Soldier Beards The Politician.

General Hutton Not Content to Be Mere Figurehead for the Militia.

Tarte's Opposition to Sending Soldiers—The British Columbia Offer.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Feb. 10.—The parliamentary week end furnishes the big sensation of the day. It was only generally known this morning that the Major-General commanding the Canadian forces had resigned his position to go on special service with the British army in South Africa. Some could hardly credit it, and certainly never expected such an announcement, but there were others who were cognizant of what has been going on for some time in the inner political circles, who felt that General Hutton would not be long in Canada. By most military men the General's departure from Canada will be greatly regretted. He came out here evidently imbued with the desire to do right, and to give the Dominion a thoroughly efficient and properly equipped military force.

SOLDIER AGAINST POLITICIAN.

It was not long, however, before the General realized what a powerful element in the situation is the political end of the department, and it is because he has not been prepared to submit to this in all cases that there has come to be conflict between the civil and military branches of the militia department. The General evidently came out from England expecting to have supreme military control, and when he found that this was not possible he has evinced a disposition which has brought him into direct conflict with the Minister, and for the past few weeks, at any rate, the relations between Dr. Borden and General Hutton have been very strained. The crisis came a few days ago when the Minister learned that the General had issued an order forbidding any of the officials of the military branch, of which he is practically the head, seeing the Minister on departmental business without the General's permission. When Dr. Borden heard of this he was naturally very wrathy.

A FLANK MOVEMENT.

Evidently the General realized that a storm was about to break over his head and has secured from his friends in the war office an appointment on the staff in South Africa. He must have foreseen the attack to which he would be subjected in both houses over the Col. Hughes matter, and probably does not desire to have his name dragged through the political mire. Matters have gone so far, however, that the Hughes controversy will not be allowed to die quietly.

It is remarkable how many men seem to favor Col. Domville's bill which has for its object an amendment to the Militia Act so that a Canadian can be appointed to the command of the militia forces. Col. Aylmer, the present adjutant-general, is admirably qualified for the position, and there is a strong feeling in political circles that the government should facilitate the passage of the Domville bill and appoint the Adjutant-General to succeed Hutton.

WORRYING THE MINISTERS.

The debate on the address was, to the evident annoyance of the government, concluded in two days. Ministers thought it would last ten days at least, as they have been caught napping and have practically no business to go on with. The Conservatives had a caucus on Tuesday, at which it was decided that the debate should terminate that evening so far as the opposition was concerned, unless Mr. Bourassa presented an amendment. All the men were put under a strict pledge of secrecy, not to say anything of the understanding as, if an inkling of it reached the government, who were unprepared with their sessional programme, they would put up some of their men to keep the discussion going. Not a whisper of this decision leaked out, and consequently when Sir Richard Cartwright sat down no one rose. The Speaker, therefore, put the question, and the address was adopted. It was a sharp move and the government did not relish it, as was evidenced from the acerbity of a remark made by the Premier on Thursday.

CANADA'S OFFER DELAYED.

The debate itself consisted only of six speeches, those of the mover and seconder of the address, Messrs. Gould and Geoffrion and Sir Charles Tupper, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Foster and Sir Richard Cartwright. It was devoted almost exclusively to the government's action relating to the offering and sending of the contingents to South Africa. The official correspondence in connection with the offers submitted, and it certainly places the government of Canada in a very bad light, as contrasted with the other colonies. As far back as July last Queensland made her offer, and it was not until the middle of October that Canada—being the eleventh on the list—was heard from. Sir Charles Tupper told how he had telegraphed to the Premier urging the government to do something, and promising the undivided support of the opposition in whatever action was taken by Canada to assist in maintaining the supremacy of Great Britain in South Africa. He ridiculed the vacilating policy of the government, which one day declared that it could not do anything without the authority of parliament, and then within ten days thereafter without parliamentary authority, and in direct contradiction to the doctrine the Premier had so recently laid down, decided to send one thousand men to the Cape. Sir Wilfrid endeavored to show that the government had acted both promptly and consistently, but he woefully failed.

DISSENSION OF THE CABINET.

His plea that the government were unanimous upon this matter was met with the documentary evidence that all the time the preparations for the contingent were being made, and the discussion in the newspapers was going on, Mr. Tarte by his speeches and writings was endeavoring to frustrate the efforts of the Canadian people to secure adequate representation with the British arms in South Africa. The reading of these speeches and editorials astonished a good many members of the house who had not previously seen them, and they will go on record against Mr. Tarte for all time to come. Endeavor as the Premier did to the best of his ability to offset them by importing other issues into the debate it will be impossible to convince the country that the Minister of Public Works, at a critical period in the history of the Empire, was otherwise than in opposition to the rendering of assistance by Canada to the Mother Country. Mr. Foster's speech was a masterpiece. In fact, it is admitted by many who heard it to be one of the most powerful addresses delivered within the walls of the parliament. He quoted chapter and verse from the official correspondence to show how difficult it had been to induce the government to realize the full extent of their responsibility. He made a strong point against the government, arising out of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's admission that the government had only acted when they realized the force of public opinion. Sir Richard Cartwright, who admits now that he is a little more than an onlooker of public affairs, made no attempt to reply to the sweeping arraignment of the government by Mr. Foster.

