Japanese Liner From the Orient

Aki Maru Reaches Port With Heavy Cargo From Far East.

New Commander For the Quadra ---Princess May In From Skagway.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

Steamer Aki Maru, Capt. Eckstrand, reached port yesterday morning after an uneventful passage from the Orient. The Aki Maru, which is the largest steamer in the mercantile service of Japan, brought 41 saloon passengers and 149 Chinese for Victoria, of whom 23 were returned men, the others paying capitation, and eight Japanese landed here. For Seattle the steamer had 14 Chinese and 113 Japanese, and one Korean. Included among the passengers who arrived on the Japanese liner were Capt. and Mrs. Cox and daughter. Capt. Cox was master of the former Northern Pacific liner Duke of Fife, which ran for long in and out of this port under the Dodwell flag in the Oriental trade. The steamer has been sold to a Japanese Emigration Company to arry Japanese to Peru and has just left Kobe with 1,400 coolies for the South American country. Other passengers were Chas. Gledden, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Davis, D. Hallis, Lieut. and Mrs. Bissell, Mr. and Mrs. Bishop, F. Favre, R. C. Wheeler, Dr. and Mrs. Wells, Mrs. W. D. Graham, D. Darwin, A. Coutts, H. Hoardt, Paul Kummel, E. S. Hartwell, H. Melandaw, Dr. W. Reid Faries, H. Z. Hemans, A. Roe, Dr. and Mrs. Cornish and Mr. and Mrs. Pateince. There were also a large number of Japanese saloon passengers.

The steamer had a cargo of nearly 4,000 tons of general freight of 32,844 packages, the greater part of which consisted of new tea. She had 253 cases of silk. Her loal cargo consisted of 154 packages. She leaves for Seattle this morning after discharging her local cargo. But one vessel was sighted on the way across, the whaling bark Alice Knowles, of New Bedford, which hailed from San Francisco. She was spoken on June 17, when one day out from Japan in 36.18 north and 144.40. Her catch was not learned, but the steamer brought a letter from her master for his owners, which will doubtless give this news.

The steamer Lyra, which left on June 24, is bringing more Chinese and local cargo for Victoria, and the steamer Telemachus, which left on the following day has some 1,500 tons for this port. The steamer Tremont, of the Boston S. S. Co., and the steamer Shinano Maru of the N. Y. K. line, left Yokohama yesterday for this port.

FROM THE NORTH.

Princess May Returns From Lynn Canal With Small Crowd.

Steamer Princess May, Capt. Gosse, reached port yesterday afternoon from Alaskan ports, bringing a small complement of passengers, including Capt. John Irving, who returned from Atlin. The steamer left for the North again last night. She will take some extra freight from this port, having not more than a hundred tons of groceries and supplies. The steamer carried a number of excursionists to Vancouver, an overflow from the Yosemite and Chamer. News was brought from the North that there are hundreds of miners at the mouth of the Tanana with no money to pay their fare up. Most of them are going down the Yukon to other camps.

Many condemn the camp, but say no winter work has been done, hence there is no gold now to maintain a big population. Four thousand miners were there, but most have left, out of the necessity of getting lucrative vocations. The camp may prove profitable in a year or so, they say. Lack of water prevented much work during the winter. None deny the existence of gold, though some say it is not plentiful, while not one but thinks the claims may yet prove a fine field for the operation of extensive machinery. They say the country is no place now for a poor man. Steamers have been at Fairbanks this season. There are plenty of good supplies in the district. The steaming time from Dawson is five days to the centre of the fields.

Indians from the Kuskokwim, who arrived at Andreafski, report that the steamer Anna Wanda, belonging at Lynn's post, was lost when the ice went out of the river. Damage also was done to the post.

A big strike has been made at Hog creek in Koyukuk. From $5 to $20 has been made daily on the north fork diggings, which are worked by Vermont man, who is the biggest winter producer in the basin. The camp has 300 men, all well supplied.

The British bark Dovenby, which was in company with the Glamis during part of her voyage, passed Cape Flattery yesterday, and will arrive in the Royal Roads this morning, is 66 days from Tocapilla. Three vessels, which have been lying on the Sound for some time have been chartered to load lumber at Vancouver. One of these, the Reuce, which will be towed to Vancouver tomorrow by the Lorne, has been subjected to expensive delays at the Sound port.

One of the results of the delay in commissioning inspectors of hulls and boilers, Whitney and Turner, who were named to succeed Cherry and the late Capt. Bryant, is shown in the case of the ship Reuce. This vessel has been disengaged since October, but was recently chartered to load at Vancouver. Customs regulations require a certificate of annual inspection of American vessels, but when the Reuce applied the inspection could not be officially made, owing to the delay in approving Turner and Whitney's bonds, without which they are shorn of authority.

After several days' delay, the difficulty was today overcome by the receipt of a special permit from the Treasury Department, allowing the big vessel to clear, and conditional upon her being inspected at Vancouver by the American board. The delay has been expensive.

