AROUND THE CITY

LOCALS

(From Saturday's Bulletin.)

Officer D. Miller of the city police severs his connection with the force at the end of the month.

Rev. Dr. Riddell, left last evening on the C.N.R. for Toronto to attend the annual meeting of the Transfer committee of the general conference of the Methodist church of Canada.

An exhibition will be held on Thursday, April 2nd, at 8 p.m. in the gymnasium of the Y. M. C. A. The young men's elementary class has been cancelled for this evening on that account.

Mrs Edson E. Marshall entertained the members of her Sunday school young ladies' class at the McDougall parsonage. There were over fifty present. A class organization was formed with Mrs. Marshall as leader and Miss Patrick as secretary.

Seven days from Chicago to Edmonton is the record made by a car of freight consigned to the local branch of Armour & Company. The car left Chicago on March 18th and was unloaded at the Company's warehouse in Edmonton on the evening of March 25th.

By an inadvertence the name of Alderman R. J. Manson was omitted in the publication of the list of members of the Edmonton Liberal association executive committee, appointed at the annual meeting of the association.

J. A. Rudd, provincial detective, returned last night, where he has been with J. A. Fairley, license inspector, Innisfail, rounding up a number of houses of ill-fame and illegal liquor selling. Two women who kept resorts at the bridge, were fined sums aggregating $150 in all before Magistrate Turgeon at Hardisty.

D. F McArthur, Hardisty, who has been in charge of the work on the Saskatoon-Hardisty C.P.R. grade during last summer, came to the city yesterday. Mr. McArthur says work is practically completed on the grade, but he has no contracts on hand yet for the coming summer.

Central and East End fire stations responded to a call at ten this morning from Box 13. The fire was in the rooms of Mrs. McCully over Reed's tea store, at the corner of Jasper and Second, and had been caused by an explosion of gasoline. The hand extinguishers controlled blaze before much damage was done. This corner, owned by Robert Lee, has been the scene of a number of fires in the past three years.

The Immigration hall has some more new arrivals this morning. Two of them are from England and the other two are from the States. H. W. Butler and A. H. Parker, from Nottingham and Trowbridge, England, respectively, have come out to go on ranches. They have had a certain amount of experience in cattle breeding, and would like to follow it up. P. Bieler, of Minnesota, has been a farmer for the past five years, going to the States from Germany. He has come out to take up a homestead, and will bring his wife and family in the summer. The last named registered was the signature of Wolfgang Heherl, wife and four children, from St. Louis. Five years ago he was working in a brewery in Breslau, Germany, but not being satisfied with the country, emigrated to St. Louis, where he has been working in the Anheuser Busch brewery. Having heard of the Canadian west through the shipments of the bottled beer that were sent, he and two brothers decided to come and settle. The two brothers came last fall, and are located in Morinville, where Mr. Heherl expects to go.

(From Friday's Bulletin.)

The members of the joint young men's society of the church of Strathcona intend closing their season by a mock trial a week from to-night. This will take the place of the mock parliament. The trial will be a breach of promise suit. J. R. Lavell will likely be judge and Charles Grant and A. L. Marks the counsel for the prosecution and the defence respectively.

At the Strathcona rink last night the young ladies hockey team, known locally as the Monsoons, met another team captained by Miss Sophie Sutherland and went down to defeat by a score of 3 to 1. A game between the druggists of Edmonton and Strathcona resulted in a victory for Strathcona by a score of 6 to 2. Scotty McLeod was referee in the first and Art. Ellis in the second.

Rev. J. C. Bowen is still confined to his bed with a slight attack of pleurisy and will not be able to occupy his pulpit on Sunday. The supply has not yet been arranged.

At the Grandin street school this evening, the students will give a concert in the Assembly Hall. The program will include several numbers by Mr. Jefferies and Miss Wilson, well-known elocutionists.

Miss Bate, of Lindsay, Ont., is visiting in the city, the guest of her aunt, Mrs. Rankin.

Robert McKernan was taken to the Strathcona Hospital yesterday afternoon. Mr. McKernan had appendicitis some time ago and was on the road to recovery when complications set in and his return to the hospital was necessary.

