o studied the dis[illegible], writes me in ard to it as follows:

"Dead Spot is caused by a deep-seated gus that finds its sustenance in the er tissues of the bark and only ap- rs on the surface for the purpose of re formation and reproduction. The celium of the fungus spreads in vari- directions through the bark and can erally be cut out without injury to tree, stripping off all the dead er bark, and diseased tissue. er the fungus has attained its growth roduces its spores in small excres- ces on the surface of the dead spots. se little pustules burst, when the res escape, and are carried by the air insects to other trees and other por- s of the same tree. They germinate utumn, and begin to penetrate the k at once, and repeat their cycle of wth. The spore bearing vessels burst ing July and August, and as no spray reach the fungus after germination, idsummer spraying when trees are ly infected is important.

As an ordinary preventative [autumn ying would probably be sufficient, in severe cases both should be used. dead spots should be cut out and nd, for they hold myriads of spores only await a favorable opportunity roduce new infections. The mid- mer spray to use on bearing trees ld be five ounces copper carbonate three pints ammonia in 45 gallons er. On young trees, or trees not in , six pounds sulphate copper, six nds lime, 50 gallons water. The mn spray should be six pounds sul- te copper, ten pounds lime, 50 gal- water. It will be noted that these ys are about one-half stronger than ordinary Bordeaux mixture as ad- d for use in British Columbia.

British Columbia I have observed dead spot does not occur in the in- r valleys, and either not at all or to ry slight extent in orchards of the r province situated on soils contain- plenty of lime, such as clam shell hes where there is a good under nage. It is now pretty well estab- d that many soils on which orchards planted contain a very small per- age of lime, and again the question oper drainage of orchard land has received the attention required. I frequently noticed that fruit trees tanding in soil where the water- during the winter months is almost aite level with the surface. Now, ever direct treatment is made to affected with "dead spot," it is important that these matters ld receive attention—healthy trees ot be expected, unless they are ounded with what may be termed er "sanitary conditions," and sup- with the elements of plant food ssary to promote healthy growth. re wood ashes are available, in suf- nt quantity, they should be used y in the orchard, and if not obtain- lime and muriate of potash in their , and if convenient, well worked in the harrow or cultivator in early g, as far as the roots of the trees d.

planting new orchards, care should ken not to plant the trees too deep, w attention to this, as I find it is r a common error, and one very ult to remedy latter on.

soils inclined to be wet, it is better ant on or near the surface and d up the soil over the roots of the

for young trees, stable manure d be applied very cautiously, as it lates wood growth to an undue ex- On some rich soils it has been ved that frequent cultivation has he same effect.

n regard to these matters orchard- hould study their soil and local con- s, the aim being to produce a fair nt of new wood on trees every year, will harden and ripen up pro- in the fall, and avoid the produc- of overgrown sappy shoots, which ently indicate a condition of the highly favorable to the develop- of 'dead-spot.'

e your fruit trees as nearly as ble 'ideal conditions' by planting l suitable for the purpose, and sup- proper care, cultivation and plant then if disease appears treat them remedial applications designed to y the intruding disease or par- growth."

Palmer also offered some remarks other fruit pest, known as the tree miner which was also known e made its appearance in some of chards on the Lower Mainland. f the same family as the Codlin and Mr. Palmer suggested as a of eradicating it, the destruction infected fruit. A long discussion ed, during which a number of use- ts were elicited.

Henry Kipp, of Chilliwack, read ical paper on his experiments in g, and Mr. F. L. Sears, in a on "Grading and packing fruit, fruit packages," gave some ex- advice and hints as to the best ds of preparing fruit for market.

CONCLUDING BUSINESS.

ion That the Association Wants gricultural Interests Protected.

of the most important events of ning was the report of Messrs. M. H. Kipp and D. Stevens the tee on the tariff. This report

r committee to whom was re- he communication of the minis- griculture re revision of the tariff e to report as follows: Your tee believes that the true policy government is that policy which se the greatest investment of and secure the best returns to- orer and the investor. British ia being comparatively a new her industries are to a ndeveloped, and unless protec- fforded they are liable either to or remain dormant for an inde- rted. We would also call your n to the imports into B. C. from bors to the south, and point if protection is continued, al- e may not be able as yet to ur home demand, we will be- ood market for the products of r provinces of the East.

articularize would be long and and possibly not accomplish much as a short conference mittee appointed by you for pose.

fore, be it resolved that this as- believes that the tariff laws, as agricultural interests, should wered."

ought up opposition from Mr. n, of Cobble Hill, who styled a parasite and contended that f humanity advancing they were degenerating in the scale because of this tariff.

