TO

this ques-
pointment
ly solved.
ur Christ-

some Hand
na
f fine china al-
a pleasing gift,
nnot do better
the many lovely
are on display
department, in-
ry bowls, sets,
s, card receivers,
etc., and all at
you will say are

ums
preciated by card
ty of styles to
to 1000 cards, at
. . . . . $4.00

Calendars
e, at prices rang-
. . . . . $5.00

Little Tots
E FROM $1.50
r the little one is
them here in all
n velvets, eider-
ly finished, and
al, at prices rang-
$1.50

Suites and
Monday
ns, and are well
g.
SUITE, comprisi-
hair and One Re-
eats, upholstered
nglish tapestry,
n mahogany fin-
Monday $37.00
SUITE, comprisi-
One Side Chair,
French brocade,
n mahogany fin-
. . . . . $28.00
ahogany finish.
nglish tapestry.
. . . $13.75
. . . $9.75
. . . $9.00
. . . $8.50

The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL L., NO. 109 — VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1907 — FIFTIETH YEAR

SUFFERS HARDSHIP ON TEXADA ISLAND

Timber Cruiser's Narrow Escape From Death—Companion Likely Dead

Vancouver, Dec. 24.—Five days and nights in the woods on the uninhabited southeast end of Texada island, without food, blankets or even a knife and towards the last without even matches to light a fire, George McGrath, a timber cruiser, was almost dead from hunger and exposure when rescued last Thursday by the tug Chinook. A companion of the unfortunate man, who was blown out into Malaspina Strait in a small dory, with but one oar, has not been heard of and it is feared that he is either drowned or marooned on some lonely spot on the coast where he may starve to death.

McGrath was so weak and emaciated that he fell several times while descending to the beach to reach the small boat which the tug put ashore to take him off. The tugboat men say that the privations and exposure the man had passed through would certainly have left him insane or dead had he not been rescued within forty-eight hours.

Another night on the island would probably have killed McGrath, as the weather on Thursday was very cold, and snow was falling. The man's matches were all gone, and even had he been in good physical condition, it not thought he could have survived long. Just prior to his adventure, McGrath had been discharged from the Rock Bay hospital, where he had been seriously ill with pleurisy. He reached Vancouver on Saturday night on the tug.

Five days before McGrath was picked up, he and another man were skirting the shores in a small dory, and McGrath landed to take a look at some timber. The other man was to have rowed a short distance along the shore to a point where he was to have picked McGrath up. While he was pushing the dory along in the face of a strong offshore wind, one of the oars broke, and unable to hold the boat against the wind with the remaining oar, he was blown out into Malaspina strait which separates Texada island from the mainland.

McGrath realized that he was in a terrible plight as he watched the dory gradually working offshore till sight of it was lost in the gathering gloom—he had no food, no covering, and only a few matches. That night he made the best of conditions, feeling more anxiety for his companion than for himself, as he fully expected to be picked up next morning.

Tugs and steamers passed up and down through Malaspina Strait in plain sight of the marooned man, but none came close enough inshore to see his desperate signalling. At last giving up all hope of being sighted by any passing vessel, McGrath started through the tangle of forest for the western side of the island in the hope that he might run across some Indians or a stray settler. He found neither. Away at the northern end of the island lay Van Anda on the eastern shore, and a mining camp at Gillies bay on the western shore, but the miles of forest intervention, through which there was not so much as a trail, made it impossible for the man to think of making his way north.

As day followed night, after a night of bitter cold, McGrath gradually weakened, as the little food he was able to pick up on the beach fortified him scarcely at all. He had about given up hope of getting off the island alive when the tug Chinook, bound from Van Anda for Nanaimo, and hugging the shore closely for shelter from a southeaster, hove in sight. Climbing a conspicuous rock, McGrath waved his coat as continuously as his little remaining strength would permit. His signals were seen by the man at the wheel, and a boat was sent to pick him up.

What became of McGrath's companion is a mystery. Had he been picked up or reached shore he would undoubtedly have sent a rescuing party after McGrath. It is believed that he was drowned.

