Puts Foot On Bonusing Fad

Council Regrets Suggestion To Acquire Power To Aid Enterprises Outside City.

Also Throws Out Recommendation To Increase Tax on Manufacturers.

An adjourned meeting of the council was held yesterday evening in the committee room at the City Hall for the express purpose of considering the special report of the Legislative committee containing various suggested amendments to the Municipal Clauses Act. The session was a more than usually interesting one, inasmuch as the discussion ranged over a variety of subjects of particular importance in their bearing on matters affecting civic management. The report of the committee as submitted was as follows:

Sirs,—We, your legislative committee, having duly considered the matters suggested and referred for our consideration, with a view of seeking amendments in the Municipal Clauses Act during the present session of Parliament, have taken into our consideration the sub-joined amendments which embrace all those amendments which we consider it desirable to bring forward, having regard to the probable shortness of the session, and the necessity therefore of avoiding amendments which will cause much controversy.

These amendments are:

1. An amendment in the first sub-section of Section 50, to enable the city to aid enterprises, both manufacturing, industrial or commercial, (including hotels or hydropathic establishments) outside the city limits, but adjacent thereto which directly or indirectly add to the revenue or otherwise benefit the city, and we consider that the form and extent of the aid can be left with the taxpayers who have to vote upon the bylaw granting the same, and who will be the best judges whether the proposed aid will be in the interests of the city.

2. We consider a sub-section of Section 50 should be framed to place in the power of the Council the approval of any proposed buildings adjacent to government or municipal buildings, the object being to prevent unsightly buildings to be erected which would injure the architectural effect of buildings of which the city has reason to be proud.

3. Section 50 should be further amended to enable a municipality to elect whether the incidence of sewer rate shall fall upon the occupier, or only upon the owner. This is to avoid the great expense and time which will be caused if the tax is raised from occupiers who are constantly moving.

4. And in further connection with the sewer question, we recommend that a section be included to validate the recent sewer bylaw and sewer loan bylaw, leaving it optional to collect from the owners only.

The amendments of last year enabling the imposing of sewer tax, we find require correction in one or two errors of a clerical and technical character which have crept in.

5. In Section 152, dealing with the power of a person whose property has been sold for arrears of taxes, to redeem upon tendering to the purchaser at a tax sale the amount paid by him, there is no provision for repayment made in case the purchaser elects to pay the city taxes subsequent to the purchase by him at a tax sale. If he does so, he has no recourse either against the lands or against the owner coming to redeem. We therefore recommend a short amendment to Section 152, which will enable any purchaser paying the tax to have a charge for his payment with interest.

6. Dealing with the referendum section which was added last year, through an oversight, the intention of the parliamentary committee of the House to enable a referendum to be had at any time, was not given effect to. There would consequently be a slight alteration necessary in sub-section 173 of Section 50.

7. An amendment of 1900, imposing a tax upon bicycles or other vehicles appears to have been unfortunately worded, and we recommend that the section should be amended, imposing the tax on vehicles, cars.

8. With regard to the issuing of liquor licenses, we recommend that power be sought to limit the operation of liquor licenses to the six (6) working days of the week, and that the necessary amendments to effect this be made.

9 In regard to the engagement of the means of raising revenue by taxation on certain industries which have heretofore escaped attention, your committee suggest that some further amount of taxation could without being burdensome, be accepted by the following trades: Lumber merchants or manufacturers, chemical manufacturers, paint and soap manufacturers, and suggest a tax of $100 annually. Your committee also recommend that the tax be levied on each separate and distinct business, the city by a general bylaw defining with due regard to custom what combination of business may be carried on under the license.

10. The officer of the corporation charged with collecting the business tax from transient traders has always experienced a difficulty in the collection of the transient trader tax from manufacturers or agents consigning goods to the city. Your committee recommend that a sub-section should be added to Section 171 dealing with this.

11. Owing to the repeal of sub-sections 20 and 21 of Section 171, striking out the special tax on barristers and solicitors, a technical error has crept in under Section 173 which requires amending.

12. Under the provisions of the "Official Map Act, 1896," the city is empowered to call upon fences or improvements encroaching upon the line of street to be removed, but the Act makes it absolutely conditional that before that cash compensation for the removal should be paid before the encroacher is compelled to remove. A section has been framed to take the place of the existing Section 241.

