

LAWYERS ON MARTIN.

But One Barrister in Vancouver Who Endorses the Queen's Counsel Job.

New Era Indeed When a Man Can Appoint Himself Head of the Profession.

Now One Must Kowtow to Attorney-General Forego the Silk.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Feb. 8.—Almost every law firm in the city was visited to-day by the colonist correspondent to obtain opinions regarding Mr. Martin's Queen's Counsel bill. With but one exception the strongest condemnation was expressed. The exception was from a member of the law firm of Messrs. Davis, Marshall & Macneil, who on being asked to express an opinion on the bill, replied, laconically, "The bill's all right."

All the other lawyers in the city, with the exception of one or two, expressed sentiments so unambiguous that a composite interview would read like the following: "What do you think of Mr. Martin's Q. C. bill? 'I wouldn't care to be quoted, but I don't mind giving you my opinion personally. Mr. Martin is simply legislating for Joe Martin and Joe Martin's friends. The bill will make him, while in office, head of the profession, and on retiring second only to Mr. Eberts. The Q. C. is appointed by the Dominion government and all worldly of that distinction, and the act disqualifies them from continuing to wear the silk in court scandals, unfair and unprecedented. Of course, all the profession know that the first two appointments made will be of Messrs. Davis and Bodwell."

There were some side shots worth repeating. A very eminent barrister once faced his remarks with a cunning smile. He said: "What's the use of the bill, anyway, outside its political aspect? The Q. C. in British Columbia has been without solicitation, but things have changed, and now legislation is being put on the heads of others a man who many of us believe has not the ambition or the energy to deserve the title of Q. C., while two others are securing the title on their personal request."

Here is another shot: "Martin has his learned friend Davis, but Davis is president of the Liberal Association, and Martin dare not overtake him. The terms of endorsement that Martin recently applied to Davis in conversation was: 'That establish the new party.' Davis wants to wear a silk gown, and his wants will be attended to."

U. S. ENORMOUS DEFICIT.

One Hundred and Fifty-nine Millions For Present Year—Nicaragua Canal Bill Must Wait.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Chairman Cannon of the appropriations committee of the house, in the course of a general debate on the sundry civil service bill to-day, sounded a note of warning against extravagant appropriations, and practically served notice that neither the ship subsidy bill nor the Nicaragua bill can be passed at this session. Although he specifically disclaimed speaking for any one but himself, it was plain to all that coming from the chairman of the appropriations committee, caused great interest.

Mr. Cannon made a general statement of revenue and expenditure for the present fiscal year, increasing Secretary Egan's estimate of the deficit from the revenue from \$112,000,000 to \$189,000,000, exclusive of the \$20,000,000 to be paid to Spain in the event of the ratification of the treaty of Paris. Mr. Cannon in answering a question, said that there would be no reduction in the war taxation for at least two years.

NICARAGUA CANAL.

London Shipping Interests Pressing for Guarantee of Neutrality.

London, Feb. 9.—The president of the chamber of shipping, at the annual meeting of that body, referred to the excellent relations between Great Britain and America but said there were certain questions which must be faced, for instance that of the proposed Nicaragua canal. He trusted that the foreign office would not agree to the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty unless the neutrality of the canal and non-preferential rates were guaranteed.

A GROWING FORTUNE.

Klondiker's Marriage in London the Occasion for a Staggering Estimate.

London, Feb. 9.—Mr. Alex. McDonald of Dawson City, Canada, known as the "Gold King of the Klondike," and reputed to be worth from twenty-five to thirty million pounds, was married to-day to Miss Margaret Chisholm, daughter of the superintendent of the Thames water police.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Amendment Rebuking Anglican Differences Rejected—Mr. Balfour Advocates Toleration.

London, Feb. 9.—In the House of Commons to-day after a long debate the amendment to the address in reply to the speech from the throne relating to "the preservation of that broad toleration which has been the distinguishing mark of the Church of England," and "deprecating any legislative attempt to cure the evils complained of by the mover of the amendment."

His Official Position.—The Struck-I might have helped you if you had stopped a little sooner. But when you told me you were an aid-camp in the army, I pass you up.

The Striker.—But that was just what I was. I sold pies.—Indianapolis Journal.

PLOUTING THE GERMANS.

Austrian Emperor Seeks to Drive Eight Million from His Territories.

Hanover, Feb. 9.—The Hanover Courier prints a remarkable article in which it says Emperor Francis Joseph had planned a coup d'etat against the Austrian Germans which was prevented by the death of the Emperor, but the Emperor still intends to extirpate or Slavicize the eight million German residents in Austria.

STEEL WORKERS' PAY RAISED.

Thirty Six Thousand Employees Benefit by Voluntary Increase.

