[From THE DAILY COLONIST, February 1.]

THE CITY.

THE vital statistics for January show a considerably increased birth rate, the births during the month having numbered 31. There were 29 marriages during the month and 21 deaths.

IN addition to the car of groceries shipped on Thursday to Rossland, Messrs. Wilson Bros. are shipping another car today to Kaslo. Messrs. Pither & Leiser are also making a heavy shipment to Sandon.

A. D. CREASE and W. E. Oliver of Victoria, W. DeV. LeMaistre of New Westminster, A. M. Johnson of Nelson, and J. R. Chambers of Rossland have passed their final examination and qualified for admission to the bar of this province.

JOHN GRAHAM, C. Braund & Co., W. T. Drake and Mrs. G. Winter are entitled to the grateful thanks of the inmates of the Old Men's Home for generous donations of reading matter during the month just closed; and W. & J. Wilson for a most acceptable gift of clothing.

THURSDAY night's fire at Spratt's wharf proves to have been a deliberate attempt at incendiarism, coal oil having been taken from the cargo awaiting shipment to the West Coast by the Mischief, and fires started both on the wharf and in the office. Thorough inquiry into all the circumstances of the case will be made by the police.

METCHOSIN schoolhouse was the scene last night of an Odd Fellows' ball, the second given in the building during the past four months. It was quite as successful as the first, and those attending from town—and they were not a few—are waiting for the third to be given. The usual preparations were made for the affair and carried out in a pleasing manner.

MRS. DORETTE DAYSLAND, writing from Eau Claire, Wisconsin, asks information of her brother, William Koerner, a stonemason sixty-seven years of age, who came from Germany in 1850. The writer does not seem to have any information that her brother ever came to Victoria, but says she has been hunting for him all over the continent.

CAPTAIN JAMES GAUDIN, agent of Marine and Fisheries, has received a letter from Lightkeeper Daykin of Carmanah, disposing of the question raised by the Puget Sound press in regard to the burial of the victims of the Janet Cowan disaster. The bodies were decently interred where they were found by Daykin and Macdonald, it being found impossible to convey them to the lighthouse.

MR. AL. SHIELDS, who for years past has been steadily employed at Mr. John Meston's carriage works on Broad street, is at present confined to his residence as the result of an accident which deprived him of the thumb and forefinger of his right hand. The mishap occurred while Mr. Shields was tending upon the jigger-saw, a recent addition to the plant but which has already relieved four of the employes of sundry thumbs and fingers.

JAMES BROWN, the young sealer who was arrested just as his schooner, the Dora Siewerd was about to put to sea, was yesterday committed for trial at the spring assizes by Police Magistrate Macrae, on the charge of breaking into Frederick Landsberg's establishment and stealing three valuable revolvers. Brown yesterday admitted the theft, but maintained that the breaking of the large plate glass front was done by his partner in the crime—another young sealer who is now on board one of the vessels on their way to the Japanese coast.

THE Methodist congregation of Victoria West are making ready for a series of evangelistic services to continue through all next week, meetings being held in the church each evening except Saturday, at 8 o'clock. Interpreting literally, as do the Salvationists, the scriptural injunction to go forth into the highways and preach the gospel, Rev. Mr. Hicks and his associate workers also propose to hold half-hour street services every evening, previous to the meetings in the church. Workers from the other churches have promised to lend their aid, and the services promise to possess unusual interest.

YESTERDAY Mr. Justice McCreight and Mr. Justice Drake heard argument in the case of Hudson's Bay Co. v. Hazlett. This was an appeal from an order of the Chief Justice refusing the defendant as a judgment debtor homestead exemption on the book debts of his business. The appeal was disallowed with costs on the ground that book debts were not intended to coincide with the meaning of the words "goods and chattels" in section 10 of the homestead act, which were limited by the homestead amendment act of 1890. Mr. Archer Martin appeared for the appellant, and Mr. J. A. Aikman for the respondent.

THE wonderfully rich Slocan mining camp is being well advertised by a large map drawn in colors and now on view in the Board of Trade rooms. The map measures some 10x5 feet and is mounted in a handsome oak frame with plate glass. It was drawn by Mr. J. Keith Reid, manager of the Kootenay mining bureau, with offices at Montreal and Nelson. It has been on exhibition in the East, together with a fine collection of Kootenay ores. Though the map at present has not the Kaslo & Slocan railway line down upon it, Mr. Reid has in the past few days secured the necessary data to add to it, and also in other respects to bring the map fully up to date. The map in reduced form is for sale.

