Extension of Island Road

Arguments Which Were Advanced Years Ago By Hon. J. S. Helmcken.

Interesting Reproduction of Letters Affecting the Railway Agitation.

At the request of a large number of its readers, the Colonist will reproduce from day to day some of the very excellent letters written a number of years ago by Hon. J. S. Helmcken on the question of railway extension to the North End of Vancouver Island. Dr. Helmcken has been one of the most persistent advocates of the scheme which is now engrossing the attention of every community on the Island; and his numerous letters to the Colonist some 15 years ago, and later, which were signed "J. S. H.," created more than ordinary interest in the project. To the large proportion of the people of Victoria, who are comparative new-comers to the city, the reproduction of "J. S. H.'s" arguments at this time will prove of particular interest.

Victoria, August 23, 1886.

To the Editor: In former letters it was endeavored to open the eyes of Canada to the proposition that Vancouver Island is or is to be the road to Alaska, Queen Charlotte Islands, Fort Simpson, the Northern Coast of the Mainland, the West and East Coasts of Vancouver Island, and the fishing banks, now, thanks to the Canadian government, about to be explored.

That were a railroad built to the North end of Vancouver Island, with steamers to the North, Fort Simpson could be reached from Esquimalt in forty hours, and Alaska in a short time also. That by those means the trade of the North and passenger traffic would be gained and controlled; that the Island would be quickly teeming with settlers, and the West Coast of Vancouver Island be but a few hours distance from Esquimalt, and the dangers of traversing the narrow inland channels in a great measure avoided, and the expense of maintaining very numerous lighthouses diminished. The idea entertained by some that Vancouver Island is only a mass of rock is a delusion, the result of ignorance. Vancouver Island is capable of maintaining a large population, and would have had this ere now had the lands been accessible. Even as it is, look at the settlements from Esquimalt to Comox. That which has taken place as far as Comox can be extended to the North end of the Island and Northern Coast. A railway will hasten the "future"—indeed, "future" in this respect is a mere material thing—climb up the future, take a piece out of it and bring it down to be used now. This piece of the "future" is a railroad. The Island can be settled now; trade can be had by means of a railroad, and if the Canadian government will cultivate or foster sea fisheries there will be an abundance of work for it to do—in fact the one will encourage and foster the other. To wait until the Island is settled before building a railroad, is to wait a long time, and is not consistent with modern ideas of railroads. Railroads now take the place of wagon roads; they are cheaper in the end, and the advantages of them over wagon roads are greater than can be estimated; they make the "future" close, and distance near; in fact, business is done now by means of railroads, steamers, telegraphs, etc., in a short time that formerly took months or years to accomplish. Traders must keep abreast of the times of fall into the background.

Vancouver Island then occupies a remarkable and valuable geographical position—has plenty of land to suit even poor people; an advantage which but few places can boast of. It does not take many acres of land to support a family. It will not be more difficult to build the railroad from Nanaimo to the North than it has been to construct it from Nanaimo to Esquimalt. The latter has been completed—the end of the beginning. To complete the remainder within five years, only requires the assistance of the Canadian and local governments—assistance now, which will repay them handsomely ere long. All that is necessary is for the local government to give land, and for the Dominion government to give a cash subsidy for a number of years, in order that an interest of two per cent per annum may be secured to capitalists for a given period. More than sufficient capital could easily be obtained by this means. It will not be more to give this subsidy to the Island railway, for the purpose of fostering and securing trade and commerce for the Dominion, than it is to subsidize steamers to Australia and China. The same reason of defence and offence holds good also. Of course it would be advantageous were Mr. Dunsmuir, with his extraordinary public spirit, to undertake the work; he would do it cheaper and would do it better than anyone else; but if it had to be put up for a public bid, it certainly would be to the advantage of the Northern Pacific railroad to build it, constituting, as it would, a line from the United States South to the, at present, disunited one—Alaska. Of course, the C. P. R. might want it, but they once rejected it; they may solicit it now if the directors have become wiser. Anyhow, when once the scheme is open for a bid under some such conditions as mentioned, depend upon it, there will be no want of applicants. It is a good thing.

The Canadian Pacific railway possibly did not see what is now dawning and soon will be clear, that a man will travel from Winnipeg to Port Simpson and Alaska, return by boat and Vancouver Island railway, to the Canadian Pacific railway and on back to Winnipeg, circuit and girdle for trade, the dimensions to be filled up as occasion may require. The round trip will be performed in less than twenty days. The same can and will be done by means of the Northern Pacific railway.

J. S. H.

A NORTHERN COAST RAILROAD.