THE SOLDIERS' PAY.

The entire question of the contingent will come up again on the bill which the government is to introduce authorizing the equipment and the payment of the men. The opposition has been insistent upon Canada paying the entire expense of her forces in the field, but the argument which the government put forward was that the home authorities had requested that there should be no difference in the status of the British and Colonial forces at the front. The government has therefore adopted the clever expedient of meeting the predominant view in Canada by offering to pay to the men on their return from South Africa the difference between the Imperial allowance—a shilling a day—which they are now receiving, and the fifty cents a day which would be theirs if they were on active service in Canada.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S OFFER.

Members on both sides were delighted to welcome Col. Prior to Ottawa once more. Last session the genial Colonel took a much greater interest in public affairs than any other British Columbia member, and this session it is hoped that his voice will be heard not infrequently in the discussions of matters affecting not only the Pacific province, but the Dominion at large. Immediately on his arrival here he saw Dr. Borden with reference to the offer of British Columbia of a second corps for service in South Africa. The delay in securing a definite answer from the war office has been strongly commented upon, and there are those here who have not hesitated to say that the tip was given by somebody in Ottawa to the war office to quietly shelve the offer. At any rate, the reply now forwarded from Ottawa is most discouraging, as it simply places upon the province the entire cost of raising, equipping, and transporting to South Africa the proposed regiment from British Columbia. It is generally expected that when British Columbia had taken such a patriotic stand, and had undertaken to defray the cost of equipping the contingent and keeping it at St. John or Halifax, at the very least the Dominion authorities would have furnished ocean transportation. This is not to be, so that if the province decided to go ahead, the cost, as a result, will be greatly enhanced. Col. Prior has moved for all the papers on the subject, will initiate a discussion on the matter as soon as they are brought down.

RELIGION IN POLITICS.

There is considerable comment is parliamentary circles over the action of the government in selecting Mr. Sheyhn, an Irish Roman Catholic, for the Senate vacancy caused by the death of Hon. E. J. Price. The late senator sat for the Laurentides division, which had been represented by a Protestant since confederation. The change has disturbed the old arrangement and is regarded as an encroachment upon the vested rights of the Protestant minority in the province of Quebec. The present time when so much is being said against racial and religious animosities in the Dominion, seems inopportune for the government to make a departure which may lead to an acrimonious discussion.

VALUE OF VOLUNTEERS.

Experience of Boer War Shows Their Capacity for Defence Against Invasion.

London, Feb. 15.—Lord George Hamilton, secretary of state for India, speaking at Chiswick this evening on the war said, that one lesson to be learned was the fact that the volunteer force could use the long range rifle and cannon, and could, if afforded position hold their own against any troops. This meant that if the Volunteers were properly reorganized in England a successful invasion of the country would be an impossibility. It also meant that if proper use were made of the mountains on the frontier of India the bigger the hostile army that got within these mountains the larger would be the grayeyard they would make there.

BRIBERY IN MONTANA.

Hundred Thousand Dollars Held as a Bait Before Supreme Court Judge.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Highly sensational testimony was developed to-day in the investigation by the senate committee on privileges and elections of the election of W. A. Clark to the senate from Montana. Justice Hunt, a Republican member of the Montana supreme court, testified that his family physician, Dr. Tracy, had made what the Justice regarded as an attempt to have him consider a $100,000 bribe to favor lawyer Welcome one of Clark's attorneys in disbarment proceedings against Welcome. The witness did not directly at least connect Mr. Clark with this bribery proposition, so the latter's counsel, ex-Senator Faulkner, moved to strike the whole testimony from the record, but did not succeed. The witness testified that the same day one of the attempts to bribe him had been made similar efforts had been made to reach Justice Piggot, another of the justices of the supreme court of Montana.

THE MARTINIQUE RIOTING.

Soldiers Disperse Mobs at Various Points but Situation Yet Critical.

Island of Martinique, Feb. 10.—(via Haytien cable)—M. Hayot, the Petit Bourge planter, who came here yesterday with the members of his family having abandoned his plantation and effects parleyed for forty-eight hours with the rioters before leaving. They wanted to kill him. Fifty soldiers arrived to-day and dispersed the rioters at various points. No instructions have been received from the home government and people fear a fresh collision. The cruiser Troude has just left.

At Marine, the factory continues working. There is considerable anxiety at St. Pierre. The manufacturers demand the proclamation of a state of siege, but the governor refuses to comply. M. Winter a representative of the manufacturers left this evening for Paris bearing documents representing the character of the controversy and giving the facts of the case.

