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A. ARCHER, M. D. Brooklyn, N. Y

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WRAPPER.

NEW YORK CITY

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Victoria, B. C.

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E CANDLES, box ..... 15c.
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'S EASTERN OYSTERS.

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MONEY IN IT!
HIP YOUR
URS
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Prompt Returns.
RICE CIRCULARS

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Many delightful odors are
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H. BOWES,
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Near Yates Street.

NOTICE.

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A. MACAULEY.
ov. 21, 1901.

$1.50 Per Annum. $1.50

Victoria Times.

Twice-a-Week.

VOL. 32. VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1901. NO. 41.

EXPRESS COLLIDES WITH WORK TRAIN

FOUR MEN REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED

Major Thomas Adair Passes Away at Toronto—Sir William Van Horne Returns From Cuba.

Sault Ste. Marie, Dec. 26.—The local express, which runs between the Sault and Webbwood on the Soo branch of the C. P. R., leaving here at 5.20 p.m., collided with a work train which was returning from the East near Thessalon, at 6.45 this evening. Full details of the wreck, which is one of the most terrible that ever happened in this district, is hard to obtain, but besides extensive damage to both trains four men or more are killed, and up to a late hour to-night their bodies had not been found. Engineer McDavit, of the C. P. R., was on the work train, and the crew of that train, which it is believed contributed most to the killed, are from Michigan. Of the crew of the local express, the engineer, M. Christopher, the fireman, D. Miller, and the conductor, A. Gould, are all of this town. These three are said to have been injured seriously as well as a baggage man.

Veteran Dead.

Toronto, Dec. 25.—The death occurred to-day of Thomas Adair, an old and respected resident of Toronto, and for many years a conspicuous figure in the life of this province. By occupation he was a collector. He served during the Fenian raid of 1866, and joined the Red River expedition under Col. (now Lord) Wolseley, in 1870. He was quartermaster of the Ontario Battalion in that expedition, and ultimately attained the rank of major of militia.

Shooting Affray.

A long standing difficulty between Herbert Turan, of 1,578 Bloor street west, and Frank Aich, of 1,562, the same street, reached a climax this afternoon, and in an affray which ensued Rich was hit in the leg by a revolver bullet. Two shots were fired and Frank McNamara, who was with Rich, had his leg grazed by one of them. Turan was afterwards arrested and charged with having shot with intent to kill. About five months ago Rich was bound over to keep the peace. He and McNamara went to Turan's house to-day, and the latter shot at them. Rich is in the emergency hospital, but is not seriously wounded.

A Quiet Christmas.

Christmas was observed in an exceedingly quiet way to-day. The weather was warm and the streets sloppy from melting snow, and the winter sports that usually afford amusement to the young folk were lacking. In the homes of the city there was contentment and prosperity. Everyone agrees that Toronto never had a more prosperous season. The money spent in gifts in Canada must aggregate in the millions, and the manufacturers of jewelry, pianos and fancy goods have been pushed to the fullest capacity of their factories. In the church services to-day many references were made to the comfort and happiness of Canada, and hope was expressed that the desolating war in South Africa would soon end.

Home From Cuba.

Montreal, Dec. 25.—Sir William Van Horne, chairman-director of the Canadian Pacific, arrived home to-day from Cuba, where he has spent some weeks inspecting a railway which is being built by his Cuba company, from Santiago to Santa Clara, a distance of 360 miles.

Manitoba Religious Statistics.

Winnipeg, Dec. 25.—The Dominion census returns show the following religious statistics for Manitoba: Roman Catholics, 35,620; Presbyterians, 65,322; Methodists, 49,909; Episcopalian, 44,874; Baptists, 9,118; Congregationalists, 1,882; Lutherans, 16,477; Jewish, 1,497; Greek Church, 7,898; Pagans, 1,232; Mennonites, 15,222; Unitarians, 221; Salvation Army, 744; Agnostic, 82; Free Thinkers, 124; miscellaneous, 4,085; not specified, 638. Total, 245,945.

