British Columbia.

CHILLIWACK.
Chilliwack Progress.

Messrs. A. and S. Trethewey left yesterday for their mines near Harrison lake. We are informed they have a standing offer from Tacoma smelter people of $90 per ton for all they can get out. This is a very good offer as the cost of shipment is comparatively light.

Taking the exhibition of 1896 as a whole and considering the depressed times and the uphill fight several of our farmers have had in this valley, it fully equalled the society's expectations as regarding the entries and exhibits, but the outside attendance was not as good as anticipated.

NEW WESTMINSTER.

A party of prospectors have left for Pemberton Meadows and expect to be absent some weeks. One of the party, who has been in the locality prospecting, claims to have found a copper mine.

Bad weather militated somewhat against the attendance at the ninth annual exhibition of the Delta Agricultural Association, which was held at Ladner on Saturday last. There was not very keen competition in the live stock department, though some of the exhibits were excellent. Those of dairy and farm produce and fruit were all three very good. The display of flowers was most creditable. The fancy work department comprised some splendid individual exhibits, but here was little competition. The work devolving on the officials was most carefully attended to.

NANAIMO.

The Liberal party of this city and Westminster have had in contemplation, and arrangements are well under way, for a reception to W. W. B. McInnes, M. P., on his return from Ottawa, but the following telegram has caused a regretful cessation of arrangements:

Ottawa, Oct. 6, 1896.

Tully Boyce, Nanaimo—Considering affliction, kindly prevent any contemplated reception on my return.

(Sgd.) W. W. B. McInnes.

A. R. Johnston & Co.'s delivery team bolted when on the way from Wellington, being frightened by a locomotive. The driver was thrown out, and the horses dashed through a crowd of people on the bridge which crosses the colliery track. A Frenchman named Savee and his 7-year-old son were run down, the latter sustaining a fracture of the thigh bone.

A man giving his name as Robert Hutchings Carter was arrested by Constable Thompson yesterday morning for passing counterfeit coins. Carter came up from Victoria on Tuesday's train and stayed at the Central Hotel, registering as George Carter, Victoria. He succeeded in passing off bogus 50-cent pieces on several people, and when arrested was found to have 32 similar coins in his pockets. He had besides a number of keys and $6 in good silver. The counterfeit money is of a very inferior quality and can easily be detected. Carter is a short, dark man, unusually thick-set and heavy build. His chin is covered with a close-clipped black beard and he has a full moustache. His looks are not at all prepossessing, and his eyes have an unpleasant though by no means savage look.

At the government office four mineral claims have been recorded as having been staked on Thurlow island. Messrs. John R. Fester and S. J. Martin, of Seattle, are the parties.

At the Church of St. Alban the Martyr on Friday evening the ceremony of instituting and inducting the Rev. R. A. Bosanquet as rector of the church was performed by the Lord Bishop of Columbia.

At the meeting of the rural-decanal chapter of the Episcopal clergy held in Cedar district Rev. C. E. Cooper, of Wellington, was appointed Rural Dean for the district of Nanaimo.

VANCOUVER.

In the supreme court, before Mr. Justice Boie, Mr. E. P. Davis, Q.C., applied for the appointment of two commissions to take evidence in the case of Cranstoun vs. Bird et al. It will be remembered that during the first part of this year, Cranstoun and his fellow-deportees sued the Canadian-Australian Steamship Company, of which Mr. Huddart is manager, for $50,000 damages, but this action was non-suited by Mr. Justice Drake. The plaintiffs appealed to the full court at Victoria, and were granted a new trial. The date of the new trial was fixed for the 20th of October. Mr. Davis, solicitor for the defendants, however, applied for the appointment of two commissioners to take evidence, one for Mr. Huddart, who is now in England, and one for Capt. Bird, who had served in connection with the Canadian-Australian Steamship Co., and had become manager of a wool industry in Australia. Mr. Davis argued that Capt. Bird's evidence was most important, and that they could not be sure of getting him here at the trial, as this was the busy season in Australia in his business. Mr. J. H. Senkler, for the plaintiffs, contended that the application was made only to cause a delay. The granting of the application would, of course, mean a postponement of the trial for a couple of months at least. His lordship, after consideration, granted the application in regard to Bird, but not in relation to Huddart, who apparently had no impediment to attending the trial. The trial was, therefore, postponed until the first Tuesday in January, the 5th.