The customs statistics of Victoria for the month just completed show a very marked improvement in the business of the port over the corresponding month of 1895. The exports amounted in value in January to a little over four times those of the same month last year, while an appreciable increase all round is shown. In 1895 the imports free were $19,680: the imports dutiable were $141,809, and imports duty paid was $31,666. The returns for last month are as follows:

EXPORTS.	
Produce of Canada	$163,361
Not produce of Canada	13,505
Total	$176,866
IMPORTS.	
Free	$ 47,649
Dutiable	145,614
Total	$193,263
REVENUE.	
Duty	$48,304 34
Other revenues	1,925 97
Total	$50.230 31

MUSICAL HONORS.

Professor Leo Bradley, Fellow of the Victoria College of Music, London, and local secretary of that college, has issued the following self-explanatory circular letter to lovers of music in British Columbia:

"The local secretary and representative of the Victoria College of Music, London, England, desires to draw the attention of professors, teachers and students in music to the examinations in the theoretical and practical knowledge of music, which are held every four months at the local centre, Victoria, and to the importance of these examinations from an educational standpoint. It is found that candidates not only evince a keener interest in their studies, but the fact that they are working for a definite object gives a stimulus to their exertions which nothing else could, hence much good work is accomplished to the satisfaction, gratification and advantage of teacher and student alike, which otherwise might never have been attempted.

"The local examinations are conducted by two professors (approved by the academical board of London) in the presence of one or two visitors, that is gentlemen of good social status. It is hardly necessary to say that every student will have the same chance of success, depending of course on individual merit. The successful candidates will receive certificates signed by Dr. Lewis, the principal of the college, and their names and those of their respective teachers will be published in the local papers.

"The examinations for diplomas are for the teachers themselves, or for any advanced amateurs who may aspire to musicial honors. The local secretary will be very pleased to furnish further particulars to intending candidates and teachers, and is sure the latter will find it much to their interest to prepare and send up as many of their pupils as possible. Applications should be sent at an early date in order to give ample time to make the necessary preparations for the next examination which is in April. Some of the printed particulars may be seen at Waitt's music store where the necessary music can also be obtained."

JUDGE DRAKE WILLING.

He Promptly Disposes of the Divorce Proceedings the Chief Justice Declined to Hear.

The Difference of Opinion as to the Jurisdiction of the Provincial Courts.

Yesterday Mr. J. P. Walls, acting for the defendant in the suit of Mrs. Matilda Levy against her husband, Joseph Levy, for judicial separation, made application to Mr. Justice Drake to strike out certain paragraphs in the petition, referring to events antecedent to the marriage. This was the application which came before the Chief Justice on Wednesday, but which His Lordship declined to hear on the ground that doubts having arisen as to the jurisdiction of the courts of the province under the English divorce law, he preferred to wait till that question was determined before hearing any case under the divorce act.

There has been a difference of opinion among the judges upon this question, some holding that the Provincial Supreme court had full power to act, while others have believed and contended that the English divorce act was inapplicable to local circumstances, and therefore the courts could not deal with questions of divorce.

Mr. Justice Drake evidently holds that the courts of British Columbia have full jurisdiction, for yesterday he heard the application and made an order to strike out the paragraphs complained of, and for the petitioner to give particulars of the alleged acts of cruelty since the marriage. Mr. J. A. Aikman appeared for Mrs. Levy.

The subject having been broached in the legislature in connection with the consolidation of the statutes of the province, it seems likely that something will be done to settle the question, which is a highly important one. Much general interest is taken in the matter, not of course because any great number of people are anxious to initiate divorce proceedings, but because it affects a most important power that has, hitherto, been exercised by the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

LECTURES ON MINERALOGY.

TO THE EDITOR:—There is much tall talk just now about the importance of and the extension of education to the young. The education of the young is only a foundation to be built upon in after years, as education goes on from the cradle to the grave. It is consequently very strange to find the lectures on chemistry and mineralogy but very poorly attended. If there be anything in this world to open the eyes and understanding of people, it is the science of chemistry, and, in this country particularly, that of mineralogy, embracing as it does more or less of geology. To get a living nowadays intelligently these lend very great aid, to put it in a very mild form. Some—perhaps many—of those who attend these lectures will be struck with some information that will lead them into a profitable—never thought of previously—pursuit or occupation. In themselves they are entrancing and of enormous utility.

