

Take notice that I, P. J. Pearson, Free Miner's Certificate No. B76564, intend, 60 days from date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claims.

And further take notice that action under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements.

Date this 8th day of June, 1903.

P. J. PEARSON,
Applicant for Owners of Claims.

Notice is hereby given that 60 days after date I intend to apply to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described land, situated at the mouth of Bear river, Portland Canal, Cassiar District: Commencing at a post marked J. W. S.'s S. W. corner, thence N. 40 chains, thence E. 20 chains, thence South 40 chains thence West 20 chains, to point of commencement, being in all 80 acres, more or less.

J. W. STEWART.
Bear River, Portland Canal, April 26th, 1903.

NOTICE.

The "Rose," Daisy" and "King" Mineral Claims, situated in the Victoria Mining Division of Shawnigan District, on Mount Malaanate.

Take notice that I, P. J. Pearson, Free Miner's Certificate No. B79564, intend sixty days from date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claims.

And further take notice that action under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements.

Dated this 17th day of June, 1903.

P. J. PEARSON,
Applicant for Owners of Above Claim.

IRONCLAD MINERAL CLAIM.

Situate in the Victoria Mining Division of Chemainus District. Where located: Sugar Loaf Mountain. Take notice that I, Sarah Doulza Bevins, Free Miner's Certificate No. B74361, intend, sixty days from date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated 24th day of June, A. D., 1903.

Notice is hereby given that sixty days after date I intend to make application to the Lands and Works Department to purchase the following described lands, situated near Hazelton, Skeena river. Commencing at a post planted at the southeast corner of Lot 104, thence south to the southwest corner of the Government Reserve, thence east to the Hagwilget river, thence southwesterly along the bank of the river to McCosgrie's and Murray's Lot 103, thence north 26.30 chains, thence west 40 chains, thence north 20 chains, thence west to point of commencement, containing 160 acres more or less.

EDWARD McCOSKRIE.
Victoria, B. C., July 8th, 1903.

Notice is hereby given that 60 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described tract of land, situated at the head of Nasoga Gulf: Commencing at a post marked "W. E. C.'s S. W. corner," thence east 40 chains, thence north 40 chains, thence west 40 chains, thence south following coast line to point of commencement, containing 160 acres more or less.

W. E. COLLISON.
Nasoga Gulf, June 23, 1903.

Notice is hereby given that 60 days after date we intend to apply to the Chief