Vancouver, Oct. 10.—A rumor of some interest in newspaper circles, freely discussed by pressmen and others, is to the effect that the Colonist proposes establishing a morning paper in this city. Whether the Colonist management is actuated by business enterprise, or has some private political object in view, is not very clear. It is almost incredible that at this time, when the Colonist like other papers feels the pinch of hard times, any prudent business man would enter upon a scheme so hazardous as a second morning paper in this city. True, the News Advertiser is a poor affair and has lost its grip. But it fills the field, and it would be hard to displace it. Possibly the Colonist people only propose to print a Vancouver edition on its Victoria press, which would be less risky and also less appreciated. There is a danger of the Colonist "biting off" more than it can masticate," although I am bound to confess that it possesses the stomach of an ostrich and can assimilate anything that it can swallow.

MIDWAY.
Midway Advance.

A very rich strike of ore has been made in the Oro claim in White's camp. The claim lies to the south of the Mabel and was acquired by Mr. Douglas and his partners some time ago. They lately started sinking a shaft, and before they had dropped down many feet, they became conscious that mineral was in the neighborhood, as every foot in depth gave better and more promising indications. Encouraged by the aspect of affairs they worked away with a will, and at a depth of 12 feet their labor was rewarded, as they struck a four-foot ledge of as fine looking ore as was ever mined in any camp on Boundary Creek. The vein matter is quartz, heavily charged with copper pyrites, and the character of the quartz suggests that it may run well in gold. In a few days assays will be made of the ore, and little hesitation may be entertained but that they will be satisfactory. The shaft is now down about 20 feet, and the bottom of the shaft shows nothing but solid ore.

The Victoria claim is situated on Rock Creek, directly east of Camp McKinney, and since its acquisition by Seattle and Victoria capitalists, all is hurry and bustle in its neighborhood. The transfer of the property only took place a week or two ago, and already a force of twelve men are at work building roads, bunk houses and fixing up generally preparing to starting work on the ore body. The Victoria is an extension of the Old England, and formerly belonged to Mr. Biche, the late Judge Haynes and Mr. Garrachy. Up to the present not a great deal of development work has been done on the property, but enough has been done to disclose a rich body of ore, the extent of which will be pretty thoroughly determined during the coming winter.

On the 24th of December, 1895, a bond was given on the Gold Drop claim, situated in Greenwood Camp, by the owner, Mr. Joseph Hetu, to the Montreal and British Columbia Prospecting and Promoting Company, limited. The operations of the bondholders have been so successful as to result in a purchase of the claim. As soon as matters can be arranged a thorough systematic development of the property will be commenced, which will no doubt employ a large force of men during the coming winter.

VERNON.
Vernon News.

Hop picking on the Coldstream ranch was finished last Saturday, the crop being a very heavy one. There were about 350 Siwashes engaged in the work for three weeks, the result being about 1700 boxes of 100 pounds each.

A quantity of wild rice imported last year by the Gun Club, but which arrived too late for sowing that season, has been put out this week at the head of the lake and on Swan lake, where the muddy shores offer every advantage for its growth.

The Enderby creamery committee have been actively engaged during the past fortnight in forwarding the necessary arrangements for the establishment of a creamery in that town. It has been decided to form an association on the co-operative principle, and it is expected that all preliminary details will be settled and the prospectus issued to the public within the next week or two.

It is reported that several cases of typhoid have recently developed at Armstrong, and among those laid up is Dr. McLaren of that town. The fever cases in this town are all progressing favorably and all the patients are on a fair way to recovery.

