The Weekly Colonist.

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OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

Opening of the Session—An Incident—The Debate on the Address.

Newfoundland and the Dominion—The Claims of B. C. Sealers Brought Up.

OTTAWA, April 20.—Parliament is once more in session with a prospect of hard work for many weeks to come. Speculation is rife as to its possible duration, but those who spend their time in this way do so to no advantage, as it is impossible to foretell how long the country's legislators will be here. Since last session there have been many changes. "The king is dead," and a new king has taken his place. The seat occupied by Sir John Thompson since 1891 now belongs to another. In Mr. Foster the House of Commons has a leader who is worthy, in point of ability and judgment, to fill the high position in which he has been placed. It was a graceful act on the part of the members of the government to place on the desk of their late leader a beautiful floral emblem with the words "His memory green." The opposition were not slow to emulate the action of the ministerialists with regard to their old colleague, Mr. Geoffrion, the deceased member for Vercheres.

The opening day's proceedings passed off without any extraordinary incident happening. There were great crowds on Parliament Hill. The day was beautifully fine and warm, and this doubtless contributed in a large measure to the success of the outdoor proceedings. Last week Ottawa was revelling in mud; this week the dust is flying, and it was certainly a lack of foresight on the part of the civic authorities not to have sent out a watering cart and sprinkled the roadway from Government House up to the parliament buildings. The Governor-General, aides, troopers and flunkeys were all well covered with dust. His Excellency got a pretty cool reception on Parliament Hill, but not more so than his predecessors. An enthusiastic Englishman, near the main tower of the Parliament buildings, called out "Three cheers for His Excellency," but met with no response. For the next five minutes this presumptuous individual attracted about as much attention in his vicinity as the Governor-General himself. People looked at him as if he had just escaped from a lunatic asylum.

In the chamber itself there was the usual crowd in the galleries. Swelldom, for some unexplained reason, was not as well represented as on former occasions on the floor of the chamber. A brilliant suite attended Lord Aberdeen. His Excellency introduced an innovation. He sat on the throne uncovered. People wondered where he had been taking lessons in etiquette. It had never been noticed before. Careful inquiry elicited the information that "some one had blundered." The master of ceremonies in the person of Black Rod had forgotten to remind His Excellency that he must keep his hat on. During the speech in French the Governor-General created a decided sensation. Four-fifths of those present in the chamber were English speaking people; they did not understand a word of French. The constitution and parliamentary usage require all documents to be read in both English and French. While the Governor was reading the speech in French there was quite a buzz of conversation through the chamber. It was exceedingly bad form not to listen to His Excellency, but the crowd were simply paralyzed when they heard the representative of Her Majesty interpolate this sentence into the middle of the French version of the speech, "I won't read another word unless this talking stops." Black Rod walked sharply the entire length of the chamber, calling out in strident tones, "Silence in the galleries." A pin could have been heard drop on the floor, so deathlike was the stillness. It was a painful incident.

From present appearances the debate on the Address is going to last several days. Six members spoke on it yesterday, and I am free to confess that the speeches were not of a very high order. The eulogies pronounced upon the late Sir John Thompson by Mr. Laurier and Mr. Foster were beautiful. It is questionable whether a sad task of this kind has ever been better done in parliament. They were the two pieces of oratory of the day. As for the rest there was not much debate in it. It was mostly talk. Mr. Laurier had some good humored chaff at Sir Charles Tupper, and he was followed on the same line by Sir Richard Cartwright. The reliability of the ministerial press came in for comment, and every time an opposition speaker referred to Sir Charles Tupper's reported expressions in regard to the Ottawa correspondents it was great pie for the Opposition. To an old resident of the Capital and one who has sat in the gallery to the right of Mr. Speaker for many years, it was gratifying to hear Sir Charles Tupper say that he had never given utterance to the expressions attributed to him, but on the contrary the interview was the work of some imaginative Grit newspaper man, who evidently had no love for his Conservative confreres at the Capital.