PILES FOR 15 YEARS.

Mr. Jas. Bowles, Councillor, Embro, Ont., writes: "For over 15 years I suffered the misery of bleeding, protruding piles. The many remedies I tried all failed. I was advised to use Dr. Chase's Ointment, and must say that the first application gave relief, after the third day the bleeding stopped and two boxes cured me completely."

Zulus Brought Into the War

British Will Encourage Them in Resisting Aggression by the Boers.

Natives Cannot Longer Be Kept Passive—Commons Adopts Military Scheme.

By Associated Press.

London, Feb. 15.—In the House of Commons to-day during the course of a reply to a question relative to the probable Boer invasion of Zululand, the secretary of state for the colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, said that the government had decided, if the native territories were invaded by the Boers, the natives "will be encouraged and assisted in every way in defending themselves."

Mr. Chamberlain's reply confirmed the reports of the invasion of Zululand, and showed the consequences could not fail to be serious throughout South Africa, as the alarm and unrest of the Zulus was bound to spread to the Natal natives.

The Colonial Secretary also said that the Natal ministry had notified the home government that it could not any longer be responsible for the peaceful attitude of the Zulus, as the invasion of their country was contrary to a tacit arrangement that the natives should not be dragged into the war.

Mr. A. J. Balfour, the government leader, dealing with the same subject and the possibility of employing Indian troops, said his former statement to the effect that the government would not employ natives in the present war was based on the belief that by common consent the war would be confined to the two European races, adding: "If the Boers adopt a course inconsistent with that idea, we hold ourselves free to reconsider our decision."

The house having gone into committee of supply on the supplementary war estimates Wm. Redmond, Nationalist member for East Clare, strongly objected to adding a single man to the British army, which he said was "now engaged in a war which is an insult to God, the war waged by Christian England against a Christian people who only desired to retain their own land." He declared his belief that the British reverses were due to the fact that the British cause was unjust.

Mr. John Burns, member for Battersea, scouted the idea that it was necessary to strengthen the British army in order to fight a country whose population was only equal to that of his own constituency.

Mr. Wyndham, parlimentary undersecretary for war, answering criticisms said it was unnecessary to reply to Mr. Redmond's argument, because the Irishmen at the front were given the answer with their lives. At midnight the closure was enforced, and the division taken. The house adopted the government's military scheme by a vote of 239 against 34, the minority consisting chiefly of Irish members.

Mr. Chamberlain's announcement regarding the natives is much discussed. Mr. T. P. O'Connor thus describes the scene: "Mr. Chamberlain's cold penetrating tones, with a terrible emphasis, underlying an imperturbable manner, sounded through the silence like a note of doom. Everybody saw what it meant, but nobody spoke. Everybody understood all its terror and ferocity."

MINERS RESUME THEIR WORK.

Western Federation Gives Up Attempt So Disastrous to Kootenay.

Special to the Colonist.

Sandon, Feb. 15.—The bitter struggle in this province inaugurated by the paid agitators of the alien organization known as the Western Federation of Miners, with headquarters at Butte, Montana, who have succeeded in controlling the actions of the legislative supporters of the present government, and especially the members for Slocan, Rossland and Nelson districts, has come to an ignominious close.

Owing to the large number of men recently found willing to accept the liberal wage offered by the Mine Owners' Association, and feeling that the influence of their sympathizers in the legislative halls was becoming weaker daily, the miners' union made strenuous endeavors to re-open negotiations. The mine owners of the Slocan, after the peculiar manner in which their previous overtures had been declined by the union, refused to have any further dealings with that body, and the union feeling their cause to be absolutely lost, have unconditionally surrendered.

By a large majority they have voted that every member of their union shall be at liberty to accept the standard wage offered by the association, without any stipulation as to recognition of the union or other restrictions.

This struggle, which has cost the Slocan over a million dollars, is at any rate temporarily at an end, but unfortunately there still exists a feeling at the fact that unprincipled agitators have proved able to bring about so unfortunate a condition of affairs as has prevailed in the Nelson and Rossland camps.

The nine hundred men thrown out of work in Rossland and Nelson recently by the closing down of the War Eagle, Centre Star, Le Roi and Hall mines, with their attendant smelters, are not immediately benefited by this settlement, except that it helps them to secure work in other properties.

THE MINERS' DECISION.

Details of the Action Winding Up the Troubles in Slocan.

Nelson, Feb. 15.—(Special.)—The miners' unions of Sandon, Silverton and New Denver decided to-day to accept the mine owners' offer made several months ago of $3.25 for an eight-hour day, and the mines will now be filled up as fast as men can be found to take their places. A slight shortage of men is expected for a few days.

The Nelson and Ymir miners' unions will follow suit in a day or two and the lock-out or strike may be considered at an end.

