The Colonist.

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OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

The Manitoba School Question—Sir John Thompson's Definition of Policy.

Laurier and the Ontario Liberals—Trade Relations—Shortest Session on Record Anticipated.

(From our own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, March 11.—The great debate of the session on the Manitoba school question, great because of the interest centred in it and the importance of the speeches delivered, was crowded into the first three days of this week. Your readers have been made familiar with the scope of the discussion and the speakers who addressed the House. It only remains to briefly comment upon some of the speeches and to bring out the salient points of the debate. It is noteworthy that Mr. Tarte, who introduced the question to the House, spoke entirely aside from his resolution. The whole trend of his argument was to establish the fact that the Roman Catholic minority in Manitoba had been deprived of some right bestowed upon them at the time of the Union or some other time, but his observations had no reference to the motion under discussion, which condemned the Government for its action in dealing with the Manitoba school question and in assuming to be possessed of judicial functions conflicting with their duty as constitutional advisers of the Crown. His was a very bitter screed. Mr. LaRiviere, who is keenly devoted to championing the rights of the Manitoba Roman Catholics, dealt chiefly in historical statements, but he impressed upon the House the fact that the appeal of the minority is based upon the B.N.A. Act, while Mr. Ewart, who is the legal representative of the minority, informed the public recently that the appeal is based mainly upon the Manitoba Act. The Premier's speech left little to be desired in the way of a ministerial defence. It was a most explicit declaration of the Government's policy. He showed that in the action which it had taken the Government was animated solely with a desire for fair dealing, that there was no wish or attempt to evade ministerial responsibility and in no way to abrogate the decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council as to the constitutionality of the School Act.

When it came to Mr. McCarthy entering the lists in defence of Mr. Tarte's motion, people could not help recalling the old proverb about extremes meeting, but very rarely did they blend so harmoniously as in the question before the House. It took considerable special pleading on Mr. McCarthy's part to lead the House to believe that he had justified himself in supporting the amendment, but it is to be presumed that Mr. McCarthy satisfied himself that he had satisfactorily proved his position. His speech was made up of a number of citations from constitutional authorities, and the way he quoted from Bagehot led Dr. Weldon afterwards to pay his attention to the member for North Simcoe. Dr. Weldon placed Mr. McCarthy in the unenviable position of suppressing the truth, by showing that in his quotations from Bagehot he had entirely twisted the purport of that great writer's remarks. Perhaps more interest centred in Mr. Laurier's speech than that of any other member, inasmuch as he has placed the Ontario Liberals in a most unfortunate position. Mr. Laurier vigorously affirmed that the treatment that had been meted out to the Roman Catholics of Manitoba was "infamous," and he thought that not a moment should be lost in coming to the rescue of the oppressed minority. There are many Liberals who hold that the Roman Catholics of Manitoba have been dealt with as fairly as the constitution provides should be the case, and they do not want such strong utterances as those to which Mr. Laurier gave expression to be thrown up at them on a public platform hereafter, as will assuredly be the case. The Government's action was sustained by a majority of 50, and the general impression is that Mr. Tarte has done the Ministry a memorable service. He has secured a distinct endorsation of the Government's policy, and has put it out of the power of the Quebec Liberals to shelter themselves behind the excuse that they have afforded every opportunity to their fellow countrymen to invoke all the powers of the law to secure separate schools.

Sir John Thompson must have been greatly pleased at the events of the past two or three days. The address which was presented to him by Mr. Mara on behalf of the Conservative Senators and Members of Parliament, was a just tribute to the abilities of the Premier. Sir John's reply to the address is acknowledged to have been one of the neatest speeches which he has ever delivered. Evidently the Premier greatly appreciates the honor conferred upon him of being chosen as one of Her Majesty's representatives on the Behring's Sea arbitration and that he will represent Canada worthily and well, no one has any doubt. The day following the presentation of the address saw another demonstration in his honor at the Canada Atlantic station, previous to his departure for New York. I noticed in the throng assembled there, representatives from every Province in the Dominion—is was essentially a Dominion gathering. All your British Columbia members and Senator Macdonald were there, while strong contingents were present from the other portions of Canada. Sir John, in conversation just before he left, said he would never forget the demonstration as long as he lived. The cheers which were raised as the train pulled out of the station were such as might be given to a conquering hero.

The Opposition had the Government on the hip the other day in regard to the proposal to have a representative of the Dominion Government attached to the British embassy at Washington. Through an oversight the Government failed to forward a formal communication to the Foreign Office on the subject as ordered last year, and this led to strong denunciations of the line of action the Ministry had pursued.

