WATER AND ELECTRIC POWER.

We believe it is now generally admitted that the problem of adequate water supply for the Victoria of to-day and of the future must be considered immediately and seriously by our civic representatives and a comprehensive scheme submitted to the people for their approval. The matter is a momentous one. In the solution a large sum of money will have to be spent, and therefore no action can possibly be taken except on the advice of acknowledged authorities having the fullest facilities for studying the local conditions.

For various reasons, apart from the admitted paucity of supply for all purposes to the districts served by the present system, must the water works be remodelled without delay. A large part of the city is denied the right of participating in the benefits the works are supposed to confer, and on account of which all the citizens are taxed proportionately. It may be urged that as the restricted system is applied to the raising of revenue for general purposes, the people of Victoria West have no substantial grievance. That is a matter that can only be determined by consideration of the scale of charges in force and the nature of the service given by the private company. And in any case it is now universally admitted that the water supply of a city should be controlled absolutely by the corporation. Also it is conceded by authorities that an adequate supply of the chief requisite of healthy urban life should be turned into every household at cost price; that revenue raised by taxing water is gathered in the most inequitable manner possible almost. That is to say, it is considered so in these days of striving to apportion burdens in the fairest possible manner.

There is another feature of municipal control of what is termed natural monopolies and of the extension of Victoria's water supply that is worthy of consideration. Electricity is the great motive power to-day. It will be in a more marked degree the motive power of the future, chiefly for the reason that it can be distributed with such great facility. In controlling their own water supply municipalities will have at their disposition in some instances great potential sources of manufacturing activity. There are water powers of great potentiality in the neighborhood of Victoria. Toronto is seriously considering the question of gathering electrical energy from the waters of Niagara and distributing it for the benefit of the city in the encouragement of manufacturing industries. What Toronto can do at very long range Victoria ought to be able to do at much shorter range. Why should resources of such value be left for utilization entirely by private corporations? There was a time when the Ontario Legislature seemed to be of the opinion that municipalities should be denied rights which were freely accorded private corporations and individuals. At the conventions of the two parties lately held in Toronto it was quite apparent that at last the politicians had grasped the significance of public opinion. The Legislature of British Columbia has disposed of all provincial resources in sight to corporations. A generation has arisen which will be on its guard against such wanton sacrifices. If Victoria in providing a water supply can also secure the right to store up an abundance of electrical energy at the source of such supply, the question of cost might be shorn of some of its terrors for the timid.

WEST HASTINGS CASE.

The Colonist speaks falsely and with full knowledge of the falsity of its remarks when it says that the Ontario government, upon which should devolve the duty of prosecuting the case, is taking no part in pursuing those who are alleged to have conspired against the will of the electorate of West Hastings. The officials of the Ontario government and of the Dominion government are working together upon the case. There is much that is mysterious in it. We can fully believe the assertion that there are some sensations yet to be "pulled off." Here we have one brother with a grievance against another as well as a feeling that he has been wronged by the Ontario government, which refused to remit a fine imposed upon him for selling liquor without a license. The brother, with resentful feelings conspires with a coterie of Conservatives to ruin the brother who is a candidate for the constituency of West Hastings for the House of Commons. The brother with ambitions, apparently without moral sense, and certainly without common sense if all that is alleged against him be true, conspired to defeat the will of the electorate by means of what has been termed "trick ballot boxes." So many conflicting stories have been told about these bogus boxes that the anxious inquirer for the truth must wait in patience for further revelations before making up his mind as to the veracity of the various witnesses.

Mr. E. Gus Porter, M. P., telegraphed a story all over the country on election day that a score or two of the boxes were in existence. We are not sure whether one has been found. It is quite certain that not one was used. The officials of the Dominion government performed their duties so faithfully, according to the testimony of hostile witnesses, that to introduce one of the machines into a polling booth was an impossibility. Other witnesses for the prosecution are agreed that the trick could not have been played upon the boxes without any scrutineer observing the suspicious workings of the levers. When all the facts have been ascertained—and be it noted that there are two governments concerned which are fully determined to get at the truth—when it has been demonstrated that the intent of Lott and his fellow-conspirators was felonious, such punishment will be inflicted as will tend to convince unscrupulous politicians that tampering with ballot boxes is a crime against the commonwealth which must be put down regardless of consequences to the offenders.