No agreement has been come to between the miners' union and the mine owners' association, the action of the union taking the form of a resolution which reduced the recognized standard wage from $3.50 to $3.25 per day. This, however, is a technicality which no longer affects the situation. It may be added that the official recognition of the unions was not added as a rider to the motion.

LANCERS' MISFORTUNE.

Small Party Caught by Boers Near Tugela Reported to Have Suffered Heavily.

Boer Laager, near Ladysmith, Tuesday, Feb. 13.—Yesterday Gen. Botha with a small force crossed the Tugela to the deserted British camp where he encountered fifty Lancers, of whom thirteen were killed, five wounded and nine taken prisoners. One prisoner was sent to tell the British to fetch their wounded.

WARFARE IN CONGO.

Defeat of Chieftain Who Has Long Been Chief Opponent of French Extension.

Paris, Feb. 15.—M. Decais, the minister for the colonies, has received a telegram from the governor of French Congo, M. H. Delamothe, announcing the defeat in battle of Rahah, the principal chieftain of Central Soudan by a French expedition. Rahah has long been the strongest opponent of the extension of French influence in the Soudan. He was formerly a slave of Zobehr Pasha, himself a great Soudan ruler, but revolted and formed a kingdom of his own in Central Africa, subjugating potentate after potentate until he became head of a vast empire.

ANDREE'S BALLOON AGAIN.

New York, Feb. 15.—The following is printed here to-day under London date: "A letter arrived here from Bishop Newnham, of Moosinee, dated October 1, Fort Churchill, Hudson's Bay, says two Eskimos came here this summer travelling from the far North to tell that two white men had come down from the sky in a balloon, the remains of which they had seen, and had been murdered by Eskimos there. I believe this is authentic, but have not had time to inquire."

CALLED TO THE FRONT.

Durban, Wednesday, Feb. 14.—At the request of Lord Roberts Sir William MacCormac left Durban to-day to direct in person the medical and surgical preparations at the front.

THE POISONER'S FATE.

New York, Feb. 15.—Roland Burnham Molineux will be arraigned before recorder John W. Goff at 10:30 o'clock to-morrow morning. He will be sentenced to death, the time of the execution to be named by the recorder. Sheriff Greil has arranged to have the prisoner removed at once to Sing Sing.

FOOD SUPPLY FOR BOERS.

London, Feb. 16.—The correspondent of the Times at Lorenzo Marques telegraphing Wednesday says: "The republics are now obtaining substantial supplies of sugar, coffee and flour through a Delagoa Bay firm, and further heavy consignments are expected within a fortnight. It is believed also that munitions are still passing.

GRAND ORANGE LODGE.

Election and Installation of Officers Yesterday Afternoon.

The session of the Orange Grand lodge was continued yesterday morning at 9 o'clock. The election of officers resulted as follows: H. Brethour, G.M.; D. Donaldson, D.G.M.; R. Bell, J.G.M.; Rev. Dr. J. Reid, chaplain; D. Moffat, secretary; D. Nicholson, treasurer; E. Bush, lecturer; W. Duncan, D. of C.; Rev. J. Reir, jr., D. G. Chap.; W. J. G. Christopher, D. Secretary; A. Anderson, D. G. secretary; John Wallace, M.W.G.P. lecturer; J. Jackson, M.W. G.L. representative.

The above were duly installed by P.P.G. M. H. T. Thrift.

The Rev. J. C. Speer gave an address yesterday afternoon, and Sheriff McMillan gave a review of the rise of the order in British Columbia.

The lodge donated $10 to the Protestant Orphanage in Victoria, and $25 to the Mansion House fund. They also contributed $8 to Miss Merritt's school for the deaf and dumb.

The delegates attended a banquet given in their honor by the Ladies' True Blue lodge, last evening.

The following was the programme of toast and song:

"The Queen"; all singing the National Anthem.

Remarks by P.P.G.M. Bro. Thrift.

Song by Bro. G. Grimson, "The Maple Leaf."

"The Provincial Government"; responded to by R. Smith, M.P.P.

"The M.W.G.L. of B.A."; responded to by J. Wallace.

Song, Rev. Bro. Reid, "Rule Britannia."

Address, Rev. Bro. Speer.

"True Lady True Blues," Sister Crismon.

A vote of thanks to the Lady True Blues.

The programme ended with the singing of "God Save the Queen."

The ladies donated $10 to the Ladies' True Blue Orphanage at Picton, Ont.

The Grand lodge will meet on the second Wednesday in February, 1901, at New Westminster. The grand celebration will be held in Victoria, July 12, this year. The members from the Mainland returned by the boat last night.

FOUL BREATH FROM CATARRH

Tells of the Decay of the Mucous Lining of the Nose and Throat...

No symptom of catarrh causes more annoyance than foul breath. This offensive odor comes from the ulceration of the membranes and is an indication of the decay which is taking place in the linings of the nose and throat. To the victim of catarrh as well as to his associates this foulness of the breath is disgusting.