The Government has undoubtedly strengthened its position on the trade question by producing the minutes of the conference held at Washington in February, last year. The value of the documents consists in the fact that they are endorsed as correct by Sir Julian Pauncefote, so that there can be no question as to their accuracy. It will be remembered that last year a newspaper controversy took place between our Mr. Foster and General J. W. Foster, who succeeded Mr. Blaine as Secretary of State in Harrison's cabinet, as to the conclusions which were reached at the conference in regard to a measure of reciprocity which would be acceptable to the United States. Our Mr. Foster gave the interpretation put upon the discussion by the Canadian delegates, although it is somewhat singular that the Dominion Opposition have been more disposed to accept the view put forward by the foreigners rather than by our own delegation. Now, it is to be hoped, with Sir Julian Pauncefote's imprimatur attached to the minutes, that the Opposition will adopt a more patriotic policy and accept the views of the Canadian delegates hereafter with less reservation than they have done in this particular case. There was little new in the minutes. They, however, confirmed the statement already made, that there is no prospect of Canada securing a reciprocity treaty with the United States unless at the sacrifice of her independence. Our neighbors insist that we should adopt their tariff and discriminate against Great Britain and the rest of the world—two stipulations which the Liberal-Conservatives of Canada are keenly opposed to.

Sir John Thompson's recognition of the action of the Opposition in facilitating his departure for Paris was an instance of the courtesies which prevail amongst politicians. Undoubtedly Mr. Laurier has acted generously in expediting the work of the session and enabling Sir John to get away. It is stated that an understanding has been reached for prorogation to take place before Easter, so that it is not at all unlikely that the guns from Nepean Point will boom out on Thursday, March 30. If the session closes as early as this, it will be the shortest session since 1872.

The British Columbia members have been greatly exercised during the past couple of days at the latest order in reference to the closing of Behring Sea. Ere this the Imperial authorities ought to know the time of the year when the sealers usually leave for their hunting grounds, and an intimation at this late date to warn the sealers to keep out of Behring Sea is most awkward. Col. Prior and Mr. Earle have represented to the Government the impossibility of properly carrying out the requests of the Imperial authorities, and a notification to this effect was, at the instigation of Col. Prior, sent to England to-day.

The attack of Mr. Moylan, Dominion Inspector of Prisons, upon the class of child immigration which is being sent out from the Barnardo and other homes in England and which he alleges goes largely to swell the ranks of the criminals in our penitentiaries, is not to be allowed to drop unnoticed. Many of the philanthrophic societies in great Britain engaged in promoting this class of immigration are urging the Government to cause an inquiry to be made. Meanwhile, Mr. Moylan is fortifying himself with such evidence as he can secure. He has obtained from the wardens of the different penitentiaries letters which support his statements, but these letters are of a very general character and will hardly be accepted as proof positive of Mr. Moylan's allegations. On the other hand Warden Massie, who has charge of the Central Prison at Toronto, went carefully into an inquiry as to the origin of the prisoners in that institution and out of 357 persons in the Central Prison on a given Sunday on February, it appears that four only were from the Barnardo Homes and two from Miss McPherson's home. A very few had been assisted to this country by other charitable individuals or agencies. There were in all three from Ireland, three from Scotland and nine from England who had been so assisted, but how many of these had been brought out as children or had had previous training in the institution for that purpose does not appear. Warden Massie states that the record of Miss McPherson's boys sent to Canada shows that 95 per cent. have done well after coming to this country, and of Quarrier's, sent from Glasgow, 97 per cent. He further estimates that of the 20,000 or more children brought to Canada from the streets of English cities during the last twenty years probably 95 per cent. have done well. It is questionable whether the same can be said of a larger percentage of all the children born and brought up in Canada. It will be seen that Warden Massie's statements are in direct contradiction to those of Inspector Moylan, and I am inclined to think that the Dominion official will find hard work in convincing English people that he had good grounds for the sweeping statements which he made in his annual report.

For Over Fifty Years.

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used for over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children when teething, with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for Diarrhœa. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind

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NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Activity in the Kamloops District—Salmon Fry Released—A Mining Fatality.

Supposed Drowning of a Langley Rancher—Trading Company Assigns—Moving the Shacks.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, March 20.—The Oriental Trading Co. have assigned. Liabilities $30,000.