Mr. D. Stevens in reply said they had only to look across the line and notice the low prices there, to see what would be the disastrous effect of pulling down the tariff wall. He wanted too to see the duty on malt increased, so that the farmers as in the old days should have a market for their barley.

Mr. Thos. Cunningham, as a farmer, said that if they took the tariff off, the B. C. farmer might just as well leave the country.

The report was adopted, with only one voice dissenting.

The special committee composed of Messrs. G. W. Henry, E. Hutcherson and R. M. Palmer recommended the following resolution, which was carried:

"Whereas it has been considered necessary for the best interests of the fruit growers of the province to extend the work of this association in the way of investigating and developing the markets available for B. C. fruits, and also by placing them more prominently before the people of those districts by means of exhibitions.

"Resolved, that the government be respectfully requested to increase the annual grant to this associatian to the amount of $1,500, in order that the work may be satisfactorily carried out."

Votes of thanks to the city, the C.P.N. and the president closed the session and the association's annual meeting was finished.

The quarterly meeting will be held in Vancouver.

PERSONAL OPINION.

The Value of Feeding the Fruit Trees—Fruit Exchanges and Their Mission.

How Creameries Advance the Province—New Industry for Salt Spring Island.

A little group of three of the members of the fruit growers' association were standing together yesterday talking on the results of the meetings that have been held here. They were W. R. Robertson of Cowichan station, J. Dougan of Cobble Hill and W. Ford of Duncan.

"One of the things I would have liked to have brought out more fully," said Mr. Robertson, "was the necessity of feeding the trees. At the dairymen's association the economy of feeding cows well was dwelt upon, and I hold it is just as important to see that the fruit trees are well nourished. It is all very well to talk of spraying; for no doubt that is important; but if you have healthy well nourished trees they are just like healthy animals less susceptible to disease."

Mr. Robertson is one of the charter members of the flockmasters' association and his idea is that fruit growing and sheep should work well together. Sheep allowed to run in an orchard enrich the ground better than any other animal he believes, and besides if there are any apples affected with codlin moth the sheep eat the fallen fruit and so destroy one source of disease to the trees.

W. E. Ladner is a great believer in the importance of dairying to the province. His opinion is that at present, at least, it is keeping more money in circulation at home than fruit growing.

"Look at the Delta creamery," he says; "if it had not been for it last year fully $15,000 would have gone to outside places for butter."

The advantages of co-operation among the farmers was the topic Mr. E. Hutcherson, of Ladners, chatted about yesterday, as he waited for the 'bus to take him out to Cedar Hill to see the spraying test. Mr. Hutcherson was chosen as president of the fruit exchange at the meeting at Mission a few days ago.

"We have now, he remarked, at least 170 members, and there are quite a dozen local exchanges working in harmony with our central exchange. Our object is to have this central exchange a truly provincial one, with a view of pointing out to the fruit growers the best channel for disposing of their fruit. We not only supply the growers with boxes and baskets, and all they need for packing their fruit, at as low a price as possible, but we also handle the fruit and ship it to the best advantage. Thus it can easily be seen that the growers, by all becoming members of the exchange and co-operating, will secure a better price for their product than if each man was acting for himself and trying to undersell his neighbor in the endeavor to secure a market."

Mr. J. T. Collins, who is a guest at the Occidental and who has during several days past been attending the meetings of the dairymen and the fruit-growers, is thoroughly convinced that the creamery is a good thing, with money to be made in it. At his home on Salt Spring Island the dairying industry is thriving and it will shortly be given additional encouragement by the establishment of a large and thoroughly modern creamery.

PASSED FOR PAYMENT.

Waterworks matters were discussed at considerable length by the city council at a special morning meeting yesterday, attended by all members of the board save Ald. Wilson. The contractors' bill for "extras" formed the subject of a report from the finance committee, and in this connection—upwards of $25,000 remaining in the hands of the council as security for the proper completion of the contract—it was decided by resolution that

"In regard to the contract between Messrs. Walkely, King & Casey and the corporation, for the execution of waterworks improvement works at Beaver lake, that they be paid 75 per cent. of the amount which both parties—the contractors and the corporation—have settled upon and agreed that the contractors were entitled to for "extras"—viz., $6,399.48.