Why then are these lectures not better attended? Are young adults vain enough to believe they know all that is to be known—sufficient for them to gain a livelihood—because they may have been to the "high" school! Were they to attend more lectures they would find a wonderful world of which they know nothing. Is there really any ardent desire for learning or is it merely attendance at school for education they get for nothing and therefore undervalued? The cost of attendance at a lecture is merely twenty-five cents. When we see our theatres full; concerts well attended; hundreds of little entertainments well patronized, all of which have to be liberally paid for, it cannot be the cost of the lectures that keeps people away—away from a vast amount of entertainment, strange metamorphoses, and possible knowledge most valuable for all classes. It may be that these lectures have not been sufficiently advertised and so the fountain of knowledge is not known by those who wish to slake their thirst. X.

One Honest Man.

DEAR EDITOR:—Please inform your readers, that if written to confidentially I will mail in a sealed letter, particulars of a genuine, honest home cure by which I was permanently restored to health and vigor, after years of suffering from nervous debility. I was robbed and swindled by the quacks until I nearly lost faith in mankind, but thank heaven, I am now well, vigorous and strong, and wish to make this certain means of cure known to all sufferers. I have nothing to sell, and want no money, but being a firm believer in the universal brotherhood of man, I am desirous of helping the unfortunate to regain their health and happiness. Perfect secrecy assured. Address with stamp:—L. A. Edwards, Jarvis, Ont.

TO DOCK AT ESQUIMALT

Having Broken the Quartermaster Harbor Ways, the "Hankow" Will Come Here for Repairs.

The "Mischief" Delayed by Thursday's Wharf Fire—Lumber Exports to the Sound.

A Tacoma dispatch says: "The Northern Pacific Steamship Company's Oriental liner Hankow has returned from an unsuccessful attempt to have repairs made upon her hull on the dry dock at Quartermaster harbor. It was found impossible to raise her as far as required by the location of the loosened rivets in her bow on the port side. The Hankow's nose was run on the dock about twenty feet, and an effort was made to raise her. When she had been on the dock two hours the attempt was given up, as the water was still above the location of the aperture, and the dock was in danger of being badly sprung. She was then ordered off at the instance of Capt. Pope, surveyor for Lloyds, and C. C. Cherry and Capt. Bryant, government boiler and hull inspectors. Authorities differ as to the failure of the attempt to make the needed repairs. The ship is nearly seventy-five feet longer than the dock, and was unusually hard to raise, owing to the fact that 700 tons of flour was placed well aft, and there was comparatively nothing forward. The ship drew but eight feet of water at her bow and twenty-one feet at her stern. This fact made it a very difficult task for the dock to raise her bow the required distance. The 6x8 timbers placed on the dock on which the ship rested were crushed like pipestems and the weight coming directly on the dock, sprung it in several places. When it was decided to give up the attempt to dock the Hankow at Quartermaster she was towed back to the Ocean wharf by the Tyee, and arrangements were made by Dodwell, Carlill & Co., local agents of the steamship company, to place the ship on the dock at Esquimalt. Her cargo was discharged and she will be towed over by the Tyee. As the extent of the injuries to the ship's hull is greater than at first supposed, she will probably remain on the dock a week or ten days. Her sailing time was Sunday, but it is not known at present when she will get away. General regret is expressed in shipping circles over the fact that the Hankow will have to be sent to a British Columbia dry dock to be repaired, which will involve the expenditure of several thousand dollars. The recent fire in the Hankow's coal bunkers was a much more serious matter than has been supposed. The ship's crew, aided by the longshoremen, fought the flames in a vigorous and very effective manner, and but for prompt action on the part of officers and men, the damage would have been considerable. Great difficulty in subduing the flames was caused by the dense smoke and heated 'tween decks."

The big steamship arrived in Esquimalt late last night, and it is expected will be docked this morning, the repairs to H.M.S. Satellite having been completed on Thursday when that ship left the blocks.

JANUARY'S SHIPPING.

Interest in shipping matters has been much taken up with sealing during the past month, because of the large number of vessels sailing, with their hundreds of men, and creating brisk business for the ship chandlers and others. Though the bulk of this trade is now over, owing to nearly all of the vessels equipping for long cruises having now left port, there are yet numerous schooners to sail. Through the decrease in their number, local tugs and freighters have, notwithstanding the dull season, been busily employed, while coasting vessels have had nothing whatever to complain of. The returns for the month show the following clearances and entries: Coastwise—Entries, 109; clearances, 110. Foreign—entries, 145; clearances, 123.

THE "MISCHIEF'S" FREIGHT DAMAGED.

Although she was intended to sail last night, it will probably be late this morning before the steamer schooner Mischief, Capt. Foot, will be ready to leave on her West Coast trip. This is owing to a quantity of her freight—mining supplies, such as flour, sugar, etc.—having been damaged in yesterday morning's early fire on Spratt's wharf. A considerable portion of this freight was so badly injured that it had to be thrown into the harbor. The Mischief carries away, besides the Dumbleton mill plant which she is to receive at Sooke, a dozen Japanese, all for the Duke of York mining claim near Alberni.