QUADRA'S NEW MASTER.

Capt. Chas. Hackett Appointed to Supersede Capt. J. T. Walbran.

Capt. Walbran is to be superseded as commander of the D. G. S. Quadra a month hence by Capt. Chas. Hackett. This announcement, which came from Ottawa yesterday, is the outcome of the investigation into an alleged indiscreet utterance made during a trip of the steamer during last summer regarding Mr. Gourdeau, of the Marine and Fisheries Department. Capt. John T. Walbran, who is to leave the service on that account has done considerable good work while master of the Quadra, having located and chartered a large number of menaces to navigation, and done good work in connection with shipping matters and aids to navigation in British Columbia. He is a close student of the history of the Northwest. Capt. Walbran has been master of the Quadra for 12 years, having left the steamer Islander, which he brought from England for the C. P. N. Company, to take command of the Quadra. Capt. Hackett the new commander, who has been going to sea since childhood, came to Victoria in 1889, and engaged in the sealing trade. He was master of the Annie C. Moore, which was burned in Lynn canal when bound North with cargo during the Klondike rush, and owned an interest in the schooner Libbie. He is now a prominent shareholder of the Victoria Sealing Company.

IS OVERDUE.

Fears Held For the Safety of the Big Steamer Minnetonka.

The steamer Minnetonka, a large freighter which is being brought from New York to San Francisco, and which is now 90 days out from the Eastern port, and 25 days from Coronel, her last port of call, is reinsured at 18 per cent, as a result of the alarm being felt for the vessel.

The anxiety felt for the vessel because of her long passage is increasing and shipping men are beginning to believe that the steamer has met with some mishap. Laden as she is, with a heavy cargo of general merchandise, she would fare badly in a heavy gale. The recent hurricane which swept the Chilian Coast may have been encountered by the steamer, which may account for her long trip. The Minnetonka is a freighter and measures 429 feet in length. She is commanded by Captain Evans.

The anxiety felt for the Swedish bark Spes, because of her long passage, has increased to a fear that the vessel has been lost. The action of the Lloyd pool underwriters today, in advancing the reinsurance rates on the vessel from 85 to 90 per cent., indicates that they have grave fears for the safety of the vessel. If two weeks elapse and nothing is heard from the overdue bark she will then be numbered among the "missing" ships.

The Spes is 165 days out from London for Fremantle, with a general cargo, and has not been spoken on the entire voyage. The Spes is an iron bark of 648 tons burden. She was built in 1870 and is commanded by Captain Steensohn.

There were two additions to the overdue list today and one vessel was taken from the board. The Italian bark Colombo was posted at 15 per cent., being 107 days out from Buenos Ayres for Sydney. Twenty per cent. was quoted on the Samaena, a British ship which is 112 days out from Norfolk, Va., for Buenos Ayres. The Altcar, which was at 10 per cent., was taken from the board upon the report that she had been spoken.

FROM THE NORTH.

Steamers Tees and Boscowitz Return From Northern Ports.

There were two arrivals from Naas and Northern British Columbia ports on Sunday. The Tees, of the C. P. R., and the steamer Boscowitz returned to port bringing news from the salmon fisheries of the Northern Coast. The fishermen were all out, but up to the time the steamer sailed the run was very poor, the highest catch per boat reported on the Skeena being 84 fish. The steamers had few down passengers. On the Tees were Miss Edwards and Miss Hopkins, and Messrs. Pender and Marshall, who have been doing some survey work at Port Simpson. On the trip North the steamer had 126 passengers. The Boscowitz brought 150 cases of salmon from Peter Herman's cannery. Among her passengers was Mr. Hewson who has been to Alert Bay. The Boscowitz will remain in port until some repairs are completed. The Tees will sail North on Thursday night.

BROUGHT MUCH GOLD.

Steamer City of Seattle Brings Klondike Treasure to the Sound.

The first large consignment of Klondike gold, $750,000 worth of the output of 1903, reached Seattle on Sunday night on the steamer City of Seattle, Capt. Harry Cann. There were two tons of the treasure, including the weight of the strong boxes and receptacles in which it was shipped from the North. The larger consignments were: For the North American Transportation & Trading Company, of Seattle, $248,108. The Seattle Smelting Works, of San Francisco, $403,900. United States assay office, Seattle, $26,700; Northern Commercial Company, Seattle, $48,101.

The Seattle had 45 passengers, 25 of whom came from Dawson and other Yukon points. The latter were ten days from the Klondike to Seattle.

Capt. Cann reports disagreeable weather throughout his voyage north and on the return as far south as Vancouver. He spoke the steamer Farallon off Juneau, June 25, the Princess May the same day at Sum Dum, the Humboldt and Spokane, both North-bound, June 26, off Ketchikan and Fort Wrangel respectively. June 27 he passed, all bound North, the steamers City of Topeka, Newsboy and Danube.

VERA RETURNS.

Brought a Catch of 485 Skins—Crew Objects to Continuing Voyage.