A very promising mineral claim was located last week at the head of the B X creek by Messrs. O'Keefe, Fuller, Ethier and McMullen. The rock carries heavy galena in large quantities, and looks equal to anything we have yet seen in this district.

It is said that the new station agent at Sicamous, who was put on in place of the old agent on account of the strike, met with a remarkably warm reception at the hands of the inhabitants of that railway town. Rotten eggs and missiles of a more substantial nature were showered upon him, and it must have struck him rather forcibly that he could hardly claim to be thoroughly en rapport with the railway boys.

ROSSLAND.
The Rosslander.

Some of the first carload of ore from the Evening Star taken to the Trail smelter assayed eight ounces in gold. The smelter people are well pleased that they have secured the contract for the output.

News comes from Salmon river that a strike was made on a property about two and a half miles from Gillam's hotel by a man named Boyd. The rock ran $200, besides a good percentage of copper.

On Friday evening the crosscut driven from the bottom of a prospect shaft on the Mugwump revealed the foot wall of the ore vein. The first round of holes fired on Saturday broke out a fine lot of massive iron and copper ore identical with the high grade product of the Red Mountain producers. Assays of the first material struck have run as high as $14 gold, 13½ per cent. copper and 5 ounces of silver per ton.

W. Lane has made a splendid strike on the Iron Cliff, situated on the north fork of Salmon, near the Ben Hassan. After running a tunnel of 26 feet, a fine body of ore was struck, which ran from $60 to over $100 to the ton.

On the Young British America a drift was started on a surface showing, but that proved to be only a stringer. The main ledge has been discovered and stripped for about 300 feet, in which it shows a width varying from 10 inches to 6 feet, assaying as high as $15 in gold and 5 per cent. copper. A tunnel has been started on this vein, and is now nicely under cover.

About six weeks ago J. L. Wise and A. N. Paterson, of Paterson, Johnson & Co., located a group of six claims on Bear Creek, about two miles from Kootenay river and opposite Slocan river. Mr. Wise, who has been up there doing work on part of their holdings called the Big Four, came in on Tuesday last, bringing solid sulphide ore got from within a few feet of the surface, which assayed $18 in gold. The ledge is five feet in width, and a tunnel is in on it six feet.

The demand for stocks this week has been chiefly in Evening Star and Deer Park, both of which are hard to get. Holders of large blocks of Deer Park have declined anything less than 18, and probably an offer of that figure would not cause much to change hands. Treasury stock is at 25c., and that price will probably be realized within two weeks. Though Evening Star has not advanced the inquiry for it has been active, and considering that the mine is a steady shipper now at 30 it should be a good investment. Rossland Red Mountain has advanced from 15 to 25 in consequence of the strike made last week.

All late reports from Christina lake testify to that country containing strong ledges of very rich ore. D. C. Beach got back on Monday night, after spending most of the summer there. He made in all nine locations, but the one which he thinks most of is the Cracker Jack, and certainly the rich ore he brought in justifies the good opinion held of it. Interested with him in this claim are P. Cunningham and A. McIntire. The Cracker Jack is situated four miles from the foot of the lake and two miles east of it. Mr. Beach sunk a shaft of 12 feet between the well-defined wall enclosing a vein of five feet, which at the depth reached showed a mass of arsenical iron ore and oxidized copper, the same as found around Rossland. No assay had been obtained at the time of going to press, but so far as appearances go the ore looks such as, with transportation facilities of ordinary nature, would stand shipping.

(Rossland Record.)

Messrs. John Moynahan and W. A. Campbell have let a contract for a 70-foot tunnel to be driven on the Northern Belle.

The C. & C. property, on Monte Cristo mountain, has been sold—or at least a controlling interest in it—J. H O'Leary, W. A. Jowett and Capt. Gore disposing of a two-thirds interest for the neat sum of $20,000. The sale was made to an English syndicate, and the cash paid was $5000, the balance of $15,000 to be paid in 60 days.

