The House At Work

Col. Prior Prods the Government on Business of This Constituency.

Dr. Borden States New Line of Defence in Deadman's Island Affair.

Palace Cars Ordered From Outside—The Drummond Deal Discussed.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 25.—The House of Commons resumed business to-day, after the holidays.

Sir Hibbert Tupper again called attention to the remissness of the government, in not bringing down returns asked for by members of the opposition. He mentioned particularly that relating to the lease of Deadman's Island at a figure extraordinarily low.

Dr. Borden said the Deadman's Island papers were being copied, and would be brought down speedily. He resented the statement that there was anything wrong with the rental for the lease of the island. While the government was to get $500 a year, for seven acres, the Conservatives had leased 960 acres of public domain for $1.00 per annum, and he had been informed that they had been prepared to lease Deadman's Island to a private party for $1.00 per year.

Sir Hibbert Tupper said he trusted the minister would bring down the papers to substantiate the latter statement.

Hon. John Costigan said he had intended making an explanation of his political position to-day, but had decided to wait until to-morrow on account of Sir Charles Tupper not being present.

Sir Henri Joly introduced a bill to amend the weights and measures act. He explained that the object was to provide a standard measure for apple barrels.

Mr. Blair told Mr. Clarke that the government is paying $19,940 for palace cars and sleepers from the Wagner Car Co. The cars were bought from an American company because no Canadian firm could undertake the work.

The Drummond county railway resolutions were discussed in committee for several hours, the opposition attack today centering chiefly on the arrangement with the Grand Trunk railway respecting the use of terminals in Montreal. The imprudence of the bargain was strongly condemned. The debate was again adjourned.

The Royal Society concluded its labors to-day. The following officers were elected: President, Rev. Prof. Clark, Toronto; vice-presidents, Louis Frechette, Quebec; honorary secretary, Sir John Bourinot, Ottawa; treasurer, Dr. Fletcher, Ottawa. A committee was appointed to memorialize the government respecting the claims of Miss Kingsford, daughter of the late historian, and Mrs. Lampman, to parliamentary grants.

Col. Prior will interrogate the government regarding the proposed removal of the Songhees Indians. He will also ask if the government intends to subsidize a small steamer to call at all points on the East Coast of Vancouver Island.

Sir Hibbert Tupper will ask if Mr. Ogilvie is connected with the Canadian Goldfields of Klondike Co.

Mr. McInnes will call attention to the destruction of oyster beds at Oyster Bay.

LAUREATE'S ODE TO THE QUEEN

Alfred Austin Honors in Verse the Occasion of Her Eightieth Birthday.

New York, May 24.—The Herald prints a cablegram from London, giving Poet Laureate Alfred Austin's birthday ode to Queen Victoria, entitled, "An Indian Summer." Following are the stanzas:

Springtime was flowering in your fair young face
When first the scepter laid on you its load—
Springtime and seed time. And how well you sowed
In the rough furrows life's long duties trace,
Scattering with lavish heart the smiles of youth and grace.

Oh, what a harvest, lady, now is yours;
Empire and fame and glory, and above
Glory and fame a universe's love,
Love rooted deep in reverence that insures
Remembrance of your name as long as time endures.

Long may the Indian summer of your days
Yet linger in the land you love so well;
And long may we, who no less love you, dwell
In the reposeful radiance of your grace,
A golden sunset seen through autumn's silvery haze.

OFF TO PHILIPPINES.

Another Transport to Sail on Monday—Naval Officers for the Eastern Station.

San Francisco, Cal., May 25.—The steamship Gaelic sailed to-day for the Orient, via Honolulu, with a large number of passengers and a heavy cargo. Among those who departed on the steamer were Captain Pigman, U. S. N., and Lieutenant Commander Walter S. Crossley, U. S. N. Captain Pigman goes out to command the Charleston, and Lieutenant Commander Crossley is assigned to duty as flag officer of the Baltimore.

The Gaelic took little mail for the American forces in the Philippines, as the transport Grant, which is scheduled to sail for Manila next Monday, will carry the mail for the soldiers and sailors now in the Far East.