Certainly the most important topic mentioned in the whole debate was the admission of Newfoundland into the Canadian Dominion. Ministerialist and Opposition expressed their willingness to receive the lagging colony into the Dominion. Mr. Laurier's observation that the French shore question should, however, be first disposed of, led to an important announcement on the part of Mr. Foster, viz: that negotiations had so far progressed that, with the approbation of France, legislation would be passed by the Newfoundland assembly at its coming session, under which the way would be paved for the settlement of this tiresome matter. It is surmised that this is one of the reasons why no announcement has up to the present been made as to the progress of the negotiations which have taken place with Newfoundland. In a very short time, however, all the papers will be presented to parliament, and we shall soon know what the prospects are for rounding off the confederation by adding another "Gateway" to our great House of the Dominion.

It is noteworthy that there has been a great rush of notices of motion in the first two days of the session for measures of a public character proposed by private members. Many of these possess great merit, but it seems to be an exceedingly difficult matter to get any public bills through unless they are taken in hand by the government. During the first two or three weeks of the session when the house has time to consider them, the bills are not ready, consequently short sittings of the house are in order. Then when every bill has been printed in both languages and can be considered, the government perhaps steps in and grabs the day upon which such bills may be discussed. The suggestion has been made in the past that when a measure has made certain progress one session, provided it be not the first session of a new parliament and the member in charge of it still holds his seat, such bill should be taken up by the house at the stage at which it stood on prorogation day the session before. This would save a good deal of time and would facilitate the progress of many excellent bills.

By universal consent it seems that the Manitoba school question will not be discussed on its merits until after the decision of the Manitoba legislature is announced in May. Those who spoke yesterday conceded that the matter was one which called for the exercise of wise statesmanship on the part of the Manitoba government and legislature. Indeed Mr. Laurier astonished those who heard him by his reference two or three times to the remedying by Manitoba "of the evils of which their legislature had been the cause." There was a disposition to find fault at the language of the remedial order as being too dictatorial, but as the Minister of Justice forcibly pointed out, the message was couched simply in legal phraseology, and, said he, there was no disposition to be offensive to the government of Manitoba. As usual Mr. Laurier trimmed on the question. One cannot but admire the ease with which he glides out of dangerous places. As yet he is unpledged and uncommitted. He wriggled out of his quandary yesterday by stating that while he was ambitious enough to advise His Excellency yet he was not going to advise the advisers of His Excellency. With this and a few other observations of a slippery nature Mr. Laurier left this ticklish subject, and neither of the ministers who spoke after him entered on a discussion of the question on its merits.

Col. Prior has not lost any time in bringing before the government the claims of the B. C. sealers, who for years have been waiting for the money justly due them on account of the losses sustained by the seizures in 1886 87. Mr. Earle will heartily cooperate with Col. Prior in the representations which he proposes to make to the government. If the Imperial authorities decline to advance the sum of $425,000 by way of loan to the sealers, the two members from Victoria will strongly back up the recommendation of the B. C. Board of Trade that the Canadian government should advance the money.

From present appearances the government intends to rush business. The bill of fare presented in the Speech from the Throne is not a very elaborate one. Consequently there will be no difficulty in facilitating the progress of government measures. The estimates to be down next week will show a great reduction, and on this account there should be less criticism of them than usual. Sir Richard Cartwright yesterday threatened that not a vote should pass before the end of the present fiscal year, but, while the knight of the fateful countenance is apt to make lots of little bad, when it comes to the fine point he conveniently forgets them. It will be a great inconvenience to the public service if the appropriations are not passed by July 1.

TOBACCO FACTORY BURNED.

MONTREAL, April 25.—(Special)—Shortly after 6 o'clock this evening flames were discovered in Macdonald's tobacco factory, the largest of its kind in Canada, covering several acres of ground on Ontario street in Hochelaga, a suburb of this city. The fire, which started in the main building, made rapid progress and in a short time the whole upper portion of the building was in flames. The place was crowded with employes, including a large number of girls who were finishing their day's work and preparing to leave for their homes. Many of them had to jump from the upper floors to save their lives, and several were removed to the hospital badly injured. The firemen seemed powerless and as the fire is still burning it looks as if the whole factory and adjoining property will be destroyed. The loss already reaches three-quarters of a million of dollars and there is no insurance. The factory is the property of W. C. Macdonald Tobacco Co., Mr. Macdonald being the tobacco king of Canada. No one was killed outright or burned to death, but many will die. A number of people whose names could not be ascertained to-night sustained loss and serious injuries.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION.