Chicago, Feb. 9.—The American Steel and Wire Company have decided to advance the wages of its 36,000 employees from five to ten per cent. The increase will mean an increase in distribution of wages amounting to between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000 yearly. If the extra pay to labor should amount to \$1,000,000 per year, it would be equal to about one-half per cent. on the preferred stock of the company which represents money in excess of the total capital of \$40,000,000 of preferred and \$50,000,000 of common stock. The preferred pays seven per cent. No dividend has yet been paid on the common.

NEWS OF THE CAPITAL.

Parliament Likely to Meet on 16th of March—Conservatives Planning for Campaign.

English Settlers Served With Notice of Eviction to Make Way for Dutchboers.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Feb. 8.—Henry Dalby, Conservative organizer for Quebec, arrived in town to-day and will be here for a couple of days, discussing the proposed plan of campaign with Sir Charles Tupper. Mr. Dalby says the recent move made by Sir Charles towards strengthening the party in Quebec has, judging from communications received from various parts of Canada, had a most encouraging effect on the party generally. Naturally Mr. Dalby declines to discuss for publication questions relating to organization.

The ministers in town do not expect their colleagues to return from Washington before Saturday week and it may be later. If they return during the last week of the month notices will immediately go out calling parliament for the 16th March. It is not likely that the estimates will be ready then but as a lengthy debate on the address is anticipated and explanations about the new budget will be demanded by the opposition, the ministers think they will be able to have the estimates ready by the time this preliminary business is disposed of.

The dates of Sir Charles Tupper's meetings in West Huron have been arranged. He will speak in Clinton on the 15th and Goderich on the 16th. The election will be on the 18th.

The Minister of Justice has been advised that the American line has changed. The American line has been generally extended, and the troops generally are taking much-needed rest. The American line has been extended in the direction of the Philippines are in force at the villages of Pasig and Parañaque, probably 7,000 men. The latter, within strong fortifications.

FIREMAN'S FATAL FALL.

Slipped From Ladder at Million Dollar Fire and Fractured His Skull.

New York, Feb. 9.—A fire which started in the bag factory of Walter & Bell at 1 and 3 Front street, spread through-out the block. Firemen summoned by fire trucks were soon at the scene.

Bernard C. Blair, fireman of the first fire company, was overcome by smoke. Fireman Summers went up a ladder to get Blair down. Blair found him lying on the floor and carried him to a window. Blair partly recovered and tried to help himself down the ladder. The ladder was coated with ice and Blair slipped and landed on his head on the street, and his skull was fractured.

The total loss is variously estimated at from \$800,000 to \$1,000,000.

TORONTO CADETS' TRIP.

Tampa, Fla., Feb. 9.—The national military convention was organized this morning and election of officers took place. Major Thompson, in command of the Toronto cadets, was made an honorary member of the congress. Dr. McCracken, chancellor of New York University, was introduced by Governor Bloxham, and delivered an address on military action in public schools. The convention then adjourned until to-morrow afternoon.

AGUINALDO SEEKING TERMS.

Washington, Feb. 8.—There was an almost complete release to-day of the first startling news from Manila on Saturday night. This was brought about through the receipt of a bulletin from General Otis summarizing the latest results of the fighting he had had with the natives. The statement that Aguinaldo's influence has been destroyed and that the Philippine leader was seeking for a cessation of hostilities and a conference was most acceptable and was interpreted as an admission that he had realized his terrible mistake. It is entirely probable that he will be able to restore anything like the status quo, or obtain some terms as the same terms as were probable last week.

No one here now knows just what General Otis intends to impose in the way of terms. Secretary Alger this afternoon repeated his statement of yesterday that he had given the General no instructions since the battle and saw no reason for giving him any. He realized, he said, that General Otis, being on the ground and having received his first-hand information, was in a better position to deal with the situation than any one in Washington. "Should he ask permission, therefore, to do anything, he would grant it on permission immediately," said Secretary Alger. "Should he ask for instructions on any point," said Secretary Alger, "it will be given on his own discretion. In this view of the case it will be seen that no one here can

TAKING TO THE HILLS.

Philippine Have Had Enough of Fighting at Close Range Against Modern Soldiery.

Gunboats Shelling the Suburbs Causing Fires in the Outskirts of Manila.

Insurgents Must Lay Down Their Arms as Condition of Any Negotiations.

By Associated Press.

Manila, Feb. 8.—Last evening, as the Filipinos at Calocan were evidently massing for a night attack upon the American left wing, Companies B, C and I of the Twentieth Kansas Infantry were ordered to attack and drive the

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A CHARMING GIRL...

Has many admirers but no belle of the ball was ever more fascinating than the large display of Up-to-Date FURNITURE, RICH CARPETS and RUGS, HANDSOME CURTAINS, BEAUTIFUL CHINA, GLASSWARE, SILVERWARE, Etc.

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Write and we will be glad to send you a copy of our service.



WELER BROS. VICTORIA, B. C.

VANCOUVER'S BUDGET.

Crucies to Chinese by White Boys—Ager Man gets Four Years for Burglary.