FRASER RISING FAST.

Quesnelle, May 25.—The river has risen 18 inches since this afternoon. The weather is cloudy.

Yale, May 25.—The water raised 18 inches in the last twenty-four hours.

Lillooet, May 25.—5 p. m.—The river is rising fast. The weather is cooler.

HOLIDAYS ON 'CHANGE.

New York, May 24.—The members of the stock exchange have voted to request the government to close the exchange on Monday, May 29, preceding Memorial Day. This would close the exchange from Saturday until Wednesday.

NEW LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

Another Defeated Candidate Solaced—Further Excuses From Mr. Costigan.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 24.—At yesterday's meeting of the privy council, A. P. McIntyre, ex-M. P., the defeated candidate for King's, was appointed lieutenant-governor of Prince Erward Island.

Mr. Costigan is expected to make a statement to-morrow why he left the Conservative party.

VANCOUVER AFFAIRS.

Net Thieves Have Escaped—A Round of Football—Claimants to Mythical Millions.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, May 25.—Chief Provincial Constable Leslie, who with the help of Seattle detectives recovered $1,000 worth of the nets stolen from the Malcolm & Windsor Cannery, has returned from the Sound. The thieves were not captured. They left some of the nets in a loft and sold others to a saloon man at Point No Point.

A 100-yard sprint was run yesterday for the amateur championship of the province, between J. Masterson and J. Brown. Masterson won in 10 2-5 seconds.

An association football tournament took place in Vancouver yesterday. Vancouver beat Nanaimo and Wellington beat Kamloops. The two winning teams then played till dark, the result being a tie, with two points each.

In contrast to the criticism of the theater goers in British Columbia, who crowd the opera houses in encouragement of "McFadden's Flats" and "McSorley's Twins," and discourage the companies of better class, who often play to half-empty benches, was the packed house on the occasion of Roland Reed's visit. Manager Jamison was delighted, and so was Roland Reed, who received a double curtain call and was forced to make a speech, which was almost as good as the play itself.

Some joker living in the West End is said to be responsible for an advertisement in the News-Advertiser, signed "Col. Grey, Johannasburg," asking for 500 volunteers for service in the British army in the Transvaal. The advertisement caused some excitement before the matter was investigated. Recently there appeared in the Province an advertisement for the whereabouts of certain residents of Vancouver, and asking them to write for a few millions dollars due them from the estate of a rich uncle in England. The advertisement has proved to have been the cruel joke of a waggish son, perpetrated upon his parents, who, for a short time, were completely deceived.

THE WELLINGTON MEET.

Two Clever Professionals Shut Out Their Brethren—A Large Attendance.

Nanaimo, May 25.—(Special.) — The Queen's Birthday celebration races held at Wellington this afternoon were attended by upwards of two thousand people. Owing to the team work of Chapman and Cotter the other professionals were sidetracked and the Atlanta and Olympia boys' combination resulted in their carrying off all the prizes.

In the five-mile race Vergil Hall attempted to take the pole and caught Chapman's pedal which resulted in both of them digging up cinders. No serious injuries were sustained. The results were as follows:

Mile, novice—J. K. Morgan, first; C. Kennedy, second.

Mile, professional—F. J. Cotter, first; J. M. Chapman, second. Time, 2.47 1-5.

Mile, amateur—W. H. Hunter (Nanaimo), first; S. Henderson, second. Time, 2.19.

Two-mile lap, professional—F. J. Cotter, first; J. Chapman, second. Time, 5.27.

Two-mile lap, amateur—W. Hunter, first; S. Henderson, second; Cooper Harold, third. Time, 5.17½.

Five-mile handicap, professional—F. J. Cotter, first; S. Swanson (Nanaimo), second. Time, 14.24.

Five-mile, amateur—W. Hunter, first; J. Kirk (Wellington), second. Time, 12.46.