SALT SPRING.

Salt Spring, Oct. 12.—The sloop Eileen took an excursion party to Victoria on the 8th.

Rat worrying is now all the go among the boys.

The Salt Spring Island Agricultural Association will hold its annual exhibition on Oct. 14.

Three cottages have recently been built at Vesuvius Bay to rent.

The coal mine at Vesuvius Bay has been abandoned.

The steamer City of Nanaimo made her first trip on the new route on the 6th.

The schooner Flying Fish arrived from Saturna Island on the 1st inst.

NELSON.
From Our Own Correspondent.

Nelson, Oct. 7.—There is a good deal of feeling here over the unfortunate blacksmith who came to his death by the hand of an assassin. It is felt that no means should be spared to bring the supposed culprit to jutice, and if found guilty, to the gallows. The murder trial at the last assizes, which ended in an acquittal, is generally held to have been a fiasco, and now here is a peaceable and popular citizen of orderly Nelson calmly shot in the middle of the town. The reputation of the province for the personal safety of its inhabitants is at stake, and if through any carelessness of the authorities, this crime is not brought home to the guilty person, the prestige of British law and order will receive a severe shock. At present it appears that the matter is being bungled. It is alleged that the identification of the man in custody and the dying deposition of the victim were not properly carried out, and at the inquest the crown was not represented at all. Only a few days before the occurrence the government agent dismissed some extra constables who had been put on duty when the chief justice was here, apparently in accordance with the recommendation of the grand jury. At the time of the murder, one of the only two constables left could not be found, and it is asserted that he was discovered hours afterwards in a house of ill-fame. He promptly got his discharge next day. There is now only one constable to protect the town, take charge of the gaol and also to hunt up evidence in this case. It may possibly not be his fault, but the number of prisoners who have escaped from the gaol during the past year or two is remarkable. Only the other day a man sentenced to four months found no difficulty in walking out and escaping. It is said that the gaoler put his man into one cell and carefully locked up the door of the next one. Yesterday the banks were warned by the only constable that there was a gang of five well known desperadoes in town, whose intention was supposed to be burglary on a large scale. They had all slipped into town quietly and were staying at different hotels. Under the circumstances the inhabitants feel that they are entitled to some further protection than that deemed sufficient by the government agent.

The progress of the regulations is not people have received instructions to substitute earth closets for privies. The earth closet system is perfect when it can be carried out, but these are difficulties in the way of it here. To begin with, there is no earth, only sand, and it is frozen to a depth of two or three feet for five months in the year, so that none can be obtained. Then there is no confidence in the continuity of the arrangement for removing the pans, and the ground chosen by Dr. Watt as a dumping ground is close to dwellings, abuts on the high road to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard depot, and is about as large as a good room. This may or may not be in accordance with the regulations. For several years past, nearly all the hotels and houses in the centre of the town have, by government instructions, drained into the sewer which runs down Ward creek. Now by instructions of the board of health that sewer is being taken up and all the people are at their wits end to know what to do with their sewerage. They are threatened with prosecution if they continue to use their drains, and they are not allowed to cast the stuff forth upon the ground. They are perfectly willing to comply with the law if the law will only tell them what to do, but at present it has destroyed their only method of getting rid of their liquid waste, and has put nothing in its place. The sanitary inspector is not to be blamed for this. He is simply carrying out his instructions issued from Victoria and doing it well. As an instance of the perplexity that exists the following fact may be quoted. A short time ago a number of householders were ordered by the government agent to conect with the main sewer. They did so at a cost of some eighty odd dollars. The day their connection was completed the government agent calmly informed them that he would fine them if they used it. It is all very well for boards to sit in Victoria and make laws for us, but the climate and conditions are totally different. The board of health talks of putting in a drainage system with filter beds at the mouth of Ward creek to purify the sewerage before it reaches the river. How will these filter beds act during the five months that they are frozen up hard, and how will they perform their duties when the river itself rises and floods the whole place for a couple of months more? The old system was good enough if the proper authority had only seen that it was duly carried out, and that the sewers and things were kept in proper repair, and there is no security now that the government representative will be any more alive to his duties after the back of the sanitary inspector is turned. Sidewalks that are dangerous to walk over, roads that have to be kept in repair by private energy and many other signs are crying aloud against the incompetency that now rule us. It is not to be wondered that the people here have no confidence in the present government or their representative.