At the same time, it may be well to suspend judgment until the case has been sifted. Charges of crooked work were laid against voters in Montreal. The courts ordered the discharge of the suspects with entire costs to the prosecution. Even if Lott and the others charged with conspiracy be convicted, the fact will remain that their designs were frustrated by the vigilance of the Dominion election officials, and that the federal contest under Liberal auspices was one of the cleanest ever fought in any country.

W. J. Bowser, M. P. P., who acts in the Legislature as though wisdom made her habitation right in his chair, is being sued in the courts for libel. The suit in itself is a marvel, if not actually a miracle. Newspapers are usually the victims of the law of libel and of court costs. But the astonishing feature of the proceedings in the case against Mr. Bowser thus far—if we may say so without incurring the risk of contempt—has been the confession of the defendant in the witness box. Mr. Bowser has publicly admitted that he knows nothing at all. In his head is a complete vacuum as regards any knowledge of the language he used when he committed the alleged libel against Mr. Wade. We hope this confession will not be brought up in reproach against the member for Vancouver when the members are again gathered together and wisdom has taken up her usual abode on the noble brow and bumptiousness exceeding that of a Tupper characterises the demeanor of Mr. Bowser.

* * *

Mr. E. W. Thomson, of Ottawa, contributes to the Winnipeg Free Press an interesting article on the possibility of a reciprocity arrangement between Canada and the United States. Mr. Thomson does not believe that reciprocity along the lines proposed fifteen years ago would be acceptable to the people of Canada. Reciprocity in manufactures is not feasible, but reciprocity in natural products could easily be arranged, in Mr. Thomson's judgment, if both the United States and Canadian governments were anxious to bring it about. But the initiative must come from Washington, and come soon, or the question will be side-tracked for a long term of years, since the new Canadian tariff that will go on the statute book in 1906 will be followed by a long period of tariff stability. It is said by tariff reformers in the United States that President Roosevelt will call a special session of Congress, and that tariff revision, with special reference to the case of Canada, will be the chief subject of discussion. But we have our doubts. The President, strenuous and bold though he be, would scarcely dare to lay hasty hands upon the special preserves of the trusts.

* * *

Australia is said to lead the world in radical legislation. Sometimes our sister colony leads worthily. A dispatch from Melbourne says a bill has been introduced in the House of Assembly of the state of Victoria by Mr. D. McKinnon, M. L. A., leader of the Liberal opposition. It is entitled "A Bill to provide for the maintenance of widows out of the estates of their deceased husbands," and it is designed to render it impossible for a man through carelessness, pique, or religious pressure to leave all his fortune to a charity, church, or public institution while his wife remains totally or partially unprovided for. The principal clause of the measure runs thus:

"When any person dies leaving a will, and without making therein adequate provision for the proper maintenance and support of his widow, the court (the Supreme court of Victoria) may on the application by or on behalf of the said widow order that such provision as to the said court seems fit shall be made out of the estate of the deceased person for such widow. The court may attach such conditions to the order made as it shall think fit, or may refuse to make an order in favor of any widow whose character or conduct is such as in the opinion of the court to disentitle her to the benefit of an order under this section."

There is every chance that the bill will become law.

* * *

The reasons the people of British Columbia refuse to regard seriously the demand for "better terms," are (a) because the federal government has fulfilled to the letter the terms of union; (b) because the McBride government will attempt to excuse its failure as an administration upon the ground that the revenue is inadequate for the needs of the province, and should be supplemented by further grants from the federal treasury; and (c) because the present Liberal government's programme contemplates the expediture of much more money for the development of this province than will be received in revenue from the province.

* * *

It is said the terminus on the Pacific of the Grand Trunk Railway will be at Laurier, B. C. Speculators have but to find Laurier and everything thereafter, including life's journey, will be easy.

A BALLAD OF THE FLEET.

A. Rumpoetsky.

O'er the motion of the ocean Rojestvensky picked his way,
When the lookout on the masthead cried in truly Russian way:
"English fisher-ships at sea; I have sighted two or three."
Curses then our captain showered, as he swore, "I am no coward;
Nay, for I will meet them here, though my ships are out of gear,
And half my men are drunk, yet I'll show the Russian spunk;
We are eight ships of the line, we will fight these fishers three."

So he spake, and he laughed, and drank more vodka, and so
He ordered our fleet to run on, sheer into the heart of the foe,
With a few sober fighters on deck, and hundreds of drunks below;
And our guns belched forth their flame, and occasionally instead
Of hitting the sea, we hit one of the three, and dyed its decks with red.