The mass meeting to protest against the construction of the new Parliament buildings and the existing Mainland representation was slimly attended and the speakers were received indifferently. It was flat throughout.

To-day's Pacific express was cancelled.

John Shaw was fined $50 for supplying a Siwash with liquor.

Ex-Alderman Scoular has been appointed assistant health inspector.

A movement is on foot to sweep away 500 foreshore shacks. The Council have bound themselves by resolution to endorse any action of the Attorney-General in this direction.

VANCOUVER, March 21.—M. P. Morris received yesterday, a document signed by Her Majesty and Lord Rosebery, Minister of Foreign Affairs, notifying him of his acceptance as Chilian Consul at this port.

Walter Percival died yesterday of diphtheria, his brother died of the same disease ten days ago.

J. Simon's leg was broken by a falling tree at Forbes' camp yesterday. This makes five victims of the leg breaking epidemic in five days.

The smallpox suspects at Steveston were liberated on Saturday.

Mr. Abbs, who was arrested here for embezzlement, has been tried at Regina and acquitted.

G. B. Harris, of Annapolis, N. S., will spend the summer in Vancouver.

A Westminster priest, preaching in the church of Our Lady of the Rosary, warned Roman Catholics not to actively associate themselves with the Y. M. C. A., as it was forbidden by the rules of the church.

The transfer of the Redondo Island iron mines to Portland purchasers was completed on Saturday. Development work will begin at once. Messrs. DeWolf and Munro have been appointed the agents.

A Chinese sacred concert is to be held in the Princess street Methodist church Tuesday evening.

The remains of Mr. James Kemp were borne to the grave yesterday. The funeral was a large one. Service took place at the Congregational church.

The steamer Danube left this morning for Northern ports.

The British ship Blair Athole sailed from Samarang on the 3rd inst. for this port with a cargo of sugar for the refinery. The British ship General is also reported on the berth at Samarang for the refinery.

The steamer Coquitlam will be placed on the Northern route as soon as her present fishing contract expires.

The British bark Natuna will load lumber at Hastings mill for foreign ports.

The steamer Haytian Republic arrived here on Sunday with 130 tons of local freight. While coming along the C.P.R. wharf she struck very hard and broke the water pipes, besides doing other damage to the wharf.

The C. D. Rand has finally been floated off Roberts' bank at the mouth of the Fraser. Two anchors were lost in getting her off.

The ship Morayshire, which sailed from Samarang for this port on October 22, is 150 days out. Anxiety is felt by shipping men for her safety. It is feared that her cargo may have shifted in a rough sea. The COLONIST called attention to the fact that this vessel was overdue a month ago.

A. J. Woodburn, inspector of the New Westminster and Burrard Inlet Telephone Co., and Miss L. M. Stevenson, an operator in the company's office in this city, were married yesterday.

Mr. W. H. Russell, of this city, has invented a cable car grip, which was satisfactorily tested in Seattle yesterday.

Zippora Monteith's concert was a success. The house was well filled. St. Andrew's Choral Society did very well. Miss Monteith followed with "d'Isabelle." The purity of Miss Monteith's voice and the precision with which she took every complicated note in the magnificent melody was demonstratively appreciated by the audience, who loudly encored her after each number. Miss Connen was magnificently received, for a Vancouver audience never wearies of listening to Miss Connen, while the eye is refreshed by her graceful stage appearance and unassuming manner. Mr. Fane Sewell, Vancouver, baritone, received a double encore. Miss Marguerite Saxtell was also induced to recite a scene from the "Merchant of Venice." After reciting the long, heavy trial scene, "Queen Catherine" from Henry VIII., a rare compliment to the artist, Miss Dawson, was obliged to bow acknowledgements twice, and finally respond to an ovation of applause on her masterly rendition of Etude de Concert (Liszt). Mr. Victor Austin, after rendering "In Memoriam" (his own composition), and "Mazurka de Concert" (Musin), in which he showed not only his great ability as a composer, but his skill in execution, was accorded every mark of appreciation by the audience.

Joseph Page was stabbed in the back, knocked down, brutally beaten, robbed of $10 and a silver watch at 8:30 on Monday evening on Thirteenth Avenue, Mount Pleasant. No clue has been obtained to the assailant.

The Provincial Y. M. C. A. conference will be held at Vancouver on the 14th, 15th, and 16th of April.

WESTMINSTER.