The annual loan by-law making provision for the funds required to carry on the business of the city until the estimates shall have been passed, was also advanced to its final stage; and a formal resolution providing for the payment of the January salary list, was adopted without debate.

PROTECTION WANTED.

Dairymen's Association Do Not Wish the Government to Lower the Tariff.

They Also Ask That the Quarantine Against American Cattle Be Continued.

The British Columbia Dairymen's Association wound up their annual meeting last night at the City hall, when the reports of the auditors and of the committee on the tariff were received. The tariff committee's report was agreed to without any discussion, the members being evidently a unite upon the subject with which it dealt. The report recommended the adoption of the following resolution, which was unanimously carried:

"Whereas at the next session of the Dominion parliament the government has in contemplation the revision of our present customs tariff; and whereas the government has asked for an expression of the views of this association relative to making changes affecting our industry; and whereas scientific dairying has within the last few years under the fostering and protecting care of our government made rapid advancement until at the present time it is one of the largest, most valuable and important industries of our Dominion, whereby large sums of money are annually kept in the country and circulated in our farming communities, thereby enriching the entire community; and whereas the removing of the present duty on dairy products would cause the home markets to become flooded with foreign goods at slaughter prices to the material injury of our industry, if not to the entire closing of our factories; and whereas the strong home competition in agricultural products has reduced the prices to the lowest values at which the farmer can make a living for himself and family, and any legislation by which the present duty is removed or very materially reduced would be disastrous to the farming industry,

"Therefore, be it resolved that, in the opinion of this association, any changes in our present tariff affecting the dairying industry (particularly in this province) should be by way of an additional duty, proportionate to the duties on other manufacturers products within the Dominion, thereby affording us a larger degree of protection against competition from foreign over-producing countries; also that the quarantine against importation of American cattle should be continued, as we believe that our facilities for raising improved stock are sufficient to supply our market with a better class than can be brought from the adjoining country;

"Also, resolved that the government be urged to make no changes in the way of a reduction in the present existing duties in agricultural products."

This finished up the business, and the meeting closed after passing thanks to the Mayor and aldermen; the C. P. N. for transportation privileges; Mr. J. R. Anderson, deputy minister of agriculture, and the president Mr. W. H. Ladner.

One of the most interesting and practical papers of the many read during the convention just closed was admittedly that of Mr. H. F. Page, of Matsqui. His subject was "Winter Dairying," in connection with which he had the following remarks to make:

"Dairying at the present time is more a live question than ever it has been in the history of the province, and I venture to say offers better inducements than any other branch of farming; while some who have lately gone into dairying have not met with the success they anticipated, have, or are giving up, in disgust. While I will not venture to cover the grounds of failure in these cases, I will say that every man is not a dairyman, and is not qualified to meet with the same degree of success as his neighbor may, no matter what his conditions.

"I believe that winter dairying warrants more consideration than it has received heretofore, and that it offers better inducements than the practice generally in vogue now in British Columbia. No part of Canada can grow more succulent feeds, suitable of profitable feeding of dairy cows. These feeds can be fed as a soiling crop or converted into ensilage, as the case may be. We have a mild climate, which does not require such expensive buildings to keep the cows comfortable, which is one of the environs essential to success in dairying. I think the word comfort deserves much more consideration than it generally receives. Unless cows are comfortable in every sense of the word, they will not do their best, no difference what breed they may be, nor what feed they consume.

"Cows coming in fresh, the last of August, gets the benefits of the aftermath, and escape the hot dog days, and if put in the barn at nights during the cold rains and fed some succulent food, of which corn is no doubt the best, where it can be grown successfully, although second crop clover or oats and pease sown late for this purpose do very well. Cows so attended and fed should go into winter quarters giving a full flow of milk, while cows calving in April and May would be about dry and would be deadheads for five or six months.