To counteract bad breath and to eradicate catarrh from the system no treatment is more essential than Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure, the only remedy that can be relied upon to entirely cure chronic catarrh.

Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure is sent direct to the diseased parts by the improved blower which accompanies each box, heals the ulcers, clears the air passages, relieves the decay which causes headache, stops the decay which causes foul breath, and absolutely cures catarrh and prevents consumption. 25c. a box, blower free, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

Lords Discuss Russian Moves

Liberal Leaders Invite Attention to Operations on Indian Frontier.

Life and Death Crisis in Which No Effort Should Be Spared.

By Associated Press.

London, Feb. 15.—In the House of Lords, the Earl of Dunraven raised a question on the government's military proposals and expressed a doubt as to whether these were sufficient. The Earl of Rosebery said he fully recognized the gravity of the situation and agreed with the previous speaker in thinking that the measures adopted were inadequate in the circumstances. He also doubted whether the paper force of 409,000 men in Great Britain, to which the secretary of state for war had referred, would stand analysis. For the Volunteers, Lord Rosebery said he had the highest respect, but by no stretch of imagination could they be called soldiers, as it was admitted they needed months of training annually to render them efficient.

"The auspicious news of the morning from South Africa," said Lord Rosebery, "led to the hope that there might be better news to come, but when fighting in our own territory we have been unable before to advance an inch, and if another 50,000 men should be wanted for South Africa, I do not know how they would be got. It may be said that it is unwise to lay bare the weakness of the country, but depend upon it, other nations know our position as well as, if not better than ourselves.

"I would like to ask whether the fleet is to be strengthened or mobilized. It is not a time when we can leisurely discuss what we are to do a month hence. The crisis is urgent. The danger is upon you and you, at such a time, come to this house with proposals that in the month of May, when the weather permits, you will put Volunteers under canvas, and that then this island empire will be safe."

"The crisis in South Africa is urgent," continued Lord Rosebery, "but we must not keep our eyes upon South Africa alone. Last December the government made vigorous overtures to two great powers, Germany and the United States for an alliance, but those overtures were not received with such cordiality as to encourage the government to pursue them. It does not appear that the friendship of France would bear any great strain, and as to Russia, events have been recently witnessed in Persia about which England formerly would have had something to say, but which now she passes unnoticed.

"It becomes the government to take a more firm grasp of the situation and to make adequate proposals. Time is the essense of the situation. The government never realized it, but the burghers have, and the present situation in South Africa has arisen from this fact. Lord Blythswood has referred to the armies of the Northern States of the American Union in their civil war and to the vast forces raised there within a year. Some one might reply that in the United States at that time it was a matter of life and death, and I would tell Her Majesty's government now it was a matter of life and death.

"If Great Britain were to lose South Africa she would lose the most important base outside of the United Kingdom, and she would lose that colonial support which has been given because the colonies have believed that they were associating themselves with a powerful empire, and thus the empire would break away from us. If this be not a life and death crisis, I do not know what is."

The Earl of Kimberley, the Liberal leader, said he felt the danger of the situation equally with Lord Rosebery. Although he would not ascribe a direct hostile intention to Russia at the present moment, he said he could not overlook the fact that there was a movement of troops in progress, which, if not menacing, showed that possibilities of the future were not absent from the Russian mind.

The Marquis of Salisbury, in the course of his reply for the government, said: "I cannot enter upon the spring that guides the Russian government in the course it is taking, nor can I discuss the health of the Ameer of Afghanistan. As to whether our forces are adequate for the work in South Africa or whether it is true that the government has always been too late and has neglected opportunities, I would gladly accept a challenge, provided the words would not get beyond this chamber. The present troubles are not due to the expansion of the Empire, but to miscalculations made in 1881 and 1884. Our forefathers were not discouraged by bad beginnings and we should follow their example and not be cast down. The government is convinced now, as they always have been, that the issue will be brought to a successful conclusion. I do not think any advantage is to be gained from taking a gloomy view.

SOLDIERS OF FORTUNE.

Ex-Col. Esterhazy Now Serving in the Boer Army—Which Is Not at All Select.

Marquise de Fontenoy in St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Esterhazy, the notorious ex-Col. Esterhazy, of Dreyfus trial fame, is now in the Transvaal, fighting for the Boers, and holding a command at Magersfontein. This is the first important conflict since the civil war in the United States, and the almost simultaneous civil war in Mexico, that has afforded any opportunities to so-called soldiers of fortune, that is to say, to men who are ready to sell their swords to the highest bidder. While their services were accepted in this country at the time of the struggle between the North and South, they were looked at askance, and were as a rule distrusted. They found a more congenial atmosphere in Mexico, and it is doubtful whether there was ever gathered together a more extraordinary gang of adventurers culled from every nation on the face of the globe, than those who attached themselves to the fortunes of Emperor Maximilian. A few were gentlemen of birth and breeding, who had joined the Emperor for the mere sake of adventure and fighting, but the vast majority were social scum, men who had been turned out of the armies of their respective countries, who had been outlawed or socially ostracized for some excellent cause. Indeed, it was this following of Emperor Maximilian that contributed in no small measure to ruin whatever prospects of success which he might have had in Mexico.