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 20.—Serafina Malatesta, an Italian fisherman 42 years of age, dropped dead yesterday morning at 11 o'clock. The deceased lived in a snow house with several of his countrymen and rose yesterday morning at 8:30 in his usual state of health. His first move was to spread his net on the rack to dry, after which he set about preparing his breakfast. While stooping over a sack to get some flour, he turned his head and ejaculated a single word, "Adios," and instantly dropped back quite dead. Heart failure was the cause. Malatesta had been in the Province twenty years.

The Vancouver sealing schooner C. D. Rand, which went ashore on the Sand Heads on Thursday last, got off again early yesterday morning, and left for the North.

Captain Moresby went down to Steveston on Saturday, and after inspecting the men on McDonald's pile-driver and finding them all well and hearty, released them from quarantine. McLeod, who died of smallpox last week, was working on this pile-driver before being taken ill.

The first batch of young salmon hatched this year, numbering some 600,000, will be placed in Pitt lake this week. In a few weeks' time a large number will also be placed in the Nicomen river.

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 21.—The Canadian Pacific Railway brought in a gang of men to-day, and started tearing down a lot of shacks on Dock Square, the property of the city; but which they claim. Serious legal complications are certain to ensue.

A requisition asking that a public meeting be called in the City Hall for Friday evening next, to discuss the Parliament buildings bill and redistribution was presented to Mayor Curtis, this morning; but the Mayor refused to call a meeting on the ground that it was for political purposes.

The Salvationists have taken the Opera House for a Hallelujah wedding on Thursday night. This is the first ceremony of this description held in Westminster.

A gang of twenty-three men are at work getting out rock at the Pitt Lake quarry for the Dominion Government, which will be used to anchor the mattresses which are to be laid at the mouth of the river during the next two months. The quantity of stone to be taken out will aggregate 2,500 tons.

John McCabe, a notorious convict, undergoing a seven years' sentence for robbery, cut through the iron bars of the hospital ward window in the penitentiary last week and would have escaped but for the accidental detection of his proceedings.

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, March 20.—The auction sale of the bankrupt B. C. Tannery property takes place next Thursday afternoon at C. Dempster's auction rooms.

Messrs. Mason and Chandler, revivalists, are holding services in the Baptist church which are attracting considerable attention. Mr. Chandler's singing is a particularly attractive feature.

Messrs. S. Fox and F. Parks have leased the Opera House saloon from H. Dempsey. The new proprietors took possession to-day.

A negro miner, named George Bell, was killed in the Wellington mine Saturday night. He had just fired a shot, but the rock not coming down he had returned to his place and started to mine again; the rock then fell, crushing the unfortunate man to death. Deceased was 25 years old. An inquess was held this morning. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

Fire destroyed a house in Chinatown early this morning occupied by Wong Chong. His wife and baby narrowly escaped being burned alive. Wong Chong carried out his wife and returned for the baby, but being overcome by smoke had to be dragged out by other Chinese, who were helping to put out the fire. Chong was very badly burned and is not expected to live. The loss is estimated at about a thousand dollars, including a lot of clothing and several hundred dollars worth of jewelry.

The Japanese crew of the bark Highland Light were paid off to-day. The Japs decided that they were no good as seamen, and the captain was glad to be rid of them.

A warrant was issued this evening for the arrest of David McDonald for contempt of court. Last week McDonald was bound over to keep the peace and given till Saturday to find sureties. He failed to put in an appearance in time, so the warrant was issued as stated.

Rev. A. E. Green, of this city, received a letter from Rev. G. F. Hopkins, missionary to Bella Bella, saying the reported Sorrow Island massacre is totally untrue.

NANAIMO, March 21.—Raper, Raper & Co., booksellers and stationers, assigned to-day to Louis Blank, traveller for Waitt & Co., Victoria. The firm is one of the oldest in the city. Their business has been in a shaky condition for some time.

The steamer Danube sailed this evening for the North. Arrived, ships Rufus E. Wood and J. B. Brown; sailed, ship Gatherer.

KAMLOOPS.

(From the Inland Sentinel.)

The late Robert Howell, killed by an accident last week, was a member of the corps of Sappers and Miners who were sent out from England at an early period to lay out the boundary line between Canada and the United States. He was also in Cariboo and other mining districts of the Province. Later he worked on the Provincial survey with Mr. John Jane, C.E., now of Savona. He was originally from Dublin, Ireland.

H. P. Hancock arrived from Missoula, Montana, on Wednesday, and left for the North Thompson on Thursday. He represents the Montana party who has bonded the Lone Prospector.