SEEKING SUPPOSED HEIR

The Son of Deceased English Baron Thought to Be Living in Kansas as a Cowboy

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 24.—Search is being made in this part of the counstate of Sir Myles Cave-Browne-Cave lieved to be the heir to the title and state of Sir. Myles Cavee-Browne-Cave an English baron, recently deceased.

According to Henry C. Solomon, a prominent Kansas City attorney was once retained by a man who represented himself to be Genille Cave, the latter is still believed to be in Kansas. The last heard from him was a year ago, when he was bound for that state to become a cowboy.

Genille Cave-Browne-Cave, according to the story told his attorney here, was born in Leicester, England, in 1869. He did some act to displease his parents, who disowned him, and then he began a series of wanderings that carried him through various countries. He arrived in Kansas City two years ago. Here he was known as "General Cave, and he worked as a sidewalk builder. Soon after his arrival he retained Attorney Solomon to aid him in renewing the relations with his parents. These efforts failed and he started for Kansas, saying he intended to become a cowboy. He visited the lawyer in Kansas City a year later, and then left again without making his destination known.

Today Attorney Solomon said he had just heard of the death of Sir Myles Cave-Brown-Cave, and he has set about to locate the supposed son and heir.

Expedition to North

Vancouver, Dec. 24.—Private advices from Ottawa declare that the Dominion Government will next year send a large expedition of surveyors to the north to make a detailed examination of the Arctic islands found by Capt. Bernier.

DOUBTS PURCHASE

Financial Paper Doubts Rumored C. P. R. Purchase of Maine Lines

The daily press has been replete with statements that the C.P.R. directors have acquired control of the Boston and Maine through the purchase of over 100,000 shares, acquired recently by the New York, New Haven and Hartford, says the Financial Post. It is hardly likely that such is the case and the story has been denied by Sir William Van Horne. Strategically, the Boston and Maine would be of considerable assistance to the C.P.R. in giving another outlet to the Atlantic seaboard, but its immense network of local lines in New England are more natural feeders of the New Haven road. Unless the latter line is compelled to sell to a company stronger in cash resources, it is quite unlikely its directors would give up a prize which they had great difficulty in winning.

The Saturday Review of London published last week a paragraph to the effect that C.P.R. stock was much too high and that decreased traffic must be looked for during the coming year. Whatever may be the reduction in volume of emigration this spring the C.P.R.'s gains in net earnings for November, January, February and March should be sufficient to offset any reduction in traffic during the last three months of its fiscal year. Even without a rush of immigrants the traffic from the territories already settled must constantly increase. The slight recession of C.P.R. shares to 148, on Wednesday was quickly overcome on Thursday. On Friday morning they were weaker, around 149½. The November net results, when they appear, should afford a bullish argument.

In a comparison of the growth of traffic on Great Northern and C.P.R. the Wall Street Journal points out that since 1901 C.P.R.'s gross earnings have increased from $4,000 per mile to nearly $8,000, or 93 per cent., while the Great Northern's have advanced from $6,500 to $9,000, or 69 per cent.

Collision Caused Injuries

Niagara Falls, Ont., Dec. 24.—Chicago express No. 7, leaving here at one o'clock this morning, collided with a yard engine at the west end of the yard. Both engines were damaged and Fireman Callahan, of Sarnia, of the express, was slightly injured. Fireman Ludlow, of this city, fireman on the yard engine, was seriously injured. Both engineers escaped injury. Five passengers were slightly injured. The cause of the accident is supposed to be a misunderstanding of signals.

Grave of T. C. Druce

London, Dec. 24.—Extraordinary precautions are being taken to prevent tampering with the grave of T. C. Druce, which will be opened in the course of the next few days to prove whether or not it contains the body of Druce or a roll of lead.

Germany's Naval League

Berlin, Dec. 24.—It would appear that Emperor William has declined to interfere in the internal quarrel which is threatening to disrupt the naval league. According to despatches received from Munich, the Emperor has requested the branch of the league to ask those members who intended to resign to suspend action until after New Year's day, when Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria is coming to Berlin to talk over the matter with His Majesty at the New Year's reception.

Repairing Dredge.

New Westminster, Dec. 24.—Minor repairs having been found necessary, the dredge King Edward has been removed from the foot of Ninth street, where it had been engaged for the past several days, to the government dockyards at Sapperton, to be overhauled.