W. F. Penwill, who was one of the contestants in the Nanaimo races Wednesday, returned home yesterday, and is authority for the news that practically all the long string of amateurs who took part in the Queen's Birthday meet at the Coal city will participate in Saturday's races at Oak Bay. There are some twenty-two or twenty-four racing men in the amateur division alone, and it will undoubtedly be necessary to dispose of the four events on the card in heats. Among the "pros" the entries will not be so numerous, but the events will be quite as exciting. Swanson, the phenomenal Swede, Marshall, a colored wonder who is this season riding for the honor of British Columbia in the professional ranks, Shawl, Cooper Harrold, the Hall brothers, and the big rivals, Cotter and Chapman, will probably make the complete card in this class, Cotter's match race with Chapman being one of the biggest events of the meet—or, indeed, of any race meeting this province has yet seen. Special arrangements are being made for the free checking of wheels for those who ride out to attend the meet; the Fifth Regiment band will play—and nothing appears to have been overlooked in the arrangements for a fine afternoon of clean sport.

Competitors are requested to make entry to H. Wille, New England hotel, until 9 p. m., to-day.

LOCOMOTIVES FOR ENGLAND.

Large Orders Placed With the Baldwin Works of Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, May 24.—The Grand Central Railway of England has placed an order for twenty locomotives with the Baldwin works of this city. They are to be freight engines, of the same character and design as those now under construction at Baldwin's for the Midland Railway of England. Another English railway, the Great Northern, recently ordered a number of engines from the Baldwin works.

GREAT NORTHERN AT QUEBEC.

Quebec, May 23.—At a meeting of the Quebec harbor commissioners it was decided to ask the government for power to guarantee bonds of the Great Northern railway to the amount of $200,000 for ten years at three per cent., elevator earnings to be held as security.

SUNDAY ISSUE DROPPED.

London, May 24.—The Daily Telegraph this morning announces the discontinuance of its Sunday edition. No comment accompanies the announcement.

BUBONIC PLAGUE.

Hongkong, May 24.—The bubonic plague is increasing. The official reports thus far for the month of May show 313 cases and 254 deaths.

TO FIGHT CONSUMPTION.

Immense Gathering of Medical Men at Berlin Representing All Nations.

Berlin, May 24.—The tuberculosis congress was opened in the reichstag building this morning with 2,000 members, of which 200 were delegates from Germany and foreign governments. The Empress of Germany, as matroness of the congress, was seated in the royal gallery. Her Majesty wore a bright spring costume of yellow silk and carried a large bouquet of red roses. The minister of the interior, Count Posadowsky Werner, who delivered the inaugural address, said the tuberculosis congress and the peace conference at The Hague constituted memorable pages in the history of civilization, enabling posterity to form an idea of the spirit of the present age. Welcome speeches and responses followed.

The representatives of the United States, France, Great Britain, Italy, Austria-Hungary and Russia were among those who made brief remarks. They were all vigorously applauded, with the exception of Surgeon K. C. Boyd, who represents the medical corps of the United States navy at the congress. He was heard in silence. At the conclusion of the speech-making there were cheers for the Empress, who graciously acknowledged them by bowing.

THE FRASER STILL RISING.

Warm Weather Adds to Its Flood, but High Water Mark Still Twenty Feet Off.

Yale, May 24.—The water in the Fraser has risen 14 inches in the last 24 hours. A small quantity of flour is coming down. The water is twenty feet below the 1894 high water mark.

Lillooet, May 24.—The river has risen about fifteen inches since morning. The weather is warm.

FIFTH NAPANEE SUSPECT.

Still Another Crook Arrested for the Now Notorious Bank Robbery.

Boston, May 24.—John T. Roach, of Montreal, alleged by the police to be a professional pickpocket and all round crook, has been arrested on the charge of being implicated in the robbery of the Dominion Bank at Napanee, Ont., on August 28, 1897, when $32.000 in cash and notes was taken. Roach is the fifth and last on the list of suspects.

A PRIVATE EXECUTION.

Sheriff of Winnipeg Will Admit Only Twenty to the Galicians' Hanging.