TORONTO, April 25.—(Special)—The Mail and Empire, referring to Premier Bowell's speech in the Senate on the Manitoba school question, which it characterizes as a frank presentation of his position with reference to that subject, says: "The Premier evidently desired Manitoba to take the question over. Let it do this, let it assert its own dignity and its own ability to settle its own disputes. Forcing it upon Ottawa will appear to be dictated by a desire to embarrass the administration. But it is not so certain that there will be embarrassment after all. Parliament, and not necessarily the government, will have to deal with the question in its next stage, should another stage be reached. In whatever shape it comes up, the opposition cannot divest itself of its own responsibility in the premises. It thrust the question into parliament and it must vote upon it."

WINNIPEG WIRINGS.

WINNIPEG, April 25.—(Special)—A new lumber company with a million dollars capital is being organized at Duluth to operate on Lake of the Woods limits. Prominent Montreal and Ottawa capital is interested.

Mayor Barnes, of Rat Portage, who was unseated by the Toronto courts, will probably be re-elected by acclamation.

A Port Arthur dispatch says the ice moved out of the bay to-day, and the channel to Duluth is now clear.

Winnipeg will vote May 16 on a by-law to raise $65,000 for new schools.

Thomas McKelvie, a school teacher at Carman, was found guilty to-day of an indecent assault on a ten-year-old girl, one of his pupils, and was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary and fifteen lashes.

G. H. Ham, late editor of the Nor'-Wester, left for the East to-day.

THE VANCOUVER MURDER.

Poor Pomelreau's Brains Mashed Into a Pulp and Then Fire Applied to the Body.

A Smooth Faced Unknown Who Slept in the Dead Man's Blankets and Left Money.

VANCOUVER, April 25.—(Special)—The Louis Pomelreau inquest was continued today, when a good deal of significant evidence was elicited. Officer Grady told that the axe supposed to have been used by the murderer was found in the Andrews cabin, and that Andrews said the fire in front was caused by his burning straw out of the bed formerly occupied by Pomelreau. G. L. Andrews, who was next called, said that he came here from Snohomish, in Washington state, and that Pomlreau had lived with him for three months. He last saw Pomelreau alive at 7 o'clock in the morning of Thursday last, the 18th inst., when witness went to work on a boom 300 yards from the cabin. When he returned at noon Pomelreau's bed and blankets and other things were tied up ready to be moved, and as Pomelreau had said he was going to leave that day witness thought he was coming back for them. Frank Pidgeon, who formerly lived with them, came along and witness told him that he had better go to see if Pomelreau was getting on the train, because he had Pidgeon's watch. Pidgeon went to the station, and two hours later came back, saying he had not seen Pomelreau. Pidgeon then got the key of the cabin, and in about five minutes came back with his clothes all packed up and jumped on a street car and was gone. Next day he came back and took Pomelreau's blankets, saying that he thought Pomelreau took the train at Westminster the day before. Seven weeks ago Pomelreau got $50 from home to bring him there, to St. Bernard, P.Q. He and witness spent the money for drinks, in two or three days, all but $18, and since then Pomelreau spent $5 or $6 for washing and different things; and he said he intended to go to Seattle by boat and work his way back along the railways the best way he could. On Tuesday night witness went to Mrs. Turgeon's and asked if Pomelreau left any clothes there, being told in answer that he had left his good clothes. Witness then made up his mind that Pomelreau had not gone, and therefore notified policeman Johnson that something must have happened. The policeman told him to look for Pomelreau, and at six o'clock next morning he got up to do so, finding the missing man dead a few yards from the cabin.

Dr. Bell Irving, who made the post mortem examination, testified that in his opinion the man had been dead between two and four days when found. The jaw and face were badly fractured in several places, and the skull was fractured so that the brains protruded above the right eye. The front portion of the brain was smashed into pulp, with pieces of the skull sticking in it. The fire was put on the body during life or immediately after death, as shown by the blisters on the legs.