Mr. William White, of Yale, has made an application for a lease for fifty years of one and a half miles of the Thompson river, below low water mark, just above the mouth of the Thompson Siding, for the purpose of acquiring gold from the bed. Henry Finch, of Michigan City, Indiana, has made a similar application for one and a half miles next below White's claim. Mr. Finch is a professional diver.

Charles A. Mee, of Vancouver, has made application for a one and a half mile section of the bed of Fraser river, for gold-placer mining, at a point six and a half miles above Lytton, known as "Mormon Bar."

Geo. D. Rodney, of Yale, reports that he has sold a five-sixth interest in his claim on Siwash creek, the Bonanza, to Messrs. John A. Parker, Geo. A. Libbey, Chris. Bertlesen, Bertel Bertleson and Philip L. Rees. Mr. Rodney while at Whatcom saw some men there who own a claim near his, and was informed they intended to work their claim next year.

G. Dester, Postmaster and Justice of the Peace at Chilcotin, arrived Tuesday morning in Kamloops, which he had not seen for seven years. Spring had not opened when he left home, and the farmers were anxiously looking for the long-expected Chinook. The winter, however, has not been very severe. The average of losses on stock has been quite light, and nothing whatever to those who took suitable care of their stock.

The Government has recently completed a bridge across the Chilcotin about 1½ miles above Hanceville, a very necessary improvement. It was constructed under the superintendence of Mr. A. Stevenson, road-master of Yale, and Mr. J. St. Laurent, of Cariboo district. While there they took the measurement of a bridge across the Fraser at Chimney creek, which will require a span of 425 feet—75 feet more than the Lillooet bridge across the Fraser.

The settlers of Chilcotin district are agitating for an increased mail service, and have petitioned the Government for it.

The settlers in the vicinity of Risky Creek, the lower polling division of Chilcotin, petitioned the Government for a common, which has been granted. The area set apart for this purpose is 50 square miles. It will be managed by a Board of Overseers who will be chosen by the surrounding settlers. The ranchers of the Upper Chilcotin or Hanceville polling division are also applying for commons. These measures are taken to protect the ranges from the encroachment of sheep. The stock belonging to the two Chilcotin districts run on separate ranges.

The people of the Chilcotin country are anxiously looking for the advent of the British Pacific railway, which is projected to run through their district. Men are coming in slowly to take up land, but as soon as the means of reaching it by railway are secured there will be, without doubt, a great influx of settlers.

LANGLEY.

LANGLEY, B.C., March 17.—On Saturday last Mr. William Zachary, who owned a ranch about four miles up the river from this, came down here for a supply of provisions preparatory to having a slashing "bee." After getting his supplies and transacting some other little business, Mr. Zachary set off for home in his boat, accompanied by another gentleman, who accepted the former's offer to row him up the river and land him within easy distance of his home. The journey up to this place was effected all right, and Mr. Zachary's companion proceeded home, while he continued on his way, intending to cross the river to Spilsbury's landing. On Sunday Mr. Zachary did not turn up, but his friends thought he would be spending the day in Langley. His failure to turn up on the Monday, however, caused them to make inquiries, and learning that he had left Langley on the Saturday evening they began to search, and came across the boat a distance of two or three hundred yards above the intended landing. The boat was resting on a snag, and all the provisions which Mr. Zachary took with him were intact. It is surmised that when his boat went on the snag Mr. Zachary got up with the intention of getting it off, and in so doing overbalanced himself, falling into the river. Search parties have been, and still are, at work, but beyond the boat no trace of the body has been found. Much regret is expressed at the sad event, as Mr. Zachary was very popular and much respected in the district. His friends live in England.

ENDERBY.

(From the Vernon News.)

G. R. Laws has gone to Kamloops for medical treatment.

D. Wright, late of Wright, Bell & Co., has moved to Lansdowne to take charge of Cargill & Co.'s store.

W. Gardiner, who has been breaking horses for Postill Bros. in Mission valley, returned to town on Saturday last. He reports feed getting scarce all through the valley.

Mr. Hancock is erecting a store on Cliff street to be used for millinery and fancy goods.

G. N. Kenny is laid up with a sore foot.

W. Elson, who for some years previous to coming to Enderby resided at Port Moody, while there had placed in his charge by the Dominion Government a set of meteorological instruments. Since he left Port Moody the reports have not been sent in very regularly, so the Government have decided to remove them. Mr. Elson has obtained permission to bring the instruments to Enderby, and will do so if the people will contribute towards the expense.