The more the suggestion of "J. S. H." for a Northern Coast railroad is considered, the most feasible does it appear, and the more reasonable its details. It is not intended that this remark should be taken for a thorough endorsement of its present practicability—for to make such an assertion would be indicative of an impetuosity not at all consonant with careful deliberation. Yet, as far as it has been explained—and it has been explained by our correspondent most ably—the inductions appear logical, and all of them tangible, excepting, perhaps, that as to the immediate necessity of such a line—whether circumstances are such as to apparently warrant such an anticipation of what will certainly one day be a decided requirement of trade. As to just when that day may be, one's judgment, even though based upon experience and observation, may err; and yet it is upon a correct conclusion on this point that the success of the work would depend. The time was when railways followed settlement more than caused it; but here, on the American continent, the experiment was tried of making them the pioneers of civilization. How well it has succeeded has become a by-word, and the question now bears more as to what grounds there are for reasonably supposing such settlement would follow; in other words, what inducements would the nature of the country thus opened up to communication with commercial points offer of a fairly profitable trade?

We have seen so many enterprises that at one time seemed startling crowned with success, as to hesitate in speaking with positivism of this proposed line of railway, even under the present aspect of the case. There is a good quantity of agricultural land on the North east Coast of the Island—sufficient for very many homesteads; there are fresh fields for the lumber industry, also that of fishing, including the black cod banks of Queen Charlotte Islands; and there is the Northward travel of all who would be concerned in these fields, besides miners and tourists. Such reflections furnish appreciable ground for supposing that a North Coast line might be a profitable investment if impetus were given to the comparatively undisturbed resources of our country. The cost, without doubt, would be great! and in saying this, we reserve the right to modify our opinion, concurrent with those changes of circumstances that so materially alter cases. One of these would be the contemplated construction of a more Northern overland route.—Colonist, September 12, 1886.

Hackett vs The Blakely

Judgment In This Case Handed Down By Hon. Justice Martin.

Orders H. H. Jones to Pay a Hundred Dollars and the Costs.

In the Admiralty court, in the case of Hackett et al v. the ship Blakely, on Thursday last, Hon. Mr. Justice Martin handed down the following judgment:

On the evidence there is no difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that the ship was purchased at the Marshals sale on the 15th of October, 1902, by Henry Humphrey Jones for $2,000, and that he subsequently in writing on October 28th, absolutely refused to complete his purchase, and repudiated all responsibility in regard thereto. Under such circumstances the Marshal resold the ship, without obtaining an order for such resale, for the sum of $1,000. The present application is by the plaintiffs to compel the defaulting purchaser to make good the difference in price, and pay the costs and expenses occasioned by and incidently to such default.

The application is resisted, first, on the ground that there was no memorandum in writing of the sale to satisfy the Statute of Frauds. Even if such were the case, the answer is that judicial sales are not within that Statute.

Attorney-General vs. Day (1748-8) 1 Ves. Sr. 218.

In the second place it is contended that before the defaulting purchaser can be held liable there must be an order for resale.

The analagous practice in Chancery on this point is to be found in the cases of Hodder vs. Ruffin (1818) Ves. & Bea., 544; Gray vs. Gray (1839) 1 Beav. 499; Harding vs. Harding (1839) 1 My & Cr., 514; Crooks vs. Crooks (1854) 4 Grant, 376 and Heeley (1850) 1 Ch. Cas. 54; and it is the fact that in those cases an order for resale was made, but it is apparent to me, at least, that the reason for adopting that practice was to fix a limited time within which the purchaser might still have an opportunity to complete, and failing that he should be, as it were, formally adjudged, a defaulter and held liable as such. The object, in short, was to give him a certain time within which to make up his mind, and the clear distinction between those cases and this is that in none of them had the purchaser definitely repudiated his purchase, but had either taken steps in the direction of completion, or had simply done nothing towards carrying it out, while in this case he has under his own hand, declared himself not to be a defaulter. It would, under such circumstances, be going through an idle and expensive formality for this court to declare a purchaser to be a defaulter when he has himself already deliberately notified the Marshal to that effect. It is only the possibility that the purchaser may be trying to complete that renders the application for the order necessary.

If the resale is otherwise regular, it is, as a matter of practice, just as convenient that the order directing a defaulting purchaser to be held liable should be made after the sale as before. Indeed, in such a case as the present wherein it is necessary to ascertain by an order whether the purchaser may still at the eleventh hour wish to complete or not, it would appear to be the better practice to wait till after the result of the resale before applying for such order, because it might very well happen that on the resale a greatly increased price would be obtained.

There would, in any event, be a further reason why an application for an order for resale might be necessary in Chancery without that being the case in this court, which is that sales in Chancery are subject to the approval of the court while such is not the practice of this court, sales of ships being conducted pursuant to an open and general commission of sale to the Marshal. If one sale prove abortive, there is no good reason why the Marshal should not hold another sale at the earliest convenient date without further order.