SEVEN CREWS TO ROW IN OLYMPIC REGATTA

Argonaut Rowing Club Will Have Some Keen Opposition Next Year

According to a report from Toronto the Argonaut R. C. eight has started training for the Olympic games regatta in England next year, and they will have from now till next July to get in trim. Those who compose the combination just now with their weights are: Robertson, 158 pounds; Gale, 163; Robertson, 161; Boyd, 165; Balfour, 161; Davidson, 165; Reddy, 161; Taylor, stroke, 163; and Rutland, the coxswain, 115 pounds. Boyd and Thompson are no strangers on the English Thames, for they were members of the Argonaut outfit that tried for the grand challenge cup at Henley last year. The other five men are sweep pullers tried and true, for they were in the boat which carried off the honors at the national regatta at Philadelphia this year and previously distinguished themselves at the Canadian meet. The crew is coached by Joe Wright and will be worked regularly through the entire winter. When the ice prevents outdoor work the men will take to the rowing machines until it is possible for the shell to be launched again in the spring. The Argonauts will go to England a month ahead of the regatta, which takes place the last days of July, and they intend to have a good long spell of practice on the Thames.

Simultaneously with the reported activity of the Argonauts there comes word that there will be three crews for the Olympic regatta from the continent—the Belgians, France and Germany—and a crew from Australia. There will be two crews from England and the Britons are going to put their best legs forward this time to try and regain some of their prestige lost by the Belgians capturing the grand challenge cup. There is a crew talked of already which if they get together should take a lot of beating. They are: Edge, winner of the Wingfield sculls, No. 1; Blackstaffe, winner of the diamond sculls, No. 2; A. H. Cloutte, winner of the Wingfield sculls, No. 3; R. V. Powell, winner of the Colquhoun sculls, No. 4; Darell, winner of the diamond sculls, No. 5; McCulloch, runner up, diamond sculls, No. 6, Stuart, winner Colquhoun sculls, No. 7, and F. S. Kelly, winner of the diamond sculls, stroke. As far as individual merit goes this crew could easily outstrip that of any other nation and surely would make a boat travel fast.

It is not known that the Belgians will be represented by the same crew that rowed at Henley, but they are said to be sure to bring the best they can muster. The Belgians will not be allowed to row at Henley next year for the grand challenge cup, and the fact is causing quite a lot of unfavorable comment.

PROPOSED CHANGE IN CIVIC SYSTEM

Vancouver Alderman Offers a Resolution to Abandon Special Charter

Vancouver, Dec. 24.—Ald. Bird sprang a surprise on the city council at the closing moment of a session lasting nearly four hours last night, when he gave notice of a resolution pointing to the doing away of the government of the city under the provisions of its special charter, thus bringing the civic machinery under the guidance of the General Municipal Clauses Act.

The hour at which the matter was sprung was so late that no attempt was made to open discussion on the point, and Ald. Bird in his statement of intention gave no reasons for the move. Under the council rule the matter will come up at the next regular session.

Mayor Bethune brought before the attention of the council the authority now possessed by the city for the creation of a board of control, and suggested, in view of the fact that a popular vote on the question had never been taken, that the subject be placed before the electorate in the form of a plebiscite at the coming elections. His worship said he mentioned the matter in order that the council might be prepared to more fully discuss the idea at a special council meeting next Monday night.

The government of the city was brought to the fore during the session by the introduction of a resolution stating that as the council had heard it reported that the provincial authorities were contemplating a change in the constitution of license commissioners, whereby the entire body in this city might be appointed by the provincial government. It was respectfully advised that any such change was not deemed wise or advisable.

Some discussion was aroused on this question as to the propriety of the council sending forth such a statement without being more definitely advised as to the concerted intention. The resolution finally prevailed, Ald. Ramsay suggesting that the council might well add a rider to the effect that the council would be better pleased should the government make a change whereby the entire commission should be elected by the residents.

Battleships at Trinidad

Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec. 24.—Port of Spain welcomed the American fleet of battleships with hospitality and good-fellowship. Daylight showed the warships anchored in four column formation about four miles from the wharf. Admiral Evans, accompanied by members of his staff, landed at 11 o'clock. They were received by a guard of honor from the local militia. Accompanied by a band, the officers proceeded to the government house. The admiral rode in the governor's carriage.