Sealing schooner Vera, Capt. Folger, has returned from her Coast cruise, without cruising long at Copper islands on account of an accident with the main topmast head, and trouble with the crew. The Vera had a catch of 485 skins. It was hoped by sealing men that the schooner would have a large catch, for according to reports received by the schooner City of San Diego, the schooner was among considerable seals at the close of the cruise off the Coast in April. It was then reported that the schooner had over 600 skins, and it was expected that she would get considerable more before she returned, but the report seems to have been in error. For the Vera did not get more than 485 skins. All were taken on this Coast for the schooner returned from the Copper islands without lowering. The crew gave trouble and did not want to continue the voyage, and this, with the accident to the main topmast head, caused Capt. Folger to put back to port.

VAGRANT MINER JAILED.

Man Who Terrorized Island District Sentenced to Six Months Imprisonment.

It will be remembered that among the men who came out with the Scotch miners three years ago were a number who were alleged to be ne'er-do-weels, who had foisted themselves upon the agent sent over by Mr. Dunsmuir, says the Nanaimo Free Press.

In one instance, at least, as the settlers at Englishmen's river know to their cost, this was true, the individual being James Davis, a "Scotch" miner, with a Devonshire accent. This man has been established in that neighborhood during the last two years during which time he is reported to have done not a stroke of work. He has lived by hunting in season and out of season, and by selling his bag in defiance of the law, making his home in a miserable shack put up by a trapper at the forks of Englishman's river to furnish shelter when needed at night.

The ranchers objecting to the destruction of game in this manner, and fearing that Davis might not stop at wild animals, but might shoot cattle, communicated with the police and Albert Hirst was instructed to go to R. J. Hicky, J. P., and be sworn in as special constable for the purpose of arresting Davis. He came across his man before he was armed with the necessary authority and was obliged to let him go. The facts were then telegraphed to Constable Stephenson who immediately drove up. Stephenson and Hirst made their way in the night to the Forks, arriving just at daybreak, expedition being necessary, as if Davis had got wind of the matter he would have made himself scarce for a time. The man was captured just as he was getting off a mass of rags which he called his bed. There was no food in the cabin, which had become a hovel such as is, fortunately, seldom seen in this province. Davis himself was a veritable Weary Willie in appearance, and might have stepped out of a picture in a comic paper.

When the case came before Mr. Hickey the police pressed a charge of vagrancy, alleging that this was possibly the worst instance of the kind in the history of the district, and the magistrate sentenced the prisoner to two months' hard labor, and a fine of $50, or an additional six months' imprisonment. The sentence is now being served at the Nanaimo jail.

It is stated that Davis has a wife and child in the old country for whom he has done nothing since he came here.

Mrs. McCall—So your dear old uncle has gone to heaven?

Willy—We don't know yet. His will won't be read till after the funeral. Catholic Standard and Times.

Great Disaster In Coal Mine

Worst Affair in the History of Wyoming State Occured Yesterday.

Conservative Estimate Places the Number of Dead at Nearly 200.

Hanna, Wyo., June 30.—The worst coal mine disaster in the history of Wyoming occurred in mine No. 1, of the Union Pacific Coal Company, today, when a terrific explosion occurred. Two hundred men were working in the mine at the time.

The explosion set fire to the mine, and at this time it is impossible to estimate the loss of life.

No less than 20 miners were killed outright, although this mine is well ventilated and provided with many avenues of escape.

The loss of life will be very large. Not a man at this time has found his way to the surface.

Supt. E. S. Brooks is working diligently with a large force of men to rescue the imprisoned miners and extinguish the raging flames.

At 1 o'clock the party of rescuers reached the surface with the mangled bodies of 25 miners, who were taken out of the mines near the rear shaft or manhole. Some of the men were alive when found, but many will die.

Those who can talk, say that the men who were working further on in the mine are probably dead.

A conservative estimate places the number of dead at 176.

BIG FLOOD NOW ON AT ATLIN CAMP

Hot Weather Causes Freshet Which Does Much Damage to Claims.

The Skagway Daily Alaskan of June 20, gives particulars of a big flood which has worked great damage to placer claims and the Atlin district. The hot weather of a week ago was welcomed, as it opened navigation, but unfortunately the good it has undoubtedly done in that respect has been more than outdone by the loss and damage it has entailed to the miners on the creeks, by rapid rising and flooding of these creeks.

From information to hand it is learned that the high water has more or less affected every creek in the district.

The miners on Boulder creek have suffered more than on any of the others. The creek rose with such rapidity and without warning that it was impossible to save anything from the seething waters. On Monday evening, June 12, the creek bed looked as if it had never been disturbed by the hand of man. None of the miners on the creek escaped, while the hydraulic companies at the upper end suffered very severely, and it will take some weeks to repair the damage which was wrought in a few hours.