KAMLOOPS.
Inland Sentinel.

At the assizes C. H. Melrose was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for theft committed at Quilchena, and F. St. Amour, a lad of 16 years, was given five years for ill-treatment of a little girl.

The Kamloops exhibition this year, though hardly up in the matter of the number of exhibits to former years, was still full of interest. The feature that attracted the most attention was the mineral exhibit. During both days of the fair it was the centre of attraction. It is on the mineral development of the province that must be based the expectations of progress in the future, and it is pleasant to believe that those expectations are not at all likely to be disappointed. By the time the fair comes round again next year, we expect to see bullion from our mines here instead of merely the ore.

Hugh Hunter, the Hibernian gentleman who so ably represents the provincial government at Granite Creek, was in town a day or two last week. He brought up with him some samples of ruby silver ore from claims on the headwaters of the Tulameen river. Some rich discoveries have recently been made there, and when the proposed railway from Vancouver to Rossland is built they will doubtless be developed, for they lie directly on the proposed line. Mr. Hunter says the mining possibilities in his section of the country are unlimited.

On Saturday afternoon last a number of boys discovered and killed a small rattlesnake on the gravel walk near the Bank of British Columbia, in this city. The reptile was about 14 inches long,—evidently a yearling, for the rattle end of the animal was as yet but slightly developed. The boys amused themselves teasing the snake, which would coil and strike viciously at the end of a stick as it touched him. It is said that a rattler has never been found in Kamloops before, and an equally singular thing is that this one should have shown itself at so late a date in the year, when it is popularly supposed they had all laid up for their annual hybernation.

Mayor Lee has apparently "struck it rich" in a "find" on Sugar Loaf Hill, which lies a little north of west from Coal Hill. Last Saturday he brought in some splendid samples of copper sulphide ore, which made him feel away up in the millions. He has some men working on the property and the prospects look decidedly good.

On Thursday morning of last week, the residence of C. E. Brown, situated about 20 miles from Kamloops on the north side of the North Thompson river was burned to the ground, very few of the contents being saved.

The government wagon road is now completed to Granite creek.

NEW DENVER.
The Ledge.

Five years ago yesterday the Slocan Star was staked.

Two carloads of ore will be shipped from the Bondholder in a few days.

There are two feet of rich shipping ore in one of the tunnels of the Neepawa.

Three tons of ore are being shipped from the Chapleau, a claim in the Dayton creek district.

The option on the Iron Horse, Ten Mile, held by C. L. Douglas of Vancouver, ran out on Oct. 1.

Assessment work on the Vicksburg has brought some rich mineral in sight. This claim belongs to the Morning Star group on Springer creek.

Ten tons from the Reed and Robertson, and four tons from the Currie, were shipped to the Tacoma smelter this week. It is a trial shipment and expected to return 125 ounces in silver.

Con Doherty last week received a check for $1000 as his share of the first payment on the Grover and Stevenson bond, on the Galena Farm. The bond is for $35,000, and Con will receive $10,000 of it.

G. B. D. Turner has obtained a working bond on the Dalhousie and Whycocomagh, two well known Ten Mile claims. The amount is $35,000. The running of 100 feet of tunnel on the Dalhousie will commence this week.

David Bremner has bonded for a Scotch syndicate the Oakland, Bachelor and Fraction, on Twelve Mile creek, about a mile from the lake. The owners of the properties are Charles McDonald and John Campbell. The amount of the bond is $11,000.