"Where ensilage has been prepared cows should receive from 40 to 60 lbs. per day; this with 15 lbs. of early cut clover hay, and 6 to 8 lbs. of ground grain, should keep a cow up to the full flow of milk. This should be fed in two feeds, and cows not disturbed more than necessary, very little exercise being required by cows giving a good flow of milk. Where the surroundings guarantee, such as warm stables, plenty of light, and pure air, I have always found that cows calving in the fall, and well fed and kept during the winter, will increase their flow of milk with the fresh grasses of the spring, in many cases equal to the cows lately calved.

"Quoting from John Gould, the well known writer on dairy subjects, he states that his herd of cows which had calved in the autumn of 1895 were the best milking herd up to July 10th, last year, at the creamery where he delivered his milk. A writer in the Country Gentleman also states that his ten best cows calving in April gave 43,082 pounds of milk during the year, while ten cows calving in the fall gave 50,478 pounds for the same period.

"Further, cows calving during the fall allow the the milking to be done when there is not a rush of work, allowing more time to attend to cows and calves, and the calves, when weaned, go to grass and get a good growth before going into winter quarters. The work of the farm is thus more evenly distributed, and help can be continually kept, which generally is more satisfactory.

"Probably the greatest benefit is the increased price of products which in the writer's case is 50 per cent. more now than it was in July last, also the product is much more easily handled during the cool winter months, whether it be milk, cream or butter.

"In conclusion I would say, study your business, by reading one or more of the best papers bearing on the subjects, consider the means used by those who have been successful and adopt them so far as practical for you to do so. I will again say that comfort with regularity of attention, is essential to success in dairying be it summer or winter."

OFF FOR THE ORIENT.

The "Tacoma" Sails Outward Well Laden With Missionaries, Steel Rails and Beer.

New Schedule for the San Francisco Liners—Gossip of the Waterfront.

All repairs necessitated by the ship's break-down at sea having been completed, the Northern Pacific liner Tacoma proceeded last night after spending two hours in port. Her passenger list is made up of fifteen saloon passengers and forty-three Asiatics in the steerage, six of the Chinese being deported. The saloon passengers are: W. C. Gemmil, missionary, for Yokohama; Mary Evans, missionary, for Kobe; Caroline Clifford, missionary, for Shanghai; F. A. Keller, E. G. Bevis and C. S. Mehenost and Gilbert Robertson, missionaries for Shanghai; Caroline Mehenost, missionary for Kobe; Jules Le Fauchaud, for Calcutta; J. L. Meyers, for Yokohama; Jane Meyers, for Kobe; C. W. Derby, for Shanghai; Mr. Greig, for Yokohama; G. N. Platt, for Kobe; and Capt. Wright, for Shanghai. The three last mentioned embarked here. Mr. Platt comes from San Francisco, and his business on the far side of the Pacific is in connection with the Kobe water works. Captain Wright is going to Shanghai from Vancouver, his home, to accept a position on one of the big liners belonging to Jardine, Matheson & Company. The storage bins of the big liner are literally stuffed with American products. Among the shipments of exceptional classes of freight from Tacoma for the Orient are two sacks of gold dust, valued at $3,200, for Hongkong, seven cases of fire arms for Yokohama, 5,341 steel rails for Japan, 14 boxes of advertising matter for China and Japan, 50 kegs of pickles, 907 sacks of bones, and 308 barrels of bottled beer. Among the staples the vessel carries 17,292 sacks of flour, 91 cases machinery, 810 cases condensed milk, 27 cases of iron wire, 70 hogsheads of tobacco, and 2,283 bales of cotton.

A CHANGE OF SCHEDULE.

The Pacific Coast Steamship Company's new schedule went into effect yesterday with the sailing of the City of Puebla from San Francisco. The next vessel to leave the Golden Gate, the Walla Walla, will sail on February 4, and the third, the Umatilla, six days later. Thereafter a ship will sail every five day as per former arrangement. Returning, the Puebla leaves Victoria on February 6; the Walla Walla, on February 12; and the Unatilla, on February 18—the same system prevails afterwards as on the up trip.

THE "TACOMA'S" CREW.