The body of Mrs. Loveberry, who died recently in Seattle, was brought to the city yesterday and will be interred in Strathcona cemetery. The deceased's parents live in Strathcona.

It is probable that the contract for the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway bridge across the Pembina river, west of the city will be let shortly. It is understood that work will be commenced on this bridge as soon as possible in order to complete it by the time the steel is laid west of Edmonton. The Pembina river bridge is not so large as the Clover Bar, Battle river or Saskatoon bridges. The river gorge is narrow, but the banks are very high and almost perpendicular and are composed of soft sand stone. It is understood that a party will leave the city the first of next week for the vicinity of the bridge.

During the absence of Inspector Worsley, of the R.N.W.M.P. in Lethbridge, the barracks in this city will be in charge of Staff-Sergeant Sweetapple. Sergeant Munroe is also absent from the city.

Robert H. Aitchifou, a C. N. R. brakeman, who boards at the Richelieu, was brought to the Public hospital last night suffering from an injury received in coupling cars. Three fingers of one hand were badly crushed. The accident took place in the yards here last night.

There were more new arrivals at the Immigration Hall this morning. They keep coming every day, and the more that arrive the broader the smile of Immigration Officer Sutter. Those arriving yesterday were as follows: John Frank, Cumberland, England; Ed. Carr, York, England; K. Johnson, Rosalia, Mass.; Jas. Parker and W. Parker, Lancashire, England; W. Emmerson, Twickenham, England; N. M. Barclay, Indian Head; J. S. Cowen, Edinburgh, Scotland; W. C. Kay, Oklahoma; G. Parling, Oklahoma.

A daring attempt to break pail last night was made at the police station by a man who was arrested yesterday afternoon. He was in the act of removing a coat from in front of Wagar Brothers when he was captured by Officer Haig. Last nigh the secured an iron rod and endeavored to break the lock and afterwards removed a number of bricks from the walls of the cells. The alarm was given by several other prisoners, and the man put in shackles. The two men who gave the alarm were doing sentence for drunkenness. They will be given their release for having raised the alarm of the attempted escape.

A pleasant event marked the return of Rev. Father Lemarchand, pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, who had been absent from his parish for several weeks because of a serious illness. Yesterday at the parochial residence on Kinistino ave. the ladies of the Altar society of the church waited upon the pastor, presenting him with a well filled purse and a handsome hand-made quilt. The latter was presented by Mrs. Dodds, and the purse by little Kathleen Dodds. A pleasing address was read by Miss Charlebois, president of the society, and Rev. Father Lemarchand made a brief, appropriate speech in reply, thanking the ladies for their kindness.

As the result of a wages case begun by Victor Cliff against a well known local contractor, James A. Powers, for $42, which he claimed was due him, an information has been laid against Cliff by his former employer charging him with the theft of a valuable ring. The wages case came on for hearing this morning and resulted in a verdict for $32, $10 less than the amount claimed. Powers in his evidence on his own behalf, testified that Cliff had secretly taken his horse from his stable one night when boarding with him and had ill used the animal, bringing it back early in the morning as if it had come through the river. He also had another serious charge against Cliff and this tale turned out to be the theft accusation.

(From Thursday's Bulletin.)

The Edmonton bank clearings for the week ending today totalled $640,625.26. For the similar week last year they totalled $896,709.94.

In chambers yesterday, before Mr. Justice Scott, J. T. Collison made application for service ex juris in the case of the foreclosure of a mortgage on the Alberta Hotel at Lloydminster, owned by Hornings, who resides in Saskatchewan. Miller & Robinson are the holders of the mortgage. The application was granted.

The first meeting of the newly constituted Senate of Alberta University has been called for next Monday by the chancellor, Mr. Justice Stuart, of Calgary. The meeting will take place at 10.30 a.m. in the Oddfellows' Hall, Strathcona.