The defaulting purchaser herein has caused a loss to the plaintiffs, and as the Lord Chancellor said in Harding vs. Harding, supra, "I do not know why a person purchasing under a decree of the court should not be held to his contract as much as a person purchasing in the ordinary way." There has been an attempt to play fast and loose with the court in this matter, and under the circumstances it would not be seemly that to obtain redress the plaintiffs should be sent to another tribunal when this court possesses ample power to speedily and at less expense than elsewhere afford relief.

There will be an order, therefore, directing the said Jones to pay into court the deficiency in price, $100, and all costs, charges, and incidental expenses attending the last sale, and incidental thereto, and occasioned by the default, which amount to $170, and also to pay to the plaintiffs or their solicitors, the costs of the present motion.

(Sgd.) ARCHER MARTIN, J.

January 29th, 1903.

LUDGATE APPEAL.

Before the Full court yesterday the argument in the appeal case of the Attorney-General vs. Ludgate was continued, and an adjournment taken until Monday morning.

CHAMBERS.

In Chambers yesterday morning Mr. Justice Walkem disposed of the following applications:

Canadian Bank of Commerce vs. Wardner—An order appointing Mr. Tuck, of Nelson, receiver, with security fixed at $1,000, was granted on motion of G. H. Barnard for plaintiffs.

Lang vs. Brayshaw—An order for mutual discovery of documents was granted, A. L. Belyea, K. C., for plaintiff, G. H. Barnard contra.

McCune vs. Botsford—F. Peters, K. C., for plaintiff, obtained a garnishee order nisi, returnable in 10 days.

Dance Tonight.—Saturday night dances in A. O. U. W. hall will be continued by the Jolly Four Club. A. J Arnason, J. A. Stow, D. Arnason, committee.

IF YOUR PHYSICIAN prescribes a milk diet, for its easy digestibility it will be well to use Borden's Peerless Brand Evaporated Cream to get a rich, deliciously flavored milk food, perfectly sterilized, according to latest sanitary methods. For general household uses Prepared by Borden's Condensed Milk Co.
Price 15c. per can.

No! No! No! No!

This word is used four times, by Prof. W. Hodgson Ellis, Official Analyst to the Dominion Government, in reporting the result of his analyses of Sunlight Soap.

"No unsaponified fat"; that means no waste.

"No free alkali"; that means no damage to clothes or hands.

"No loading mixture"; that means every atom is pure soap.

"No adulteration whatever"; that means pure ingredients.

Try Sunlight Soap—Octagon Bar—and you will see Prof. Ellis is right. He should know. 2.2

Boundary Ore Shipments

Show an Increase of 3,000 Tons Over Last Week's Output.

Granby Smelter Working Ful Time and to Full Capacity.

Phoenix, Jan. 30.—(Special)—This week Boundary ore shipments are about 3,000 tons more than last week, owing to the fact that the Granby smelter has been able to run its full battery of four furnaces full time. Following are the shipments from different mines as received:

Granby mines to Granby smelter, 7,985 tons.

Snowshoe mine to Sunset smelter, 1,050 tons.

Mother Lode to Mother Lode smelter, 2,688 tons.

Sunset mine to Sunset smelter, 250 tons.

B. C. Mine to Sunset smelter, 690 tons.

Emma mine to Trail smelter, 840 tons.

Total for week, 13,503 tons.

Total for year (1903), 44,960 tons.

For the last week the Granby smelter treated 10,633 tons of ore, a total for the year to date of 29,112 tons.

LOCAL NEWS.

(From Friday's Daily.)

Died at Alberni—Word has been received from Alberni that George Smith, caretaker of the Duke of York mine was found dead on the road near his House. He had been to New Alberni for supplies, and was stricken with heart failure on his way home. A verdict of death from natural causes was found by the coroner's jury.

Klondike's Railway.—A representative of Boston capitalists is en route to Dawson to look over the field for the purpose of reporting on the advisability of building the proposed Klondike Mines railway. Whitney Beals is the representative. He left Boston for Dawson on January 10, and is expected there before the end of this month. It was stated by representatives of the railroad that fully $150,000 has already been spent by the company on surveys and other work.

Yukon Flora.—Prof. Macoun, the Canadian government botanist, will visit Yukon and study the flora of the country next summer. He was there last summer and was the first botanist to make a study of the flora of that basin. He found more than 200 varieties of flowers and plants there, and declares the Yukon vegetation is not of the Arctic, but of the temperate zone classification. He will make an official report to his government which will be permanent in the historical data of the nation, and doubtless be of great value in the botanical and perhaps in the agricultural exploitation of Yukon.

The Mining Association.—John R. Hobson, president of the British Columbia Mining association, left last night for Mainland points. He will visit most of the mining centres and further the work of arranging local organizations in the various districts preparatory to the holding of the big convention in Victoria on February 25. All the reports which Mr. Hobson has received from interior points lead him to believe that men interested in mining everywhere throughout the province will enter heartily into the scheme for forming an association such as is proposed. Mr. Hobson will be absent several weeks.