Winnipeg, May 23.—(Special)—Carpenters are at work erecting the scaffold on which Czuby and Guszczak are to be hung next Friday morning. The structure will be enclosed at both the top and bottom, consequently the men will not be seen during the execution. Only twenty cards of admission have been issued by the sheriff, and these are mostly for officials. Guszczak is quite prepared to die, and says he will go willingly to the scaffold, though he has inquired anxiously what word had been received from Ottawa. Czuby still entertains hopes of a reprieve.

Whitby, May 23.—Edward Elliott, a boy aged 17, was sentenced to death today for the murder of an old man named Elliott. The hanging is fixed for August 17.

AGAINST SUNDAY BALL.

Indianapolis, Ind., May 24.—The state supreme court has decided that the statute prohibiting Sunday baseball is valid, thus reversing the decision of the lower court. The baseball people will probably ask for a re-hearing, and pending a ruling on that motion, will endeavor to play Sunday games.

A BOODLE ALDERMAN.

Toronto, May 23.—Wm. Hall, the ex-alderman, charged with receiving and soliciting a bribe, and also with perjury, in connection with his position as a member of the city council several years ago, waived examination this morning and was committed for trial on all three charges. Bail was allowed.

ANSWER TO THIS PROVINCE.

Liberal Organ Thinks the C. P. R. and Yukon Expeditions Should Satisfy Her.

From the Halifax Chronicle.

Some of our British Columbia contemporaries on both sides of politics are clamoring for larger federal expenditure in that province. It seems to us that successive governments of Canada have done pretty well by British Columbia. As the price of that Province coming into confederation Canada expended at least $100,000,000 in money and land in building the Canadian Pacific railway, of which a considerable portion was spent on work in the Pacific Province. Since the present government came into power $3,000,000 of public money—a considerable portion of it already expended—have been voted to the Crow's Nest Pass railway from which British Columbia has reaped the chief immediate benefit. During the last fiscal year three-quarters of a million dollars, and during the current year over a million dollars, have been expended in opening up and developing the Yukon. Whatever advantage has resulted from that expenditure has gone very largely to British Columbia. We don't think that province is in a position to complain about the share she receives of the federal public expenditure.

British Columbia should get whatever legitimate public works are necessary to her development, consistent with the necessities and legitimate demands of other provinces and the capacity of the revenue to meet that expenditure, but to put forward the plea that the contributions of that province are larger per head than the contributions of the other provinces, as a justification for larger federal expenditure in British Columbia, is opening up a delicate, if not dangerous issue, the pressing of which to logical conclusions might necessitate a revision of the financial terms of confederation. That issue had better be left in abeyance. If all the provinces were to unite in demanding expenditure upon public works within their bounds in proportion to their per capita contributions to the federal revenue the government and parliament would have an exceedingly nice time (?) of it in reconciling conflicting claims and bear-garden squabbles might become an enlivening feature of national politics. The measure of such expenditure had better be based as now on the actual legitimate necessities of the various provinces and the capacity of the federal revenue. None of he provinces can get all of the public works they think they need but expenditure based on such a principle will be at least approximately equitable.

CARPETS, RUGS, ART SQUARES

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We show 10 patterns to any other stores one.

Axminsters, Wiltons, Brussels, Riche Velvets, Tapestry, 370 Pieces Carpets, 324 Rugs, 214 Art Squares

Above Goods were just received by us in one shipment from the manufacturer.

WEILER BROS, Victoria, B. C

How Mr. Martin Does The Trick

His Timid Colleagues Give Way to the Resourceful Attorney-General.

They Tied On Eight Hour Law So He Had to Vote Twice.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, May 25.—A Colonist "scoop" machine was placed in the Vancouver cabinet of the Victoria government recently, and was taken out this morning. It registered the following thrilling conversation, recognized as in the voices of the ministers mentioned:

Cotton: "I tell you, gentlemen, the enforcement of this eight-hour law is a rash step, and may be followed with bad results. What do you think, Mr. Semlin?"

Semlin: "I'll not say anything just now."