Last evening the workmen at the telephone building had the Strowger plant all in position and this morning the wiring, which is the longest and most tedious part of the operations, was begun. The system of selection of lines and numbers when a call is sent in by a subscriber, is a most complicated one and the entire apparatus works with almost human ingenuity. The ordinary wall telephone instrument, of which there is one now set up in the office, consists of a box about eight inches square and six inches deep and is a much neater looking piece of apparatus than the old Bell instrument. On the outside is a disc with 1 althe digits upon its face. According to the number required the disc is pulled around to a catch for each figure of the number of the subscriber desired. The button is then pushed and the connection is made. All telephone subscribers will have numbers greater than one thousand.

A meeting of the executive of the Alberta Temperance and Moral Reform League will be held in Red Deer shortly, probably on April 4th. The chief object of this meeting will be to discuss the question of the league starting a paper in the province. The idea is finding great favor among the members of the league, who believe much good could be accomplished in this way.

H. M. Evans, representing a Winnipeg and St. Paul development company, who have extensive coal holdings near the Pembina river, leaves shortly for his home in Winnipeg. The company secured these coal areas last year and thoroughly prospected them and are satisfied that they have a good thing. No further steps will be taken at present, however, in the development of these coal lands as the company have decided to wait until they have the advantage of railway facilities.

HOT SPRINGS AT JASPER PARK.

(From Saturday's Bulletin.)

One of the most fascinating conversationalists in the West is at present in the city in the person of N. H. Jock, a rancher near the McLeod river. A grizzled frontiersman, ever in the van of civilization, impatiently blazing trail for the thousands who follow, Jock has pioneered it in almost every state of the Union, and some years ago settled in the district near the Yellowhead Pass. He has traded in furs, packed, prospected, ranched, and done all those things which the pioneer must do, and life in the city is to him something to be tolerated only for a brief time.

Seen by a representative of the Bulletin last night in the Hotel Cecil, Jock told of his many experiences. "I squatted on a portion of the site of the national park at the Yellowhead," he said, "and have just moved off to squat near the McLeod. There is a natural townsite there, ideal in every way. With fine hot springs in close proximity and surrounded by the grandest scenery, Fiddlecreek Flats is a natural townsite, and is bound to be used as such by the Grand Trunk Pacific company."

Mr. Jock described many of the wonders of the district, of the experiences, fortunate and unfortunate, of ranchers and stock raisers, who had gone into the district and attempted forms of stock raising at great expense and small results, told of the success which could be achieved in horse raising, and told some of his own adventures by field and flood.

THE AURORA LAST NIGHT.

(From Friday's Bulletin.)

Last night passersby on Edmonton's streets were delighted with the luminous dance of the Northern Lights in the sky. About ten o'clock they formed a radiant white canopy over the city, converging from all points of the horizon toward the North Star. As the minutes passed the lights grew more and more radiant and fantastic, their prismatic colors setting the heavens in a glow and throwing a weird light down on the quiet city.

Small wonder that the ancient Scandinavians and men of Viking breed, strong, martial and deeply poetic, believed this to be the flashing of the shields and helmets of the Valkyrie, the war-maidens, riding back to Valhalla, the palace of the Gods, with the bodies of the heroes who had fallen in battle thrown across the white steeds on which queenly Brunhilde and her sister maidens rode.

In Edmonton the unusual beauty of the aurora was matter for comment last night. Today a practical side presents itself to interfere with the routine of business life—the telegraph wires are not in good working order because of the electric atmospheric conditions that caused the Northern Lights.

PUBLIC WORKS INVESTIGATION.

(From Friday's Bulletin.)

The documents asked for by the public works investigation committee have all been got together and the committee are now ready to begin their sessions. The investigation will cover all the public works under the administration of last year and will include the trunk sewer, the telephone building, the isolation hospital, the street paving and the street car line. "Charges have been made," said the mayor to the Bulletin representative this morning, "that the work of last year was conducted with much needless expenditure and as we are beginning extensive expenditures this year the public should know whether the men to superintend them are capable or incapable." To this end the committee intend to probe deeply into all cases of alleged incompetence during the administration of last year and the committee is composed of Ald. Manson (chairman), McInnis, Armstrong, Anderson and the mayor ex-officio. The first sitting will likely take place next Monday.