Our Government road boss has made up his mind to employ none but left-hand choppers this year, as they get away with a right-hand stump very much quicker than a right-hand chopper.

Mr. T. McKay Lambly came up from the boundary last week and reports very mild weather and the snow rapidly disappearing. He says that the wild horses that infested the ranges on the west side of the lake are very tame and could be very easily secured or destroyed.

The Columbia flour mill is running again full blast night and day.

KETTLE RIVER.

(From the Vernon News.)

This winter has been unusually severe. For several successive mornings during the early part of February the thermometer registered below zero, and the maximum degree of frost was thirty below this point. The snow still remains over twenty inches deep and the ice on Kettle river is unbroken. Many horses and cattle on the ranges have died, and the fodder in the valley is nearly all gone.

Capt. Adams, of Montreal, has purchased through his agent, Mr. Palmerston, the ranch of Mr. Ebolt, of Boundary creek. The latter gentleman does not purpose leaving this vicinity.

Messrs. East and Ingram have sold a mining prospect, situated near Boundary creek, to a Mr. Graham, of Spokane. The purchaser is wealthy and enterprising.

Mr. Fletcher, Post Office Inspector, has been down to Osoyoos, from which point he purposed to proceed to Kettle river, but owing to the trail being so bad over Rock Creek Mountain he was unable to do so. However, we are assured that after April 1st the mail will reach Kettle river weekly, and not semi-monthly, as under the present arrangement.

Mr. Bouvette's ranch at the Okanagan Mission was purchased by Mr. S. Rae, of Calgary, last week.

KELOWNA.

(From the Vernon News.)

The crowning industry of our valley is now making itself apparent on all sides. Embryo fruit ranchers are to be seen most fantastically armed with huge pruning knives and shears making great havoc among the young trees. The Earl of Aberdeen is going in for planting strongly this spring, and intends setting out 100 acres more trees, five acres of small fruits and ten acres of hops.

Among our recent arrivals here I beg to chronicle those of Miss Eastley, of England, on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Pridham; Mr. Kelly, of Coldstream ranche; Mr. A. P. Horne, Vancouver, staying at Guisachan, and Mr. Ireland, Vernon, on a flying visit.

VERNON.

(From the News.)

Mr. Atwood arrived on Monday from England, and with him were three carloads of machinery for the Stratheyre Mining Co., of Camp Fairview.

Mr. Charlie Glines was in town this week on his way to the Mission. He has been in the employ of the Douglas Lake Cattle Co., which has had a hard winter of it. The greater number of the cowboys have been paid off, for a few will be able to look after all the cattle that will be left.

Mr. Mike Holland, who left the Kalamalka last week, is now in charge of the dining room at the Coldstream. Mr. Isaac Haun has taken a situation with Mr. Barnard, M.P., on the BX ranch, where he will take charge of the orchard. He was reared in the famous fruit-growing district of the Niagara peninsula.

It is reported that the C.P.R. are going to run an excursion to Vernon about the first of May from different points in Manitoba and the East.

Vernon, in all probability, will soon have a gun club. Mayor Cameron has a good trap.

A large shipment of fat cattle is being made this week from Lord Aberdeen's ranches. Six stock cars were brought in by Monday's train for their transportation to the coast.

About a week more will complete Messrs. Cameron and Milne's contract on the jam factory for the Earl of Aberdeen.

It is reported that the C.P.R. are going to take over the charter of the Okanagan Telephone Co. and build the line themselves. They will, in all probability, carry the line at once to the lower country.

Mr. T. E. Crowell has got the contract of building the new Hudson Bay Company's store.

The trustees of Vernon public school have engaged Miss Calhoun, of Victoria, as teacher of the junior division in the room of Miss Carmichael, who has gone to Victoria to take a higher division in one of the city schools.

The stock purchased in the East by Mr. Barnard, M.P., last year for his orchard on the BX ranch came through the winter much better than that from nurseries in the South. It is his intention, this year, to put out a great deal more.

Last week the whistle of the steamer Penticton was again heard.

Wm. Flavelle, at the Mission, recently caught a live swan on the ice on Okanagan lake.

Mr. Edwin Harris has been able to get out after his accident on the Methodist church last week, but he is still lame. Mr. Wintemute will be a prisoner with his foot in splints for several weeks yet.

PLUMPER'S PASS.

