Ladies Want a Curfew Law-Vancouver City Act Amendment Goes Through Committee.

Victoria, March 25.-The legislature spent nearly all day in dealing with private bills. The Vancouver City bill went through committee with few changes, and Mr. Helmeken's resolution asking the Dominion government to establish a mint in British Columbia was carried without opposition. Some of the committee proceedings were enlivened by little tilts that prevented monotony and took up a great deal of time. The house was opened with prayer by Rev. J. B. Haslam.

PETITIONS.

By Mr. Williams-From Mrs. Maria Grant and others asking that the house give the cities of the province power to

give the cities of the province power to pass curfew by-laws.

Mr. Helmcken moved: Whereas the establishment of a mint in Canada will be of great benefit commercially and otherwise; and whereas the province of British Columbia is the most suitable province wherein such mint should be established; be it therefore resolved that the Lieutenant-Governor be requested to communicate with the Dominion government, urging the desirability of the establishment at the earliest possible date, of a mint; such mint to be erected in the province of British Columbia.

Mr. Helmcken in moving the resolution reminded the house that when Lieut-Governor McInnes was a senator, he was foremost in urging on the establishment of a mint. He would refer the members to the discussion that came up in the senate during the session of 1897, in which the whole matter was gone over at length. He referred to the large amount of gold that was being brought out of the Yukon and said a mint in British Columbia would have the effect of inducing the miners to send their gold here for refining and sale.

Hon. Col. Baker would vote for the resolution, but said in reality the establishment of a mint was more a matter of sentiment than profit, for the cost at KOOTENAY AND NORTHWEST.

NORTH STAR AND ARROW LAKE. On motion to go into committee of the whole on the North Star & Arrow Lake Railway bill, Mr. Sword moved that the committee be instructed to consider his usual clause providing for security for prescuting the work.

This was carried and the house went into committee of the whole on the bill, Mr. Stoddart in the chair.

The committee rose, reported progress KOOTENAY AND NORTHWEST. minted at the Royal mint was only 2½ per cent. and it would amount to probably 3½ if there was a mint established in Canada. What would be an advantage, however, was the establishment of a refinery in which our gold and silver could be refined and made into bars stamped by an inspector so that they would be received at that value by any bank in the world. However he was not adverse to the resolution and would vote for it. The committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Messrs. Rithet, Hunter, Walkem, Kennedy and Forster were appointed a committee on logging to meet the loggers' delegation and the house adjourned till Monday.

The resolution was carried.

MOUNTAIN TRAMWAY.

The house went into committee of the whole, Mr. Forster in the chair. On Mr. Helmcken's motion the following section

was added:

"The company shall commence the actual building and equipment of any tramway line which they propose to build within a period of two months from the date on which they are authorized to construct such line, unless the Lieut-Governor in Council shall extend the said time, and shall continue and prosecute the building thereof, and the works consequent thereon, with all due diligence until the same is complete: Provided always, that upon failure of the company to comply with the provisions of this section the Lieut-Governor in Council may cancel any authority which may have been given to the company to construct such section."

The committee rose and reported the

KOOTENAY AND NORTHWEST.

Southern And Northern Meet and reproduce the Northern And Northern Anderson Committee of the Hallange Company 101, Mr. Ordann and the Product of the Hallange Company 101, Mr. Ordann and the Hallange Company 101, Mr. Ordann and the Product of the Hallange Company 101, Mr. Ordann and the Product of the Hallange

## eraordinary thing that Mr. Sword who when the Kootenay & Northwest bill was up was so anxious to limit the time of building that road which was 1,100 miles long, to five years, was yet quite willing to allow this little seventy mile road the same time. It showed very well that Mr. Sword and his companions had some covert reason for showing their reason. well that Mr. Sword and his companions had some covert reason for showing their venom against the bill of which Mr. Hunter had in charge, though they had not a word to say against the bill brought in by a member of the opposition (Mr. Kellie.) Mr. Sword replied that had the Provincial Secretary not been so hasty he would have called attention to the advisability of limiting the time in this bill.