The crew of the Victoria will remain in this city until the return of the vessel to this port, owing to the refusal of the Port Townsend quarantine authorities to allow them to pass that point without two weeks' detention in quarantine. A crew will be taken from Tacoma to work the vessel to that point. The Tacoma Union says: Nothing is definitely known what disposition will be made of the detained steerage passengers. They will be kept at some point across the line for a couple of weeks anyway. Yesterday a number of men were put to work cleaning up the vessel, work usually done by the Chinese crew. It is reported considerable difficulty was had in securing men to do the work for the price offered, $1.25 a day. Fire was started yesterday under the Tacoma's boilers and she will be ready to depart, as before announced, early this morning. It takes 24 hours to get up steam sufficient to propel the ship, after her boilers have become cold.

THE "CHIEFTAIN'S" REMODELLING.

No more neat and tidy tug will claim Victoria as its home port than the Chieftain, when her present extensive overhauling under the supervision of the underwriters has been completed. The vessel's machinery as well as her hull, which was damaged in Northern waters some few months ago, is receiving attention, and through an alteration that is now being effected, the steamer's speed will be largely increased. She will soon be ready for service again.

JANUARY'S fire record was above the average, although a majority of the fires were suppressed by those occupying the buildings in which they originated. On the 9th inst., a drill was held for the purpose of destroying two buildings; at the residence of Mrs. Costello, on Rendall street, a small fire occurred on the morning of the 10th, occasioning a loss of $20; a fire at Rocabella, caused a loss of $50 on the 21st. The third fire, also extinguished without the aid of the firemen, took place in W. J. Dwyer's residence, Pandora street, loss amounting to $20. Another residence fire was reported at 174 Yates street, occupied and owned by W. Wilby. The damage resulting was estimated at $75, partially covered by insurance. On the morning of Thursday last a blaze in Chinatown destroyed a wooden building valued, with contents at $400. The alarm on Friday was caused by steam emanating from a space between two buildings in Trounce avenue. Fires, 7; losses, $565.

RIFLED THE MAIL BAGS

A Daring Robber Helps Himself to the Letters for the Fort Steele Country

After Abstracting Their Contents He Has a Bonfire—Arrest Speedily Follows.

Victorians who on the 16th of this month mailed letters to friends or business correspondents in the Fort Steele country, will look without reward for answers to their communications—the Fort Steele people who should long ere this have received the correspondence in question will mourn for the letters that never came.

For the first time in years the mail bags have been robbed of their contents, and the letters leaving Victoria on the date mentioned will never be seen again. The one thing satisfactory to note in the affair is that the authorities have let no time be lost, and a man who is believed to be the originator and chief mover in the plot to capture the mail bags, one Alec McKenzie, is now on his way to Donald to stand his trial.

The Fort Steele mail, it may be mentioned, is carried by the C.P.R. as far as Golden, from which point it has to be transferred by wagon over the famous Cariboo road to its destination, 190 miles or more away. The bags leaving here on the 16th were especially well filled, a fact that was commented upon by the railway mail clerk when he transferred them to the custody of the driver at Golden three days later. The wagoner started at once for Fort Steele and retained safe possession of his charge until within 12 miles of his destination.

At this point there is a wayside resting place commonly known as "Hanson's," and here, as is the custom, the mail carrier put up for the night. It was here that the bags were stolen.

The only natural suggestion being that the thief would go in the direction of Fort Steele, investigations were made at once in that quarter and first suspicions were confirmed by the finding of the bags, cut and rifled of their contents, in a house at Fort Steele, charred papers and ashes showing where the letters, having been relieved of anything of value they contained, had been burned.

As to how suspicion fastened upon McKenzie nothing is yet known, the telegram which Hon. Col. Baker received in the matter last evening merely chronicling the facts as briefly related above. Those who dispatched letters from this city on the 16th would do well to communicate with the police in connection with the matter, as they may be able thus to strengthen the hands of the authorities.

THE CITY.

LIEUT.-COL. PRIOR has announced that he will offer an annual prize of the value of $25, for competition at the meetings of the Victoria Garrison Rifle Association.

REV. FATHER ALTHOFF yesterday performed the ceremony that made Miss Ella Brown Mrs. John Aiken. The bride is a daughter of Mr. George Brown of Beecher Bay.

AT the last examination of the Law Society of British Columbia Messrs. J. R. Grant and E. C. Senkler passed satisfactory final examinations for call and admission to the bar, and Messrs. A. C. Anderson and B. P. Wintermute were the successful intermediate candidates.