"EMBALMED VOICES'

Phonograph and Records of Singers' Notes Deposited in Vaults of Paris Opera House

Paris, Dec. 24.—There was an unique ceremony this evening in the subterranean passages of the opera rouse. It consisted of depositing in a specially prepared vault of talking machine, and a number of discs bearing the records of the voices of the Greatest singers of the twentieth century. Tamagno, Caruso, Scotti, Plancon, Delnci, Patti, Melba, Calve and others are represented in the selections. The discs are in double boes, each seperate from the other. Neither light nor air can penetrate the coverings, and it is believed that the voice can thus be preserved for a century. At the end of a hundred years they will be opened, and the people of that age will have the opportunity of hearing voices of this era as well as seeing the talking machine as manufactured.

Fast Time With Mail

Vancouver, Dec. 24.—The Overseas mail arrived today, eighty-two hours from St. John. This is the best westbound run ever made, comparing with seventy-six hours eastward.

Mr. Montelius Injured

Vancouver, Dec. 24.—W. W. Montelius, the well known merchant, was knocked down and badly injured today by a horse on Hastings street.

Bridge Carpenter Drowned

Vancouver, Dec. 24.—George Aldredge, bridge carpenter, formerly of Brandon, fell off the city's new bridge across Seymour creek today. He was carried into the canyon and was drowned.

Boulder Hits Car.

Vancouver, Dec. 24.—Passengers arriving in Vancouver on Sunday night on the Seattle express report that near Haney a large boulder crashed through the roof of the day coach, landing in a vacant seat. It is supposed that the boulder was displaced by a charge of powder which workmen were using along the track. Other than the damage to the car no harm was done.

Moral Reform.

New Westminster, Dec. 24.—Less than a week from this date the edict of the city fathers with regard to the red-light district will go into effect, and every woman now residing on McNeeley and Ramage streets will be compelled to leave the city or reform. Some two months ago all inmates of resorts were notified that their presence in the city would not be tolerated after the end of the year, and they were instructed to make arrangements for leaving before January 1. Already several of the women have left town, but a number remain, and there is a probability that the cleaning-out effort will be attended with trouble early in the new year, when the police will be requested to enforce the ruling of the city council.

VANCOUVER CASES

Bellcourts Allowed to Go on Suspended Sentence—Perdue Gets One Year

Vancouver, Dec. 24.—Alfred and Edward Bellcourt, alias Glenn, passing counterfeit money at North Vancouver, sentence suspended. Alfred Perdue, forgery, two cases, one year's imprisonment.

The reason for the judicial Christmas box to the Glenns of Calgary was "extenuating circumstances and previous good character." The charges against Perdue of uttering the two forged notes, both signed by J. W. Brooks per J. B. Bright, the C. P. R. contractor, one for $60 and the other for $65, were fully proved. One was passed on the Flett Hardware company, the other on Mr. Hannage, the jeweler.

The extenuating circumstances surrounding the passing of the admittedly counterfeit coin in the Larsen hotel, were put in a word by W. E. Burns, counsel for the accused.

"It was in an atmosphere of gambling. Money was placed in a slot machine in the hope of getting money. If they lost, the money was to pay for the music, which was inaudible. The machine hasn't turned out a tune in six months as the evidence has shown.

His Honor Judge Cane not only agreed with this, but the further circumstances, the entire absence of any attempt on the part of either of the accused to pass the money elsewhere or in trade. It was counterfeit money, but it was not likely to go beyond the machine. Then there was the previous good character of both.

"So I think I am fully justified," aded the court, "in suspending sentence in this case."

Mr. Burns then changed his role of counsel for the defence to counsel for the crown in the case of young Perdue. Gordon Grant had no extenuating circumstances to urge for the accused, while the evidence of Mr. Bright and that of handwriting experts were sufficient proof of the guilt which had been denied.

FEW RECORDS BROKEN DURING PAST YEAR

American Athletics Show a Marked Improvement But Few New Marks

New York, Dec. 23.—During the year now drawing to a close there has been continued improvement in many lines of sport and while it is true that the year has not been remarkable in record-breaking for the entire sporting calendar, the performances of that sort which have been accomplished, have been of a most exciting character.