TRAGEDIES IN THE STATES.

A Long List of Murders and Suicides.

Duckhill, Miss., Dec. 25.—Frank Royal, a young man, was shot and killed near this place last night by the daughter of his brother-in-law, J. S. Mills, whom he and his wife were visiting. Mills and Royal left for town in the evening, and upon their return, for the sake of a joke, Royal failed to answer Miss Mills, who called to him as he started out of the hallway. Beatrice Mills, a 14-year-old girl, thinking it some person bent on mischief, seized a shotgun and fired, the entire load entering Royal's heart as he entered the door.

Fatal Quarrel.

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 25.—Three negroes were killed near Wilmot yesterday as the result of a quarrel over a land sale. Martin Davis and Jeff Davis, cousins, engaged in a fatal duel. James Thompson, a friend of one of the dead men, was subsequently shot and killed by Arthur Davis, father of Martin Davis. Arthur Davis is in jail.

Drank Strychnine.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 25.—Nettie House, a 16-year-old girl, drank the contents of a bottle of strychnine to-day while standing at a patrol box with an officer who had taken her out of a saloon a few minutes before and placed her under arrest. She died a short time later at the emergency hospital.

Charged With Matricide.

Taylors Falls, Minn., Dec. 25.—Abe Olson, an old resident, has been taken into custody charged with killing his mother, 80 years of age, by splitting her head open with an axe last night. He is weak-minded, but was considered harmless. He is 55 years of age and was alone with his mother at the time.

Killed in Duel.

Lockhart, Tex., Dec. 25.—As the result of a duel near Coxville, Leon Baker was killed and Jim Jeffry was badly wounded. Jeffry was brought here and is in jail.

Found Dead.

Denver, Dec. 25.—The body of Flora McDonald, a waitress, 25 years of age, was found this morning in the city park lake. There were marks on her throat which indicate that she was murdered. The police, however, have concluded that Miss McDonald committed suicide, as there is no evidence to support the theory of murder beyond the few marks on the face and neck.

A Feud.

Pine Bluff, Ark., Dec. 25.—Mose F. Solmson shot and killed George Stubblefield to-night. Stubblefield's father was killed by a member of the Solmson family several months ago, and to-day's tragedy followed Stubblefield's appearance near the Solmson house with a gun, after he had made threats against the Solmsons.

Result of Jealousy.

Seattle, Dec. 25.—Dolly Quappe, a Seattle waiter girl commited suicide today by swallowing carbolic acid. Jealousy caused the deed.

Farmer Murdered.

Hudson, N. Y., Dec. 25.—Peter A. Hallenbeck, a well known farmer in Columbia county, while alone in his house last night, was shot to death by three unknown men. The men were afterwards seen driving toward Catskill station. Eleven shots were fired into Hallenbeck's body. The farmers have lately been annoyed by poultry thieves, and it is thought the murder was done by some of them.

RIOT AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Two Saloons Wrecked During Fight Among Soldiers—One Man Probably Fatally Wounded.

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—Two saloons near the Presidio gate were wrecked tonight during a riot in which about a thousand soldiers took part.

Sixteen of the rioters were arrested by the police and about 60 of them were placed in the guardhouse at the military post by a provost guard which was sent to the scene about an hour after the disturbance first started. One soldier is in the post hospital badly stabbed and likely to die.

The riot grew out of a street fight that took place early in the afternoon. At that time a corporal of the Eleventh Cavalry, near the corner of Baker and Greenwich streets, was beating a fellow soldier when Private William Ross, of the Seventieth Coast Artillery came along and gave the corporal a drubbing. Ross had been excused from duty at the post during the afternoon, and he was acting as a bartender for D. Tarpey, who keeps a saloon at 2,811 Baker street.