MORE IMMIGRANTS.

(From Thursday's Bulletin.)

Immigrants are arriving in increasing numbers at the Immigration Hall, and the officials are kept busy answering questions and locating the new arrivals in quarters. Yesterday about twenty arrived, the majority of them coming from England. Every man of them is big and strapping, anxious to get out on a homestead and make a home for himself. The hall is beautifully clean, the credit of which is due to Mrs. Wiltsie, the matron, who keeps things in order. Those arriving at the hall yesterday are as follows: D. T. Cameron, wife and three children, from Blackpool, England; Mr. and Mrs. Horton and five children, from Staffordshire, England; Orlin McDonald, from Bucyanis, Michigan; A. Godfrey, Birmingham, England; A. Green, London, England; A. Johnston, Spokane, Washington; S. Patterson, Staffordshire, England; J. H. Wilson, Knox, N.D.; A. Blake, London, England; G. Wilson, Edinburgh, Scotland; James Farrel, Dublin, Ireland; J. Murphy, Cork, Ireland; G. Paull, Divide, Colorado; and Angus and George McLellan, from Vancouver, B.C.

THE WOLF BOUNTIES.

(From Thursday's Bulletin.)

The demand on the local department of agriculture for wolf bounties since the passing of the regulations some time ago has been so great that the sum of $20,000 voted has been almost exhausted and at the present rate will be entirely taken up early in April.

As it is deemed inadvisable to unduly exceed the amount voted for this purpose, all wolf bounty inspectors have been instructed to cease issuing warrants after the twentieth day of April next. Since the adoption of the present regulations providing for the payment of bounty on wolves, the sum of $21,674.40 has been paid to persons applying for bounty. Of this $4,628.70 was paid during the year 1907, and the balance, $17,045.70, since January 1st of the present year.

NEW TOWNSHIPS OPENED.

Three new townships will be open for homestead in Alberta on Friday, April 3rd. The survey plans have been received and are registered at the Dominion Land Titles' office.

The following are the new townships to be opened:

Township.	Range.	Meridian.
59	3	4
59	4	4
80	4	6

THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION REPORT

Criticizes Internal Administration of Departments of Marine and Fisheries and Public Works—Recommends Appointments to Service by Merit After Competitive Examinations.

Ottawa, March 26.—Hon. W. S. Fielding, when the House met this afternoon, laid upon the table the report of the Civil Service Commission. The commissioners find that the Civil Service Act should be amended in the direction of simplification. In the matter of appointments, the commissioners consider the present rule of placing the age limit for entrance to the service at 35, as too inflexible. They recommend that the office of permanent messenger should be restored. As to private secretaries, they recommend that when a clerk ceases to be a private secretary, his connection with a department should cease and that the practice of paying $600 per year additional to a member of the civil service, while acting as a private secretary, should be repealed. The commissioners consider that anything relating to leave of absence might be struck out of the statute and dealt with by rules to be laid down by the treasury board. They advise that the Civil Service Act be repealed and fresh provision made to govern examinations and entrance to the service.

Recommend Salary Increases.

With reference to salaries the commissioners consider that taking all in all the percentage of those employed in the public service in the lowest ranks are paid less than they would have received had they been employed in outside occupations and less than modern conditions demand. No efficient deputy head should be paid less than $5,000 a year. As to chief clerks, first-class clerks, etc., an annual increase of $100 should be given until a maximum is reached. With regard to lower grade officers and their salaries it is difficult to obtain proper assistance at a minimum salary of $500 unless the service is altogether received from Ottawa. They recommend instead of a minimum salary on entrance a relaxation of rule which would allow the entrance salary to begin at $700. They recommend that temporary employees be classed as in England as waiters, and as vacancies occur shall be promoted. There should be below the deputy head a rank of officers having special and technical qualification. In the matter of pay and promotion every officer in the service should be treated on his merits. Service should be entered free from political favoritism or patronage. Appointments should only be made by merit after competitive examinations. A permanent commission of three should be created to deal with questions of service and to supervise examinations, etc. The commissioners are of the opinion that somehow or other the immediate question of salary should be dealt with. They cannot recommend general increases, but they would suggest the advisability of at least taking votes for granting increases to deserving officials, and that for eastern Canada, both in the inside and the outside service the increases might be at the rate of 15 per cent. for officials whose salaries are under $1,500 and 12½ for salaries above that rate, and for the western provinces, where no doubt a greater need prevails, these scales should be 25 to 20 per cent. to the same proportions of incomes and all provisional allowances should cease.