Racing autos were probably credited with the greatest number of new records. Walter Christie has the distinction of making the fastest mile on record, that of fifty-two seconds.

In road racing Pazzaro (Fiat) covered the Grand Prix course in France of 478 miles at an average speed of 70.61 miles per hour. Duray (De Dietrich) made the fastest round of 47.8 miles in 37.54.

Charles M. Daniels, the New York Athletic club swimmer, will receive the greatest credit as one of the best record-breakers of the year. He created more than forty new American records, his 100-yard mark of 55 2-5 seconds in the English championship and mile in 23.40 in a 60-foot pool being simply marvelous. In aquatics the one-mile canoe record of 8.4, with double paddles, straightaway, was a good performance.

In the ice and snow sports, the snowshoers set a new mark in cross-country running of nine miles in 47 minutes 20 seconds, and the ski jumpers, who have rapidly attained prominence, have placed the record for jumping at 114 feet. The local skaters were handicapped by a late season and poor ice, but in the international meet new records were made, about the best being 9 minutes and 6 4-5 seconds for 5,000 metres (3 miles 188 yards).) In ice yachting a twenty-mile course (ten turns) was covered in 39 minutes 50 seconds.

It was unfortunate that Collin, the champion horse of the season, found nothing to force him to record-breaking efforts in the way of best world's marks. New records were made, however, among them being the one-mile and an eighth in 1:50 3-5 by Charles Edward at Brighton Beach, and the six and one-half furlongs in 1:17 2-5 by Brookdale Nymph at Belmont park.

The world's trotting and pacing records were not shattered, but the newcomers showed such improvement that some thing may be expected next season in this line. Of the new trotting performances, the 2-year-old Tramfast (2:12¼) and the 3-year-old General Watts (2:06¾), also the mare Reproachless (2:04¼) among the pacers, divided the honors as the fastest of the season.

The shooters had their eye on the targets in the Palma trophy international match, in which a world's record of 1,712 out of a possible 1,800, was made, and even Topperwein's record for breaking 7,000 flying targets was broken by Captain Hardy, who smashed 13,066, and then quit because one of the judges had to be home on time for supper.

Dr. Hudson of New York set up a new world's record of 1,165 out of a possible 1,250 points on a ring target at 200 yards, in fifty consecutive shots. Rudolph Gute made 2,400 out of a possible 2,500 in a gallery match of the Zettler Rifle club. William H. Herry the U. M. C. Remington professional, made a new world's record at the traps, where he shot at 14,055 targets in competition and broke 96.3 per cent.

The professional billiardists appear to have nearly reached their limit in the balk-line games, although, it is not unreasonable to believe that something further may happen in this line the present season. Calvin Demarest, in winning the national amateur championship, put up a new record average of 27.37 at 14.2. Willie Hoppe made a run of 31 points "off the red;" Bush of Elmira, pocketed 88 balls from the break at pool; Nolan averaged 1.6 in a three-cushion game of twenty-five points, and Sutton made a run of 221 points in practice at 18.1 balk-line this season.

Total attendance at the National and American league baseball games was 6,136,567—300,000 more than the previous best record of 1904. Cobb of Detroit led the American league batsmen with an average of .352, while Wagner, Pittsburg, clouted the horsehide in the National with an aveage of .350.

A homing pigeon made an average speed of 1,612 yards per minute for 600 miles. Thompson's Colts bowling team (five men) rolled a 2,853 score for three games. Ralph Rose, John Flanagan, Martin Sheridan, George Bonhag and Melvin Sheppard, all broke athletic records.

SMALL BUSINESS IN STOCK MARKET

Various Influences Still at Work to Discourage Speculation

New York, Dec. 24.—The stock exchange might as well not have been in session today for anything that was accomplished. There was a slight spurt of activity in the first hour, and after that the market became lethargic. The pre-holiday influence was partly responsible for this although there was lacking the usual trimming process caused by the closing of accounts over the holidays, such outstanding accounts being apparently at a minimum. This probably explained the small effect comparatively of the stringent state of the money market on prices. Underlying strength was inferable from this resistance of the market to the influence to the money condition.