Handsome Stone Church in Prospect—A Vancouver Boy at Maula.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Feb. 9.—Vancouver's Chinese anger chief, Lee On Youen, responsible for many burglaries cleverly executed in this city, confessed to Judge Boyle this morning that he was guilty of all the crimes he was charged with. Youen was sent to the penitentiary for four years.

The news of the suicide of Arthur V. Lely at Victoria was quite a shock to many in Vancouver where the deceased was well known. One man who knew him intimately said he was a hot-headed, impulsive boy, and if he drank at all became very disheathered.

Mary Williams, a colored girl who recently arrived from Victoria, was in the police court to-day, at the request of the chief who demanded an explanation of how she came to possess \$1,000 worth of silk and satin finery. The police were searching the house of a crook called Hogan but upon Hogan's street, for stolen goods, when they came upon Mary Williams' worldly possessions. Her explanation was that she had been given \$100 worth at a time. On this explanation she was discharged.

A year ago the C.P.R. reduced the rate on flour by 20 cents from Winnipeg to Vancouver but the old rate would go into effect. Flour advanced here to-day 20 cents a barrel.

Members are being invited for the construction of a very handsome stone church to replace the church of Our Lady of the Rosary. It is said that the C.P.R. funds will be one of the most imposing ecclesiastical buildings in the province. Funds may not be in hand to complete the granite foundation this year, but the building will be finished next year. The structure, it is said, will cost \$70,000 while the new church would cost an additional \$8,000.

A remarkable sale of seats took place in the Dog fenders in the most interesting of Jones' company. On Wednesday evening every seat in the house was sold for Friday's performance.

The Vancouver school attendance rolls for the month of February show an average of 839.

The school trustees have declined to accede to a request to sign a petition as a body to the provincial government, asking for the establishment of schools for instruction in useful and applied sciences.

Owing to the non-interference of the police Vancouver's bad boys are having a busy time with the Chinese. One poor Chinaman who had a few cents in his pocket peddling green groceries in an old baby carriage, was assaulted yesterday shamelessly. While ten or twelve boys threw him down and pelted him with snowballs, another squad of urchins ran his push cart over the C.P.R. tracks.

The remains of Gunner Charles Whittington, No. 3 Company, First Battalion, were yesterday laid at rest with military honors. There was a large number in attendance. The funeral left the family residence, 124 North Pembroke street, at 2:30 o'clock, a stoppage for service being made at the little Methodist church almost opposite on the same street. Rev. J. C. Speer, of the Metropolitan church, officiated.

Leaving the church for the grave, the hearse was preceded by the battalion band and a firing squad under the command of Sergeant Hoffer. At the grave the usual salutes were fired, and the coffin, when lowered, was completely covered by flowers.

The death of the deceased is greatly lamented by all his comrades in No. 3 Company, and in fact by the whole battalion, he, though being only 17 years of age, having won special honors at the last prize shooting competition.

QUEER FOODS.

The human race has at times devoured remarkable things. The Tartars, it is said, eat horses, cats and dogs. In China, birds, nests, rats and snails are considered good food.

Some of the old Egyptians were fond of crocodile steak. They thought wheat and barley poor stuff. The Egyptians loved, never eat beans or the head of any animal. Homer and Plautus have, and also liked fish, quail and turkey.

To the Jews we are indebted for our delicious salad dressing of oil, vinegar, salt, pepper and mustard. At the present time, potato, bean and dandelion, and invented the dressing to make the dish palatable.

Tommy-Papa, what is it time to do when the clock strikes twelve? Tommy—Then what is it time to do when the clock strikes one?—Jeweler's Weekly.

MANITOBA HOTEL FIRE.

Guests Had a Trying Experience Owing to the Bitter Cold.

Winnipeg, Feb. 8.—The scene of the Manitoba hotel fire was visited by thousands of citizens to-day. The ruin is complete, and the loss estimated at \$800,000. The insurance is probably half a million.

Telephone and street car connection with the south end is cut off. Mr. Nelson Crowe of L. Nelson & Co., Montreal, lost \$300 in personal effects. J. F. Ellis of J. F. Ellis Co., Toronto, lost between \$40,000 and \$60,000 worth of jewelry and stones.

Among the guests were C. M. Bircher, of Victoria, and R. M. Glass, of Vancouver.

Of the 400 occupants of the hotel none were injured, but there were many narrow escapes. The night was bitterly cold and frost bites were numerous among those who escaped in scant attire. Many prominent citizens who resided at the hotel during the winter lost their personal effects, the chief sufferers being James Tees, Wm. McKenzie and D. F. Sprague.

The building destroyed was acknowledged by travellers to be one of the finest in Canada. The hotel was erected in 1891, and owned by the Northern Pacific Railway Company. It was a seven-story building built of St. Louis pressed brick. The firemen fought hard, but the fire had gained too great headway.

The Northern Pacific waiting room, baggage room and express departments, despatchers