Red Tape.—Postmaster Hartman, of Dawson, has received a telegram from the postal officials at Ottawa that Washington, D. C., has been notified of the winter second-class mail service from the outside to Dawson, and that United States mails will have equal rights to come in with Canadian. The United States postmaster at Skagway has refused to forward the second-class mail to Dawson on the ground that he had not been notified by the department to release it in winter. It appears that departmental negligence or tardiness existed somewhere. Canadian papers have been coming every month, while United States have not come since the river closed in November. Acting United States Consul Te Roller has taken up the matter with Washington by wire.

Victorian Dead.—Consumption claimed another victim on Sunday night in the person of Joseph Dunn, well known in Victoria as a former trainer of the lacrosse team. About a year ago he came to Kamloops for the benefit of his health and during the summer was appointed janitor of the K. M. and A. A., a position he very soon had to throw up on account of failing health. The deceased was 44 years of age and was a native of Ireland. The funeral took place on Monday, Rev. A. Michels, O. M. I., officiating.—Inland Sentinel.

Clever Counterfeit.—A counterfeit Canadian twenty-five cent piece, dated 1900, is circulating in the city, several specimens having been detected during the past week. The counterfeit is well executed and hard to detect unless compared with a genuine coin, when the inferior workmanship is made apparent in several particulars. The milling is imperfect, and there is a lack of sharpness in the die, while the profile of Queen Victoria is distinctly different in expression. The bogus "quarter" is also thicker than the genuine, and despite that fact, considerably lighter.

A Bright Clerk.—The Montreal Star in a recent issue makes mention of what purports to be an amusing incident which occurred recently in Vancouver. A law clerk was filing some legal documents with court officials, and one declaration was made out on a form in use before the accession of King Edward. The court official handed the document in question back to him, saying, "That is wrong," at the same time pointing to the printed line which read, "Victoria, by the Grace of God, etc., etc." The clerk puzzled a moment, attempting to grasp what ought to be the proper correction, then erased the line and wrote "Vancouver, by the Grace of God, etc., etc."

(From Saturday's Daily.)

British Columbia's Farmers.—The Provincial Mining Association of British Columbia has nearly completed the work of mailing circulars calling attention to the association and its objects, and inviting co-operation in its work. Of the many thousand circulars sent out, 4,413 were mailed to farmers, which goes to show that the agricultural resources of the province are by no means neglected.

Sidney Sawmill.—After several years of idleness, the sawmill belonging to the Toronto & British Columbia Lumber Co. at Sidney is to be operated by Victoria and Seattle people, who have secured it and intend running the plant to its full capacity. The negotiations for the mill were brought to a successful issue by John Black & Co. of this city, who were also instrumental in securing John Leigh & Co.'s plant for the same parties.

(From Sunday's Daily.)

The Railway Agitation.—A meeting of the committee of fifteen which was appointed to take up several matters bearing upon the project to extend the railway to the North end of the Island, held an enthusiastic meeting yesterday afternoon. Mayor McCandless presided. As a result of the meeting sub-committees were appointed to confer with Mr. James Dunsmuir, M. P. P., attend to the financial aspect of the agitation, and report upon the merits of the proposition which was submitted to the committee by C. H. Lugrin.

Ladysmith's Postmaster—W. W. Southin, who has been postmaster at Ladysmith, announces that he has resigned that position. In this connection the Ladysmith Leader of yesterday's date says: "The Leader learns that the next incumbent of Ladysmith post office will be Mr. Cory S. Ryder, who was postmaster at Extension, succeeding H. Maille, who decamped with the funds of that office and went to the United States."

Navy League's Ambassador.—Mr. Wyatt, the envoy sent to the branches of the Navy League about the Empire by the British Navy League, and who has been holding meetings in the different cities of Canada, will arrive in Vancouver tomorrow, and will come to Victoria on Wednesday or Thursday. A public meeting will probably be held here, which will be addressed by the representative of the Navy League, about the end of the week.

AN OBSTINATE CASE OF ECZEMA.

Mr. W. D. Johnson, Tilsonberg, Ont., writes that his father was entirely cured of a long standing and obstinate case of Eczema by the use of Dr. Chase's Ointment. His leg and foot were a mass of sores that refused to heal, and he suffered terribly from the itching and stinging. Though he used a great many remedies and was treated by first-class doctors no permanent relief was obtained until he used Dr. Chase's Ointment.

Fifth Regiment Canadian Artillery

Officers and Men Perfecting Themselves In Their Soldierly Duties.

Preparing For Paardeberg Day —New Uniforms to Be Issued.

Though comparatively little is heard of the Fifth Regiment by the general public at this season of wet and cheerless nights, yet it is just at this time that the zealous ones get in their work, and it would probably surprise a good many if they knew the amount of really good drilling and study that is now going on in a quiet, unostentatious way, by the large number of men forming our local regiment, at least so it appeared to our representative on a recent visit.