Foreign soldiers of fortune were accorded no show in the Franco-German war of 1870, and only a very few took part in the subsequent Turko-Russian war, fighting exclusively under the Servian flag, the moral atmosphere in King Milan's army being more congenial than in that of Russia, Roumania or even Turkey. The Turko-Greek campaign was too soon over to give time to soldiers of fortune to reach Athens, and the only foreigners engaged in the conflict were a band of Italian cut-throats under the command of the ex-convict and three-fold murderer, Cipriani, who showed cowardice in the face of the Turks, but an immense amount of courage and activity in plundering the unfortunate Greeks, that is to say, the very people under whose flag they were enrolled.

What France and Holland think of soldiers of fortune is best shown by the fact that both countries accept their services without any inquiry as to antecedents, but restrict them to corps which are otherwise composed of military convicts. In all countries were military service is more or less obligatory, and where dismissal from the army even without honor, as the saying is, would be welcomed as a release by the offender, the latter is punished in case he shows himself to be incorrigible by being transferred to what are known as "discipline regiments." These are invariably employed for colonial service, in the most pestilential climates, and at points of danger where the government does not wish to risk any save worthless lives, while the discipline to which these regiments are subjected is something appalling, death being the penalty even for the most venial infraction of the regulations. It is with these "discipline corps" that the so-called "foreign legions" of France and Holland are brigaded and classed, the foreign legion being the only corps in which the services of foreign-born soldiers of fortune and adventurers are accepted.

The Transvaal Republic is showing itself less choice. True there are some very fine foreign soldiers fighting for them, and there is not a word to be uttered against the German Colonel, Albrecht, who has organized the Boer artillery, nor against the French Colonel, Villebois, who is the clever chief-of-staff to the Boer commander-in-chief, Joubert. But such men as these have nothing in common with such a scoundrel as ex-Col. Esterhazy, a self-confessed forger, traitor and perjurer, who was turned out of the French army in disgrace, nor with the English ex-sergeant of Engineers, Greer, who deserted from Aldershot a few years ago when about to be arrested for embezzlement on an extensive scale. Nor can one quite fancy such a man as Col. Villebois associated with an individual like Count Lob Mantenuffel, the reputed son of the famous Field Marshal of that name, and who, after being expelled from the German army, is a fugitive from German justice; nor with ex-Capt. Gourko, the equally black sheep and disgraced son of the Russian Field Marshal Gourko. The presence of such men as these in the Boer army is far more likely to injure the cause of the South African Republics than to benefit them. For no matter how bravely they may fight, the failings which have been the cause of their original disgrace soon crop to the surface and bring shame upon the governments that employ them. England found this out to her cost in connection with the foreign legion that she organized for service in the Crimean war of 1855, and made up her mind to dispense thenceforth with the assistance of so-called soldiers of fortune.

Count Esterhazy has cut off the somewhat legal looking whiskers that concealed his identity during his stay in England, and his face is now adorned only by the truculent mustache that was its ornament of yore. He landed at Lorenzo Marquez eight weeks ago armed with a letter of recommendation from Dr. Leyds, the Boer diplomatic agent in Europe, and after spending three days there proceeded to Pretoria, whence he was immediately directed to Magersfontein. On being remonstrated with by a friend for selling his sword to the enemies of the one country that had sheltered him when the French government sought to effect his arrest, he was good enough to explain that he was animated by no enmity whatever toward Great Britain. "On the contrary," he said, "I respect the English as a brave and honorable race. But I am a soldier by trade. When war comes it is there that I and my comrades must be. I fight the English as a professional soldier."

Apropos of Esterhazy, the Austro-Hungarian Prince of that name, who is chief of the illustrious and ancient house of Esterhazy, has just secured a decree from the French courts prohibiting both ex-Col. Esterhazy and his cousin, Christian Esterhazy (who, by the by, accused the ex-Colonel of having swindled him) from making use of the name of Esterhazy, the title of Count and the arms of the Esterhazy family. During the course of the proceedings it was shown that in the last century Count Valentine Joseph Esterhazy left Hungary in disgrace and sought refuge in France, where he entered the military service. He married in France, and had two children, a boy, Count Estelas, whose line is now extinct, and a girl, Mary Anne Esterhazy. The latter eventualy became the mother of an illegitimate son, Jean Auguste, the father declining to acknowledge the paternity. The illegitimate son of Countess Marie Esterhazy was the grandfather of ex-Col. Esterhazy.