MARINE NOTES.

An average freight and a larger number of passengers than usual went North on the steamer Barbara Boscowitz last evening. Among the passengers were: S. Draney, R. Draney and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Chambers, A. Buck, G. Rudge, F. Fraser, A. G. Harris, H. Snow, G. Chambers, D. Morrison, A. McNeill, T. Nickerson, W. H. Dempster, Miss McKibben and Miss Lucas. The steamer will call at Vancouver en route north and will there take on more passengers and freight.

Tug Hope returned yesterday from Tacoma, whither she had taken another scowload of cedar lumber from the Sayward mill. The exports from this mill to the American side are daily becoming a more and more important item of Victoria's trade.

The British ship Lord Brassey, 200 days out from Hongkong for Puget Sound, has been posted as missing by Lloyds.

The R. M. S. Empress of China sailed from Yokohama for this city yesterday.

Steamer Maude leaves for the West Coast to-day.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

His Honor Judge Bole, of Westminster, is paying the Capital a visit.

SALARIES ARE SLASHED

The Public School Trustees Solve the Problem of Reducing Their Expenditure

By Making General Reductions in Teachers' Salaries—High School Tuition Fee.

Although at their meeting on Monday night last the board of public school trustees decided that a general shortening of staff was preferable to a reduction of teachers' salaries, they came to the conclusion last evening that the expenditure for the year could not be sufficiently cut down by the method proposed, and so the pruning knife was used with effect in all departments. In connection with the Collegiate Institute especially radical changes were decided upon, the fourth division being abolished, and a cut of $650 being made in the salaries of the remaining teachers. It was also determined to comply with the suggestion recently offered by the Municipal Reform Association, and make the Collegiate Institute in a measure self-supporting, in the manner outlined in the following resolution:

"That in accordance with the terms of section 38 of the Public School act a fee of $5 per term be charged all pupils attending the High school, such fee to commence on the 1st day of March, 1896, and the charge for the unexpired balance of the present term to be $2.50, payable to the Principal in advance."

Although it was originally intended to make a reduction in the salary list of but $2,273.10, the trustees found when their labors were completed last evening that salaries had been brought down $4,500, while the total estimate for the year, of $43,500, is $6,500 below that of 1895.

The only increases of salary allowed were in the eighth divisions of the Boy's Central, Girl's Central, North Ward and South Park schools, in the fourth division at Victoria West and in the third form at Spring Ridge, in each of which an advance from $480 to $550 was allowed. The following comparative table will show how the general reduction in expenditure under the head of salaries is to be brought about:

	1895.	1896.
COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE.		
Principal	$1,500	$1,250
2nd Division	1,200	1,000
3rd Division	1,200	1,000
4th Division	800	abolish'd
BOYS AND GIRLS' CENTRAL, NORTH WARD AND SOUTH PARK.		
Principals	$1,200	$1,020
2nd Division	960	800
3rd "	900	750
4th "	780	650
5th "	720	600
6th "	660	550
7th "	600	550
8th "	480	550
9th "	360	360
VICTORIA WEST.		
Principal	$1,080	$950
2nd Division	840	700
3rd "	660	550
4th "	480	550
5th "	360	360
SPRING RIDGE.		
Principal	$960	$800
2nd Division	600	550
3rd "	480	550
4th "	360	360
ROCK BAY.		
Principal	600	600
2nd Division	360	360
Gymnasium instructor	480	480
School attendance officer	480	480

It was decided to dispense with the services of Mr. J. N. Muir as teacher of the fourth division of the Collegiate Institute at the end of the present month, the secretary being directed to inform him to this effect. The secretary was also directed last evening to communicate with Mr. H. S. Fairall of Victoria West and obtain from him his reason for asking that his child be allowed to attend the Central school.

HIS NAME WAS SMITH.

Charles Dickson, of the Albion saloon, yesterday established the identity of the corpse found floating in the inner harbor on Thursday, and which was given Christian burial at Ross Bay cemetery yesterday afternoon. As conjectured the body was that of a seafaring man, by name Samuel Smith, an ex-member of the Fortuna's crew. He was last seen about town on Christmas eve when he was drinking heavily, and the supposition is that it was through intoxication that he came to his death by drowning. As he had neither relatives nor intimate friends no one took the trouble to make inquiry when he was missed from his accustomed haunts, nor gave a thought to his disappearance until the finding of the floating body brought him back to mind. The evidence of identity had not yet been obtained when Coroner Dr. Crompton held the necessary inquest, the jury being composed of Messrs. Walter Porter, Fred. Richardson, John Sims, John Macrae, John Thomas and J. E. Church. They listened attentively to the meagre testimony submitted, and returned a verdict that the then unknown man was found floating and dead in Victoria harbor, the body having been so long in the water as to render impossible an intelligent determination of the cause of death.