Hon. Col. Baker retorted that the sec

VANCOUVER CITY BILL.

laws.)
The amendment was lost.
An amendment moved by Mr. Cotton was adopted. It was to allow the city

Engineer Hamlin of Victoria Loses His Life Through a Klendike Stampede.

Discoveries of Gold Gravel on Swedish Gulch and Lake Creek on the Yukon.

Hon. Col. Baker retorted that the section would have passed if he had not got up. At the same time he explained that he had no opposition to the bill but just called attention to the incongruity of the condict of the opposition.

Mr. Hunter taunted the members of the opposition with going it blind and being ready to vote for any bill simply because it was brought in by a member of the opposition. "It makes no difference whether the road proposed to go to the skies or down below," went on the member for Comox emphasizing his remarks by pointing his pencil first at the painted skylight and then at the carpet; "so long as a member of the opposition brings it in they will vote for it blindly." He explained further that he did not object to the bill, but wanted to show the position the opposition took.

Finally the committee rose, reported Finally the committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again, Mr. Kellie saying that he did so to allow Mr. Sword to give notice of an

VANCOUVER CITY BILL.

The house went into committe of the whole on the Vancouver City Act Amendment bill, Mr. Hume in the chair.

Mr. Macpherson moved an amendment that in the event of the city granting a borus to any railway then that all the real propery of electors not entitled to vote on money by-laws should be exempt from additional taxation imposed by reason of such bonus. (At present a person whose property is assessed at less than \$300 cannot vote on money by-laws.) Monopoly at Skagway---Interior Mining

(By Bert E. Collyer)

John Piche, special dispatch bearer of impulse to join in the rush for a claim. the Dominion government, who left Starting with a single companion from Dawson City on February 26 with of Dawson, he apparently endeavored to ficial reports of the progress of affairs in utilize a short cut over the table-land was adopted. It was to allow the city council without passing a by-law to give title to purchasers from them of property coming into the possession of the city under mortgage.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments. the Klondike district, covering the per- lying between Bonanza and Dominion iod from Augus last to date, during which time 800 claims were recorded at Dawson, arrived at Skagway Sunday last and reached Victoria by the Ningchow yesterday. His information with regard yesterday. His information with regard to the outputs of the various claims is under seal and for immediate transmission to Ottawa. With regard to the contents of his despatches, his hps of course are sealed, but he gives to the Colonist

the most important and officially authenticated information of the recent won-derful strikes in the gold country that have come out of that region during sev-

The committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Messrs. Rithet, Hunter, Walkem, Kennedy and Forster were appointed a committee on logging to meet the loggers' delegation and the house adjourned till Monday.

"THE MAKING OF THE CANADIAN WEST."

"The Selkirk Settlers in Real Life," published last year, brought the author many requests to follow this up with a work describing the changed conditions which succeeded the breaking in upon the remote and secluded Selkirk Settler ment, with its unique and interesting life, of the tide of immigration from Eastern Canada. We are pleased to learn that Mr. MacBeth, yielding to the learn that Mr. MacBeth yielding to the risings of 1869-70 and of 1885, rapidly sketches the formative influences at work, and relates the prospersous condition of the Northwest.

It is a book of reminiscences, rather than a formal history. Mr. MacBeth, as a native of the old Selkirk Settiement, and as a successively student, lawyer, soldier, and minister of the Gospel, has been defined as a mantive of the Gospel, has been defined as a mative of the Gospel, has been defined as promising of the canadian and more promising of the canadian and more promising of the canadian defined the present prosperous condition of the Northwest.

It is a book of reminiscences, rather than a formal his

that immediate amputation was necessary.

Both were carried back to Dawson on the 25th of February and received the best of hospital attention. Dr. W. A. Richardson, formely superintendent of the Jubilee Hospital here, gave him his personal care, and nothing that medical skill or careful nursing could accomplish was left undone for him. It was the following morning that Mr. Piche started for the coast, and before the close of the day, a lighter-travelling prospector, also from Dawson, had caught up with the news that Mr. Hamsi in had passed away.