Mention of Esterhazy naturally suggests the name of Gen. Mercier, who has just been elected a life member of the senate, his admission to the upper house of the French legislature being equivalent to an assurance that he has nothing further to fear in connection either with the Dreyfus case or his alleged participation in the conspiracy against the republic, a conspiracy which some people believe to have been financed with Russian secret service money. From henceforth Gen. Mercier can only be tried by the senate as a high court of justice, and can not be impeached without a vote of the chamber of deputies.

Few people are aware that Gen. Mercier's wife is an English woman, that her maiden name was Penn Symons, and that she is a first cousin of that English General, Sir William Penn Symons, who was the first English officer of his high rank to fall in the Transvaal war, receiving his death wound at Glencoe. She has numerous nephews and kinsmen fighting in the British ranks in the Transvaal war.

The General's star, which seemed to have set at the close of the Rennes court-martial, is once more in the ascendant in France, and if anything occurs to upset the present cabinet, the strongest, the best and the most sensible with which France has been blest in many a long day, Gen. Mercier may be expected to come once more to the fore as a leading factor in French politics, and as the leader of the military, the Conservative, Republican and of the Royalist party.

The French Jocky Club has just held its annual elections, and of the dozen successful candidates nearly all are young men, sons of veteran members of the club. Among them are PrinceEngene Murat, the Counts Charles D'Harcourt, Robert D'Andigne, Pierre de Chezelles, the Counte de L'Aigle, Count Lubersac and the Marquis Quinsorns.

PROVINCIAL

PORT SIMPSON.

Port Simpson, Feb. 1.—The annual public hospital meeting was held on January 18. A good number of the citizens were present. Rev. S. S. Osterhout presided. The seventh annual report was presented by Dr. Bolton, an abstract of which is given below. The five retiring directors, Mr. J. M. L. Alexander, S.M., Mr. C. W. D. Clifford, M.P.P., Rev. T. Crosby, Mr. G. N. Heaton and A. S. Bolton, M.D., J.P., were re-elected for a term of three years. At a subsequent meeting of the directors the following officers were elected for the year: President, Mr. John Flewin, government agent; 1st vice-president, Mr. A. C. Murray; 2nd vice-president, Mr. Gordon Lockerby; secretary-treasurer, Dr. A. E. Bolton.

ABSTRACT OF REPORT.

Patients in January 1, 7; admitted during year, 71; total cared for 78. Patients discharged during year, 68; died, 3; in December 31, 7—78.

Admitted, medical cases, 35; surgical, 33; obstetrical, 3—71. Admitted whites, 8; Indians, 63—71.

Residence of patients—Port Simpson, 27; Upper Skeena, 10; Lower Skeena, 4; Queen Charlotte Islands, 6; Naas, 2; Victoria, 1; Alaska, 3.

Surgical operations under general anaesthesia, 21.

Causes of death—Pulmonary phthisis, 1; intestinal tuberculosis, 1; tubercular peritonitis, 1.

Average number of patients at one time, 6.54; average stay of each patient, 33 days; total days' stay of patients, 239; daily cost per patient, 96 cents.

EXPENDITURE.

Maintenance—		
Food	$102 00	
Fuel, lighting, soap, etc.	230 00	
Drugs, dressings	124 10	
Instruments	9 20	
Charwoman, etc	64 75	
Incidental to Skeena	35 00	
Nurses' salaries	790 00	
		$2,273 45
Building, repairing and lot purchase	$906 90	
Furniture and furnishings	346 00	
Insurance (3 years) taxes, etc.	146 00	
		$1,398 90
		$3,672 35

INCOME.

Prov. gov. to Sept. 30	$500 00	
Dom. gov. (Indian Doctor)	500 00	
Donations	329 65	
Pay patients	295 00	
Proceeds of ladies' sale	154 25	
W.M.S., Methodist church	700 00	
		$2,568 90
Balance from 1898		187 75
Due treasured(mostly covered by gov. grant)		915 70
		$3,672 35

The new building is now completed (at a total cost of $1,223), and is occupied by the surgeon and his family. The main building has been rearranged, giving more accommodation for patients and nurses, with improvements in the operating room and laundry. Another nurse has been added to the staff, who are still rather overworked. It is contemplated to supply more help in the cooking department to the relief of the nurses. The health of the nurses has been good. One nurse gave assistance at the Rivers Inlet branch in the summer, but next year all will probably be needed at Skeena, where the demand for hospital treatment seems to be increasing. Twenty-four patients were admitted at Skeena last summer out of 39 applicants, and a great many received outdoor relief, especially in the line of surgical dressings.

The income shows an increase in the amount received from pay patients, also from donations and subscriptions. There has been an increase in the allowance from the provincial government, but up to the end of December nothing has been received on the per diem allowance. The fact that $480 was raised locally shows the esteem in which the institution is held in our small community.

The increased expenditure is due to an increase in the number of patients, and to the cost of building and furnishing, which is more than was anticipated. The fire insurance was also paid this year for a term of three years.

GRAND FORKS.