After further evidence, without retiring, the jury returned a verdict that "Said Louis Pomelreau was murdered by some party or parties unknown." Andrews was taken to the lockup and will be detained as a material witness.

Frank Pidgeon, mentioned by Andrews in his testimony, is being looked for by the police. He said when he left town that he was going to one of the logging camps.

A man slept on Saturday in an empty shack some distance from where the body was found. This shack is the one where the boys got the money previously referred to—$30 in a purse. The boys looked into the shack Saturday morning and saw a smooth-faced man lying on the ground rolled up in blankets. After he left they found the money. Mr. Moresby, who is working on the case, followed this clue and found the blankets which had been left behind by the smooth-faced man. They proved to be those that had been Pomelreau's.

The boys who found the money have been questioned by the police. It was in a purse, which they threw into a well. The identification of the purse being all important the police will try to secure it.

Officer McLean, who was detailed to look for Pidgeon at the North Arm, came back this evening without his man. There are no further details to-night. Pidgeon will be overtaken sooner or later, but just at present it is difficult to locate him.

After the body had been viewed by several hundred people at Lockhart's undertaking rooms it was consigned to the grave. Thus ended the first chapter in the details of one of the most horribly brutal murders that has ever taken place in British Columbia.

BRITAIN AND NICARAGUA.

LONDON, April 25.—Admiral Stephenson, commanding the warships in the harbor of Corinto, has telegraphed to the admiralty that other war vessels are on their way to join his fleet at Corinto, and that he is prepared to land 400 blue jackets at daybreak to-morrow if the British demands are not complied with by midnight to-night. The warships are lying close to the shore in order to protect the landing party, which the admiral says he will cover with 29 guns.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Advices from Managua at midnight indicated that Nicaragua will probably not pay the indemnity to-night, when the three days' grace expires, but will allow the British forces to occupy Corinto. This course will probably be taken in the belief that it will afford time for the good offices which Ambassador Bayard is understood to be instructed to exert in London to secure an extension of ten or fourteen days' time, and, if possible, the stipulation for the payment of the indemnity in London instead of at the cannon's mouth in Corinto.

The Daily News correspondent in Paris says the British ultimatum to Nicaragua is strongly approved here.

The Morning Post will say to-morrow in a leader on Great Britain's treatment of Nicaragua: "We must act in accordance with the ultimatum. Nobody who has followed events can say that England has acted without sufficient tolerance."

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder
Awarded Gold Medal Midwinter Fair, San Francisco.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

May Day Celebration at Westminster Postponed—Death of a Nanaimo Pioneer.

An Englishman in Sad Case—Mining Notes From the Nelson District.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, April 25.—An Englishman who arrived here with some £500 sterling and took a ranch between here and Westminster has gone through it all. He has no friends. For a month he has lived on tea and bread alone and is too weak and sick to work his land. He says he has no relations to help him, and is calmly waiting to see what Providence will do for him.

In the case of James Bates the charge of bigamy has been withdrawn and one of obtaining a pretended marriage substituted.

The police investigation commenced this afternoon. The atmosphere was suffocating owing to the crowd which occupied almost every cubic inch of air in the little courtroom. Ald. Gallagher occupied two hours in announcing that he was going to run the investigation without assistance or resistance from anyone. At 3 o'clock the examination of Chief McLaren began, and the inquiry was continued until at the suggestion of the Mayor an adjournment was taken. Nothing sensational or of any importance was brought out during the investigation of the Chief's conduct as head of the police, and the crowd dispersed. The Chief's evidence was merely an account in detail of his duties and the duties of the men.

VANCOUVER, April 26.—Numerous theories have been advanced in connection with the Pomelreau murder. Some are of the opinion that the murder having been committed with an axe, an Indian committed the deed. Others suspect a man who had a grudge against Pomelreau. Pidgeon has not been found; it is thought he has gone East. George Andrews, the material witness in the case, was brought before the police magistrate this morning. Officer McLeod stated that Andrews had been living with Pomelreau before he was murdered. The Crown intimated that it was necessary in the interests of justice to retain him in jail. Andrews declared he was quite willing to remain in custody.