Martin: "You're too squeamish, Cotton. You mustn't overlook the fact that just at present the labor vote is the balance of power in this province, and we must cultivate it. Isn't that so, Semlin?"

Semlin: "I haven't given the matter consideration."

Hume: "I think, with Cotton, that the government may go too far and lose more votes than it will gain. I wish Semlin would say how it strikes him."

Semlin: "I am not prepared to say anything at present."

Hume: "I'm in a position to know that a great number of miners would sooner work 10 hours than have their pay reduced. The labor organizations on the Coast seem to be forcing our hands."

McKechnie: "I'm for enforcing the law, and don't care who knows it, or that I speak for the labor organizations in Nanaimo."

Martin: "What is the use of wasting time. We've got to take the decision of the unions, no matter what the opinions of individual miners may be. I wish Semlin would express himself, one way or the other."

Semlin: "I have nothing to say."

Martin: "Well, the eight-hour law goes."

And go it does.

MURDERERS GAIN A DAY.

Ottawa Slow With the Death Warrant, and Execution Has to Be Postponed.

Winnipeg, May 25.—(Special)—Owing to the non-receipt of the death warrant from Ottawa, the execution of Czuby and Guzczek, the murderers, has been postponed by Chief Justice Killam, the trial judge, from to-morrow until Saturday morning.

Czuby's son came into the city from Stuartburn yesterday, and visited his father this morning. The meeting was a very touching one, and they spent some time together talking. The old man would have nothing to do with the priests who called on him to offer him their services. Whenever any person speaks to him concerning his approaching death, he grows excitable, and nothing can be done with him. When left alone, however, he is calm.

Guzczek puts on a bold front, and seems happy that the end is so near. He takes a deep and apparently sincere interest in the religious administrations of his advisers. His wife has arrived in the city.

BRITISH COAL SUPPLY.

Prediction That in Fifty Years It Must Come From the United States.

London, May 25.—At a general meeting of the Institute of Mining Engineers the address of President Longder was devoted to a pessimistic review of the exhaustion of British coal and iron. He said the evidence all pointed to the fact that fifty years hence we shall be practically dependent upon the United States for cheap coal, iron and steel, and our sons will find an alliance with the United States for coaling our navy very imperative.

A MEAN ARREST.

Two Years' Search for Bank Robber Ends Just as He is About to Wed.

Toronto, May 25.—(Special)—John T. Roach, who has been wanted in connection with the Napanee bank robbery, and who is believed to have inspired the whole transaction, was arrested yesterday in Boston, just in time to prevent his getting married. He will be extradited and brought to Canada.

C. P. R. TRAFFIC.

Montreal, May 25.—C. P. R. traffic of the week ending May 21 was $529,000; for the same week last year, $511,000.

LAWS OF WARFARE.

Peace Conference Committee Give Attention to Relief of Sick and Wounded.

The Hague, May 25.—Both sections of the committee on the laws of warfare of the peace conference met separately today and began the examination of the subjects submitted to them. The Red Cross section discussed paragraph 5 and paragraph 6 of the circular of Count Muravieff, Russian minister of foreign affairs, and the Brussels conference section discussed paragraph 7. Both sections met subsequently and discussed the question of competence as regards the scheme for the revision of the Geneva convention known as the Morgnier scheme.

The Morgnier scheme comprises modifications of the Geneva convention in connection with the wounded and sick prisoners, members of the hospital service, conveyers for the wounded, hospitals, property belonging to naturalized persons, religious and medical staffs and kindred subjects. The scheme applies equally to land and sea warfare. It was proposed to submit this scheme to another commission for discussion and the question was then raised whether the conference was competent to deal with the matter.

Those who take a negative view argued that the governments represented had agreed that nothing should be submitted to the conference beyond the eight points in the circular of Count Muravieff. They contended that if the conference once infringed this rule a precedent would be created leading to numerous difficulties including possibly the springing of the Armenian, Macedonian, and similar questions on the conference. It was also pointed out that inasmuch as the Morgnier scheme dealt mostly with the wounded and with hospitals it would be impossible to discuss the proposed modifications effectively without the co-operation of doctors, who alone would be capable f deciding many of the points in issue. As a matter of fact there is no man of medical training among the delegates.