Shortly before 6 o'clock the corporal, in the company of a man of his own rank and three or four privates of his company, went into the saloon where Ross was engaged. Without a word the corporal walked up to him and plunged a knife into his back. Ross grappled with him, but at that moment the other corporal struck him over the head with a chair. Ross took the chair from him and drove his assailants from the place. He was badly wounded and Tarpey led him from the place by a rear door, where some of his comrades happened to be, and they escorted him to the post hospital.

Soon after the assault on Ross word reached the men of the Seventieth Artillery that one of their number had been killed by some of the men of the Eleventh Cavalry, and they gathered a force and sought revenge. At the same time a story got into circulation among the men of the other commands in the post, and among the soldiers of the casual camp, that a soldier had been killed in Tarpey's saloon. A rush was made for the saloon, and when the crowd began to close in on the place there were a hundred soldiers of the Eleventh Cavalry and the Seventieth Artillery engaged in a free fight before the door, and a crowd was surging in and out of the saloon. There were cries to wreck and burn the place, and every moment the fury of the fast-increasing crowd became intensified. A call was sent for police protection to the North End police station, but before the policemen arrived all the windows in the front of the place had been shattered.

The street was blocked with a yelling, rock-throwing crowd when the patrol wagon reached the scene. The police charged the mob, but were met with a volley of stones and bricks. They then drew their clubs and went at the rioting soldiers.

After a few minutes an officer, with a few men of the postguard, went to the assistance of the policemen, and not long after the street was cleared and most of the soldiers were driven into the military reservation. Nearly all of the policemen had been struck with flying stones.

The rioting was not over even after the soldiers had been driven within the gates of the reservation. A short distance from the line wall is a saloon conducted by P. W. Anderson. It came in for a share of the vengeance of the soldiers. Stones were hurled at it, and several of its windows were broken. A shot was fired through one of the windows and the bullet shattered a clock that was hanging over the bar.

A provost guard of four companies of infantry was formed, and it was sent out to clear the streets of the rioters. Sixty of those found on the streets were placed in the guardhouse. Every soldier on the reservation was sent to quarters and special guards were placed about all the camps to prevent the men from returning to the colony of saloons outside the gates and renewing the attack.

SOLDIERS POISONED.

Denver, Dec. 25.—A special to the News from Cheyenne, Wyo., says: 80 members of Company F, Eighteenth Infantry, were poisoned while eating breakfast this morning, and for a time fully half of them were in danger of death. Before breakfast was over every man in the company had to leave the table, and soon all were prostrated and in great agony. The post surgeon was hurriedly summoned and administered an antidote.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE DOMINION

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN SAVINGS BANKS

The Revenue For the Yukon—Cost of South African Contingent and Halifax Garrison.

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—(Delayed in transmission).—The public accounts of the Dominion were issued to-day. The net surplus on ordinary revenue was $5,648,335, and net receipts $52,564,701. The capital account was $11,116,498. When the surplus sinking funds and refunds are deducted from this amount a balance of $2,986,196 has to be added to the public debt for the year, which is now $268,400,003. There was $558,810 paid for the South African contingent and $349,870 for the Halifax garrison.

The balance at the credit of the depositors in post office and government savings banks on June 30th amounted to $56,048,957, an increase of $2,809,234 over the balance held on the same day the year previous. The demand for $1 and $2 Dominion notes continues, being nearly a quarter of a million for October in excess of October, 1900. The total revenue for the Yukon since 1895 was $6,700,192, and expenditure $5,945,216, leaving a surplus of $754,977.

The revenue from the Intercolonial was $4,972,235, compared with $4,552,071 of last year, an increase of $420,164. The expenditure was $5,460,422, an increase of $1,029,017 over 1900. The difference between the revenue and expenditure for the year show a deficit of $488,186. The increased cost on the road was principally on new locomotives, cars and maintenance of way.

Unfounded Report.

There is no truth in the report from Buffalo that Canada is asking for a meeting of the joint high commission.