Parties are after the Westmount. This claim is on the north side of Ten Mile creek, nearly opposite the Enterprise. It is owned by Frank Griffiths and Gorman West.

A foot of good ore has been struck in the tunnel on the Thompson group.

The Roulette group of five claims, on the north fork of Carpenter creek, has been sold to John Vallance and others. Eastern American capital is behind the deal.

Judge Spinks and others have obtained a working bond on the Willa, and this week supplies were shipped in and work commenced. This claim is owned by Esterbrooks, Squires and Brindle. It is on Eight Mile, in the draw between the Little Daisy and the Rockland.

It was said in town yesterday that a claim on the south fork of Kaslo creek had been bonded to English capitalists for $70,000, and that $5000 had been paid down.

Finch & Campbell threw up the bond on the Arlington last Friday.

The Two Friends is a remarkable property on account of the variety of rich ores it produces. On the same lead can be found galena, zinc and sulphide ores.

Recent assays from ore taken from across the face of the pay streak on the Skylark show 460 ounces in silver and $40 in gold. It is a honeycombed rock, and shows native gold and black metal quite freely.

ASHCROFT.
B. C. Mining Journal.

About $3,000 came down from Barkerville and Quesnelle by last Tuesday's stage.

The North Star mine, three miles above Quesnelle, is reported as having made a successful run.

The Cinnabar mines on Kamloops lake near Savonas, have nearly completed their furnace which has a capacity for treating about twenty-five tons of ore per day. During the past season with only a prospecting plant, enough quicksilver to supply the local demand and some for export has been manufactured.

A severe epidemic prevails among the Indians, living two miles above Cache Creek. It is said to be pneumonia with typhoid complications. Owing to their lack of knowledge in takng care of the sick and the exposure to change of temperature, very little can be done for them, six have already died and many undoubtedly will follow.

Reports from miners just down from the Cariboo mine say that the present wash-up will exceed $50,000. They say that water has been short for the past month or there would have been a large amount of gold shipped. Shafts are being sunk in the bottom of the pit to test the richness of the bottom gravel. It is showing very rich. The present wash-up added to the previous one makes a total of over $130,000 for the season.

—Henry Haggerty, who lost his life in a collision at 2 a.m. yesterday in California, was a native of Cape Breton, about 35 years of age. He had never visited Victoria, but had made his home with his aunt, Mrs. McNiven, on first starting out to learn his trade in the East, and later on coming with her to California, where he entered the service of the S.P.R.R. Co. over ten years ago, which position he held until his death. Respected and trusted by his employers, ever kind and thoughtful of others, generous to a fault, and beloved by all who knew him, he has taken his last ride and perished at his duty, leaving a loving wife and one little girl to mourn his loss in San Francisco, while in Victoria are two aunts, Mrs. Wodill and Mrs. McNiven, and one only brother who follows sealing. There are also two aunts in Nanaimo, Mrs. Stephens and Campbell, and several relatives in Cape Breton who feel his loss keenly.

—John Wessels six months ago obtained a decree nisi for a divorce from his wife, a half-breed, and yesterday Mr. Justice Drake granted him an absolute decree of divorce. The charge of which respondent was found guilty at the trial was adultery. The co-respondents were two Indians, Frank and Peter. The woman is now living on the Lumi Indian reserve, Washington, having deserted Wessel some time ago.

Summer Visitor—And are all your sons sailors, too?

Retired Salt—Naw, Bill he took to yachtin'.

WATTERSON RETURNS TO POLITICS.

Louisville, Ky., Oct. 12.—Mr. Watterson announced that he will return to politics and fight to a finish. The Courier-Journal prints a long editorial from Mr. Watterson, written at Geneva, in which he says that the action of the Chicago convention has caused him to return to politics, which he had left forever two years ago. Mr. Watterson concludes:

"There is but one hope for the country, but one for the Democratic party, and that hope lies imbedded in the principles unfolded by the Indianapolis platform and represented by the candidacy of Palmer and Buckner."