There was some special weakness in the railroad and electrical equipment stocks, traceable easily to the fears of cutting down of outlay by the railroads to keep pace with the declining tendency of earnings now clearly in evidence. Reports of the reduction of working forces in factories or total shut-downs in some cases pointed to the same conclusion as to the course of industrial affairs.

The abstract of the condition of banks throughout the country showing by responses to the comptroller's call for December 3rd was regarded as reassuring as to the condition of the banking fabric as a whole, the percentage of legal reserve to deposit standing on that date at 21.31 per cent compared with 21.23 per cent on August 22 and 20.80 per cent on November 12 last year.

Although there has been a shinkage of individual deposits for the shorter period of $142,161,686, the government deposits have in the meantime increased by $79,834,460, and that factor must have affected also the special and legal reserve holdings materially, the decrease in holdings being only $40,888,796. But it is in the items reflecting the inner relations of the bank that the dislocation of the usual banking conditions are most sharply defined. The sum due from banks and reserve agents has shrunk since August 23, by $146,334,373, and since November 12 last year by $214,496,640, while the amount due other banks and bankers has fallen $191,526,617 since August 22, and slightly less in the yearly comparison.

It is the persistence of this condition which is given responsibility for the persistence of the currency premium in New York and the embarrassments in exchange operations. The opinion is growing that the way out of this state will be the restoration of a surplus by the New York banks by their own measures, after which banks everywhere in the country are expected to resume their normal relations with the reserve centers.

GREENE AND GAYNOR

Celebrated Case Appears to End With Order for Enforcement of Sentence

New Orleans, Dec. 24.—The United States Court of Appeals here today issued its mandate for the carrying out of the sentence in the lower court in the Gaynor and Greene case, following the denial of a writ of certiorari by the supreme court of the United States yesterday.

Benj. B. Greene and Hoh. F. Gaynor were each sentenced to pay a fine of $575,749 and serve four years of imprisonment after being convicted of embezzlement and conspiracy with Capt. Oberlin Carter to defraud the United States government in connection with harbor improvements at Savannah, Ga.

The case was brought here on an appeal, and the verdict of the trial court was affirmed.

FOR FRUIT GROWING

Tracts of Land in Columbia River Valley Cut Up in Small Lots For Settlement

Rossland, Dec. 24.—A tract of land at Blueberry creek, on the Columbia river, has been cut up into five and ten-acre blocks, and a number of the blocks have already been sold in Manitoba. Some of the choicest blocks brought over $200 an acre. The subdivison has been named "Bruce Gardens."

Messrs. Willoughby & Maurer of Winnipeg, who own a large tract at Waterloo, have had about 1,000 acres subdivided into ten-acres blocks for immediate settlement. A townsite has been laid out on the east side of the river, and arrangements have been completed for putting in a ferry there. An advance guard of a dozen Germans from Manitoba visited the place last week and reported favorably on the land, and in the spring a large number of the better class of immigrants will settle on the land. These German farmers are well-to-do, and each will bring a carload of effects with him and go into fruit-raising at once on a business-like scale.

Vancouver's Debentures

Vancouver, Dec. 24.—At last night's council meeting Ald. Ramsay read a report from the comptroller stating that the city would receive only $2 or $3 for its bonds recently sold was an error. The city would net $5 on the debentures, the agreement stating that the change of sterling denomination was done at the expense of the purchaser.

Water Supply Question.

New Westminster, Dec. 24.—Upon the report of Col. T. H. Tracy, C.E., of Vancouver, depends entirely whether or not the proposed three municipalities water system will be carried out. Richmond, Delta and New Westminster are the three interested, while a counter proposition whereby water could be obtained from the Nicomeki is also under consideration. All the facts and plans in connection with the case have been submitted to Col. Tracy and his report should be ready for inspection within the course of the next few days.

IN MINING COUNTRY

Times in Rossland Continue Fairly Good—Dullness Felt in Boundary

Vancouver, Dec. 24.—"Mining conditions in the upper country just now are anything but favorable, but a revival is expected early in the new year," said R. P. Williams, a well known mining machinery agent, of Rossland, who is at the Hotel Vancouver. "In the Boundary district, where the most activity usually prevails, affairs are unusually quiet. It is hoped that additional measures to adjust the difficulties between the big copper companies and their employees will soon be reached.