On Spruce creek in some instances the work of the last two seasons has gone for naught, and wingdams and headdams were carried down the creek like so much matchwood. Anderson Bros., Hall and Bulleter have suffered very heavily. The last two named have had nearly all their machinery buried under tons of debris. All the foot bridges and nearly all the wheels that have been set have been carried away. The damage cannot well be estimated, as the short working season cannot stand such encroachments on its time for repairs, which is foreign to actual mining.

Owing to the absence of miners on the bed of Pine creek, practically no damage was done, while Otter and Wright also escaped. Birch creek came in for its share of the torrents, but to what extent has not yet been advised.

TRADE UNIONS.

Rocks in Their Path Pointed Out by a Friend.

Salt Lake Herald.

Clarence S. Darrow, of Chicago, is probably the most prominent advocate of union labor among the lawyers of this country. He was chief counsel for the anthracite miners in their hearing before the arbitration commission, and has been a spokesman for union labor during all his professional career. Deliberately choosing his position when it meant a sacrifice of professional opportunity, he cannot be suspected of interested motives in his utterances; on the contrary, his opinion carries weight wherever he is known.

In a speech made recently in Chicago, Mr. Darrow made these telling points:

"Trade unionism cannot afford to arouse the hostility of the public.

"Trade unionism in its last analysis is really the monopoly of the labor market, and in most of its methods follows in the footsteps of capital.

"In the ranks of trade unionism are tens of thousands of men unacquainted with its principles and out of harmony with its purposes.

"When the common people imagine that the trade unions are making unreasonable demands their hostility will be turned against corporate control.

"The public will not long be willing to be ground to pieces by the monopolies on one hand and the trade unions on the other.

"In order to achieve anything permanent trade unionism must stand for the permanent elevation of the common man.

"The energy now directed toward organizing men and raising wages must be more largely turned toward the political and economic questions of the day upon which labor, capital and wages depend."

Mr. Darrow's outline of the danger ahead of trade unionism is only a recognition of the trend of public thought on the question. There can be no question but that public sympathy was with the coal mines of Pennsylvania, and that this public support enabled them to win. It is equally certain that some of the recent labor disturbances have alarmed the public because strikes have been inaugurated without just cause and without consideration of the public which suffered as a result. This was particularly true in Bridgeport, in the subway trouble in New York and in some of the Omaha strikes.

That very large element which sympathizes with labor but is not directly attached to the union cause can be very readily turned in its sympathies It may not have much use for organized capital as represented by monopolies; but it has less use for any effort to disrupt society and endanger the prosperity of the country without some strong justification and after every effort has been made to reach an agreement by conciliation.

CRABS AND EARTHQUAKES.

For some time previous to the day upon which the great Chilian earthquake of August, 1857, occured great swarms of crabs of an unknown variety were seen in the Bay of Payta. Then all appeared to be greatly excited, and were literally climbing over each other in their efforts to escape the impending calamity.

How they knew that the earthqueke was collecting its strength to desolate the coast is more than man can say, but that they knew something unusul was about to happen there is no doubt whatever.

That there were millions of them may be inferred from the report of Dr. Forbes, who says that "10 days after the earthquake the dead crabs were thrown upon the beach in a war-like line three to four feet wide along the whole extent of the bay."

MANY ARE IDLE.

As a Result of Shut Down of Butte Mines and Smelter.

Butte, Mont., June 29.—The big smelter of the Amalgamated Copper Company at Anaconda, was shut down today for an indefinite period, throwing 1,500 men idle. The company announces that the shut down is for the purpose of making repairs, but the men allege it is done to forestall a probable strike for higher wages on July 1. The mines at Butte, from which the Anaconda smelter drew its ore, will close tomorrow, affecting more than 2,000 men.

RACING AT KIEL.

Americans Make Good Showing in Contest With Germans.

Kaiserlicher, Yacht Club, Kiel, June 29.—The American men-of-warsmen won two first, a second and a third in today's races against the boats of the German fleet. The Americans had five boats entered in four events, while the Germans had 37, and the American crews were not familiar with the course and had not specially trained for the races. The closest contested one, which attracted most attention from the men-of-warsmen, was that between the large launches.

JOINS WORKING LIST.

Operations Commenced on Another Important Boundary Property.

Grand Forks, B. C., June 30.—The latest mine to join working the list is the Gold Hill, adjoining Jumbo on the north. It was bonded to John S. Bedier, at $50,000, with lease attached. In 1895 the mine shipped 20 tons to Tacoma, said to run $19.50 per ton, which would now pay a handsome profit. The vein is quartz, in a slate formation, ten feet in width, with the paystreak varying up to three feet. Bedier will continue the present shaft and tunnel with a small crew on the start.

PLEASED CROWD THE OPENING

The Delightful Summer Garden Concerts Were Inaugurated Last Evening.