And the sun came up and the stars grew dim, far over the great North sea,
But never a moment ceased the fight of US and the fishers three,
For it seemed quite clear that there might be here a few stray Japanese,
And he thought, "It is well I should send them to hell, and so the Emperor please."
And some we sunk and some we shattered, and so they could fight us no more—
God of battles! was ever a battle like this in the world before?

For as soon as it was light, and we had hastened out of sight,
Then did Rojestvensky say, "How many men were killed to-day?"
And the answer came back, "None, for they never shot a gun."
Then he rose up and cried to every rank: "Let us quickly make for France, where I can get a chance
To telegraph the Czar, that at last in seas afar,
His fleet, by valor's might, this day has won a fight."
And we sat down on our decks and we drank.

—Toronto Varsity.

CHRISTMAS GIFT TO RAGGED CHILDREN.

To the Editor:—On behalf of the London ragged children I wish to express hearty thanks to all who have subscribed to the dinner fund. Already there is a prospect of a larger sum being raised than was forwarded last year. One very pleasing incident is the receipt of $6 from the Centennial Methodist Sunday school, which demonstrates the fact that the scholars are catching the spirit of their large hearted superintendent. All wishing to subscribe are requested to send in their subscriptions to the Y. M. C. A., 40 Broad street, before to-morrow evening, when the list will be closed.

To those who so strongly object to money being sent to England, based on the argument that "Charity begins at home," I suggest the thought that a gift from a child to a parent may be disproved of by cold logic, but such an act by a colony to the Mother Country warms her old heart, forming a love knot as it does between parent and child which is hard to break.

W. B. FISHER,
General Secretary Y. M. C. A.

SUICIDE IN LONDON HOTEL.

E. Chapman Leaped From Third Floor Landing in the Carlton.

London, Nov. 29.—Elverton Chapman, aged 23, whose home is in New York city, committed suicide last night at the Carlton hotel by throwing himself from the third floor landing to the vestibule, where he was shockingly mangled on the marble floor. His skull was crushed, one arm was shattered and there were other injuries, from which he died in terrible agony within a few minutes.

Chapman arrived at the Carlton last Saturday accompanied by his valet. After dressing for dinner last evening he left his room, and, upon arriving at the head of the staircase, suddenly eluded the watchful attendant, sprang forward, cleared the banister and fell three flights to the ground. The vestibule was filled with well dressed men and women who were proceeding to the dining room. The band was playing when the tragic incident occurred. It was all so startling that great confusion at once prevailed, but doctors speedily arrived and Chapman was conveyed to his room. He succumbed almost immediately.

Graduated From Oxford.

New York, Nov. 29.—Elverton E. Chapman, the young man who committed suicide in a sensational manner in a London hotel last night, was the son of E. R. Chapman, senior member of the firm of E. R. Chapman & Co, bankers, of this city. Mr. Chapman is now on his way south to inspect some of his properties in Virginia and has not yet been apprised of his son's death. The only news of the suicide which has reached this city, aside from the newspaper reports, came in the form of a private cablegram to-day. The cablegram contained merely the announcement that the young man died suddenly last night. It contained no details whatever.

Young Chapman was about 23 years old and had recently graduated from Oxford. He visited his home here early in the present year, returning to England during the summer. During his stay here and at the time of his departure he appeared to be in excellent health, both physically and mentally, and his friends say they are unable to account for his strange action in taking his life.

SPAIN'S NAVY.

Madrid, Spain, Nov. 29.—In the chamber of deputies yesterday, in discussing the proposed naval reforms, former Minister of the Interior Moret complained of their insufficiency, contending that Spain ought to have a navy as large as that of Japan or Italy.

Premier Maura, in reply, maintained that the situation of the country forbade the expending of more than $15,000,000 yearly on the navy, and said that no previous administration had done so much as that.

OBEYS DOWAGER EMPRESS.

Mukden, Nov. 28.—The Viceroy of the Chinese province of Honan is the first to carry out the instructions of the Dowager Empress of China in clothing his soldiers in European dress and cutting off their queues.

DIET OPENED BY JAPANESE EMPEROR

REFERRED TO RELATIONS WITH NEUTRAL POWERS

Ministers Will Submit Scheme for Meeting Extraordinary Expenditures Necessitated by War.