H. W. Kent, manager of the Mainland Telephone Company, has returned from a tour of inspection of the company's lines in the Interior. Silverton, New Denver, Three Forks, Sandon, Rossland, Waneta and Trail creek are connected, and other lines are being advanced. At Mr. Kent's invitation members of the press last evening listened at their own offices in Vancouver, to the amateur performance of the Pirates of Penzance, in Westminster, a long distance transmitter having been placed on the stage of the Westminster opera house during the performance. At a distance of fourteen miles, the solos were rather faint, but the choruses were very distinct and harmonious. Particularly favored telephone subscribers in Seattle, Whatcom and Vancouver, also enjoyed the unusual treat.

James Carr attempted to steal shirts from a store. The police magistrate, who was passing, gathered him in and returned the shirts to the owner.

T. J. Beatty accuses B. Helmick, secretary of the Fraser River Mining and Dyking Company, Limited, of having unlawfully in his possession, 6,020 and seven-ninths shares (at $10 a share), said shares being his property.

The police investigation was continued to-day. Chief McLaren was recalled. Ald. Gallagher insisted upon hearsay evidence being accepted. Lawyer Davis, for the defence, said it could not be accepted according to the rules of procedure. City Solicitor Hammersley said it should not be accepted. His Worship the Mayor ruled that it could not be accepted. Ald. Gallagher insisted that it would be accepted, and that he would run the investigation as he saw fit. W. B. Ross, the principal witness for the prosecution, interrupted the mayor from the audience. The mayor had him arrested and put in the lockup. A vote of the police committee was taken on the question as to whether hearsay evidence should go. All but Ald. Gallagher voted that it should not be accepted. The chief of police said that the sheriff had paid the officers for helping him tear down the shacks. He thought it quite right to accept a reward from the British navy for returning disobedient sailors to the ships. The officers did not gamble. None of them had an interest in the saloons or hotels. Gambling was suppressed whenever a case could be made out. The officers had always obeyed him and the sergeant. There was not one instance of disobedience. He knew of no coal or electricity belonging to the city being wrongfully used by the sergeant. It was quite right to accept rewards tendered by anyone outside the city. The money for tearing down the shacks came from outside the city.

WESTMINSTER.

NEW WESTMINSTER, April 25.—An attempt was made by auctioneer Trapp on Wednesday to sell the immense acreage of land known as the Foord estate. The land was offered in five sections. That between the Fraser river and Brunette street was offered at 40 per cent. below the assessment of 1894; that portion on Brunette river at 60 per cent.; that portion on Pitt river at 40 per cent.; the Lulu island property at $38 and $45 an acre, and the North road property at from $13 to $46 an acre. There were no takers.

The Westminster Presbyterians have agreed to the request of the Home Mission Board not to ask for the usual $200 grant for missionary work, but the Westminster churches ask for a grant of $100 to enable them to make up any deficiency in the salary of Rev. C. B. Chestnut, missionary in charge.

The May Day celebration has been postponed until May 10.

The Fraser river relief committee have held their final meeting.

The oolachan run continues very large.

The city council have forwarded a request to the Federal government to grant the city $50,000 in aid of the proposed Fraser river bridge, or subsidize the bridge $5,000 a year for twenty years.

NEW WESTMINSTER, April 26. — The coroner's jury has returned a verdict of accidental death in the case of William Bears, killed by the discharge of a gun at Hope.

Westminster is determined to celebrate the Queen's birthday as well as the 10th of May. There will be a championship lacrosse match, a championship bicycle race and a B.C.B.G.A. parade.

Patrick Smith, guard at the penitentiary, who had been suspended from duty for a breach of discipline, has been reinstated by orders from Ottawa.

The oolachan run is prodigious. In one haul a single net contained 7,500 fish, or 50 buckets full, which readily sold at 25 cents a bucket.

NELSON.

(From the Nelson Tribune.)

The Hall Mines are calling for tenders for their tramway. The work is to be done very speedily, an evidence that the company means to go ahead. The next thing for the Hall Mines to consider is the building of a smelter. About seventy men are employed now at the mine and small shipments of ore are being made.

At Forty-nine Creek one monitor is at work. The pipes have arrived for the other and are being rapidly put into position.