Patronized by a large and thoroughly pleased crowd of visitors, the charming Douglas summer gardens—rehabilitated and improved and ablaze with electric lights—were thrown open for the season last evening. It is estimated that fully 1,200 people were in attendance, and this, considering that the evening was Monday, when people have had a surfeit of recreation on Sunday, speaks well for the "drawing" capacity of the attraction. While a somewhat chill wind blew from the bay, it was noticed that no discomfort was felt at all by the big crowd within the gardens, the big trees with their wealth of foliage and the high fences, furnishing adequate protection.

The programme as published in full in the Colonist on Sunday morning, was given in its entirety, and proved quite the treat anticipated. The playing of the Fifth Regiment band was thoroughly enjoyable, Victoria's favorite musical organization coming in for a large share of applause. The bioscope pictures were considered the finest moving pictures yet exhibited in Victoria, and afforded keen delight to the large audience present. The vaudeville attractions were quite up to what was promised. Charles Orr was heard in illustrated songs, which evoked much applause; little Marjorie Madeline, the child contortionist, was seen in some really new contortionist feats, and Mr. Lyons, the baritone singer, sang some very pretty ballads. There was a big demand for refreshments and a thoroughly enjoyable evening was had. The gardens will be open each week day evening, and the admission fee is only 10 cents.

FREED A GREAT CRIMINAL.

The boldest and best known professional sporting man in the world sat in the lobby of the Arlington last evening a big, pleasant-looking man with an air about him of quiet dignity and force of character. The big man was none other than Pat. Sheedy, Irish-born, American reared, and if ever the narrative of his life is written in full it will be of rare interest, for he has been in many lands and many curious episodes have developed under his eyes.

"In 1880," said Mr. Sheedy, "I was playing against a faro bank in Chicago. Luck was running against me hard, and I was just getting ready to leave after having parted with $8,000. I acknowled myself broke, whereupon an ordinary-looking fellow, a total stranger, and unlike an individual somewhat at the president, who had been playing with a drunken man's luck, threw me over $2,000 in big bills, telling me to go on, and if I lost that I could come to him for more. I told him I didn't want his money, that I did not accept help from people I did not know. He said that was all right and begged as a favor. I should play half of it for him. So persistent was he that I finally took the money and began again. You know what happens to a man when he is up against an adverse streak. To cut it short, I lost the $2,000, and declining peremptorily to go further, went out accompanied by the stranger.

"We went and had a bite to eat. 'I owe you $2,000,' said I to the man, whereupon he laughed. 'Rest easy about that,' he said. 'You will have money when I am broke, and some of these days you may do something for me.' He gave me no address and left me wondering greatly as to his identity. Certainly he was a singular individual.

"In 1898 just eighteen years after that incident, I was operating a place in Constantinople, where gentlemen in sporting proclivities, mostly well-fixed English and American tourists, could get diversion at baccarat or the wheel. One day a Turk in my employ told me that a countryman of mine, who claimed to know me was lying in prison for some sharp trick and might call on me for aid. The next day the man brought me a card on which were scribbled the words: 'Chicago, 1880, faro, $2,000.' There was no signature, but I knew in a second who the fellow was. Sure enough, it was my turn to do the friendly act.

"Well, I saw the prisoner and recognised him as my creditor. It took more than $1,000 to square the authorities, but never mind that. The man was the personification of gratitude. It would be too long a story to tell in all the details, but before I got him out of the country I knew his entire record. The man was Adam Worth, the greatest criminal in his line of the century, and had during a career of rascality covering a period of fifty years stole not less than $2,000,000, or probably twice that.

"Here comes the next extraordinary part of the affair. Worth confessed to me that it was he who had stolen the famous Duchess of Devonshire portrait from the Agnew gallery in London 22 years before. How, in association with the Pinkertons, I got him to restore it to the son of the owner would take too long to tell, and besides that is another story."—Washington Post.

What may be the result of Mr. Chamberlain's daring initiative in fiscal reform on the relations of parties to each other and to the people at large, one consequence of it has already begun to be evident. It is sure to make intelligent men reflect on the tendency of rigid adherence to an economic theory which, however applicable, it may be to one period and train of circumstances, may be quite unsuitable in other conditions.—Montreal Gazette.

The Situation At Ladysmith

Dissension of a Very Bitter Character Rife in Miner's Union.

Many Men Are Sick and Tired of Western Federation Methods.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ladysmith, B. C., June 30—Proof that dissension of a very bitter character is rife in the newly-formed miners union of Ladysmith (branch of the Western Federation of Miners, of Denver, Colorado, U. S. A.) is provided in the citation handed to Mr. Harry Carroll on Monday morning, solemnly summoning him to appear before the executive committee of the union, in special council assembled in Finn Hall, to answer to a grave charge of "mutiny, contempt and rebellion," committed by the said Carroll and some 30 other members of the said union in that they did unwarrantably declare that they were anxious and willing to return to work in the Extension mines upon the terms offered by Mr. Dunsmuir.