The Militia Department.

In their report on the militia department, the commissioners point out that the expenditure has increased three million dollars in four and three quarters years, that the permanent and headquarters staff has been increased to about 220 men, sufficient, in their opinion, for a corps of 100,000 men; that in addition to receiving higher pay than employees of other departments the officials of the militia department draw pensions not only for themselves but for their wives and children; that the permanent corps number under 3,000 men; that desertions have been one in three; that only 40,000 out of 1,000,000 men in Canada between the ages of 20 and 40 came out for drill yearly; that rural battalions have no drill except at these annual camps, and that it is arguable whether the corps are as efficient as they were some years ago. With regard to the public works department, the report says that nearly all its employees are outside the civil service, and recommends that they be organized under definite regulations, so that their employment may be fixed and stable. The commission are also led to believe that in many cases works have been undertaken at the instance of interested municipalities.

Department of Marine and Fisheries.

The feature of the report is a criticism of the Department of Marine and Fisheries by Commissioners Fyshe and Bazin. They condemn the system of correspondence of the department, and assume that the deputy minister daily signs hundreds of letters, concerning which he can know nothing, a system which is calculated to result in reproach and discredit on the department. There seems, the commissioners say, to be a huge redundancy of work which proceeds in a lumbering, haphazard way, giving rise to constant blundering and confusion. There is no sign visible of a single directing head or an intelligent purpose. A perfunctory, mechanical discharge of duties is the rule, with apparently no perception of any need for improvement. Lack of organization and organizing power in the department is shown by the recent overhauling of the accounting system, of which the report says the result has been greatly improved books as far as the mechanical form is concerned. The commissioners feel certain that under such conditions it must be impossible to develop high character in the service or rather to prevent a deterioration of what character there is.

Dealing with the outside service throughout the country the commissioners declare that it is wholly steeped in politics. While in Ottawa the departments generally are administered with consideration for public interest, in the outside service the politics of the party is of greater importance in making appointments and promotions than the public interests. Practically in no case is it possible to fill a vacancy in one locality by a transfer to another. Those who have political pull use it for what it is worth, and bring pressure to procure anything that may prove to their advantage.

In the purchase of supplies by the patronage system is strongly condemned, and the suggestion is made that purchasing agents, probably three, should be appointed at good salaries to make all purchases for the departments.

ORCHARD IS NOT TO DIE.

Trial Judge Recommends Omission of Death Penalty.

Boise, Idaho, March 26.—Governor Gooding will to-day receive official notice, as is required by law, from Judge Fremont Wood of the sentence of Harry Orchard, the self-confessed murderer of former Governor Steunenberg. Judge Wood, in speaking of the matter yesterday, said:

"By the statutes of Idaho, the common law is made the rule of decision in all cases not inconsistent with the legislative laws of the United States and of the state.

"In the common law, when the court or magistrate accepted an accomplice as a witness against a co-defendant, the law implied a promise on the part of such court or magistrate to recommend such accomplice to the merciful consideration of the state, provided the accomplice thus accepted as a witness was subsequently convicted of the same offence.

"The right, however, to such recommendation for clemency depends upon the accomplice thus accepted as a witness testifying fully and fairly to the entire transaction involved, and it is this fact that makes it necessary for the trial court to review the evidence of the accomplice before judicially determining that such accomplice is entitled to the recommendations of the court for any degree of executive clemency.

"The accomplice, Orchard, having testified fully and fairly when accepted as a witness, the court recommends the omission of the death penalty."

NO CUT IN DIAMONDS.

Conservative Policy of the Past Is Likely To Prevail.