Tokio, Nov. 30.—11 p.m.—The Emperor opened the second war diet to-day. He rode through the crowded streets in a state coach, escorted by a troop of lancers and accompanied by the Crown Prince, his staff and some members of the imperial household, to the house of parliament, where both houses were assembled in the Chamber of Representatives. The diplomatic corps and many prominet government officials were present.

The Emperor ascended the dais from which he read the following address:

"We hereby perform the ceremony of opening the Imperial Diet, and announce to the members of the House of Peers and House of Representatives that to our profound delight our relations with all the neutral powers are continually growing more amicable.

"We have directed our ministers of state to submit to you a scheme for meeting the extraordinary expenditures necessitated by the war, together with the budget for the thirty-eighth year of Meije, besides other projects of law.

"Our expeditionary forces have been victorious in every battle, have repeatedly shown fresh proofs of their loyalty and bravery, so that the progress of the war has been so constantly to our advantage that we expect by the loyal devotion of our subjects to attain our ultimate object, and we will call upon you to discharge your duties by harmonious co-operation, thereby promoting our wishes and ends."

FISHING BOATS SEIZED.

Eight United States Sailing Vessels and Two Steamboats Fined.

Eastport, Me., Nov. 28.—Ten American fishing craft, including eight sailing vessels and two steamboats, have been seized by the Canadian fisheries protective cruiser Curlew and fined for illegal fishing in the Canadian waters off a tributary of Passamaquoddy bay, near St. George, N. B. The fishing craft were seized near St. George last night.

Three specific charges were preferred: That they had fished on Sunday; that they had illegally caught fish found in their possession, and that they had fished illegally in Canadian waters.

For the first offence each boat was fined $100 and for the last $200. In addition to this all seines and fish were confiscated.

It is understood that the fines will be paid and that the entire matter will be disposed of without involving any international questions.

The aggregate value of the craft is about $20,000. The seizure is the most extensive that has been made by a Canadian cruiser for many years.

Must Respect Laws.

Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 28.—Hon. R. Prefontaine, Canadian minister of marine and fisheries, arrived in the harbor late to-night on board the Canadian cruiser Vigilant. The minister is on a trip of inspection on the Great Lakes.

Minister Prefontaine was handed a batch of official dispatches when he landed. Among them were telegrams relating to the seizure of American fishing craft near St. George, N. B. In reply to questions regarding the incident, Minister Prefontaine said: "There was no particular significance in the seizure of American fishing boats in Passamaquoddy bay. If our American cousins break Canada's laws they must expect to receive the same punishment that would be meted out to Canadian lawbreakers. The incident may be regarded closed. There is no feature of it to call for international exchanges."

WILL REPORT TO COUNCIL.

Committee of College of Physicians and Surgeons Held Investigation Into Telford Case.

Vancouver, Nov. 30.—A committee of the College of Physicians and Surgeons this morning held an investigation into the alleged fake operation for appendicitis performed on the late Miss Hattie Bowell by Dr. R. Telford at the Burrard Sanitarium. The investigation committee was Dr. Walker, of New Westminster; Dr. Proctor, of Kamloops, and Dr. Fagan, of Victoria.

L. G. McPhillips, for the medical council, put in the evidence taken at the coroner's inquest, and Joe Martin, for the defence, put in the police court testimony.

Mr. Martin wanted to know who laid the present information, but no one vouchsafed an answer. Mr. Martin intimated he would appeal to the Supreme court if his client's certificate were taken away.

Later Mr. Martin started to lay an oral charge against Dr. Monroe, of Vancouver, and when told that he must put this in writing before it would be considered, he openly accused Dr. Walker of having stated that he would take Dr. Telford's certificate away.

This caused quite a sensation, and everyone talked together during the ensuing racket.

Finally the hearing was closed, and the committee will report to the medical council.

ARCHBISHOP OF PARIS

In Ill-Health, But Report That He Is Dying Is Denied.

Paris, Nov. 29.—Cardinal Richard, Archbishop of Paris, is in ill-health, and it has even been reported that he is dying, but this is authoritatively denied. His immediate associates say the prelate's illness is not serious.

ITALIAN PARLIAMENT

Opened by King Victor Emmanuel, Who Was Accompanied by Queen Helena.

Rome, Nov. 30.—King Victor Emmanuel, who was accompanied by Queen Helena, opened parliament to-day from his seat in the senate at the Palazzo Madama. The King read the speech from the throne, expressing liberal and peaceful principles, which were enthusiastically applauded.