Canadian Dead.

Hon. Joseph Chamberlain cables to Lord Minto as follows:

"I regret to inform you that Albert Edmonds was dangerously wounded and N. W. Glass was severely wounded, both at Zontpan, on 12th December. The fathers respectively are Harry Edmonds, of Balgonie, Assiniboia, and William Glass, of Willoughby, Saskatchewan. Also Sergt. W. H. Rea died of dysentery December 19th at Bloemfontein. Wife, Mrs. Rea, 55 Dalhousie street, Ottawa. (Signed) Chamberlain."

A cable from the casualty department, also at Capetown, announces the death of Herbert Rea, of the South African Constabulary. Rea was at one time in the Mounted Police. His father is Wm. Rea, secretary of public school board in Ottawa. He was a brother-in-law of Fred Cook, the well known Ottawa correspondent.

DEWET TOOK GUNS.

Boers Surprised British Camp at Zeefontein—The Field Hospital Force.

London, Dec. 26.—The following dispatch has been received from Lord Kitchener, dated Johannesburg:

"Gen. Rundle reports that on the night of December 24th, Col. Firman's camp at Zeefontein, consisting of three companies of yeomanry and two guns, was successfully rushed by a strong commando under Dewet. It is feared the casualties were heavy. Two regiments of light horse are pursuing the Boers."

Boer resistance has always been very strong in that part of the Orange River Colony, which was the scene of Gen. Dewet's Christmas coup. A great quadrangle of blockhouses are being built there, the points of which are Vreiniginen, Volksrust, Harrismith and Kroonstadt. At the southeast corner of this quadrangle is an open space from Bethlehem to Lindley, where the square of blockhouses is still incomplete, and here Dewet made his attack. Col. Firman's force probably amounted to four hundred men, and the disaster, especially the loss of the guns, the possession of which may enable Dewet successfully to attack the blockhouses, creates a disturbing impression.

The Bearer Company.

Toronto, Dec. 27.—Col. Neilson, director-general of the Canadian Army Medical Service, who was here yesterday, consulting with Lieut.-Col. Roberts in connection with the field hospital force for South Africa, expressed himself as being satisfied that the force would compare favorably with any in the service in South Africa, both in its personnel and its equipment.

En Route to Halifax.

Montreal, Dec. 27.—All of the Ontario and Montreal recruits to make up the additional 500 of the Second Canadian Mounted Rifles, left here at noon to-day for Halifax.

The Zionist congress opened at Basle, Switzerland, on Thursday under the presidency of Dr. Theodore Herzl, of Vienna, the founder of the Zionist movement in Palestine. The congress is attended by over 1,000 delegates, representing every important country of the world with the exception of Australia.

INDIANS ON WARPATH

Become Excited During Buffalo Dance and Notify White Lessees to Vacate Ranches.

Guthrie, O. T., Dec. 25.—The Pawnee Indians are on the warpath. An immense buffalo bull was so injured in transferring from the Santa Fe stock yards to Pawnee Bill's ranch south of town that he had to be killed. The meat was given by Major Little to the Indians for a buffalo dance. The Indians have been dancing and powwowing ever since. They claim the vast herds of buffalo are coming back to this country and many of the Indians have notified the white lessees to vacate their ranches at once, as they wish to lay the fences low so that the buffalo will have full sway of the country.

The white people in the remote parts of the reservation are coming into Pawnee and report the Indians acting in a threatening manner towards them. Pawnee Bill has placed mounted guards around his buffalo ranch, as the Indians are camping in sight of the herd and from their suspicious actions he thinks they intend to liberate the herd and perhaps kill them.

The United States Indian agent at that point has been notified and has made a report to the commissioner of Indian affairs at Washington.

THE SUFFERINGS OF AN ALLEGED MURDERER

Tied to a Stake During Storm, He Died From Exposure After Reaching New Westminster.