THE mortal remains of the late Miss Barber were laid at rest in Ross Bay cemetery yesterday afternoon, the pallbearers being Messrs. R. Clarke, F. Foster, F. Hewlings, J. Lesuer, W. J. Barber and W. W. Barber. The funeral services were conducted by the Christian Brethern.

DIRECT train service on the E. & N. railway was resumed yesterday, when passengers up and down had opportunity to casually examine the new trestles. They are a great improvement upon the old structures, and for stability and good workmanship are on a par with the grading of the Island road.

A LETTER received last night from Salmo states that J. Brown has struck free milling ore on the east side of the north fork of the Salmon river, and that the Big Duck claim has also struck free milling ore with gold plainly visible. This company has had a casual sample of their ore assayed by Mr. Woodhouse, of Rossland, a return being had of $40.67.

MR. E. A. WADHAMS, the canner from Blaine, Wash., registered at the Driard last evening, and will await the sailing of the next Northern bound steamer, by which he goes to Rivers Inlet, where he will examine a property that he has already purchased as a cannery site. Here he proposes to erect a cannery, if he finds everything suitable, and commence construction in plenty of time for spring operations. If he builds he will erect nothing but a modern plant, of a capacity of 30,000 cases.

THE possibility of the Behring sea claims commission going to San Francisco has been renewed by the question being raised as to whether the values of seal skins were fixed in the London or San Francisco markets during the years for which claims are made. A number of witnesses were yesterday examined principally on the question of value of skins, and should it be decided not to go to San Francisco, the commission has very little to do now in clearing up the ends of evidence that are left.

"ROSSLAND is the most law-abiding town on the Coast," said John Kirkup, chief of police in that place, at the Oriental last evening. The chief had just brought down to New Westminster two prisoners sentenced to two years' imprisonment on the charge of assault. "not a banking game is run in the town," he continued, "and there is only one music hall, which is so managed that the most refined could enter and find no objection to their surroundings, except, perhaps, in an overdose of smoke. There are a great many men going into the place, and quoting from reports which I have seen there must to-day be fully forty strangers entering the town daily." The chief is a strong advocate of a central jail in the province, for the last year, he says, he sent fourteen prisoners to New Westminster, costing the Government $30 per head.

MESSRS. Archer Martin and W. H. Langley have formed a partnership as barristers and solicitors, under the firm name of Martin & Langley.

AN interesting shipment in the C.P.N. freight sheds yesterday was a consignment of ten registered homing pigeons, in transit from New York to Mr. Thomas W. Stonehouse, of Nanaimo.

THURSDAY'S mail from the Mainland cities was brought down from Nanaimo by train yesterday, having been sent to the Coal City as soon as it was announced that the usual trip of the Islander had been cancelled.

THERE are just thirty little people in Victoria who as they grow older will find it especially easy to remember how old they are, having commenced life with the first month of the year. The number of marriages recorded during the same period was 22, and of deaths, 16.

THE teachers of the South Park school express their thanks to Dr. Newcombe for an addition to their library in the form of "The adventures of John Jewett, of the ship Boston, during three years' captivity among the Indians of Nootka Sound." The book is from the pen of Robert Brown, Ph.D., M.A., and possesses great historic value—especially interesting to residents of this province.

JANUARY was a somewhat busier month than December with the members of the city police force, as the appended statement of arrests will testify: Assaults, 5; aggravated assaults, 3; drunks, 14; playing in a gaming house, 1; vagrancy, 11; looking on at a gambling game, 1; indecency, 1; creating a disturbance, 3; thefts, 9; breaking and entering, 1; infractions of city by-laws, 5; malicious damage to property, 2; infractions of the revenue act, 8; infraction of the Indian act, 1; using threatening language, 1; and in possession of stolen property, 2.

REV. W. W. BAER, of Vancouver, who preaches to-day in the First Congregational church of this city, has, it is announced, succeeded where so many have failed—in perfecting an attachment for the typewriter by which the carriage on completion of a line returns automatically, and at the same time advances the paper for the next line. A special advantage of Mr. Baer's invention is that it may be attached to any writing machine, and those who have examined it closely say that it cannot get out of order. The importance of the invention may be readily recognized by anyone who has used a typewriter—it means a fortune for the reverend inventor.