Grand Forks, Feb. 10.—Ross Thompson has returned from a visit to the Oro Denoro in Summit camp. He made the announcement that a five-drill compressor will be installed shortly. One shot yesterday dislodged not less than 25 tons of $35 ore. Shipments will begin as soon as the C.P.R. furnishes the cars required.

J. B. Henderson, vice-president of the Rathmullen company, visited the group this week. He states that drifting on the 66 and 200-foot levels is in progress. Ore of shipping grade is being extracted from both workings.

The customs returns at this port form a good index of the volume of business done in the Boundary country, and emphasize the fact that this city is becoming pre-eminently a distributing centre. The dutiable imports entered here last month amounted to $74,285; the duty thereon being $17,369.

Thomas Parkinson, president of the Pathfinder mine on the north fork of Kettle river, has purchased a seven-drill compressor, until lately in use in driving the Bulldog tunnel on the line of the Columbia & Western railroad. The plant will be installed at once. The Pathfinder has about 700 tons of ore on the dump, and with the compressor plant in operation will be enabled to make continuous shipments.

The Grand Forks board of trade is cooperating with the local bar association in its efforts to have sittings of the Supreme court held here. At yesterday's meeting a resolution was adopted urging the provincial government to grant the application made several months ago. The government was also asked to establish a registry of the court here.

The restriction on mining operations in Rossland has resulted in a great influx of miners to the Boundary country. Already many of them have been successful in obtaining employment. The outlook for mining labor throughout this district is very encouraging, as the B. C. and other large properties contemplate augmenting their forces very extensively in the near future.

The C. P. R. will shortly begin the construction of a bridge across the north fork of Kettle river, in connection with the spur to the smelter. As soon as the work is completed, including the laying of rails, the Knob Hill and Old Ironsides will begin the shipping of ore to the reduction works. A. B. W. Hodges, the superintendent, states that the roasting of ores in heaps will begin within four weeks, in anticipation of the early completion of the smelter. Cordwood is utilized for this purpose. The power house plant has been installed.

Traffic has greatly improved since the recent snowfall. Floating ice in the river has greatly impeded the operations of the lumbermen.

R. A. (Volcanic) Brown has returned from the Sunset in the Similkameen district. He reports that an experimental shipment recently made to the Tacoma smelter will average $50 per ton in all values.

Martin Against Finance Min

(Continued from Page T

these charges as he had, it was to be taken as a direct slur up low citizens of Vancouver. N sult could be secured by the pointing such a committee of had been asked for, and he the posed to vote against the reso

MR. BOOTH would have tively with the observations a sions of the Premier had they plied to a private member of —in such a case it would ha matter solely between the me his constituents. With a mini crown, however, the case was the minister in a way represe province as well as his own co and being responsible to the e ince as well as his own co Furthermore, it was meet tha minister should be, like Caes above suspicion. The house an ister himself should therefore that the third member for Vanc brought these matters forward abled the Finance Minister to portunity of meeting the accu he had ——

Hon. Mr. Cotton—Hear, hear the charges that had be against the Finance Minister. continued, were in a manner by the infamous charges that put forward by the friends o government party just before general elections. The gent posite had, however, not had th as yet to come forward and m charges—as the third member couver had—so that they coul and refuted. In conclusion, th for North Victoria suggested would be well for the third m Vancouver to withdraw his ch less he could assure the hous had other evidence to submit which he had indicated.

MR. HELMCKEN regarded lution before the house as in t of hitting below the belt, and opposed it in toto. He accep Mr. Cotton's explanation as sa to every member of the house, surprise, however, that neither Semlin nor any of his colleague taken the first opporunity to co the Finance Minister's statemen spect to the alleged falsificati cords.

Hon. Mr. Semlin rose to ex he had not done so it was thro vertence. He certainly had in sure the house that there had deliberate falsification of the m Victoria's senior member tho this would be taken as satisfac hoped that the other ministers heard from to the same effect the Gordon case, he agreed w Mr. Cotton that—having been torily disposed of in 1894—it s have been resurrected. Mr. M not taken the trouble to explai cumstances in this matter; a knowledge of these circumst personally thought that Hon. ton should be admired for goin rather than disclose a confiden newspaper narrative of Hon. ton's Colorado experiences, w Mr. Martin had favored the characterized as a "beautif story." Surely Hon. Mr. Cott be glad—as he would be unde cumstances—that the matter brought up, giving him oppor set himself right. This newsp he had reason to believe ha whatever in it—it had been for political purposes and sen publication; and he had no contempt for a man who w stab a man in the back. If th newspaper publication was the dence that the third member conver had to offer, his case failed. The charges that brought forward reminded hi cowardly attacks that had against the leader of the pres tion in the matter of warra was as little evidence in this c he thought that the least t ment of to-day could do in fair play would be to state p there was not the slightest for these mean charges that made for political purposes in est possible way. (Hear, h had prepared an amendment to strike out the second and graphs of the resolution, but understood that no attempt