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PREFERENCES

PERSONAL GOSSIP.

The dance given by the ladies of St. James' Church in their hall last Wednesday evening was pronounced by all who had the pleasure of being present a brilliant success, in fact it was one of the most enjoyable events of the season. The hall was tastily decorated with flags and evergreens, and light refreshments were served during the evening. The ladies of this church are noted for their affable manners, and last Wednesday they certainly did distinguish themselves. It is to be hoped that next season these dances will be repeated. Among the many who worked to make it a success were Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Scriven, Mrs. Raymur, Miss Lawson and Mrs. Goepel. Mr. Boothe made an efficient floor manager. The music was furnished by Messrs. Cross and Pauline.

The Young Ladies' Sewing Society of the Reformed Episcopal Church gave a bazaar and concert last Thursday, which was well attended. When the tableaux were concluded a series of fairy pictures were presented, no less acceptable than the previous ones, and, with the singing of the National Anthem, was brought to a close one of the pleasantest affairs in the history of the church.

A concert will be given in the Victoria Theatre on Monday evening next, May 23, by Mrs. Couperous. She will be assisted by Mrs. Wunderdale and Prof. Armitage. The proceeds will be devoted to aiding the sufferers by the recent earthquake in Japan. The concert is under the patronage of the Lieut.-Governor and the Japanese Consul of British Columbia.

Mr. Ross H. McMillan, late of Toronto, arrived in the city to take up his residence here, as representative of a London, Eng., firm. Mr. McMillan who is an enthusiast in canceing, has brought his cance with him, and it is one of the handsomest in the city, besides being speedy.

Roderick N. Begg, of the firm of Kerr & Begg, left Thursday morning on an extended trip, which will take him to Chicago, St. Louis, New York and Philadelphia. He will be away a couple of months.

The Y. P. A. of the Baptist Church, at their meeting on Monday evening, will debate on the question of trades unions. W. H. Ireland will champion the affirmative and M. E. Cleveland the negative.

There was a pleasant little party at Mr. Gill's residence, Blanchard avenue, Monday evening. Amusements of various kinds served to while away the time without its departure being noticed.

A farewell social was given in the Y. M. C. A. parlors last evening, in honor of Mr. F. W. Teague, the retiring general secretary, who leaves on Monday for the east on a short visit.

C. S. Baxter, who returned from Glacier on Tuesday evening with Mrs. Baxter, was accompanied by his mother and sister, who will spend the summer months in this city.

At Christ Church Cathedral, May 17, by the Rev. Mr. Hewetson, Jessie Carlton McGraw and Alan Brown, both of this city, were united in marriage.

A. C. Knox. Miss T. Lemon, and the Misses C. and F. Hamilton, are a party from Pittsburg, Pa., who were registered at the Driard this week.

J. B. Ferguson, a former resident and business man of Victoria, whose home is now in Winnipeg, is paying the city a vist.

NO BOGUSBURG HERE

ALBERNI CIT

At the head of Alberni Canal, is coming to the front more rapidly than any new o'ty in British Columbia, owing to its many

NATURAL ADVANTAGES.

The SITE is unequalled, with its gentle slope to the harbor, good, natural dramage and an abundance of fresh water.

abundance of fresh water.
The HARBOR is the best on the Pacific coast, and will become the coaling station of the

North Pacific Squadron.

The POSITION is such as to ensure its becoming the comme cial metropolis of British Columb a, and the terminus of the Canada Western Railroad, making it the outlet to the Pac fic of the products of the whole of western Canada.

The WATER-POWER is sufficient for very extensive manufacturing industries.

ITS RESOURCES

Are many square miles of good agricultural land underlaid with large seams of the best steaming coal on the coast, and covered with valuable timber.

Brick, fire and terra cotta clay, white lime, iron, manganese and copper are deposited in vast quantities. Tin is found. The gold mining industry, at present, gives employment to

The waters of the Somass River and the Great Central a d Sproat Lakes are teeming with salmon and trout.

Fur sealing and the manufacture of dog-fish oil are, at present, thriving industries.

Buy now and get in on the ground floor.

O'NEILL & COWIE. GENERAL AGENTS,

104 YATES STREET

F. McINTOSH. ROCK BAY Goal and Wood Yard

Frank Deakim and wife, Rosina and Clara Deakim, and Frank Deakim, Jr., of Portland, Ore., are at Hotel Victoria.

Mrs. E. Blackwood entertained a num-ber of her friends at her residence, Work Estate, Tuesday evening.

The Foresters are arranging for a grand excursion to Vancouver by the Yosemite on Saturday, June 11th.

Mrs. Kate Davis, of Nanaimo, is visiting her mother, Mrs. O'Brien, in this city.

Postmaster Miller and Mrs. Miller, of Vancouver, were in the city this week.

Edward M. Parsons and wife, of London, Eng., are registered at the Victoria.

Mr. J. D. Roberts, of Winnipeg, is in the city for a short visit.

Mr. John Cochrane went over to Seattle

Has now in his shop the largest

Sp. ing Suitings

ever exhibited in this city.

Over 1,000 Pant Patterns and 500 Suitings have already arrrived, and more to follow.

Prices Down in the Basement.