MONDAY is set for the February sitting of the Full Court, but owing to some of the judges being engaged on other cases, there is a likelihood that there will be an adjournment. The cases listed are: Lowenberg, Harris & Co. v. Dunsmuir; Tollemache v. Hobson; Bowness v. Consolidated Railway Co.; Matthews v. Consolidated Railway Co.; Hjorth v. Smith; Mason v. Houston; Edison Electric Co. v. Edmonds; Strong v. Hesson; Shallcross v. Garesche;; re G. W. Aldous; Corbin v. Lookout Mining Co; Cunningham Hardware Co. v. Curtis; Reinhard v. McClusky; Napier, Shanks and Bell v. C.P.N. Co.; Clarke v. Eholt; Cunningham v. Bank of B. C., and Gray v. McCallum.

THE marvellous magniscope which reproduces life-size figures in motion will be the drawing feature of Dr. De Kannet's lectures for the school libraries next week. Realistic Russian street scenes, actual moving tableaux of the coronation of the present Czar, vivid descriptions of Russian homes, Russian palaces, Russian fleets and Russian cities are what the school children are looking forward to. This will be the first exhibition of the marvellous animated transformations of the magniscope ever given in Canada. The lectures are given under the auspices of the Hon. Col. James Baker, minister of education, for the joint benefit of the High school and South Park library funds, and will be sure to draw crowded houses.

NEW MINING COMPANIES.

The week just closed has seen a number of important companies registered under the acts regulating joint stock companies, their objects being almost in every case the development of mining properties in some section of the province. Of special interest to Victorians is the formation of the Rock Creek Gold Mines, Ltd., the promoters and first trustees of which are: Messrs. T. B. Hall, Simon Leiser, T. Lubbe, B. W. Pearse, T. W. Patterson, and R. P. Rithet. The company, which has its offices in this city, is capitalized at $500,000 and is formed to take over and develop the Victoria, Queen and California mineral claims, on Rock creek, Yale. Here are the lists of the new companies for the week, as announced through the Gazette or registered under the old Imperial act, the first fifteen being Gazette announcements:

British North America Mining and Milling Co., of Rossland; with capital stock of $1,000,000.

Canadian Gold Mining Co., of Spokane; $1,200,000.

East St. Louis Gold Mining Co., of Rossland; $1,000,000.

Galena Mines, of London, Eng.; $550,000.

Havre Gold Mining Co., of Rossland; $700,000.

Hall Exploration of B.C., of England; $150,000.

Multum in Parvo Prospecting Syndicate, of Vancouver; $20,000.

Red Horse and Salmon River Mining Co., of Vancouver; $1,000,000.

Rossland Development Co., of Rossland; $1,000,000.

Rock Creek Gold Mines, of Victoria; $500,000.

Rio Grande Gold and Silver Mining Co., of Rossland; $1,000,000.

Selkirk Mining and Milling Co., of Sandon; $250,000.

Treasure Mountain Mines, of Vancouver; $1,000,000.

The Mining Record, of Victoria; $10,000.

Vernon News Printing and Publishing Co., of Vernon; $5,000.

Randolph-Elmore Quartz Mining & Milling Company, of Fairview; $750,000.

Comstock-Mamoth Quartz Mining & Milling Company, Fairview; $750,000.

Knob Hill Gold Mining Company, of British Columbia; $1,500,000.

Atlantic-Pacific Exploration Syndicate, Ltd.; $97,400.

War Eagle Consolidated Mining & Development Company, Ltd.; $2,000,000.

The O. R. & N. steamship Chittagong will be here from Portland early this week.

A TIMELY SUGGESTION.

President Joshua Davies and Messrs. Yates, Crimp, Brown and Wilson were the only directors present at the regular monthly meeting of the Jubilee hospital board, last evening. Among the communications submitted, which met with general favor, was the following from Mr. H. Dallas Helmcken, Q.C., M.P.P.:

"You are aware that this year will be celebrated in Victoria what is known as the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and, judging from the public press, one of the chief features of the celebration will be the enlarging of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for nurses. It occurs to me that, inasmuch as our splendid institution is a monument of the Queen's jubilee, we might see whether it is not possible to enlarge the hospital in further commemoration of our Most Gracious Sovereign by the erection of an additional ward for maternity cases—an admittedly urgent need—so that in the course of time we may have a hospital which will be complete for the purpose of fully instructing nurses, and thus adding to its usefulness as well as its reputation. I simply suggest this so that the matter may be brought up at the next meeting for discussion, and, if thought fit, that it may be referred to a special committee to arrange details."