The government courier was consider-

fits in Dawson and were coming const-ward, depending upon the much-herald-ed relief expedition. What they will do now that it has been abandoned it is difficult to say. There is a prospect, though, that they may fare ill through their endeavor to take advantage un-doservedly of the charity of a sympa-thetic people. Major Walsh was met at Lake Bennet, where he has made him-self immensely popular. He is allow-ing the arrivals of last fall to stake claims, awaiting the arrival of the new licenses, which are looked for daily.

As to the autuat of the Kleodike this

INITIATING THE SANVICE. Scenes and Incidents of the "Ningchow's" First Completed Voyage in Klondike Trade.

The fine and fast steamer "Ningchow, under charter to F. C. Davidge & Co., Ltd., came into port yesterday mornodd passengers, of whom the majority were from Skagway. She had on the trip just completed—her first voyage in the Klondike trade encountered some

very severe weather on both passages, and yet made remarkably good speed, her steaming time being surpassed only by the "Queen" among the many craft nov engaged in the northern service. Nor was speed the only desirable

Average Pans of Nine Dollars on the Former

---That Nugget a Fable.

Customs Authority Delegated to a Private

Nor was speed the only desirable quality of the ship demonstrated during the voyage, the numerous testimonials presented to the captain and officers testifying eloquently to the attention bestowed upon all and sundry of the passengers. Not only had Captain Cross proved himself an able man at the helm—he is also a captain who knows how to make each of his guests forget the monotony of sea travel and enjoy, rather than endure, the passing hour. In Mr. Greer, the purser, the operating company have another energetic, reliable and experienced officer, always on the alert to oblige in his department or to assume some of those irksome little tasks of which travellers have unhapply so many.

of which travellers have unnapply so many.

When the "Ningchow" started out from Vancouver she had 505 passengers, 77 oxen, 156 dogs, 160 horses and 1,550 tons of freight, the largest passenger list and one of the heaviest cargoes ever dispatched to the gateway cities. From these figures it will be seen that the duties of the officers were far from simple, yet they were unvarying in their kindly, good-natured discharge of every duty devolving upon them.

One of the early incidents of the voyage developed at Comox on the up trip, the "Ningchow" arriving there during the afternoon on March 14th. Having coaled, she steamed out the following morning, and had but taken her course when the American steamer Rosalie was sighted, south-bound, and coming on under full steam. Captain Bender reports that he kept the "Ningchow" on her proper course until, finding that the Rosalie refused to recognize the established rules of the sea, he was obliged, in order to avoid a collision, to make a complete circle round and come up on the other side of the American craft. An explanation from the Rosalie will, no doubt, be required, for should such setting at naught the rules have occurred at night time, it would probably have been atended by serious have occured at night time, it would probably have been atended by serious results.

At Wrangel improved wharf accommodation was found to be very much required, while the town presented the features generally regard.

ed as characteristic of Skagway at the present time. Roberies, shooting and general acts of unlawfulness were reported as becoming unpleasantly frequent, the facilities for the preservation of good order being insufficient. The trouble was, of course, laid at the door of Skagway. It is to be expulsion of the tough element from Skagway that Wrangel owes the acquisition of this undesgirable element of population.

purser, Mr. Hart, freight clerk, and Mr. Nelson, steward:
"Gentlemen,—Allow us in this meagre manner to convey to you our appreciation of the many courtesies, etc., received at your hands while on board your vessel. Considering that this is your initial trip in these waters, you have done remarkably well. We left an id confusion, carrying the largest cargo and passenger list yet recorded for the northern ports, and one day out things were ship-shape and home-like, and we assure you we feel loath to leave.

right or day, to attend our wants and rectify any irregularities that might occur, speedily and without a murmur, oftentimes putting yourselves to many inconveniences; and our prayer while roaming the golden north will be may God be with you; that you and your vessel may have many such successful trips. (Signed) S. B. Campbell, Nico-

it, as many as ten thousand being reported strung along between the summit and Sheep camp.

At Skugway, the chief cause of complaint at the present day is neither epidemic nor general lawlessness, but ringrule operating to the disadvantage of all save the saloons and those "standing in" with them. The reign of Soapy Smith is now a thing of the past; the objectionable United States marshals have resigned; but the American customs officer who is the town's worst enemy, still rules.