PLUMPER'S PASS, March 21.—The sealing schooner C. D. Rand bound for the West Coast, and which went aground at low tide near the sandheads on Thursday last, got away the next day without the slightest damage being done. Capt. Mellon and Mr. A. Linton, with the two men they took from the Landing to render assistance, were unable to reach the shore again, owing to roughness of water, and they were towed by the Rand as far as Navy channel and rowing into Plumper's Pass, embarked on the Islander Sunday morning for home.

The trustees of Mayne Island school have been successful in securing the services of J. W. Sinclair as teacher, and study commenced yesterday. Mr. Sinclair's wide experience in scholastic duties both at Langley and Maple Ridge is a good recommendation.

Mr. W. Harris, the COLONIST's correspondent at Ladner's, is visiting Mayne Island.

Through the kindness of many friends a logging "bee" was held on H. Mackin's farm on Wednesday and Thursday last. A "loggers' social" was given each evening at the residence.

J. H. McGregor, P.L.S., Victoria, is once again on Mayne Island surveying private property. A 160 acre farm near Point Comfort is also being surveyed by him into five acre blocks, each of which commanding a water frontage will make a fine site for the erection of a summer residence.

S. Sturdy, of Galiano Island, was among the passengers on the Louise, Monday evening. He will shortly be going East as far as Guelph, Ont., where he will consult a physician regarding his dislocated ankle, the result of an accident which befel him some eighteen months ago.

J. Pope, who has been on a visit to Village Bay, returned home to Westminster on Friday. B. Hope, of Pender Island, is in Victoria for a short vacation.

Saturna Island people are looking forward to good times this summer, plowing operations are nearly over, the stone quarries, though not in full working order, are getting out stone for a stock of supply, and two more new residences are in course of erection.

NELSON.

(From the Miner.)

Among the new advertisements this week will be noted that of Messrs. Bogle & Whalley, the former owners of the Miner, calling attention to the purchase of their business by Clive Phillips-Wolley, of Victoria.

Clive Phillips-Wolley, who has probably written more for English journals concerning the natural resources of this Province than any other resident of British Columbia, will visit Great Britain this summer, where he will lay before the business men carefully prepared statistics concerning the mineral wealth of West Kootenay.

If a man is coming into this country to invest money in business or real estate, the sooner he gets here the better. But if a man is coming to prospect let him restrain his impatience to be on the scene, or else let him make up his mind to hang around doing nothing for five or six weeks, while the snow melts. It is a notorious fact that the Reacean, one of the most promising claims in the Slocan was trodden over by hundreds of prospectors, many of whom left the country in disgust, and was eventually located well on in the summer by a tenderfoot who had only been prospecting for two or three days.

D. C. Corbin in a recent interview said: "I will extend the Spokane Falls & Northern into all the region north which should be tributary to Spokane. The road is now almost completed to the boundary line. The construction of the Nelson & Fort Sheppard road from the boundary line near the mouth of the Pend d'Oreille to Nelson, will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible. This main line of the Spokane & Northern to be completed this year will be 200 miles in length. This is more than I was expected to do when I undertook the enterprise, but still falls short of my original and my present intentions. I have been over the country. I realized its possibilities with development such as railway transportation would afford. Events have demonstrated that my judgment was not erroneous. It is a wonderfully productive country. We will be running trains into Nelson by the 1st of October."

Two prospectors are in Kaslo who have performed the extraordinary feat of crossing the Selkirks, from Golden to Kootenay lake, by way of Duncan river, in mid-winter. They have been on the mountains during all the recent severe weather. Starting from Golden with 150 pounds apiece on their shoulders, they followed the wagon-road up the Columbia till they came to Bugaboo creek. They then struck west and crossed the divide between the head waters of the creek and those of the Duncan river, and followed the Duncan river down to Kootenay lake. They report that it is a good pass, and claim that they can make the return journey in six days. It will, they say, become a very easy route by which to drive cattle into West Kootenay.

The Columbia has been running for some time on the Lower Columbia handling materials and supplies for the Pend d'Oreille bridge. It is probable that there will be daily connection with Northport during the summer if traffic comes up to the present indications.

GIVES STRENGTH AND APPETITE.

DEAR SIRS,—Last year I was very thin and reducing very fast, owing to the bad state of my blood and appetite. A friend of mine induced me to get a bottle of B.B.B., which I did. I obtained immediate perceptible relief from it, have gained strength and appetite, and now weigh 193 pounds. M. T. MURPHY.

Dorchester Bridge,
Quebec, Que.

SOCIALIST RIOT.