New York, March 26.—With a view to correcting any misapprehension on the part of the public and the trade, the jewellers' board, three of whose members include important firms in the diamond, jewellery and kindred trades throughout the country, issued a statement to-day in which it is declared that there is no prospect of a reduction in the price of diamonds. The statement says: "The mining of diamonds for the consumption of the entire world, or say about 97 per cent. of all the diamonds mined, is in the hands of only two corporations, namely, the De Beers and the Premier Diamond Mining companies. Through a powerful London syndicate, the product of these two companies is sold to the cutters.

"On March 21st cable advices were received here from London stating that the De Beers and the Premier Diamond Mining companies had made a contract in which they agreed that there shall not be the slightest reduction from the present prices of diamonds. The statements of all parties interested in this important industry must undoubtedly evidence the fact that the same conservative policy that has always prevailed in the past will be firmly maintained."

CHINESE MARRIAGE PACT.

Sacred Public Document of China Discovered in Germany.

Berlin, March 26.—One of the Chinese most sacred public documents, a marriage contract of the reigning Emperor Kwanghsue, date February 26th, 1889, has been discovered in Germany and formally handed over to the Chinese government. The document had been missing from the archives of the Imperial palace since the visit paid to Pekin by the allied armies in the summer of 1900. It is supposed to have found its way to Germany in the keeping of one of the Kaiser's subjects, who happened to be present when the various representatives of western civilization helped themselves to souvenirs capable of removal. The marriage contract consists of a gorgeous piece of silk four feet in length, and a foot wide, which folds up in a curious manner until it assumes the form of a fancy wallet, richly emblazoned with dragons and other artistic emblems of the Chinese dynasty, and recites the solemn conditions of the sacred pact in Oriental terms. Ever since the disappearance of the document the Chinese diplomatic representatives in all parts of the world have conducted an exhaustive search, but for nearly eight years they were baffled. The document was not located until a few weeks ago in a village in Southern Germany, in possession of a tavern keeper, who had not the slightest notion of its tremendous import, and thought it looked as well on his wall as any multi-colored pill advertisement. Before the contract is sent back to China it will be carefully scrutinized by Oriental scholars and reproduced so that a copy may be kept in Europe as a curiosity.

A Small Boy and a Coon.

London, March 26.—George Nixon, a 16 year old boy, fell a distance of 50 feet while trying to poke a coon out of a tree, with the result that both his arms were broken and he is now in a critical condition as a result of internal injuries.

STRAIGHT LOANS SINKING FUND LOANS

LOANS AT 8%

ON IMPROVED FARM PROPERTY

APPLY TO

CREDIT FONCIER, F.C.

EDMONTON

J. H. GOWAN, LOCAL MANAGER SCHOOL DEBENTURES PURCHASED

FORTY ARE READY FOR UNIVERSITY

Dr. Tory Announces Number of Students Prepared to Enter New University in Fall.

(From Friday's Bulletin.)

Between 30 and 40 students in the province will be prepared to enter the new Alberta university in the fall of 1908 to take university work. This was the estimate made by Dr. H. M. Tory, president of the Alberta university, who, since his appointment, has visited the majority of the high schools in the province, and is thus in a position to estimate very closely the number who will be ready and willing to take university courses.

The question of whether classes of the new university will be opened this fall will be discussed and decided at the first meeting of the Senate, which takes place in the Odd Fellows hall, Strathcona, Monday March 30th, at 10.30 a.m. In view of the number ready to attend the university this fall, it is probable that the Senate will decide that classes shall be started. Dr. Tory will present a report on the work to be taken up at the beginning, and will probably recommend that first and second year Arts and first year practical science be the work started this fall.

The question of issuing a calendar of the new university will also be discussed at this meeting of the Senate. The material for this calendar is in course of preparation, and will be submitted to the Senate for their approval.

Another matter to be discussed will be the date of holding the first convocation. It is probable that this will be fixed for the beginning of the college year, and will be held in Strathcona in September, should classes open then. Prominent men in educational circles from all parts of Canada will be invited to be present on this occasion and deliver addresses.

Working committees of the Senate will also be appointed at the meeting on Monday, and the question decided as to the number on the teaching staff at the opening of the university.