New Westminster, Dec. 27.—The latest development in the Japanese murder, which occurred at McNair's logging camp on Christmas night, is the death of one of the men accused of the crime, from exposure. All that night, when the wind raged in the greatest fury ever known in the history of the coast, two of the Japanese remained tied to a stake in the open weather, with the result that one has died and the other is in a precarious condition.

The four men, alleged to be implicated in the murder, were brought in yesterday afternoon from the camp, which is situated near Lake Beautiful, by Provincial Constables Campbell and Thompson, and were lodged in the provincial jail. Two of them were in a pitiable condition, as a result of having been tied to a stake during the whole of Christmas night, and Ikada Saburo, who is supposed to have struck the fatal blow, died in great agony.

When brought to the jail he was a very sick man, and Dr. Walker was at once called. He did all in his power to alleviate the sufferings of the Japanese, but he moaned with pain till 11.30 last night, when he died. The unfortunate man was tied with his hands behind his back from 6 o'clock in the evening until 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, when the constables arrived on the scene. He was suffering intensely from cramps, and was with great difficulty got down to the landing.

It is not known yet who is responsible for this punishment of the men, but it is expected that knowledge will be obtained at the inquest.

A jury was hastily summoned this morning by Coroner Pittendrigh, which met at 9 o'clock. After an examination of the body was made, the coroner adjourned the inquest until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning, at which time it is expected that some important evidence will be given as Constables Campbell and Thompson, with several Japanese from the camp, will be witnesses.

The body of the murdered Japanese, Burei Karahiro, better known as "Jim the Jap," was brought into the city last evening from the scene of the tragedy at McNair's camp, which is pitched on the summit of the big hill about two and a half miles from the bay.

The three remaining men, accused of the murder, are all strongly guarded in the inner cells, adjoining that of the condemned Chinaman, and used only in cases where the prisoners are indicted for capital crimes. They are to all appearances sane, and do not seem to be agitated over the awful fate which threatens them.

OLD CRIME RECALLED.

Rome, Dec. 25.—At Verona there is being unraveled a libel action which turns upon an atrocious murder committed ten years ago, when some boys, fishing in the river, brought up several bags of human remains, which had been the body of a young woman who could never be identified, as the head could not be discovered.

Simultaneously with this discovery a young woman of the district named Isolina was reported missing, and she has never since been seen. Examination of the body showed that the murdered woman had been enciente, and Isolina was known to have been in that condition.

Popular suspicion at once pointed to a young lieutenant in an Alpine regiment, named Trivulzio, known to have been Isolina's lover. Although he was released after a short detention, public opinion refused to be satisfied.

After smouldering for 10 years, the tragedy has broken out afresh by a direct accusation against the ex-lieutenant, made by a Socialist deputy in a Verona paper.

While Trevulzio is prosecuting this paper for libel, another Verona journal has published further statements from several individuals, all pointing suspicion strongly against Trivulzio.

It was in this case that Signor Maggiotti, prosecuting counsel, in a sudden access of madness, shot himself in court the other day. So far as it has gone, the action has thrown little light on the crime.

NEWS NOTES FROM EASTERN CANADA

FOUR BOYS DROWNED ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Marconi Favors Cape Breton as Permanent Telegraphy Station—Smallpox Epidemic.

Winnipeg, Dec. 26.—When the C. P. R. train arrived from the East yesterday the trainmen were horrified to find traces of blood and human flesh on the mail, express and baggage cars, the wheels of which were splashed with blood and spotted with human flesh and hair. No report of any fatal accident has reached the officials, and there is no further trace of the supposed victim.

New Branch Open.

The first regular train on the Canadian Northern from Dauphin to come in over the new Beaver-Gladstone line reached Winnipeg this evening. With the completion of the Rainy River section next week the Canadian Northern will have a continuous line from Port Arthur, through New Ontario and Manitoba to the Northwest Territories.

Store Robbed.