It had been anticipated naturally that when the official notification was received from the treasury of the new regulation for the passage of Canadian bonded goods to Lake Bennett all difficulty and expense entailed by the employment of a \$6.00 a day convey would be removed. The notification in question was brought to Skagway last Sunday by Collector Ivey, who remained, however, just long enough to endorse the interpretation placed upon it by the Canadian customs officers in the town, as set forth in the interview with Mr.

As soon as Mr. Ivey was gone, the resident representative of the American customs service took the law and its interpretation into his own hands decreed that he had the power to fix is interpretation into his own hands broker firm a monopoly of privileges, and promptly endorsed a charge of five per cent, on the invoice value of goods for bonding charges, gave the Sylvester bonding charges, gave the Sylvester bonding charges, gave the Sylvester bonding that their indignation has not yet produced the desired change in the interest of justice. The customs of ficer finds it profitable to "stand in" with and transfer his authority to the Sylvester monopoly the other brokers.

interest of justice. The customs of-ficer finds it profitable to "stand in" with and transfer his authority to the Sylvester monopoly the other brokers are helpless, and the instructions of the treasury are laughed at by the all-power-ful resident officer. And there the mat-ter rests everything and was continually grabbing for it and until this could be done away with, universal brotherhood could not be accomplished. One heard in these days a good deal about the equality of man, but where was it? There was no mental, moral or physical equality to be seen. It was not until people got away from the impulses of the body and into the grander spiritual plane that the boasted equality could be realized. The soul was merely the divine part of man and it required development the same as the physical organs. The more the soul was developed the more universal brotherhood there would be. The speaker believed that by the development of the divine that is in him man could become a God. Paul said that God was in man and why could He not be brought out. The speaker said that when he was a boy he had the idea, acquired through tuition, that God was a man with long whiskers sitting on a throne, which idea was all rubbish. God was in everything. This earth was merely a school in which the soul gathered experience to take away with it.

At the conclusion of his lecture Mr. Harding invited anyone in the audience to ask questions. One of the questions asked was, "What has theosophy to offer which Christianity has not?" The speaker replied that it had nothing. Theosophy, he said, had no quarrel with Christianity. Theosophists merely wished Christianity to asked them to follow His teachings. This the Christians seemed to lose sight of. The lecturer said the kind of prayer he believed in was to be doing something instead of putting up selfish petitions to the Creater said the kind of prayer he believed in was to be doing something instead of putting up selfish petitions to the Creater saking Him to do things which they for it and until this could be done ful resident officer. And there the matter rests.

On the arrival of the Ningchow at the dock she was boarded by Mr. J. Whiteside, of Ha M. Customs, who proceede to post conspicuously in different parts of the ship the following:

Canadian Customs Notice.

The new Washington regulations bearing date of February 2, 1898 are not yet in force. Importers of Canadian goods are required to employ a broker; his fees are twice the invoice value, plus duty, at 2 per cent. In addition, a special convoy must accompany goods across American territory, his wage being \$6.000 per diem and board. All persons desiring further information are requested to call at the Occidental Hotel, where Canadian customs officials are quartered.

quartered.
W. A. Hall. J. G. Whiteside,
H. M. Customs. H. M. Customs.
Mr. Whiteside then outlined the situation for the Colonist as follows:
"On the arrival of Canadian goods as

Mr. Whiteside then outlined the situation for the Colonist as follows:

"On the arrival of Canadian goods at Skagway, they are immediately placed in warehouse. Consignees have then to employ a broker to see the goods through the customs; said broker also files a bond for safe delivery. The fees for filing of indemnity bond and brokerage are twice the invoice value plus duty at 2 per cent. In addition a convoy must accompany the goods across the disputed territory, his wage being \$6,00 per diem and board.

"There are three brokers at Skagway—Mr. Garfield, Mr. Lyons and Mr. Sylvester. On the morning of my arrival I found that Mr. Sylvester, a moncpolist at Skagway, had literally sole control of bonding privileges. The two other gentlemen who heretofore were accepted are now shut out entirely. The Washington instruction dated February 2, 1898, has not been in force; nor does there seem to be any possibility for their being put into force.