Monday, for instance, in addition to this regular company drill of Nos. 5 and 6 companies, there is a class of flag signalers at one end of the hall and another one at the other end studying the mysteries of the depression range finder, while in an adjoining room may be heard the buglers making their first discordant strains, which later in the season will awaken the suburbs with the call of emergency parades at the camp reveille.

Tuesday evening is drill night for Nos. 1 and 2 companies (regimentally known as the "mule battery"), their special duty being with the 13-pounder field guns, their smart handling of which has so often pleased a Victoria audience, and with which they made such excellent practice last year at Oak Bay. On this evening also may be seen a class of newly joined recruits, under the regimental sergeant-major, who, under the latest rule, have to pass the adjutant's inspection.

Wednesday evening is Nos. 3 and 4 companies' night, and also for special instruction to the several Maxim detachments.

Thursday is the one night in the week devoted to orderly room and the general interior economy of the regiment, when the C. O. and his staff are on hand, prepared to receive all-comers at 8 p.m. sharp, and deal with all regimental business or complaints at short notice, and issue his weekly orders. This is the night when recruits, for which there is generally room for one or two more, may be inspected by the surgeon-major and be sworn in, provided only that they are 18 years of age, 5 feet 6 inches in height, and 34 inches chest measurement, and none under need hereafter apply, except, of course, as buglers. The first Thursday in the month is the officers' mess meeting, when, after transacting routine business, they listen to an instructive lecture from one of the seniors or others, afterwards discussing the subject. Capt. Macdonald, R. A., has promised to give the next one, on "Fort Manning Practice."

Friday is again a flag-signaling class; so that it will be seen that if organized and systematic drilling will do anything, the regiment should be well in the running with others in Canada, even though the four garrison companies are severely handicapped by not being able to practice their 6-inch B. L. gun drill until they get into camp.

As has already been stated, it is proposed to make Paardeberg Day an annual show day for the regiment, for which a small entrance fee will be charged for the benefit of the regimental fund, and a first-class military programme will be given, including the presentation of all certificates, cups and prizes won during the year, with regiment paraded in hollow square formation, and afterwards some exhibition drill, and finishing up with a camp scene and an attack, the defenders making use of their Maxims with blank ammunition, firing at a rate of about 100 rounds a minute.

REGIMENTAL ORDER.

The following regimental order by Capt. J. A. Hall, commanding the Fifth Regiment, has been issued:

The following men having been resworn, are continued on the strength of the regiment:

No. 1, Co. Sergt-Major A. Colquhoun, No. 1 Co.; No. 35, Sergt.-Major H. Hayward, No. 1 Co.; No. 110, Sergt. J. Cavin, No. 1 Co.

The following men having been granted their discharge, are struck off the strength of the regiment:

No. 257, Corpl. A. S. Burgess, January 19, 1903; No. 296, Gr. J. M. Collinson, January 19, 1903; No. 206, Gr. G. H. Morse, January 20, 1903; No. 227, Gr. J. R. Kerr, January 20, 1903.

The following men having been passed by the Acting Adjutant, are posted to their respective companies:

No. 54, Gr. T. M. Ross, No. 2 Co.; No. 55, Gr. L. A. Walton, No. 2 Co.; No. 57, Gr. B. W. Hackson, No. 2 Co.; No. 83, Gr. F. Pellow, No. 2 Co.; No. 84, Gr. H. Brown, No. 2 Co.; No. 116, Gr. R. Vaughan, No. 3 Co.; No. 126, Gr. S. C. H. Horel, No. 3 Co.

N. C. O.'s of the regiment who took their discharge in order to serve in South Africa, and have rejoined the regiment, will be accepted as qualified for one step in rank above that previously held.

The quartermaster will attend at the Drill hall on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, February, 2, 3 and 4, and on Thursday evenings of each week, beginning February 12, for the purpose of issuing new clothing.

The regiment will parade at the Drill hall on Monday, February 9, at 8 o'clock. Staff and band will attend.

Office will be held on Thursday evening next at 7:30 o'clock, instead of 8.

A lecture by Capt. Macdonald, R. G. A., will be given in the men's room on Thursday evening next at 9 o'clock, and will be open to the N. C. O.'s of the regiment. Dress, walking-out dress.

By order.

D. B. McCONNAN, Capt.,
Acting Adjutant.

Success Is Now Certain

Mining Convention On February 25 Will Be Most Important Affair.

Invitations Sent to Thousands And Huge Attendance Assured.

All speculation as to whether the forthcoming convention of those interested in the mining industry in British Columbia is going to be the huge success—in point of attendance at least—it was anticipated, has ceased, it being convincingly apparent to the members of the committee who are industriously working in the interest of the project in Victoria that success is absolutely assured.