George Elliott's store at Crandall, Man., was robbed of $1,000 Christmas night.

Beet Sugar Factory.

Toronto, Dec. 26.—The Ontario Beet Sugar Company let contracts to-day for a factory at Berlin to cost over $500,000. The plant is to be ready for operation in October next and will use 600 tons of beets daily.

The Smallpox Epidemic.

There are now 433 cases of smallpox in Ontario, according to the latest advices received by Dr. Bryce, secretary of the provincial board of health. Among the new cases reported yesterday is one on an Indian reserve near Worth Bay. In the latter case complaint is made that the Indians are not policed, and are visiting the town without restraint. The Indian department has been communicated with.

Suicide at Edmonton.

Edmonton, Alta., Dec. 26.—A. R. MacDonald, manager of D. R. Maser's sawmill, who committeed suicide on Christmas Eve, was to have been married on Christmas Day to Miss Wade, daughter of D. Wade, of the Hudson's Bay Company. He left a check for $500 for her. No reason can be assigned for the deed.

Drowned.

Bridgewater, N. S., Dec. 26.—A very sad drowning accident shocked the entire community here yesterday. Four boys who were skating on LaHave, above Cook's mills, fell through the ice and were drowned. Their names are Ferry and Merrill Rhonenhauser, aged 14 and 12 years, respectively, sons of Mrs. Stephen Rhodenhauser; Curry Hubley, aged 12, whose birthday was Christmas Day, a son of Cyrus Hubley; and George Baitman, aged 10 years, son of James Baitman. The boys were last seen at 11.30 in the morning, and as they did not appear at dinner a search was made, and their caps were found floating on the water. The bodies were grappled for and recovered at 2.30 p.m.

Marconi.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 26.—The steamer Bruce, with Signor Marconi on board, arrived at North Sydney to-day. Marconi was met by Mr. Smith, on behalf of the Canadian government; Premier Murray, of the Nova Scotia government, and Mayor McKenzie, of North Sydney. Mr. Marconi thinks it probable that a spot in Cape Breton will be selected for a permanent station, and he says that the point chosen must be from 100 to 200 feet above the sea level. Marconi will remain in Cape Breton a few days, and then proceed to Ottawa. When asked as to the present stage of his experiments in telegraphing across the Atlantic, Marconi said that up to the present only one letter, continuously repeated, had been received.

Shot Dead.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Dec. 27.—Four men forced an entrance into Mrs. McAuley's boarding house at Annadale on Christmas night. The men refused to leave until one of their number, Dennis Brown, was shot dead by Captain John Warren, one of Mrs. McAuley's boarders.

Accidentally Shot.

St. Catherines, Ont., Dec. 27.—Alfred Jackson, seven years old, is dead as the result of a bullet discharged from a rifle in the hands of his uncle, who did not know the gun was loaded.

Carnegie's Offer.

Stratford, Ont., Dec. 27.—Andrew Carnegie has offered to donate $12,000 for a public library here upon certain conditions. The offer has been accepted.

Mayor of Orangeville Dead.

Orangeville, Ont., Dec. 26.—William Still, mayor of Orangeville, died very suddenly in his business office this afternoon.

May Be Moved.

Kingston, Dec. 26.—Lt.-Col. Ogilvie, commanding "B" Field Battery, admitted that there is some truth in a rumor that one of the batteries now located here will be moved to a larger centre, because Kingston is not large enough to supply recruits for both batteries. Between the two corps there is a shortage of about 70 men.

Engineer Killed.

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Dec. 26.—The first reports of the accident to the local express which runs between the Canadian Soo and Webbwood, Ont., on the Canadian Pacific, and which collided with a light freight engine a few miles east of Thessalon last night, were exaggerated. Engineer McDavitt, of North Bay, of the freight engine, was killed. Several others were badly injured.

NANAIMO LIBERALS.

Officers Elected and Delegates to Convention Chosen—Action of Minority.