It is useless to attempt to disguise any longer the fact that a very large and influential proportion of the members of the local union entertain anything but a high opinion of the Western Federation of Miners, and its methods, and, it may be added, of the representatives whom it has sent to this camp empowered to impart relief. Not all of the miners, however, have the courage of Mr. David McKinnell, who, as soon as the question was raised as to the bonafides of the Federation, and deeming the explanations submitted to be totally inadequate, at the same time being disgusted with the treatment of the Ladysmith miners by the Federation, severed all connection with the organization. That this course was not offensive to the people here is shown by his return by a substantial vote as school trustee last Saturday.

Opinion upon the proposition that this whole trouble has been fomented, maintained, and prolonged mainly through the efforts of the foreign or non-English speaking element in this camp has reached a unanimity which amounts to a conviction. The foreigners who do not understand English are exceedingly hard to manage. They are Socialists of the "advanced" kind, almost to a man. The dastardly assault upon the Italian miner early last Saturday morning, is an earnest of what they are prepared to do should the voices of the agitators who sway them so easily demand resistance to a general return to work. Almost any of the English-speaking miners will assure the enquirer that were it not for the foreigners, this difficulty would have been settled long ago. The fact that the foreigners can practice where English an economy and abstinence which would appeal a British or American miner, explains the mystery of their cheerful, unreasoning persistence in holding out against all reasonable offers.

Mr. Andrew Bryden, manager of the Extension collieries, who returned from Victoria on Saturday night, after a conference with Mr. Dunsmuir, informed your correspondent that he had nothing to impart in the way of news, except that Mr. Dunsmuir will await the decision of the men in regard to the proposition which has been placed before them. Mr. Bryden went up to Extension to inspect the mines on Monday afternoon. He hopes that the strike will be settled within a few days.

The total absence of coal in the camp has resulted in great quantities of cordwood being cut in the surrounding woods, and this industry gives employment to quite a large force. The washer is still working on stored coal. The splendid record made by the Tyee Copper Company's smelter here is likely to lead to the doubling of the capacity of the plant at no distant date. The smelter was constructed with this object in view, but no such successful and smooth running was anticipated even by Mr. Thomas Kiddie, the smelter manager. The whole plant is now undergoing a thorough overhauling, and it is expected that the furnace will be blown in again early in July. Ore in large quantities is coming down daily from the mines, and the roast yards are kept going night and day. The annual general meeting of the company was held in London last week, when Mr. Clermont Livingston, general manager, was re-elected, and a most satisfactory report was submitted. Purchased ores are beginning to arrive in considerable quantities from various quarters along the Coast; they will be treated by the same process as the Tyee ore.

Mr. John Kiddie, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Kiddie, is spending his summer vacation here with his parents. Mr. Kiddie, who is a student at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, has only another year of his course to put in; he is studying for the civil engineering, and has made a brilliant record for himself. His brother George is an esteemed member of the artist corps of the San Francisco Examiner.

Another institution in which Ladysmith feels pardonable pride, is the new shingle mill of the Ladysmith Lumber Company, on the water front. This mill had the distinction of earning from Mr. Schaake, head of the Schaake Machinery Works, New Westminster, the complimentary remark that it is the only shingle mill ever built in British Columbia which went to work from the start without even the semblance of a hitch—and it has run as smoothly as an old mill since the day on which its saws first revolved, several weeks ago. So well pleased were the company with the manner in which Messrs. Schaake had done their work, that they placed an order with them for another machine, which will be installed at once. The Ladysmith Lumber Company are now in receipt of orders from all the Coast towns, and the mill is working full time. The capacity is at present about 50,000 a day.

Conservatives hint that an arrangement of some kind has been come to with the Liberals of the Newcastle district, whereby it is probable that the seat will be conceded to a Conservative, on the understanding that a quid pro quo shall be granted by the Conservatives in some other district.

Meanwhile the Socialist organizers are very busy, and openly declare that they will be able to return a Socialist member for Newcastle in spite of Conservatives or Liberals. There has been some talk of running Mr. Hawthornthwaite here, but as that gentleman recently assured your correspondent that he had no apprehensions as to his ability to carry Nanaimo, for which he was member, the matter is doubtful. Another name mentioned in connection with the Newcastle seat is that of Mr. Parker Williams, Socialist, who surprised everybody by running up so respectable a score against Mr. W. W. B. McInnes last autumn.

The Conservative meeting in Captain Dillon's office last Monday night was very satisfactory, the party has a strength here which is little suspected by their opponents and outsiders.

W. Blakemore is in the city spending a few days after a month in the East. On his way to Nelson he stopped off at Revelstoke and states that prospects are brighter there than they have been for some years. The Chinese who have been brought to work the coke ovens were found unsuitable for the work and have been replaced by Slavs and others who were there before. The production of coal at the Coal Creek collieries is rapidly increasing through the development in progress. Last month the total output of coal from all the collieries was 77,000 tons and this month it will reach 76,000, and the ratio will go on steadily increasing.—Nelson News.

PAPERMAKERS STRIKE.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., June 30.—The plant of the International Paper Co., has been closed by a general strike. The men want a three shift trick, and 25 cents an hour. The plant makes 125 tons of newspaper a day.