The committee finally adjourned without reaching a decision.

McKINLEY AND VICTORIA.

Cordial Message on the Occasion of Her Birthday—The Queen's Response.

Washington, May 25.—The President addressed the following message to Queen Victoria on the anniversary of her birthday:

"To Her Majesty the Queen, Windsor Castle, England:

"Madam: It gives me great pleasure to convey on this happy anniversary the expression of the sentiments of regard and affection which the American people cherish towards your Majesty and to add the assurance of my own cordial respect and esteem. May God grant to your Majesty and to the countries under your government many years of happiness and prosperity."

(Signed) WILLIAM McKINLEY.

The President this evening received the following in response to his message of congratulation:

"The President of the United States:

"I am deeply touched by the words of your telegram of congratulation. From my heart I thank you and the American people for the sentiments of affection and good will therein expressed

(Signed) V. I."

PHILIPPINE DEATH ROLL.

Heavy Additions by Two Chance Engagements Just Reported.

Washington, May 25.—General Otis thus cables the War Department. "Manila, May 25.—On the 23rd instant the Third Infantry returning to Baliuag were attacked morning, noon and evening by a large force of the enemy, suffering in casualties two men killed and thirteen wounded. The enemy were repulsed leaving on the field sixteen killed and a large number of wounded and prisoners. Yesterday the enemy appeared in the vicinity of San Fernandino and were attacked by the Kansas and Montana regiments, who suffered slight losses. The enemy were driven through the rice fields, leaving fifty dead, thirty-eight wounded and twenty-eight prisoners and fifty rifles and other property captured. The retreat through the swamp lands saved them from destruction. Lawton is returning, leaving with Macarthur on the front regular troops to replace the volunteers."

ROYAL YEAST CAKES

MOST PERFECT MADE.

AWARDED HIGHEST HONORS WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION

CHICAGO-ILL. 1893

DOMINION NEWS NOTES.

Special to the Colonist.

Killed in Celebrating.

St. Thomas, May 25.—While celebrating the Queen's Birthday last night by shooting an anvil in a blacksmith shop, an explosion took place, by which Richard McPhartlin was so seriously injured that he died in the morning. A man named Ward was also injured, but it is thought he will recover.

Two Drownings.

Windsor, May 25.—Marguerite, the five-year-old daughter of John Calvert of this place, fell into the river last night and was drowned.

Quebec, May 25.—H. Stapleton, belonging to No. 2 company of the 8th Royal Rifles, is missing. It is supposed he fell from the deck of the steamer between Montreal and Quebec last night and was drowned.

The Railway Wins.

Montreal, May 25.—The management of the G. T. R. announce that they are filling the places of striking trackmen. The strikers' committee have nothing to say regarding the situation.

A Vain Protest.

Montreal, May 25.—The election protest against Dr. Cotton, Liberal M.L.A., for Missisquoi, was dismissed by the court of review to-day.

An Interloper There.

Montreal, May 25.—Hon. P. E. Leblanc, M.L.A. for Laval, had his pocket picked of $85 at the Conservative convention in Sherbrooke yesterday.

Quite a Fire.

St. John, N.B., May 25.—A serious fire broke out in Indiantown at the extreme west end of the city this afternoon, and between thirty and forty buildings were destroyed.

Mrs. Aikins' Death.

Toronto, May 25.—Mrs. Aikins, wife of ex-Lieut.-Governor Aikins of Manitoba, died here to-night.

AMERICAN GROWN TEA.

New Industry Soon to Be Established in Every State in the South.

Washington, May 25.—It is only a question of time, says Secretary Wilson, who has just returned from a trip in the Southern States, when the South will produce all the tea the people in the United States will want. It is intended to start a tea farm in every Southern State as soon as that can be done intelligently.

THE CABLE MILLION.

Local Opportunities to Invest Any Spare Provincial Cash.

From the Nelson Miner.