Nanaimo, Dec. 28.—A meeting of the Liberals of the city was held last evening for the purpose of electing officers of the association and appointing delegates to the provincial convention to be held at Vancouver.

A little misunderstanding took place early in the meeting owing to the question of the standing of the members of the Liberal party, who belonged to the Labor party, being brought up. It reached a crucial point early in the meeting upon the proposal to elect Dr. McKechnie chairman of the meeting. A vote was taken upon a motion that inasmuch as the meeting was called by the Liberal party that no Conservative or member of any independent or other political party should have a vote in the meeting.

This was clearly intended to hit the members of the Labor party present, and was voted down by a vote of 26 to 18.

Several members, including W. W. B. McInnes, M. P. P., W. Sloan, Tully Boice, John Johnston and J. Mercer, withdrew.

The newly elected president, C. H. Barker, in a conciliatory tone, hoped that the two branches, if such did exist, would soon be united.

Dr. McKechnie took occasion during the meeting to declare that he was as firm a Liberal as he had ever been. If he had associated himself with the Labor party in any way it was because he agreed with the principles and objects of that party. He did not alienate himself from the Liberal party.

Officers were elected as follows:

President, C. H. Barker; vice-president, Jas. Young; secretary, Angus McKenzie; treasurer, W. H. Kelly.

Delegates to the provincial convention, Messrs. Barker, F. McB. Young and Woodman.

The question of pledging the delegates to a position regarding the matter of the introduction of party lines in connection with provincial politics was decided against, and the delegates were left free to take such course as they should decide upon.

The minority met last night after the disruption, and elected officers, claiming themselves as true Liberals. W. W. B. McInnes was elected president and W. Sloan, honorary president of their branch. The delegates to the convention at Vancouver are Messrs. T. O'Connell, H. McAdie and Tully Boyce.

WILL BUY SCHOONER.

New Vessel to Be Used by the Finnish Settlers for Fishing.

Nanaimo, Dec. 28.—The Kalevan Kansa Company have purchased the schooner which is to be built in Victoria by Capt. Jobson. It will be 65 feet long, especially adapted for weather of Behring Sea, and will be used by the Finnish Co. for fishing purposes, and may also be used for carrying supplies, etc. It will be fitted with steam.

CHILD BURNED TO DEATH.

Philadelphia, Dec. 25.—One child was burned to death, its parents were seriously injured and two other young children were slightly injured as a result of a fire at the home of James H. Connolly, in this city, to-night.

Shortly after the family had retired the fire was discovered on the first floor of the house. The flames had gained considerable headway and escape by the stairs was cut off. Connolly threw his 2-year-old son and 2-month-old baby out of a second story window into the arms of neighbors, and the little ones escaped with slight injuries.

The parents then jumped, and were both badly hurt by their heads striking the stone sidewalk. In the excitement the 4-year-old daughter, Mary, was forgotten. After the flames had been extinguished the little girl's charred body was found.

"STEEPLE JACK'S" DEATH.

New York, Dec. 26.—"Steeple Joe" Lawler, the original steeple climber, is dead in Gouvenir hospital. Lawler was 40 years of age, and during his time as a "steeple jack" probably ascended more steeples and tutored more pupils in his dangerous trade than any other man in the country. Lawler was originally a members of the fire department, and it was in the training he received as a fireman that he developed his ability as a steeple climber. While a member of a ladder company he made a record of ascending over 128 feet in a trifle over two minutes.

BLOWN FROM TRAIN.

Missoula, Mont., Dec. 26.—Word reached this city this afternoon that Conductor Charles King was killed last night, just across the line in Idaho. Conductor King was blown from his train by the fierce storm raging while trying to reach the caboose. King had been helping a brakeman, and started to the rear end of the train when the disaster occurred.

King's mangled body was found at the bottom of a deep curve, having been blown from the train while almost in the centre of a trestle.