For weeks past a clerical staff numbering nearly a dozen has been busy despatching to the four corners of the province "calls" for the convention, and a large quantity of special literature indicating what is aimed at by the promoters of what is to be known as the British Columbia Mining association. The number of persons who will have their attention drawn to the fact that a monster convention is to assemble in Victoria on Wednesday, February 25 next, will be well over the 10,000 mark, as many more than that number will have had invitations to attend sent to their directory addresses. Replies to the call are pouring in from all sides, and arrangements are being made to hold local meetings throughout the province where people interested in the great industry of mining are to be found. In no single instance has an unfavorable reply been received, everyone, apparently, being agreed that the project is distinctly a timely move in the right direction, and intend to enter heartily into the work of projecting an organization which will be thoroughly provincial in its scope and embrace in its membership all persons in the province directly or indirectly interested in mining.

From Revelstoke comes the news that the project is being heartily endorsed by the mining men of that section, it being intended to hold a public meeting for local organization purposes tomorrow evening.

Cleremont Livingston, manager of the Tyee Copper Mining company, operating on Vancouver Island, writes saying that the committee can rest assured that the mining men of his section will do everything possible to ensure the success of the convention.

The business men of Vancouver, acting on the initiative of the Board of Trade, are to hold a public meeting the coming week.

Letters have been received from all the transportation companies doing business to Victoria, agreeing to quote a one fare rate to the delegates and their wives at the time of the convention.

A. L. Belyea, K. C., chairman of the Victoria inaugural committee, to whom the Colonist is indebted for this information, is working like a Trojan for the success of the affair. He says that 5,000 special letters have been sent to members of all the Farmers' institutes in the province, asking their co-operation, the list of names being furnished by the Provincial Department of Agriculture. Large quantities of literature is also being despatched to the members of all professional, business, and trades' organizations in the province.

In Rossland the association's proposals are being most favorably received. The Miner consulted a number of prominent citizens, and the unanimous verdict was that such an organization would promote the interests of the mining industry to a substantial degree, and that Rossland should take steps at once to organize a strong auxiliary to the Provincial association and send delegates to the central meeting on February 25.

Mayor Dean has been approached on the subject to convening a public meeting to consider the matter, and has indicated his willingness to do so and to co-operate in the movement. His Worship believes that the proposed association will be a valuable aid toward promoting British Columbia's great mining industry, and thinks Rossland should, as the premier mining camp of the province, take an active share of the association's work in this district. He has not decided on the date for the public meeting, but this will be announced in the course of a day or two.

President Jonnson and other members of the Board of Trade are in accord with the proposed movement and the matter will be brought up at the meeting of the Board.

The question of sending delegates to the Victoria convention is complicated to some extent by the difficulty of meeting the expenses of delegates. The proposal now in view is that a branch or auxiliary association should be formed locally and with the funds realized from membership fees and subscriptions representative members should be sent to the Coast meeting.

J. B. Hobson, the chairman of the provincial executive, intends visiting Rossland and assisting in the work of organization.

Hundreds of delegates are expected to arrive in Victoria by Monday, the 22nd inst., and in order to arrange for their reception a meeting of the executive will be held some time previously. Mr. Belyea announces that there will be a meeting of the executive tomorrow morning at the offices of the Board of Trade rooms.

Nearly one thousand dollars have already been subscribed to provide inaugural expenses for the convention, and subscriptions are being received daily. The complete list of subscribers up to yesterday evening, was as follows:

J. B. Hobson, Bullion	50 00
J. Staples, Victoria	15 00
C. F. Jackson & Co., Ltd., Vancouver	10 00
R. B. Skinner, Vancouver	10 00
Dowland Machin, Victoria	5 00
A. C. Galt, Rossland	5 00
M. W. Loveridge, Victoria	5 00
Col. Meinecke, Victoria	5 00
Osmond Ferguson, Victoria	5 00
Hon. A. E. Smith, Victoria	1 00
Arthur Crease, Victoria	2 50
A. E. Aadford, Victoria	5 00
S. S. Taylor, K. C., Nelson	5 00
Thos. Walker, Victoria	2 00
Redon & Hartnagle, Victoria	20 00
J. H. Todd & Son, Victoria	20 00
L. G. McQuade, Victoria	10 00
S. J. Pitts, Victoria	10 00
Simon Leiser, Victoria	10 00
F. A. Devereaux, Victoria	5 00
W. A. Dier, Victoria	5 00
A. W. Huson, Victoria	2 00
A. J. Morley	2 00
Colin F. Jackson, Vancouver	50 00
A. L. Belyea, K. C., Victoria	5 00
H. B. A. Courtney, Victoria	2 00
J. H. Brownlee, Seattle	10 00
H. Mortimer-Lamb, Victoria	5 00
A. G. Hirschfield, Atlin	5 00
Wm. Christie, Victoria	2 50
C. H. Lugrin, Victoria	5 00
A. W. Moore, Victoria	5 00
C. Dubois Mason, Victoria	5 00
Brackman-Ker M. Co., Victoria	25 00
R. Cassidy, Victoria	5 00
T. W. Sargeman, Victoria	1 00
E. B. Shaw, Victoria	5 00
N. P. Shaw, Victoria	5 00
A. Henderson, Victoria	10 00
Stephen Jones, Victoria	10 00
Jas. Anderson, Victoria	10 00
Hamilton Smith, Victoria	5 00
W. G. Mitchell, Atlin	10 00
Capt. L. Thomson, Victoria	5 00
Wm. Munsie, Victoria	5 00
A. Stuart Robertson, Victoria	5 00
J. J. Shallcross, Victoria	2 00
F. Peters, K. C., Victoria	10 00
Henry Croft, Victoria	10 00
H. Cuthbert, Victoria	2 50
Thos. Earle, M. P., Victoria	2 50
A. C. Howard Potts, Esquimalt	2 50
H. W. Windle, Victoria	2 50
H. D. Helmcken, K. C., Victoria	5 00
Walter S. Fraser & Co., Victoria	5 00
A. M. Jones, Victoria	10 00
Giant Powder Co., Victoria	100 00
A. B. Fraser, Victoria	5 00
Hamilton Powder Co., Victoria	50 00
J. Young, Victoria	10 00
G. B. Martin & Co., Victoria	5 00
Turner, Beeton & Co., Victoria	25 00
Findlay, Durham & Brodie, Victoria	10 00
E. G. Prior & Co., Victoria	25 00
Henry B. Thompson, Victoria	5 00
R. P. Rithet & Co., Victoria	20 00
F. S. Barnard, Victoria	10 00
J. Herrick McGregor, Victoria	5 00
G. Riley, Victoria	10 00
F. J. Clarke, Victoria	1 00
A. & W. Wilson	1 00
D. F. McCrimmon, Victoria	1 00
F. C. McGregor, Victoria	2 00
Dr. G. L. Milne, Victoria	2 50
Raymond & Son, Victoria	2 00
G. Powell & Co., Victoria	5 00
B. Wilson, Victoria	10 00
Henderson Bros., Ltd., Victoria	10 00
Hickman Tye Hardware Co., Victoria	5 00
W. McKeon & Son, Victoria	5 00
F. R. Stewart & Co., Victoria	10 00
G. S. Russell, Victoria	2 00
H. Selbenbaum, Victoria	5 00
H. L. Salmon, Victoria	1 00
J. Piercy & Co., Victoria	5 00
Clarke & Pearson, Victoria	2 50
Pither & Leiser, Victoria	10 00
Cash, Victoria	1 00
Victoria Truck & Dray Co., Victoria	15 00
Lenz & Leiser, Victoria	5 00
D. W. Higgins, Victoria	2 00
D. Ross & Co., Victoria	2 50
Savoy Theatre, Victoria	2 50
Young Bros., Victoria	2 50
W. & J. Wilson, Victoria	2 50
A. Munroe, Victoria	2 00
Paterson Shoe Co., Victoria	5 00
Brown Jug Saloon, Victoria	5 00
L. Goodacre, Victoria	10 00
T. N. Hibben & Co., Victoria	5 00
Jas. Reid, Quesnelle	20 00
G. Harold Grant, Victoria	5 00
C. S. Baxter, Victoria	2 50
Lemon & Gonnason, Victoria	5 00
J. A. Sayward	20 00
Weller Bros., Victoria	10 00
Challoner & Mitchell, Victoria	5 00
C. W. Rogers, Victoria	1 00
D. Spencer, Victoria	5 00
Victoria Phoenix Brew Co., Victoria	10 00
Total	$936 50

KAMLOOPS APPROVES.

The Kamloops Standard says editorially:

"The Provincial Mining association recently formed in Victoria means business, and Kamloops should not be backward in giving it the support it deserves. The Board of Trade and the City Council have received invitations to co-operate with the association and have been asked to call a meeting for the purpose of appointing delegates to attend the convention, which is to be held at Victoria on February 25. Kamloops should certainly be represented at this meeting and it is up to the Board of Trade to take the matter up at once. The successful organization of such an association would certainly be productive of much good and should certainly insure better conditions for the mining industry and thereby restore confidence in the magnificent mineral resources of the province. The executive committee of the association is a strong one, and contains some of the most prominent men in British Columbia.

FRENCH ARMY ESTIMATES.

Opposition Criticise the Expenditure as Too Heavy.

Paris, Jan. 31.—The discussion of the army budget in the Chamber of Deputies today brought out considerable general debate relative to the strength of the army, and the necessity of maintaining it on a strong fighting basis. General Andre, Minister of War, Colonel Rousset, a Republican Liberal member of the chamber and other leaders of the military element, took an active part in defending the army from criticism.