The streets through which the royal cortege passed were lined with troops, and behind them the people were packed, while the windows, balconies and terraces were crowded with sightseers.

The sovereigns were accompanied by Prince and Princess Francis Joseph of Battenberg, Princesses Xenia of Montenegro and Elena of Servia, the Duke of Genoa and the Duke Urbino.

Their Majesties rode in beautiful silver mounted carriages, supported by a guard of honor of mounted cuirassiers whose helmets, breastpates and swords sparkled in the sun. As the procession passed through the streets the cannon of the castle of St. Angelo boomed, the historic bells of the capital rang out a welcome, the men shouted "Long live the King," and the women waved their handkerchiefs.

The hall of the senate was crowded, and there was an especially brilliant gathering in the diplomatic tribune. The vast assembly stood and applauded for several minutes when the sovereigns entered.

Premier Giolitti called the roll call of the members of the senate, who took the customary oath, and the King, sitting on the throne, read his speech.

The weather was magnificent. The passage of the King to and from the palace of the senate was a gorgeous affair.

The speech referred to the birth of the Crown Prince as "a much desired event, which has rejoiced my house, while the general manner in which the people joined in the good wishes, demonstrated the indissoluble union between the monarchy and the people, which has formed so great a part in the success of the country."

The King then announced the introduction of bills with the object of progressively elevating the condition of the working classes.

His Majesty concluded by saying: "The economic condition of Italy is making evident progress, as demonstrated by the high quotations of state bonds, the disappearance of exchange on gold, the increase in the deposits in the savings banks and the unlimited credit enjoyed by the treasury of the state. Arbitration treaties have been concluded with France, Great Britain and Switzerland, while negotiations for similar accords with the United States and other countries are well advanced."

NELSON CONFIDENT.

No Doubt As to Result of Fight With Britt—Last Night's Contest.

San Francisco, Nov. 30.—Discussing the Nelson-Corbett fight last night, Nelson said:

"At no time during the fight was I in doubt of the result. Of course, in the first two or three rounds I was just feeling him out, but after the third round had passed I knew I had him. Before the fight I said that Corbett was not game. I take that back. I am not marked up a bit. Britt? Why I'll win from Britt. He looks just like the rest of them to me, and I'll get him. I won a little over $2,000 outside of my share of the receipts."

Corbett said: "I was beaten fairly. There is nothing else to it. I have really nothing to say. Let it go out to the world that I say that I was fairly beaten by a man who is better than I am. He won, and he won fairly all the way."

James Britt said: "Nelson is a grand little fighter, and I realize that when I fight him in December I have got to put up a better fight than I ever did before in my life. I have had my eyes opened, and any doubt that I had as to Nelson as a card is swept away. He is the one man that I want to fight, and I want to say that all the bickerings between Corbett and myself are over as far as I am concerned, after this game showing he made. I am willing if he is to shake hands and call off all past unfriendliness."

NORTH SEA COMMISSION.

President Roosevelt Has Not Yet Selected Member—Dewey Has Declined the Honor.

Washington, Nov. 29.—An important meeting of the cabinet was held soon after the arrival of President Roosevelt from St. Louis. The appointment by the President of a representative of the American government who will be "a naval officer of high rank" on the tribunal which is to determine the questions which have arisen between Great Britain and Russia, was considered.

When the cabinet adjourned nothing definite regarding the appointee had been reached.

It is practically certain, however, that the selection will be made from among three officers, Rear-Admirals Davis, Chadwick and Sands. Admiral Dewey was considered, but he has let it be understood that he does not care for the honor. An announcement of the appointment may be expected in a few days.

Russian Comments.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 30.—The newspapers commenting on the Russo-Anglo North Sea convention, while declaring that rightly or wongly the sympathies of the United States are supposed to be with Japan, express the greatest confidence in the impartiality of whoever President Roosevelt may select to sit on the international commission.

Will Be Offered to Davis.

Washington, Nov. 30.—The President announced to-day that Rear-Admiral Charles E. Davis will be offered the appointment on the Dogger Bank inquiry.

AN INVESTIGATION.

Vancouver, Nov. 29.—The medical society is opening an official investigation here to-morrow regarding the operation for appendicitis performed by Dr. Robt. Telford at Burrard sanitarium in Vancouver in August on Miss Hattie Bowell.

HAVE MAJORITY OF POPULAR VOTE

RETURNS FOR RECENT FEDERAL ELECTIONS

Liberal Margin on the Total Vote Cast Will Be About Sixty Thousand.