THE APPROACHING MUNICIPAL RACE

LARGE NUMBER WILL CONTEST ELECTIONS

Some Strong Aldermanic Material Among the Aspirants—Campaign Will Be Opened Shortly.

The first gun will soon be fired in what promises to be one of the liveliest election campaigns ever conducted in this city. Last year the mayor and aldermen were returned unopposed, which was in many quarters considered a tribute to their invincibility. This year there will necessarily be a spirited fight, as there is a field of candidates large and strong enough to satisfy the most discriminating elector.

It is altogether probable that no candidate will enter the mayoralty lists against the present chief magistrate—at least no one has yet announced his determination to do so. The name of Lieut.-Col. Prior has been mentioned and a requisition asking him to run is now in circulation, but the colonel has repeatedly denied that he has had the slightest intention of becoming a candidate.

Of the present aldermanic board only one member has thus far come out with a flat-footed refusal to again contest the elections. This is Ald. Stewart, who has represented Central ward in the council for four terms, three of them consecutively. To a Times reporter yesterday he stated that he had had enough of municipal legislating for the present, and under no circumstances would he enter the field for the approaching struggle. "You can make that as plain as you like," he said.

None of the other solons has expressed the intention of following in the footsteps of the Central ward city father just quoted, so doubtless the election day will see them at the scratch, as keen for the race as in previous years. In this event there will be five candidates for North ward, the present triumvirate, Alds. Kinsman, Brydon and Beckwith, and Messrs. H. M. Grahame and Geo. Jeeves. There are prophets who predict that the present trio will not resume their seats next year, but the municipal horoscope can show nothing further from present indications as there is lots of time for more candidates to enter the list, and there is always the possibility of a dark horse making his appearance at the last minute.

In Central ward, Ald. Stewart's retirement creates a vacuum, and here also it is predicted in some quarters that there will be more than one change in the aldermanic semi-circle. Alds. Williams and Yates will be on deck, and they will have as adversaries A. P. Luxton, Thos. I. Worthington and ex-Ald. William Humphrey.

So far, however, South ward has the largest number of candidates. Last year's aldermen, Messrs. Cameron, Cooley and Hall will enter the arena, while the new aspirants will be Messrs. F. W. Vincent, G. H. Barnard and Thornton Fell. The municipal seer who is blessed or troubled with second sight also anticipates a break in the trio from James Bay.

Some of the candidates have been diligently canvassing their respective wards for some time, while others while incidentally doing so, are more disposed to await the inauguration of the campaign in earnest, when they can present their views to the electors from the platform and through the press.

It is quite probable that the Point Ellice bridge question may prove a feature in the coming struggle, and doubtless the present council will endeavor to make some progress or at least satisfactorily dispose of the preliminaries before their term expires. At present it stands in statu quo: "The only progress made being its reference to a committee of the whole council for full consideration with certain instructions. These were in effect to acquire necessary information from an expert, to call for tenders in the usual way, and to consider the advisability of having the substructure done by day labor, and report generally to the council on the most expeditious course to adopt.

Thus far the committee of the whole has not met, and therefore they cannot report to the council, or give the necessary instructions to the city engineer. If the council disposes of all the preliminary details, it will greatly facilitate progress in the matter, and enable the incoming council to get the work under way early in the year.

The nominations will take place in the city hall on Monday, January 13th, between 12 and 2 o'clock, and the election will be held on the following Thursday from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. Polling for aldermen will take place at the market building, and for mayor in the court room, city hall. W. W. Northcott will be returning officer.

The violence of the snow storms which have prevailed in Norway during the past week is almost unprecedented. A number of railway trains remain imbedded in the snow in the southeastern districts of Norway, and most of the telegraph wires are down.

It has been definitely learned that King Edward shall personally open parliament. It is said that the Czar has accepted an invitation to attend the coronation of King Edward, provided the Czarina is in good health at the time the ceremony occurs.