TREATY WITH CHINA.

Russian Opposition to United States Ambition in Orient.

Pekin, June 30.—Prince Ching, president of the Foreign office, today returned here from the summer palace in order to hold a conference with Minister Conger, in regard to the commercial treaty between China and the United States. It is understood that Russian opposition, which the Chinese Foreign office insists prevents its signature, is unchanged, though friends of the American treaty profess to expect that the coming conference between General Kuropatkin, the Russian war minister, and M. Lessar, the Russian minister to China, at Port Arthur, will result in the removal of the Russian opposition.

An official telegram has been sent to the new viceroy of Canton, directing him to order the troops in the field to exterminate the remaining rebels in Kwang Si province, where it is understood the suffering from famine eclipse the losses caused by the rebellion.

GOVERNMENT IS SILENT

Declines to Reveal Its Policy on Transcontinental Problem.

Ottawa, Ont., June 29.—The Commons was engaged nearly all day on the Canada Northern guarantee bill, and discussion developed the fact that the government was retaining in its own hands considerable discretion in the handling of money. The terms of the mortgage and manner of which the sale of bonds are to be handed over to the company is to be left entirely to the control of the Governor-in-council.

R. L. Borden, Clarke and J. Israel Tarte pressed for a declaration of the government's policy regarding the transcontinental problem, but without success.

A proposal of the Senate that witnesses before the boards of conciliation in railway disputes should be entitled to fees was rejected.

A bill affecting salaries was under consideration, but was postponed. The government bill to amend the Criminal Code makes it a criminal offence to discharge militiamen for leaving employment.

It was made a criminal offence to sell cigarettes or tobacco to minors under 18 years of age, a clause which includes combinations in restraint of trade was made more effective. Any person making a condition that a dealer should handle no goods but his own is liable to a fine and imprisonment.

The Manitoba government took suit against the Dominion for the Dominion having used the proceeds from swamp lands before they were conveyed to the province. The Exchequer court held today that the Dominion had the right to this, and until such time as these lands were transferred by order-in-council.

Mr. Cloran, of Montreal, will likely be appointed Senator at today's meeting of the cabinet.

J. K. Barrett, inspector of inland revenue for the Winnipeg district, has been appointed to his present position, in addition to his present position, appointed inspector of malt houses and breweries of the Dominion.

An order-in-council has been passed giving the Minister of Inland Revenue power to issue licenses for the manufacture of beer and other malt liquors in the Yukon.

DEATH'S HARVEST IN RAILWAY WRECK

Train Fell From Bridge Into River Thirty Were Killed and Many Injured.

Madrid, June 29.—Fourteen bodies and 50 injured persons have been extricated from the wreck of the Bilbao train, which overturned at Nejerilla river last night.

According to official information, 30 persons were killed and 60 others seriously injured. Many of the latter will die. Of the 300 passengers on the train, it is stated that only six escaped unhurt. The train, which was composed of two engines and 16 coaches, was crossing the bridge when the couplings between the engines broke. The second engine left the track and fell, followed by the entire train, into the bed of the river. Fortunately the water was low. The nearest medical attendance was a mile and a half distant, and those passengers who were least injured aided the others and did all possible until the arrival of relief trains bringing nurses, doctors and soldiers from Bilbao.

The train fell 50 feet from the bridge to the river bed, the coaches piling up in a mass of splintered wood and ironwork. The scene is described as horrifying. Many corpses were carried down the stream, which was actually reddened with blood. It was found impossible to extricate numbers of the injured who were pinioned under the wreckage. A railway guard was arrested in the act of robbing the dead and narrowly escaped lynching.

It is believed that the official figures underestimate the number of killed, some accounts giving the number of dead as 100. The full extent of the catastrophe will be known only when the wreckage has been cleared away.

THE DRINKERS' "DARES."

A few days ago a reveller in Paris made a wager that he could drink twelve glasses of absinthe while the clock was striking the hour of midnight. When the clock began to strike he began to drink, and when the clock had ceased striking he had finished drinking the twelfth glass of absinthe. While his companions, leaping upon chairs, were cheering lustily, the absinthe drinker fell to the floor, dying instantly.

The man died as the fool dieth. He really took his own life.

Recently a number of men were carousing in the town of Yoakum, Tex. After drinking a great deal, the revellers agreed that each would drink a pint of whiskey within a period of ten minutes. In the company was one known as "Dr." Jackson. "When the others got through with their dose," says the report, "some alleged wags put smoking tobacco and a large amount of alcohol into the glass prepared for Jackson. He drank the mixture, staggered to a seat and died within a short time. No one," adds the report, "was held responsible for Jackson's death."

Well, some one was "responsible" for this man's death. The act of these "alleged wags" was little less than one of murder; and it should have been so regarded and punished.