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POOR WORKMANSHIP

Architects Claim That the Defects in North Ward School Building Were.

The Result of Rough and Careless Work—Several Architects Give Evidence.

The North Ward school inquiry was resumed at the City Hall on Saturday evening. Architect Soule continued giving evidence. He presented a communication from Architect R. M. Bayne, in which the latter stated that he had examined the assembly room, and in his professional opinion that portion of the building was not only perfectly safe but in design leaves but little constructively that could be improved and shows nothing that could be construed into a condition of danger immediate or prospective. Mr. Bayne also states that proof that the roof is amply stiff and braced is evinced by the practical perfectness of the plaster work, the first material to show structural damage.

Mr. Soule in his evidence stated that he had not objected to Mr. Gray as clerk of the work; he had no choice in the matter, as the clerk was appointed by the trustee board. He accepted the stairs finally as satisfactory. He had no responsibility for errors in details; the clerk of the works was supposed to be there all the time to see that everything was done satisfactorily. Had the stairs been built according to the specifications they would have been perfectly safe and sound. "If men would do such work as was done at that building," said he, "they would take very good care to hide up defects when the architect came round."

Mr. Soule quoted from the Journal of Proceedings of the R. I. B. A. of July, 181, to show the relations between employer, architect and clerk of work. It went to show that the architect does not undertake to exercise the close supervision of clerk of works, nor can he be held accountable for inability of mechanics. The appointment, control and dismissal of the clerk of the works should be absolutely with the architect. Mr. Soule pointed out that the clerk of works for North Ward school was appointed by the trustees and was a man of whose capabilities Mr. Soule knew nothing. Mr. Soule has discovered that Mr. Gray made a report re strengthening the building without consulting him, and the trustees more or less acted on this report. Mr. Soule also found that the boiler was not according to specification, and he notified the contractors that he refused to accept it. The contractors appealed to the trustees, and by so doing broke clause 3 of the contract. The trustees finally accepted this appeal, thus practically showing a want of confidence in himself, and showing the contractors that when pitted against their influence his influence was nil.

In his written statement of defence Mr. Soule said that: "The fact of this investigation having been undertaken, together with the work that has lately been done on the building, makes it necessary to defend my position, and I purpose with the evidence already given and other evidence to show that the roof was safe, that the steel beams were capable of sustaining with much safety much more than the load placed upon them, and that the stairs were built under the immediate supervision of the clerk of the works, who claimed stairbuilding was his specialty."

Mr. Soule also points out that while Mr. Wilson and Mr. Northcott maintained that the steel girders should not have deflected five-eights of an inch, Carnegie, the builder, in his book shows that the girders may deflect one and a half inches with safety.

Trustee Belyea showed by the minutes of the school board that the decision in the matter of the boiler which the contractors wished the board to accept contrary to the wishes of the architect, was not made until April 16. The building was then nearly finished, and Mr. Belyea said that this action of the trustees could not have weakened Mr. Soule's authority with the contractors to any great extent.

Mr. J. C. M. Keith, architect, who was called at the request of Mr. Soule, stated that he had made an examination of the roof and that in his opinion it could not have gone down any further. The design of the roof is good, and if properly carried out would have been strong enough for all purposes. He attributed the trouble to the work not having been looked after by the clerk of the works as it should have been. In answer to Mr. Belyea Mr. Keith stated that any side deflections in the girders would weaken them.

Mr. A. Maxwell Muir had also examined the roof, and thought it perfectly safe and that all the sagging possible had already taken place. The design he considered a good one, and should have given satisfaction. Any defects were caused by poor workmanship and unavoidable shrinkage. When he examined the roof, he recommended to Trustee McMicking, who was present, that a few ties be put on the lower rafters. He did not think this necessary to secure safety, but thought something should be done to allay public aprehension.

The committee will meet again next Saturday evening, when Mr. Bayne will be examined regarding his statement presented by Mr. Soule and the school trustees will be called upon to give evidence.