An interior paper up north says that few, if any, of the interior papers favor the Government proposal to vote one million dollars in aid of the Pacific cable. We see this in a coast paper. For itself the Miner takes early occasion to repudiate the inference which naturally attaches to this bald statement. It will be understood that the interior papers object because the expenditure will be productive of no direct benefit excepting to one or two points on the coast. That is not the idea at all. There is not, so far as the Miner knows, the least jealousy in the matter. There cannot be anyone who has intelligence enough to comprehend the situation. The making of the cable will be a matter of some importance to the manufactory fortunate enough to get the contract, but the laying of it is a very small affair. A ship will fit out at Vancouver, say, and then sail away, and that is the last of her until the work is completed. The maintenance of a station is also a small affair. There might be a dozen cable lines putting out from Vancouver, each with its separate local office, and the effect on the population and business of the city would not be noticeable. Cable lines do not promote the growth of places in the sense that railways or ordinary industrial enterprises do. As there is no direct material benefit to share, therefore, the interior cannot be jealous of the Coast; it cannot oppose for the reason that the Coast is to get something that it does not, for in the laying of a cable there is not enough to get to make it worth the while of any place to work itself into a condition of excitement.

The Interior papers, as we understand them, oppose the proposition on broad, general grounds; one, that it is no business of the Province to assume any part of the cost of a Pacific cable, and the other that, if we have a million to spare, there are other purposes to which it can be devoted to much better advantage. There is no question of Coast against the Interior involved in the matter. The Miner would rejoice to see Vancouver or Victoria reap all sorts of benefits from the construction and operation of a Pacific cable, and if the enterprise were one calculated to add to their importance or to promote their growth it would be tempted to compromise with its scruples so far as to support the proposed grant. But there is no virtue of this kind in an ocean cable any more than there is one in a telegraph line; there is nothing fat in either. As a Provincial investment the vote of a million would be very poor business. The one or two newspapers that still support the proposal quote Sir Sanford Fleming as of the opinion that the cable would pay from the beginning. Sir Sanford Fleming is an authority on construction, and being an Imperialistic of the most ardent type he is naturally enthusiastic in favor of a Pacific cable; but he does not know better than the rest of us whether it would be self-supporting or whether it would be self-sustaining. Given enthusiasm enough, and anything can be made to pay on paper. Cooler calculators are very certain that it will not pay for a number of years. British Columbia is hardly in a position to take a share in an enterprise that can promise no immediate dividends, and only very attenuated ones in prospective.

There can be no jealousy in a matter of this kind, for the very sufficient reason that there is not enough substance in it to excite jealousy. It is not a question of Interior against the Coast, and therefore the distinction suggested by the paper alluded to will not stand handling. It is simply a question of minding our own business, and it is no part of the business of British Columbia to meddle with the laying of a Pacific cable. That is the joint duty of the Australian colonies, the Dominion and the Mother Country, and between them they are quite capable of attending to it without interference from us. If we have millions to burn, we can probably find local opportunities enough for the offering of our sacrifice.

Spring tiredness is due to an impoverished condition of the blood and is cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, which enriches the blood.

An Escape From Gaol

Lieniga, Who Shot Fred Baur at Atlin, Coolly Walks Away.

What the Governments Neglect to Do For the Mining Districts.

Postal Facilities Are Still Sadly Lacking—Even Stamps Not Obtainable.

Lieniga, who shot Fred Baur at Atlin escaped from gaol on May 12 and had not been captured when the last mail left there. The Atlin Claim referring to the escape said: "On Thursday morning some time before the rooster crowed, Mr. Lieniga, the gentleman who tried to kill Fred Baur by shooting him with a shotgun, became tired of his confinement, and having nothing more to detain him than a pair of shackles on his legs, he leisurely sauntered out over the lime swamp. He met an Italian, and after requesting him to pay his compliments to the police, proceeded on his way. The aforesaid Italian informed another man and he in turn informed the authorities, who then discovered that the prisoner had escaped. When the commissioner was informed of the affair, a little bird whispers to us, he jumped four feet in the air and gave expression to such sentiments as we positively refuse to publish in this paper. Men were started in every direction with instructions to try and induce Mr. Lieniga to return. Up to the hour of going to press the gentleman has not returned, neither has he sent any word where he may be found. One hundred dollars' reward has been offered for his arrest, which would really seem as if the authorities considered him valuable property.