Ottawa, Nov. 30.—The returns for the federal elections have all been received by the clerk of the Crown in Chancery for Ontario, with the exception of three or four constituencies which will slightly increase the Conservative returns. What have been received shows a total vote cast of nearly 400,000. Of these the Conservatives get 200,199; Liberals, 197,039; and Independents, 2,653. In the Independent list is Mr. Ratz, of Middlesex, who got a vote of 1,894 and was elected. The Conservatives have got about ten more members in Ontario than the Liberals.

When all the Federal election returns have been received from the province of Quebec, the majority of the Liberals will be close on 40,000 in that province. Returns so far received give over 35,000. In Nova Scotia the Liberal majority over the Conservatives is over 8,000, and New Brunswick will be between 2,000 and 3,000. The majorities for the government in the provinces west of Lake Superior will be large, so that, when all the returns are in, Sir Wilfrid Laurier will have a majority of the total vote cast of somewhere about 60,000. The Conservatives will have a majority in two provinces. In Ontario they will have a little over 3,000 over the Liberals, and of between one and two thousand over the Liberals and Independents. From Prince Edward Island all the returns have been received, and the Conservatives have a majority of 545. The total vote in the Island was 29,427.

THE SALMON OUTPUT.

J. Cudahy Denies He Is Backing Company to Secure Control.

Portland, Ore., Nov. 28.—It is believed that another combination to secure control of the salmon output of the Pacific Coast is being formed.

It is said that representatives of John Cudahy, the packer, have secured the properties of the North American Fisheries Company. These men are said to have been bidders at the sale of the Pacific American Fisheries at Bellingham, Wash., on November 10th, but were outbid by W. F. Peters, representing T. M. McGovern, president of the defunct Pacific Packing & Navigation Company.

The sale of the Pacific Packing & Navigation Company will occur on December 10th, and it is said that Cudahy money will prove a factor in the sale.

Should he be successful in securing the property, according to an arrangement which is said to exist, the successful bidders at the Pacific American fisheries sale will assign their interest to Cudahy's representative, thus giving him control of the largest fishing concerns on the Pacific Coast.

A Denial.

Chicago, Nov. 28.—John Cudahy, through his representative, F. L. Dening, of Dening & Gould, to-day denied that he was backing any company which seeks to secure a monopoly of the salmon output of the Pacific Coast.

ARRANGING FOR JUDGE.

Victoria Kennel Club Has Matter Under Consideration—Shows at Salem, Ore., and Chicago.

Members of the Victoria Kennel Club are busy preparing for the annual spring show. Of course it is too early yet to commence arranging details. It is the selection of a suitable judge that is receiving the attention of the committee of management. Already they are in communication with a number of Eastern experts, and if satisfactory financial arrangements are made it is probable that one of the best American authorities on dogs will be brought to Victoria in the spring.

Word has been received by Secretary McConnell of a show to be held at Salem, Ore., on the 15th, 16th and 17th of December, under the auspices of the Western Kennel League. F. Turner, of Victoria, has been appointed judge. It is not improbable that a number of local fanciers will enter dogs. This, however, is not definitely known.

The first show held by the Western Kennel League in the East will take place next month in Chicago. A great deal of interest is taken in this exhibition because it is the first time that organization has encroached on what has been considered American Kennel League Territory. Therefore it is the opening of the war that will be carried on all along the Pacific Coast in the spring.

THE WILL CASE.

Full Court, Sitting at Vancouver, Is Now Hearing Appeal.

Vancouver, Nov. 29.—Argument in the appeal in Hopper vs. Dunsmuir commenced this morning. Counsel figure on it lasting a fortnight. Judge Coyne, counsel for Edna Wallace Hopper, will arrive here tonight from New York to watch the trial.

Sir C. H. Tupper, counsel for Mrs. Joan Dunsmuir, commenced argument this morning, and at once directed attention to the refusal of Mr. Justice Drake to allow an amendment of pleadings charging that the will of the late Alexander Dunsmuir could not stand because it was not lawfully drawn according to the laws of the state of California. Sir Hibbert wants the Full court to allow the amendment to the pleadings in this particular on the ground that the plaintiff, or intervener, could not possibly have known of the circumstances before the action was commenced, and that the application was made at the earliest possible moment to the judge at the trial.

Argument on this point is now going on.

CANADIAN NOTES.

Dr. Lemieux Elected By Acclamation in Gaspe—Montreal Police Investigation.