Prospectors are getting out on both sides of the Kootenay river below the town, attracted by the known auriferous character of the country.

The War Eagle recommenced shipping ore on the 9th inst. The I X L looks better than ever. Between thirty and forty tons of concentrates are awaiting shipment. Work has been resumed on the Pilgrim and Monita ground. A good body of fine looking ore has been struck on the Eldorado. The ore assays $11.50. The shaft on the Maid of Erin is nearly forty feet deep. The ore assays $16. Two fifty foot shafts will be sunk on the Great Western. The St. Patrick, Mt. Hood and Only One have been bonded for $30,000 to W. W. McCulley, of Spokane. A new 100 horse power boiler and a hoist of the capacity of 100 tons a day have been ordered for the Le Roi. The Monte Cristo, Enterprise and Iron Horse have been bonded to Messrs. Porter Bros. and Welch. Work will soon be commenced on the Iron Horse and Enterprise. Thirty men are now employed on the grade of the Red Mountain railway company's line. The terminus will probably be on the Nickel Plate bench.

(From the Tribune.)

G. J. Atkins left for Chicago to-night. He expects to be back at Revelstoke by the 15th of May with the pipe and other plant to work the hydraulic ground he purchased last fall. Mr. Atkins is confident that Kootenay is the country to stay with.

A. E. Humphreys, of Duluth, president of the Slocan Mining Company of Three Forks, says rails for the tramway to connect the Alamo and other mines with the concentrator have been purchased in Chicago.

Messrs. Carter & Clarke, who had a lease on the No. 1 mine at Ainsworth, brought in a concentrator a year ago and paid duty amounting to $934 10 on the machinery, although it was second-hand. They endeavored to get the duty refunded, but without success. This week Carter & Clarke's agent was notified that a check for $934 10 was at the custom house in Nelson. It is said that Mr. Mara, the member for the district, is entitled to the credit for procuring the refund.

The steamer Lytton is again running between the Wigwam and Northport. Last Tuesday she took 30 tons of ore from Trail to Northport and 60 tons yesterday. As ore is coming down from Rossland to Trail at the rate of 40 tons a day, even now when the road is in bad condition, the steamboat company will have to get a hustle on to take care of it. Captain Troup, however, is a pretty good rustler, and the chances are he will keep all the ore that is offered moving. The Kootenay will probably have all the Slocan ore moved within ten days.

The No. 1 mine, Ainsworth, is running full time, and the rise to connect the lower with the upper workings will be through in a few days. Five tons of concentrates are hauled to the wharf every day. Tom McGovern is again at work on the Little Phil, and a shipment of thirty tons is being hauled to the landing. Luther Brothers have secured a contract to drive the Black Diamond tunnel until the third vein is crossout. The tunnel is now in over 400 feet. The tunnel of the Amazon, one of the Canadian Pacific Mining & Milling Company's claims on Woodberry Creek, is in 150 feet. The company is putting in a diamond drill, an operator from Minneapolis having arrived to superintend its working.

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, April 25.—A lively fight occurred on the Jabez Howse yesterday morning. Two seamen who left the vessel on Friday went aboard to secure their clothing, which had been detained by the captain. The second mate ordered them off and upon their refusing to go, forcibly hurried their departure. Police officers then went on board the Howse, remaining there until she left port.

Yesterday morning Richard Richardson, generally called Dick Richardson, one of the pioneer miners who came from England in 1854, died. He had been ill for some time, but in spite of his great age—85 years—his constitution battled strongly against his ailment. The deceased came to this country on the H.B.C. barque Princess Royal from Somersetshire, England.

TORONTO TOPICS.

TORONTO, April 25.—(Special)—It is understood that Sir Oliver Mowat will shortly leave on a trip to England and the continent for the benefit of his health. The trip will extend over some months and he will be accompanied by some members of his family.

George T. Hawley, ex-M.P., has been appointed successor to the late Sheriff Pruyn in the county of Lennox.

The body of Robert Claxton, a machinist, who disappeared from his home a couple of weeks ago, was found in the bay yesterday. It is supposed to be a case of suicide in consequence of ill-health.