PARIS, March 20.—Socialists at Roubaix yesterday stormed a hall in which Catholics were holding a private meeting. When the rioters had broken in the doors several Catholics tried to bar their progress into the meeting, but the rioters threw them down and forced their way to the platform, where the priests had raised an altar and placed a crucifix. They spat upon the crucifix, broke it into fragments and tossed the pieces into the congregation. The priests, hoping to allay the excitement, began to intone anthems. Their calmness only aggravated the mob. The priests were attacked, knocked down, carried to the doors and thrown into the street, while some of the rioters drove out the men, women and children of the congregation and others smashed the furniture in the hall. Many women and several men were severely injured by being knocked down and trampled upon while the rioters were ejecting them. The police did not arrive in sufficient force to control the mob until after the hall had been emptied of the Catholics and all the furniture had been destroyed. Numerous arrests have been made and more are expected to follow.

IMMENSE CANNON.

BALTIMORE, March 18.—After a tempestuous voyage across the North Atlantic from Hamburg with the second consignment of the Krupp exhibit for the World's Fair, the British steamship Longueuil arrived off Sparrow's Point at noon to-day and anchored in the stream, awaiting the completion of the preparations for docking her. The cargo comprises exclusively war material. The chief article is the big 124 ton cannon, built expressly for the exhibit. The steamer encountered stormy weather almost all the way across. The transportation of such an immense weight all in one piece was a risky undertaking, and when it was learned early in the week that the steamer was overdue fears were expressed that the colossal cannon had got loose in the hold of the ship from the rolling of the vessel and had caused her loss. As day after day rolled along and no tidings were heard of the Longueuil, much uneasiness was felt in shipping circles. The arrival of the ship and the gun is particularly interesting, owing to the fact that the piece of ordnance is the largest ever made in the world. The calibre of the gun is 19½ inches; the projectiles fired from it weigh 260 lbs., and are four feet long. About 7000 lbs. of powder are used at a single shot and the projectile hurled with such terrific force that it will go through a plate of steel 20 inches thick at a distance of nine miles. The gun will be the largest piece of freight ever handled by any railroad, and will be conveyed to Chicago on a car specially constructed for the purpose by the Pennsylvania Railroad Co.

French Shore Question.

LONDON, March 16.—In consequence of the Newfoundland Legislature's unfavorable decision against the French shore question, the French Government has instructed M. Waddington to make urgent representations to the Earl of Rosebery, insisting that Great Britain fulfil her pledges and arrange a permanent treaty. The French dispatches are couched in embarrassing terms, and recall Lord Salisbury's statement in the House of Lords last year that unless the Newfoundland Legislature made the present temporary act a permanent one, Imperial legislation would be necessary in 1893 in order to fulfil Great Britain's obligations to France. Lord Ripon is awaiting a report from Newfoundland, when the matter will again be brought before Parliament.

BUENOS AYRES, March 18.—A protocol has been signed at Santiago, Chili, which, it is hoped, will terminate the strained relations between Chili and Argentina. The protocol exacts that Chili will not claim any territory east of the Andes and Argentina will not claim any port on the Pacific coast.

Mrs. M. E. Merrick,
Of Toronto, Ontario, Cured of

Catarrh and Neuralgia

Good authority has said that "neuralgia is the cry of the nerves for pure blood." The prompt action of Hood's Sarsaparilla on the blood, combined with its toning and strengthening effect upon the nerves, make this a grand medicine for neuralgia and also for catarrh, etc. We commend this letter to all having such troubles, and especially to

Suffering Women

"For a good many years I have been suffering from catarrh, neuralgia and

General Debility

I failed to obtain permanent relief from medical advice, and my friends feared I would never find anything to cure me. A short time ago I was induced to try Hood's Sarsaparilla. At that time I was unable to walk even a short distance without feeling a

Death-like Weakness

overtake me. And I had intense pains from neuralgia in my head, back and limbs, which were very exhausting. But I am glad to say that soon after I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla I saw that it was doing me good. When I took 3 bottles I was entirely

Cured of Neuralgia

I gained in strength rapidly, and can take a two-mile walk without feeling tired. I do not suffer nearly so much from catarrh, and find that as my strength increases the catarrh decreases. I am indeed a changed woman, and am very grateful to

Hood's Sarsaparilla

for what it has done for me. It is my wish that this my testimonial shall be published in order that others suffering as I was may learn how to be benefited." MRS. M. E. MERRICK, 57 Elm Street, Toronto, Ont.

HOOD'S PILLS cure all Liver Ills, Biliousness, Jaundice, Indigestion, Sick Headache.