"There are some men who will lose their best friends," says Carlyle, "in order to crack a joke." This observation of the Sage of Chelsea needs to be revised and brought down to date. There are evidently in Yoakum, Tex., some men who are willing to do to death an innocent and helpless man 'in order to crack a joke.' There are cases in which the "practical joker" becomes a practical criminal. In civilized society there is no place for him outside prison walls.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Hot on Trail Of Mad Mullah

British War Office Receives Very Satisfactory Despatches From Somaliland.

Abyssinians Surprise Enemy, Kill Many and Capture Cattle.

London, June 30.—The War Office today received a despatch from Col. Richford, one of the British officers serving with the Abyssinian forces in Somaliland, which says the Abyssinians, on May 31, after a series of forced marches, struck the Mad Mullah's forces near Jeyda, surprising them at dawn and killing 1,000 spearmen and capturing almost all their cattle and sheep and 1,000 camels.

Col. Richford adds that the Abyssinians have effectually closed to the Mad Mullah all the watering places south of the Gerlogubi-Galadi line; and he hopes they will soon be in contact with the British forces, and be able to co-operate in the pursuit of the Mullah, who is delayed in his movements by the fact that he is crossing a waterless part of the country.

DEMAND FOR CHICKENS.

Department of Agriculture Trying to Increase Poultry Trade of Canada.

The following circular letter has been sent out by the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa:

"The present time is most favorable for the production, fattening, and marketing of farm chickens. There has been such a substantial increase in the consumption of chickens and eggs within the last few years that it is not possible to rear a greater number of suitable market chickens than can be sold in Canada, to supply the home markets. As a result of the shortage of chickens, the trade with Great Britain was lessened. This is unfortunate on account of the great demand for Canadian chickens in Great Britain and the good prices that are paid.

"The chief of the poultry division, Mr. F. C. Hare states that numerous letters have been received from produce merchants, poulterers and commission merchants who desire to learn in what localities chickens can be bought in great numbers and at reasonable prices. From several Canadian cities, and especially from Montreal, produce firms have asked to be informed where market chickens suitable for shipping to Great Britain could be obtained in greatest numbers. British poulterers and commission merchants have repeatedly asked for the same information. The letter of a well established produce house in London, England, was received last week.

This firm wished to 'start an undertaking for the purpose of importing Canadian poultry to Great Britain.' The desired information as to the probable success of such a project and the possibility of obtaining poultry, (especially fowls), in large quantities, and the best districts for the collection, etc., of them. Last fall a firm in Cape Colony wished a poultry trade developed with that Colony. One shipment of Canadian chickens was made to Cape Colony which arrived in a satisfactory condition and pleased the trade. A New York firm wrote that they desired to import Canadian Chickens and were recommended by the department to a firm in the Maritime Provinces, from whom they purchased chickens, and were impressed favorably by them.

'The above, and similar requests are difficult of solution even by one in touch with the Canadian Produce firms and packing houses that are buying and marketing chickens. The majority of our established firms are equipped with a complete plant for marketing in Canada or Great Britain, several times more chickens than they can buy. Their profits are diminished through scarcity of chickens. Nevertheless merchants in Great Britain, Cape Colony, the United States and even in Australia are looking to a supply of Canadian chickens to satisfy their growing trade.

"The problem of supplying this wonderfully increased demand for chickens can be solved by the farmers alone. Instead of the farmers rearing fifty or a hundred chickens that receive little attention or feed, he should rear from 200 to 1,000 chickens annually. These should be of a utility type, such as can be found in the popular breeds, Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes. The chickens should be hatched and reared by incubators and brooders, and ready for market the cockerels should be placed in fattening crates and fattened. The equipment required to do this work is not an expensive one; $200 to $250 is the cost of incubators, brooders, houses and fattening crates for finishing 1,000 chickens. It is as necessary for realizing the greatest profits from the poultry business as threshing and mowing machinery is for general farming. The work connected with furnishing 1,000 chickens with the proper appliances is no more than is necessary for rearing 200 chickens by the natural means. Poultry farming is a business that requires to be dealt with in the same manner as the butter, cheese and fruit branches. A substantial profit can be made from the poultry business, when it is carried on as an adjunct to farming, and with the same careful attention and financing.

The Dominion Department of Agriculture is endeavoring to increase the poultry trade of Canada; to encourage the growth of the greatest number of high class chickens, and to assist in the marketing of them. A revised edition of the bulletin, 'Profitable Poultry Farming,' has just been issued and will be mailed without charge on application to the Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying, Ottawa. The information it contains is of great value in the poultry work, and it should be in the hands of every interested poultryman in Canada."

WORLD'S OLDEST CODE OF LAW.

Of recent finds in the East, none is of more interest to scholars than the stele of Hammurabi discovered by De Morgan in Susa. A study of this important document, from the pen of Dr. William Hayes Ward, will appear in the July Century. Hammurabi reigned in Babylon about 2250 B.C., and his code carried back the history of law a thousand years or more. Comparisons of Hammurabi's code with the Mosaic legislation shows the former to be, on the whole, very much more humane. If a man has given his wife,