Hon. Timothy W. Anglin has been appointed Clerk of the Surrogate court in succession to the late Sir James L. Robinson, Bart.

The World's Fair Tests showed no baking powder so pure or so great in leavening power as the Royal.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Col. Baker and the British Columbia Members Doing Good Work.

Manitoba Legislature to Be Dissolved—Cost of Dominion Voters' List Revision.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, April 25.—Hon. Col. Baker is utilizing his time here to good advantage. He to-day visited the Provincial Normal school for the purpose of inspecting the workings of the kindergarten class. During the afternoon Col. Baker with the British Columbia members interviewed Sir Mackenzie Bowell and Hon. Messrs. Foster and Haggart, and secured the promise that the general subsidy to a railway through Crow's Nest Pass, voted last year, shall be transferred to the British Columbia Southern.

It was reported here to-day that Premier Greenway will dissolve the Manitoba legislature on May 8.

W. J. Gage, of Toronto, is here to urge the government to grant aid towards erecting a national hospital for consumptives.

Dr. McLeod's minority report pronounces strongly in favor of prohibition. It says Canada's drink bill annually amounts to $143,000,000.

Hon. Mr. Foster has promised his budget speech for next week.

Mr. Reid's bill to amend the civil service act proposes to wipe out the present board of examiners.

The total cost of the revision of the voters' lists will be about $200,000.

The proceedings in the house to-day were very flat and uninteresting.

HUDSON'S BAY RAILWAY.

TORONTO, April 25.—(Special)—The contract for building the first twenty-five miles of what is known as the "Hudson's Bay Railway" was signed here on Saturday. The parties to the contract are the Winnipeg and Great Northern Railway Co., Hugh Sutherland president, and Donald Grant, of Faribault; Foley Bros. and Mr. Guthrie being connected with him. Under the terms of the contract the first 125 miles must be completed in a year and the entire 250 miles be ready for traffic before January 1, 1897. The contractors will furnish all the labor and materials, including the construction of bridges. The total cost of the work will exceed $3,000,000. The route of the section of the road under contract extends northwest from Winnipeg, crossing the islands in the narrows of Lake Manitoba, the Saskatchewan river, and will traverse a rich agricultural and timber country.

Private advices have been received in the city to the effect that the contract for the line has been awarded to Messrs. Grant & Walley, railway contractors of St. Paul. It is said further that they will arrive here about May 1 with Mr. Hugh Sutherland, and that the work will be commenced forthwith.

THE CLERICAL SCANDAL.

DETROIT, April 25.—The Detroit authorities will not ask for the arrest of Rev. Jonathan Bell, of Primrose Vale, Rowley, Staffordshire, England, who it is alleged sent to a lying-in hospital in January, Emily Hall who has died from the effects of an operation. The prosecuting attorney, after sifting all the evidence, has come to the conclusion that he would be unable to make a sufficient showing to ask for the extradition of Rev. Mr. Bell on a criminal charge. The evidence, it is said, shows that while Bell was responsible for Miss Hall's condition, and sent money to relieve her, it does not show that he actually procured the commission of an abortion.

AYER'S Hair VIGOR

Restores natural color to the hair, and also prevents it falling out. Mrs. H. W. Fenwick, of Digby, N. S., says:

"A little more than two years ago my hair began to turn gray and fall out. After the use of one bottle of Ayer's Hair Vigor my hair was restored to its original color and ceased falling out. An occasional application has since kept the hair in good condition."—Mrs. H. F. FENWICK, Digby, N. S.

Growth of Hair.

"Eight years ago, I had the varioloid, and lost my hair, which previously was quite abundant. I tried a variety of preparations, but without beneficial result, till I began to fear I should be permanently bald. About six months ago, my husband brought home a bottle of Ayer's Hair Vigor, and I began at once to use it. In a short time, new hair began to appear, and there is now every prospect of as thick a growth of hair as before my illness."—Mrs. A. WEBER, Polymnia St., New Orleans, La.

AYER'S HAIR VIGOR

PREPARED BY
DR. J. C. AYER & CO., LOWELL, MASS., U.S.A.

Ayer's Pills cure Sick Headache.