"Fred Baur, the victim of the shooting, is in a much better condition than when we last reported. Speaking to a reported Baur said he thought Lieniga must be slightly demented. The crisis while prisoner was accustomed to go off on shooting expeditions at most unreasonable hours. He generally brought back chipmunks, of which he made stew. The doctor made an examination of Baur's head on Thursday afternoon, but would express no opinion further than to say he was stronger and brighter."

CLOSE SEASON EXTENDED.

The mail came in last evening and with it came instructions to the gold commissioner, says the Atlin Claim. A respite to a prisoner is good news; but to people who have not transgressed the laws of the land it is quite another thing.

"Fourteen days is the extension of the close season for working placer claims," said Commissioner Graham last night.

"And there will be no extra expense for the lay-over," he concluded.

STAMPLESS POSTOFFICE.

The new postoffice quarters, corner of Second and Pearl, were formally taken possession of on Sunday, and the public thereby will enjoy a trifle larger waiting room, says The Claim. Most people have read about our enterprising postmaster general, Mr. Mulock, in launching to the world a 2-cent rate. It came as a Christmas gift, the last past one, and a hurricane of joy went up, from London to the Cape, over the big, red-dotted 2-center. Atlin, of course, like the rest of Canada's rich Northern section, also had a few. They all went out the route they came, and now we're stampless, with a stampless postoffice. Inquiry at the postoffice elicited the information that no stamps could be obtained and no knowledge could be given as to when we'd be able to resume a mucilage diet. We know the difficulties the postofficials have to contend with, in bringing mail in from the outside, but this does not excuse the powers that be from providing sufficient stamps to carry on ordinary business, without having to tip the Dominion government to the extent of half a cent on every letter posted at the present writing. That there is something rotten in postoffice circles is apparent to all. Why is Dime City without a postoffice? Why are people compelled to come here and swell the already long line of anxious enquirers on the arrival of mail matter? We don't ask for a postoffice on every claim; not at all; but a place that shows permanency is the place that should have consideration. If mail conditions are poor now, what will they be in June?

ATLIN NOTES.

Here are a few items of interest taken from the Atlin Claim:

There is one part of the official machinery that is sadly lacking in this camp, and that is county or supreme court officials. Everything has to be transacted through Vancouver and all know what delay this entails. The government is entirely too slow and a good stiff protest from the people of this district should be sent at once.

Dr. R. Morrison, an old resident of Victoria, is in Atlin. He is making arrangements for the erection of a miners' hospital at Pine Creek.

The commissioner announces that a man must represent the first days of the open season and will not be allowed 72 hours' grace as some suppose.

John Irving has applied to the provincial government for a lease of the foreshore rights at the foot of Watson avenue. If successful wharves of considerable dimensions will be constructed.

R. C. Lowery, C.E., intends severing his connection with the government survey party at the end of May. He will open an office on Pearl avenue and practise as a civil engineer and surveyor.

Mr. White-Fraser, the Dominion boundary commissioner, has completed his latitude observations and has proceeded to the 60th parallel on Atlin lake to verify the survey made by J. H. Brownlee and R. C. Lowry.

Contracts Let for Spacious Buildings—His Son to Be the Farmer.

Winnipeg, May 25.—(Special)—The Tribune says: "Sir William C. Van Horne, president of the C. P. R., intends to make East Selkirk his place of residence for a certain portion of the year, and he will establish a large farm there. He has called for tenders for the construction of a substantial two-story residence building, 40 by 90 feet, and stables, cow sheds and barns, covering a space of 300 by 30 feet. Several local contractors have figured on the work.

It is believed that his son, Mr. R. B. Van Horne, will manage the farming operations.