M. Messimy (Radical Socialist) made a long speech on the heavy financial burden, the maintenance of the army was on the country, saying this limited industrial progress, and took the best years of young men of France for military service.

Colonel Rousset pointed out the dangers surrounding France, and declared peace to be at the mercy of a single adverse incident. Amid much enthusiasm he asserted that the part of wisdom for Frances was to prepare for all eventualities.

General Andre devoted his attention to the desirability of keeping up the army on a peace footing, so that it would readily be transformable to a war footing.

M. Jaures (Socialist) repudiated the statement that Socialists are opposed to the army. He said he considered the army to be one of the strongest arms of the republic, and that its fleet and the reserve equal in strength the Germany army. He said it was necessary to maintain an effective peace footing corresponding to the needs of war.

Amid a patriotic demonstration the first chapter of the army budget was finally adopted.

ASSAY OFFICE FIRE.

Nitric Acid Causes Excitement in New York.

New York, Jan. 31.—Fire which originated this afternoon in a laboratory on the second floor of the United States assay office, next door to the sub-treasury, destroyed a portion of the roof and upper story and some apparatus. Chief Assayer Torrey said the loss on the latter probably will not exceed $2,000, and that on the building is nominal. He believed nitric acid used in testing the bullion brought in for sale to the government, was the cause of the fire. There was about $40,000,000 in bullion in the vaults, and about $1,500,000 lying outside in various parts of the building. The latter sum and about $100,000 in a melted state, as well as the books, were hastily locked in the vaults.

STRIKE IN HOLLAND.

Engineers on Netherland Railway Walk Out.

The Hague, Jan. 31.—The engineers of the Netherlands railroad here struck this afternoon. No trains are leaving here for Amsterdam or Rotterdam.

BOGUS HEIR.

Child Was Smuggled Into House in Shawl Strap.

Berlin, Jan. 30.—The Countess Isabella Wesersky Wwilecki has again been arrested, and is charged with pretending to have borne a son six years ago, and presenting him as the heir to an estate at Wroblewo, province of Posen. The Countess was 51 when the child was born, and had three daughters. It is alleged that she had two ladies of highest rank as accomplices those, whose names have not been disclosed, are said to have produced the illegitimate son of the daughter of a railroad watchman in Austria, and in the proper moment to have brought the baby to the Countess' apartments here. They went, it is esserted, from the railroad station in a cab, gave the driver a gold piece as a gratuity, and entered the house, one of them carrying the baby done up in a shawl strap with a breathing space cut in the bottom of the bundle. The gold piece so impressed the cabman that he stopped work for the day and went home. Thus it was that he remembered the circumstances. His testimony now contributes to completing the chain of evidence against the Countess. The child, it is further claimed, possibly came drugged, and apparently was kept two days in the house before its birth was announced. The servants of the Countess, it seems, did not even know of the presence of the child. Those nearest to the Countess took the birth in good faith. The old Count Wesiarski, who was in fragile health, and was in Italy at the time, telegraphed to the family doctor at Posen to go to Berlin and assist in taking care of the mother and child. The doctor came to this city, but the Countess would not see him and sent the doctor word that she had every necessary attention. When the legitimacy of the child was first contested, the Countess averred she had the services of a midwife from Warsaw who has since died.

"Maude's intended is a piano dealer, isn't he?"

"Yes, and she believes him all that his instruments are."

"Grand, I suppose."

"Yes, and upright and square."

Steel Output Of Ontario

Report For Last Year Shows Immense Increase For Province.

Toronto's Population—Scarcity of Coal Hinders the Smelting Industry.

Toronto, Jan. 31.—(Special)—The provincial Bureau of Mines report shows that during 1902 Ontario's steel output was 68,802 tons, valued at $1,619,031, compared with 14,471 tons, valued at $347,280 in 1901.

According to the new directory just issued, Toronto's population is 266,989.

Rev. Dr. Sutherland, secretary of Methodist missions, says the Methodist missionaries last year received full salaries.

Halifax, Jan. 31.—Vessels arriving from Newfoundland report great activity in preparation for this year's sealing. There will be 20 ships engaged. The outlook is very hopeful.

Ottawa, Jan. 31.—Lord Dundonald is confined to his room with an attack of grippe, which is epidemic in Ottawa in a mild form.

Hamilton, Ont., Jan. 31.—Scarcity of coal has resulted in the blast furnace of the Hamilton Steel & Iron Co. being shut down, probably for several weeks.

The estate of the late Senator A. T. Wood amounts to about a million dollars, which is equally divided amongst the children, with provision for the widow.

Quebec, Jan. 31.—A strange malady is playing havoc with cows belonging to the district extending from Levis to Thomas.

BRIGANDS I