A committee of three composed of the writer and Messrs. A. Wilson and A. C. Flummerfelt was with little discussion appoined to examine into the feasibility of the suggestion and to report at a subsequent meeting.

Next in order came the regular monthly report from Dr. Richardson. In this, after referring to the hard work which the nurses of the hospital have had of late, the doctor complained of an insufficiency of accommodation in the hospital for all patients applying for private rooms, adding that when the bed rooms for domestics are finished one room occupied by the nurses will be available. The pay sheet for the past month was large, but it was owing to four nurses being placed on the old salary of $20 per month. He suggested the rearrangement of the salaries paid to nurses, making them a little more for the first year and less for the second. There were other minor suggestions in the report, and the doctor was authorized to deal with all as he saw fit, except the one touching salaries, this being left with the committee of the month to look after. The usual salary account amounting to $643.10, was passed for payment.

BURNS ANNIVERSARY CONCERT.

Choirmaster Brown and His Associate Artists Present a Programme of Exceptional Quality.

The Burns anniversary concert, under the auspices of the choir of the First Presbyterian church, was given in the church hall last night to a very large audience, the following being the programme:

Part song—"A Man's a Man for a' That".....Choir
Violin solo—"Scottish Airs".Miss Blackie
Song—"The Rowan Tree"
.....Mr. W. D. Kinnaird
Part song—"Braw, Braw Lads o' Gala Water".....Choir
Song—"John Anderson, My Jo".....
.....Mrs. Gregson
Song—"McGregor's Gathering".....
.....Mr J. G. Brown
Cantata—"The Rising of the Clans"
.....Choir
Part song—"The Standard on the Braes o' Mar".....Choir
Violin solo—"Scottish Airs" Miss Blackie
Song—"Doon the Burn, Davie, Love"
.....Miss Fraser
Part song—"Thou Bonnie Wood o' Craigieles".....Choir
Song—"Memories Dear"
.....Mr. G. F. Watson
Song—"Cam' Ye By Athol"
.....Mrs. Gregson
Song (humorous and in character)—
"Maggie Lauder".....Mr. Willie Tamson
Part song—"We're a' Noddin'".....Choir
....."Auld Lang Syne".....

Mrs. Hall was accompanist and did her work admirably. The several solos were well executed and encores were the order of the evening. Miss Blackie's work on the violin exhibited considerable force and was very acceptable. From a musical point of view the choir singing was, however, the strongest feature of the concert. Between thirty and forty ladies and gentlemen took part, and the conductor, Mr. J. G. Brown, had them well in hand. They sang with precision, power and expression. The absence, through illness, of Miss Johnson, who was on the programme for two numbers, was much regretted.

CONTRADICTION.

TO THE EDITOR:—Please allow me to contradict through the columns of your widely circulated journal the statement (copied from the Rossland Miner) that I am at the head of a scheme for the establishment of a gas works at or near Trail.

I am not the fortunate possessor of any stock in the scheme, nor am I interested in it in any way. D. W. HIGGINS.

NEWS OF THE DOMINION.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

Dominion Delegates to Washington.

OTTAWA, Jan. 30.—At a cabinet meeting to-day, Sir Richard Cartwright, Minister of Trade and Commerce, and Hon. L. A. Davies, Minister of Marine, were appointed to go to Washington to discuss with the American authorities the question of reciprocity and the alien labor law with the United States, which at present is causing so much annoyance in Canada. They will probably leave here on Wednesday next.

Montreal's Contribution.

MONTREAL, Jan. 30.—Mayor Wilson Smith will remit to the Governor-General in a few days $20,000 as Montreal's contribution to the Indian relief fund.

Strike of Garment Makers.

HAMILTON, Jan. 30.—A big strike is threatened here by garment makers. The contractors have received their orders from Sanford & Co. The prices are generally reduced from 20 to 30 per cent. Hands to the number of nearly four thousand refuse to take the work at the reduced rate.

The month of January has been almost uneventful in shipping circles, there having been a total of but 108 entries recorded coastwise for the month and 109 clearances. The deep sea entries numbered 103 and the clearances 111.