In the event of the Senate deciding to open university classes in the fall, Dr. Tory, president of the university, will leave for the east on Wednesday on a two months' trip. He will order the necessary apparatus for the university, and will select suitable material for a library in order to have everything necessary at hand at the beginning of work. He will also visit several of the leading universities in the United States, and Eastern Canada, with a view to making a careful study of the building scheme in order to secure ideas that may be incorporated in the new Alberta University building. Dr. Tory will be absent for about two months, and on his return will bring his family out to reside in Alberta.

FARMERS' BANK TO EXTEND.

Deal Concluded by Which Operations Will be Largely Extended.

Toronto, Mar. 26—The Farmers' Bank of Canada has just concluded important financial deal with western capitalists by which its operation will be largely extended in the west and on the coast. A number of prominent western business men and financial men, contracted with the Bank of Winnipeg and British Columbia financiers, have subscribed for the unsubscribed stock of the Farmers' Bank with a view to making the latter one of the big banks of the west. The charter had been secured for the Bank of Winnipeg but has not been exercised. The taking up of the unsubscribed stock of the Farmers' bank by those behind the Bank of Winnipeg will bring the subscribed capital of the Farmers' bank to $1,000,000. It is the intention to have five directors elected from Winnipeg and the west. The branch will be opened in Winnipeg within two or three months, and branches in the principal places in the west, as soon as business and capital will warrant. Col. James Munroe, M.L.A. for South Oxford, will continue as president of the bank and W. R. Traverse general manager. The vice-president will be a prominent Winnipeg business man.

The Farmers' Bank of Canada started business on Jan. 2, 1907. The directors and officers were as follows: Lieut. Col. R. R. McLennan, hon. president; Dr. W. Nesbitt, president; Lieut. Col. James Munro, M.L.A., vice-president; Robert Noble, Allan Eaton, W. G. Sinclair, John Gilchrist, N. M. Devean, A. Groves.

At the present time the hon. president is the Right Hon. Viscount Templeton. The place of N. M. Devean was taken by R. E. Menzie. Burling Gunby was also made a director. The London committee is the Right Hon. Viscount Templeton, Sir Charles Evan Smith, K.C.B., C.S.I. and C. and Henry Higgins. The last bank statement gave the bank's capital as being $455,069 and subscribed $638,790. On February 29th its time deposits were $116,735 and demand $537,681. Its current loans aggregated $609,646. The head office of the bank is in Toronto and the general manager is W. R. Travers. It has seventeen branches and nine sub-agencies.

TO MAKE OFFER FOR BELL PLANT

Hon. W. H. Cushing, Armed With Valuation of Line, May Make Offer of Purchase.

(From Wednesday's Bulletin.)

That a definite offer will shortly be made on behalf of the Alberta government to purchase the plant of the Bell Telephone Company in Alberta is now practically assured. It is understood that Hon. W. H. Cushing, minister of public works, is now on his way east and will meet General Manager Size, of the Bell Company, in Montreal, to make a definite proposal regarding the purchase. Nor will Mr. Cushing be in the position of Premier Roblin of Manitoba or Hon. Robert Rogers in their negotiations with the Bell Telephone Company. In spite of the lack of co-operation by the Bell company, the agents of the Alberta government have made a careful inventory of the Bell plant in the province and have reported on the exact condition of the line in the province. The line has been found to be in good condition, and Mr. Cushing in making an offer will have the exact valuation of the plant at hand.

The result of these negotiations will be awaited with interest by Albertans. The Bell company have already intimated their willingness to dispose of their plant in Alberta, and if the price offered is satisfactory it is possible that the deal will be closed shortly.

NO UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE.

In Germany—Von Buelow Explains the Reason for its Non-Institution.