"This morning"—Monday last—"at 8:30, I found these regulations were not and could not be put in force. Mr. Sylvester has full control of the situation and has for his own personal ends and at his own expense employed a man to act as deputy collector at Lake Bennett, said gentleman having barred out the two smaller brokers, and is now King of Skagway.

"The situation at 12 noon is as follows: Importers of Canadian goods roust go to Sylvester in order to have their goods cleared of the custom house. His fees are five per cent. On invoice velue—\$10,000 up, one per cent. Then he (the consignee) puts up an amount of money (say \$200), and in return receives. His fees are five per cent. On invoice value—\$10,000 up, one per cent. Then he (the consignee) puts up an amount of money (say \$200), and in return receives a check payable at Lake Bennet for the same amount, to be refunded on demand, providing goods have not of supplies being opened, used or destroyed on the journey; the American duty has to be paid to this private agent of Mr. Sylvester, who will deduct from the face value of the check payable at Bennett and given at Skagway."

"I am an American and the state of affairs here to-day is, I must say, a disgrace to my own or any government that would permit them. Hold-ups and murders in broad daylight, and the worst robbers after all, the so-called officers of the law. There are three distinct rings here—the United States marshal ring, the Soapy Smith ring, and last, but strongest, the customs house ring. What

of conveniences; and our perger while to make good and provided the golden north will be may be considered to the provided the continuence of the

With a Rival

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The Canadian I

An Indian Seale Willapa H

The unanticipat Klondike forwarding some length in the last, appears to the transportation ing for other emplo craft. In this conn there is good prospe being offered to on her Tacoma-Se both the Victorian Olympian being natiquisitions to this se The Olympian, u

Kingston, was unque popular vessel on the water would still hown with the best of ly constructed rivals and comforts genera none, and she would friends among the partial stored to active life. also a desirable boat gantly appointed and ern passenger carrie sure to get her share fering.

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Whether, however, manent trade to main at a profit on the Purun is doubtful—the would induce the retitorian from the Nort operate against traffic And three steamers many for a balance of the books for any of a suggestion that a seating in the proposed opposition to the King of the railways enter culations and the Canspoken of as at the templated deal. Noth matter by the heads of the steamers of ANOTHER SIWA

coast was causing coment among the Ind when the Willapa call two ago. Like the n reports the rumor see substantial foundation, very general acceptant of the sealers of the lywere fallen in with by N. steamer, and neith heard anything of the Teresa. The Mary E Effingham for a boa taken 130 skins; the V Port San Juan, had a c The Willapa broug passengers, although sher than 86 from Victor to Clayoquot on the ou development work at a der way at the point proceeding from Albern the steamer while in c officer, touched heavily to Hand Inlet, and of Island shore line, Caj at dinner at the time.

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'FRISCO LINE The Umatilla from reached port early ye with 455 passengers, n which number debarks which number debarks
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A. Mahaffy, W. Alexa kin, Miss C. L. McKen Hanas, G. W. McKen Rev. B. Harding, R. wife, W. Beck and wife W. L. Stein and wife.

PETER SCHWEN A Sudden Attack

Quickly Ends Death came sudden Death came suddent Schwengers yesterda while he was sitting after the day's busines very quickly. Mr. Schparently in his usual returned home at six afterwards he had a hemorrhage of the lun bursting of one of the sels, death resulting it even before medical a once summoned, could The deceased was we toria, having resided he toria, having resided h
ily since 1887. He b
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Prussia and was the
late Peter Schwengers
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Mr. Schwengers w
known here as one of
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players of the coast a ter of a century ago rank among chess world and after comi lumbia did much tow the Victoria chess ch widow and five child loss and to them will pathy of very many

The Dispute Between and Centre Sta

Another move in the Another move in the important mining suit Mask and Centre Star yesterday before Mr. The Centre Star and at Rossland were both old mining act, which location to follow the side lines of the claim, the prior location, is