"Times in Rossland can really be described as good, as the miners over eight hundred in number, never stopped work, having accepted the reduced or former wage scale. The Le Roi mine, and the War Eagle and Centre Star mines, controlled by the Canadian Consolidated Mining & Smelting company, are jointly outputting over four thousand tons of ore weekly. The smelter at Trail and the St. Eugene mine at Moyie, also owned by the same corporation, are also working full shifts. The Daly Reduction company at Hedley, in the Similkameen district, is also operating on a large scale. The opinion is general that next year's output will be the largest in the history of the interior.

Southern Okanagan Progress

W. T. Shatford, of Penticton, manager of the Southern Okanagan Land company, is in the city. He is very much pleased with the progress made by his company this season, the open winter having enabled them to keep on ploughing and preparing the land for tree-planting right up to date. About 400 acres of fruit lots, which have been recently sold by the company have been plowed, and all preparations made for planting 40,000 fruit trees. Mr. Shatford is taking a vacation and during his absence the business well be managed by his brother, L. W. Shatford, M. P. P., who is at present making his headquarters at Penticton. Mr. Shatford leaves today for Halifax and intends to take a trip to Jamaica and other West Indian points before his return next spring.—Vernon News.

MR. PUGSLEY'S VERSION

He Alleges Reasons for Refusing to Answer Mr. Kemp's Challenge in Parliament

St. John, Dec. 24.—Hon. Mr. Wm. Pugsley, discussing the attack made upon him by the Conservative member of parliament for East Toronto, said it would have been out of place for him to refer to these matters in the debate on the reply to the speech from the throne. Mr. Kemp's remarks were not such as to be calculated to raise that member in the esteem of the house, and he (Mr. Pugsley) did not feel called upon to reply. Other members of the government had agreed with him that he had adopted the proper course. Mr. Pugsley said he had made the charges publicly and with such minute detail that they could not be mistaken. His statements had not been denied by the leaders of the opposition or gentlemen in New Brunswick and Montreal who were cognizant of the facts. Whenever Mr. Borden was ready to discuss the matter with him, either in parliament or elsewhere, Mr. Pugsley said he would be ready to meet him in debate.

OKANAGAN CENTRE HAS BRIGHT FUTURE

That is the Opinion of George Watt Who Owns Fruit Farm There

George M. Watt, Jr., of Okanagan Centre, is spending Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George M. Watt, Sen., "Duneim," Menzies street, having arrived in Victoria a few days ago. Mr. Watt owns a forty-acre fruit ranch near Okanagan Centre, from which he expects great things in the next few years. The district is going ahead by leaps and bounds, especially since Maddock Bros., Limited, of which V. C. Maddock & Co. is a leading concern, undertook the irrigation of a tract containing about 5,000 acres which they are dividing into ten-acre plots. The work is well under way and it is expected that water will be turned on about April 1.

Discussing the work, of which he is in charge, Mr. Watt said that it was considered the most complete system that had yet been attempted in British Columbia. The water is conveyed by the inverted syphon principle in 22 inch cast iron pipes from a lake, four miles long by one and a half wide, down one hill, across a valley and up another hill to the Maddock property which fronts on Okanagan lake. This lake is connected with a string of smaller ones extending back a distance of fifteen miles, so that no fear need be entertained of a water shortage. Included in the water system under way is provision for a complete service not only for the new town of Okanagan Centre, but also for the various plots.

The town of Okanagan Centre although only about a year old already gives promise of becoming a thriving centre. It now boasts a good hotel, a large general store, a livery stable, several fine residences, while close by is a sawmill with a daily capacity of 25,000 feet of lumber. A wharf has been built and the little town is a regular place of call for vessels passing up and down Okanagan lake.

Mr. Watt will return shortly to his home in Okanagan Centre, where he has spent the past four years, previous to which he had spent six years in other parts of the Okanagan district. Eventually, however, he chose what is now Okanagan Centre as the best location for fruit growing and sees no reason for regretting his selection.