Berlin, Mar. 26—Speaking in the Reichstag today, Chancellor Von Buelow gave another negative reply to the proposal for a secret and universal suffrage for the election of members to the Prussian and other diets. "Such a course," he declared, "would mean that one of the states belonging to the federation would obtain an overwhelming influence in the decisions of the federal council." He asserted that many members of the Reichstag, who were not fetish worshippers, were opposed to universal suffrage. Amid laughter, the chancellor compared the situation in various of the states of the empire where they do not enjoy universal suffrage with the condition of Hayti, where manhood suffrage existed, asking which was the better off. He explained that the separate states were different from the empire. Each state had its local questions to decide, whereas the Reichstag dealt with the more important affairs of the empire.

EXPECTS A GOOD SEASON.

C.P.R. Land Sales Fell Off During Stringency, But No Reductions.

Montreal, March 26.—F. T. Griffin, land commissioner, of the Canadian Pacific railway, arrived in the city this morning from Winnipeg to confer with the executive regarding plans for coming season. He says the money stringency has caused considerable falling off in sales of land in the West, and that very few transactions, comparatively speaking, are now being put through. The price of land, however, shows no tendency toward reduction, will be maintained at fully last season's figures, even if it does not increase. As far as his department is concerned the coming season will not be a phenomenal one, but there is every indication that business will be good, nevertheless. The future of the company's colonization work this year will be the opening up of new areas by lines now being constructed in the heart of Saskatchewan.

War Vessels for Hayti.

Washington, D.C., Mar. 27—Two additional war vessels have been ordered to Hayti, following a conference of officials of the state and navy departments. As the DesMoines already had been sent to the scene of the recent outbreak, which endangered the lives of foreigners on the island, the United States will be represented by three warships in Haytian waters. The exact nature of the disquieting news from Hayti, the receipt of which brought about the precautionary step, was not disclosed by the state department.

New Cabinet In Japan.

Tokio, March 25.—A reorganization of the Japanese cabinet has been effected. The following appointments were announced yesterday morning: Minister of justice, Baron Senge; former governor of Tokio; minister of communications, Viscount Hotat; minister of finance, M. Matsuda; minister of the interior, M. Hara. This constitutes a coalition cabinet, and it is stated that no further changes are expected.

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SEMI-WEEK

VOLUME V.

250,000 MINERS TO QUIT TONIC

Failure to Reach Agreement Operators Will Result in C Down of Many Mines.

Indianapolis, March 31.—A 250,000 union coal miners wil down their picks and shovels i souri, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma kansas and Texas tonight and will not return to work until tract has been signed by the ope In addition to these many work Indiana, Michigan, West Virgin Kentucky may cease their Illinois miners, it is reported Springfield, were willing to co work pending an agreement, bu operators decided to close down April 15th.

It is now thought the miners operators will have agreed by night. This same action will be by the Pittsburg district oper There is no question of wage or ciple at stake in the move, and, nically, the miners state they wi be on strike but will merely ces work because the contracts, exce in Indiana and Illinois, show no intention of meeting and treating them. Contracts under which coal workers now are bound to re in the shafts will expire at mid and no provision has been ma the majority of fields for the ope of the coal properties. The perm contract has again been put into Attempts are being made, in jin sions of miners and workers at Haute and Pittsburg, to frame some temporary agreement to pre a shut down, but so far neither ing has been successful.

Looking For An Easy Grade.

Bulletin Special.

Calgary, March 30.—A few days a despatch was sent out from Co It read as follows: "Engineer W sen and a party of two men are eastward of here towards Ma north of the Old Man river on a pr inary survey from Michel to Cal He is after a grade that will e them to haul sixty loaded cars thr the Crow's Nest Pass, whereas the R. are only able to handle eig ca."

WINNIPEG MAY TAKE OVER STREET RAILW

Meeting of City Council Will Con Purchase of Street Railway as ing Concern—Mackenzie Says Will Not Sell.

Winnipeg, March 30.—A very defined rumor has been current day to the effect that to-night's council meeting will be made me able by the disclosure of certain gotiations which have been goin for some time in secret, whereb is proposed that the City of Winn will take over the Winnipeg Ele Railway Company as a going conc including the plant and the ro stock of the street railway, the works and mains and the ele lighting system with which, of cou would necessarily be included the power plant just completed by Mackenzie and Mann interests at Du Bonnet at a cost of several lions.

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