Perce, Que., Nov. 28.—Nomination for Gaspe for the House of Commons took place to-day. Dr. L. J. Lemieux, brother of the solicitor-general, was elected by acclamation.

An Investigation.

Montreal, Nov. 28.—Chief Justice Melbourne Tait this morning announced that the city's request for a judicial investigation into the affairs of the Montreal police force had been granted. Judge Taschereau is appointed to conduct the investigation, which will open on Monday next. The investigation will cover charges of malfeasance among police officers, maladministration of police affairs and the general condition of the police force in its relation to public affairs.

To Pay Costs.

Montreal, Nov. 28.—J. P. Cook has been condemned to pay all the costs in the famous Cook-Blackley case, which was withdrawn last week.

Fatal Accident.

Stratford, Nov. 28.—John Conway, 22 years old, caught his arm in a threshing machine on the farm of Stewart Campbell. The arm was left bare to the bone and his scalp injured. He died of his injuries.

Death of John Bertram.

Stratford, Nov. 28.—John Bertram, president of the Bertram Engine Works, and a member of the transportation committee appointed some time ago by the Dominion government, died this morning after an illness of six months from a malignant disease. He leaves three sons and two daughters.

THE MACEDONIANS.

Revolutionary Committee Decided to Defer Rising Until 1906—No Improvement in Conditions.

London, Nov. 28.—A letter from Boris Sarafoff, the Macedonian leader, to a friend in London, says it is the intention of the revolutionary committee to defer the next general rising to the spring of 1906, after the expiration of the Austro-Russian reform.

Sarafoff adds that the reforms are utter failures, and the conditions of the peasants are worse than before the late revolution. Their homes have not been rebuilt, and the people are on the verge of starvation, and some of them freezing to death.

The insurgents, under Damien Gureff, are maintaining the revolutionary organization with seventy bands of ten to fifty men each, and are collecting funds in Macedonia for the next rising.

Sarafoff is in Bulgaria for the same purpose.

EXPLOSION ON LAUNCH.

Two Men Killed and Several Injured in Portsmouth Harbor.

Portsmouth, England, Nov. 28.—A singular accident resulting in the death of two men and injuries to a number of others occurred in Portsmouth harbor. Two launches, belonging to the British torpedo schoolship Vernon, were engaged in an instructional course of sweeping the harbor for mines, when suddenly an explosion occurred on board one of the launches, which immediately sank.

Those who were on board of her were thrown into the icy water and were rescued with difficulty.

Two are missing and several men were seriously hurt by flying debris.

The second launch was so seriously damaged that it sank later.

BELLA COOLA NOTES.

A great deal of rain has fallen of late, with high water, and some damage has been done to roads and bridges.

Merchants report a fair trade.

There has been considerable building going on in the new town.

The travel through here to Ootsa lake has somewhat abated. The late comers have decided to stay at Bella Coola and go in during early spring.

The forty head of cattle which A. Blaney, of Vancouver, shipped through here have arrived at Ootsa lake in fine condition. This certainly demonstrates that the road through to the Ootsa district must be built in from here. A trail that can be used as a sleigh road during winter will be advisable.

MONEY RECOVERED.

Five Thousand Dollars Stolen From Bank Found—Another Charge Against Weber.

Auburn, Cal., Nov. 28.—The money, amounting to $6,000, of which the Placer county bank was robbed last May, has been found in a cowshed on the Weber place. The money was buried in an old five-pound lard can. Adolph Weber, who is under arrest on the charge of murdering his parents, brother and sister, has been formally charged with having also held up the bank.

NOTHING TO FEAR.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 29.—The press is only this morning at liberty to comment on the Anglo-Russian convention, which is officially published in the Messenger. The document is well received, and the papers find in it nothing from which to take exception. It is declared to give promise of a full and complete inquiry, which is what Russia most desires and from which there is nothing to fear.

George Corder, an old Victoria boy, but now of Montana, is paying a visit to his parents in this city. Mr. Corder was brought up in Victoria and has a wide circle of acquaintances here.

ONE TABLET AFTER EATING and what a world of distress would be saved! Dr. Stan's Pineapple Tablets cure sour stomach, distress after eating, weight in the stomach, wind on the stomach, loss of appetite, dizziness, nausea, and a dozen other troubles traceable to bad digestion. One Tablet gives instant relief. A positive and pleasant cure that nature has provided. 35 cents.—128.