WORK TO RESUME IN THE BOUNDARY

Granby Company Reaches an Agreement With Miners and Smeltermen

Nelson, B. C., Dec. 24.—A special to the Daily News from Grand Forks announces that a settlement between the Granby company and its miners and smeltermen was reached this evening, and work will be resumed at Phoenix and Grand Forks on Thursday morning. This is the Kootenay's Christmas box.

The Queen City of the Kootenays has never witnessed a brighter or more prosperous Christmas eve. A large number of ranchers who have settled in the district during the last twelve months are in the city for the holidays. The streets and stores have been crowded during all afternoon and evening. There is good skating, sleighing and curling, and with a promised settlement of all labor questions in the Boundary and elsewhere the outlook here is decidedly satisfactory.

New Brunswick Libel Case.

St. John, N. B., Dec. 24.—An order for the arrest of Alfred B. Clark, opposition candidate in St. John county for the legislature, was issued yesterday at the instance of W. A. Quilton, steward of the provincial hospital for nervous diseases, who alleges he was libeled in a statement made by Clark when accepting nomination.

Want Rockefeller Money.

Toronto, Dec. 24.—McMaster University (Baptist) may establish a medical department, and it is said negotiations are being carried on with John D. Rockefeller to secure $2,000,000 to aid in the purpose.

Herculaneum Excavation.

New York, Dec. 24—A despatch from Rome to the Times says the Italian government announces that the excavation of the buried city of Herculaneoum will begin at once. The work will be carried out by the Italian government with Italian funds, and the advice of eminent foreign archaeologists will be gratefully accepted.

Peace In South America.

Berlin, Dec. 24.—The leading article which appears in the Deustche Tages Zeitung this morning, and which bears as the caption "Roosevelt As Peacemaker," rejoices in the President's efforts to secure peace in the South American republic. The article recognizes the cessation of revolutions and wars in these regions as of very great advantage to European, and especially to German, enterprises.

Small Christmas Business.

New York, Dec. 24.—That the Christmas business this year will be smaller than it was last year is admitted by most dealers in New York. The crowds are larger than the oldest dealer has ever seen, but the people are spending less money.

Liberal Majority Reduced.

Markham, Dec. 24.—Revised returns give Dr. McLean, Liberal, a majority of 16 in Central York. At last election, Arch. Campbell, Liberal, had a majority of 124.

Train Blown from Tracks.

Denver, Colo., Dec. 24.—A terrific tornado blew a passenger train off the track one mile north of Marshall, Colo., on the Colorado & Southern railroad, shortly before noon today. Baggageman Chiles, of Denver was killed, and eight or ten trainmen and passengers injured. All wires in that direction are down, and no details have been received.

Black Handers Raided.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 24.—The police raided an alleged black hand organization this afternoon and arrested 17 Italians. All the foreigners were armed with revolvers and stilettos.

Bridge Dynamited.

Newark, N. J., Dec. 24.—An attempt was made today to blow up the new State Street bridge of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, now in course of construction over the Erie railway tracks, near the Hackensack river. A huge hole was torn from the center of the bridge by an explosion of dynamite. No arrests have been made.

Tyranny in Poland

Warsaw, Dec. 24.—Gen. Skallon, Governor General of Warsaw, who recently closed 1,600 Polish schools and disbanded a number of labor unions, has ordered all the Jewish clubs in Poland to close.

Closed For Holidays.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—The South Chicago plant of the Illinois Steel company, employing 7,000 men, will be shut down until after the holidays.

Member Recuperating.

Preston, Ont., Dec. 24.—John A. Clare, Conservative member of parliament for South Waterloo, who has been suffering from an acute form of indigestion, is now out of danger.

Guests of Salvation Army.

New York, Dec. 24.—More than 125,000 people will eat Christmas dinner in New York tomorrow furnished by the Salvation army. The dinners are being put up in baskets for families of five and six, and will be distributed on Christmas morning.

Farmers Fight Application.

New Westminster, Dec. 24.—Four residents of Coquitlam, in the vicinity of Lake Como, are vigorously opposing the granting of 1,000 inches of water from this lake to the Fraser river sawmills, which applied for a record a few days ago, intending to use the water for power purposes in connection with their big mill at Millside. C. C. Fisher, government agent, will give both sides a special hearing on Dec. 30, when all parties interested will present arguments and objections.