Smith was a native of Bermondsley, London, Eng., and twenty-four years of age. He was by occupation a seaman and was formerly one of the crew of H. M. S. Blake, the big cruiser of the Atlantic squadron which excited so much attention and admiration at New York during the memorable naval parade and review there about two years ago. He left the Blake at Halifax and came here from Nova Scotia as one of the crew of the Fortuna, serving as a boat puller aboard her during her sealing cruise last year. Since the fall he had been living in a cabin on Pandora street. On December 23 he went into the Albion saloon and cashed an advance note on Hall & Goepel. According to his story he was to have shipped aboard the Geneva, and got the advance note after signing his papers. He spent some of his money then, and it is understood that later on he was heard to say that he had signed for the cruise on the Geneva, not intending to ship, but simply to get the advance money, and was going to slip away to the United States side without fulfilling his agreement. He was the worse of liquor that night and when seen again on Christmas eve was still drunk. It is very probable that he went to the outer wharf to try and get a trip to the United States side on some vessel, and in his drunkenness fell from the wharf and was drowned.

The body must be well nourished now, to prevent sickness. If your appetite is poor take Hood's Sarsaparilla.

CHRISTOFERO COLOMBO.

An Impromptu Reception at Government House in Honor of the Italians.

The Officers of the Warship Dine With Admiral Stephenson Previous to Sailing South.

Much regret was expressed yesterday that, owing to the very short stay of the Italian warship Christofero Colombo in port, Victorians had no opportunity to entertain the visitors as they would have desired. However, His Honor Lieut. Governor and Mrs. Dewdney determined not to allow the Colombo to depart without showing her officers some hospitality, and arrangements were made as hurriedly as possible for an "at home" at Government House, yesterday afternoon.

Owing to the extremely short notice there was no time to send out formal invitations, but the telephone was resorted to and as many invitations as possible were delivered verbally during the forenoon. In consequence if any one was overlooked it may be easily understood that, under the circumstances, it was quite excusable. However, in spite of the extremely short space of time to make arrangements, there was a large gathering of ladies and gentlemen at Government House to meet Capt. Bertolini, Prince Luigi and the other officers of the Christofero Colombo, among the invited guests being Admiral Stephenson, the officers of H. M. ships and R. M. A., and the members of the Legislature. A very pleasant time was spent and the Italian visitors could not fail to feel pleased with their reception in Victoria.

In the forenoon His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney accompanied by his private secretary, Mr. E. A. Jacob, paid a formal visit to the Colombo, and was received with a salute of thirteen guns.

The officers of the Italian warship dined with Admiral Stephenson last evening, and at 11 o'clock their cruiser weighed anchor and left for San Francisco, where she is expected to arrive on Monday. One reason for the very short stay of the warship in Victoria was that her mail has been sent to San Francisco.

It is likely that there will be great festivities at the California metropolis when the ship arrives, as there are something like 20,000 Italians among the population of that city.

The Board of Trade did not send a deputation yesterday to call upon Prince Luigi, as owing to a lack of time the Prince had to decline the honor.

The Christofero Colombo is not expected to return to Italy for fifteen months at least.

English women who are named Mary have subscribed liberally to a memorial tablet to Mary, Queen of Scots, which has just been placed near the spot where she was buried after execution.

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DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.

Vice Chancellor Sir W. PAGE WOOD stated publicly in court that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was undoubtedly the inventor of Chlorodyne, that the whole story of the defendant Freeman was literally untrue, and he regretted to say that it had been sworn to.—Times, July 13, 1864.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE IS THE BEST AND MOST CERTAIN REMEDY IN COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, CONSUMPTION, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, &c.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE is prescribed by scores of orthodox practitioners. Of course it would not be thus singularly popular did it not "supply a want and fill a place."—Medical Times January 12, 1886.
DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE is a certain cure for Cholera, Dysentery, Diarrhœa, Colics, &c.
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No article ever attained to such unbounded popularity.—*Salem Observer.*
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It has real merit; as a means of removing pain, no medicine has acquired a reputation equal to Perry Davis' Pain-Killer.—*Newport News.*
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