13. Your committee recommend that power shall be sought to enable the Council on their own initiative and without any requisition to consent of owners to sidewalk, grade, macadamize, pave, fence and drain certain streets or roads. Your committee think that the Council may safely be entrusted with a limited compulsory power, and suggest that the limit be a money one, and your committee have prepared a section dealing with this question.

14. Your committee recommend that power be sought to place the appointment of license commissioners and police commissioners in the hands of the Council, and to make the Council the license and police authority.

The very first clause proved to be one of a contentious character. When the report was read at Monday evening's meeting of the council, His Worship, Mayor McCandless lost no time in speaking disapprovingly of the first clause. He thought it would be extremely unwise to have the city given such powers as were suggested. The city had already bonused enterprises to a sufficient extent; and he did not think it would be well to entertain any suggestion aiming at permitting a further demand being made upon the coffers of the city. He had no doubt but that what was aimed at particularly was the arranging of matters so that the promoters of the Oak Bay hotel scheme might be able to submit a proposition to the ratepayers. On taking the report up at last night's meeting, the same objections were urged by a number of the aldermen, although Ald. Yates, Barnard and Vincent were in favor of the clause passing. They argued that the city could not be placed in any danger, as the ultimate decision in the matter was left to a vote of the ratepayers. Ald. Vincent also took occasion to remark that had the city had such power as was asked for in the clause a few years ago, it might have secured the location of the Chemainus milling plant at Esquimalt. A bonus of $10,000 at that time would have secured the advantages of the mills operations for Victoria. A majority of the aldermen disapproved of the clause; and, a vote being taken, it was struck out.

When clause 9 came to be considered, a lengthy debate was engendered, Ald. Cameron strenuously opposing the suggestion, aimed at in the clause, to increase the tax on certain manufacturers to $100, and also to devise a scheme of rendering more taxable the businesses conducted by departmental stores. On this latter point Ald. Cameron argued that cities much further advanced than Victoria had wrestled with the problem of how to deal equitably with departmental stores, and had failed. His views prevailed, and the entire clause was struck out.

The various other clauses passed without amendment.

LARGE CANNERIES ON SKEENA.

Plants Increasing Capacity in Expectation of Good Season.

Judging from the large salmon canning plants now in course of construction on the Skeena, there is every indication that there will be a busy season on the Northern river this year. The Balmoral cannery, which the B. C. Packers' Association took over from Turner, Beeton & Co., is being converted into a four-line cannery, which will give it the largest capacity on the Skeena, it being expected that 40,000 cases will be turned out. A new cannery on the Skeena is also being constructed for Finlay, Durham & Brodie, with a capacity of 30,000 cases. A full double line of machinery is being installed. This cannery is situated on the Southwest of Smith Island, just outside of Skeena river. The building is being rushed in order to be in readiness for the commencement of the season.

The large preparations are due to the successful operations of past seasons on the Skeena. An estimate of the increase can be given when it is noted that while 600 boats were employed last year, there will be over 1,000 this season. Many Japs are going up to fish, and it is thought that the competition caused thereby will create dissatisfaction, and that eventually the conditions will be the same as prevailed on the Fraser during late years.

It appears that over $50,000 was lost by the canneries on Rivers Inlet owing to the advantage the Indians would have by reason of the scarcity of labor. A cannery in its eagerness to obtain Indian employees would offer an additional bonus, and the other canneries would have to follow suit.

The stolid Indian, with all the wariness of a poker player, kept on raising until, instead of only receiving 7 cents a fish, they were getting a bonus as high as $30 per man, and 8 cents a fish. To obviate this ruinous competition, three of the canneries have agreed to co-operate, and thus reduce the wages of the "Skookum Charlies" to normal pay.

TO DISCUSS MINING ACTS

Executive of Mining Association To Meet Ministers This Morning.

The Executive of the Provincial Mining Association held day and evening sessions yesterday, the members in their discussions covering considerable ground. At last evening's meeting the principal business was the alloting to different members the various subjects affecting mining interests which are to be discussed with the government at 10 o'clock this morning.

The report of A. C. Galt (Rossland) from the Placer Mines Committee, was adopted.

The report of Mr. D. W. Higgins from the committee on salaries and bonds was also adopted. This report fixed the salary of the secretary at $100 per month, assistant secretary $75 per month; treasurer, $500 per year.

President John Keen announced that arrangements had been made to meet the government this morning at 10 o'clock.

Another lengthy discussion ensued in respect to the action of the Dominion government in refusing aid to the silver-lead mines of the province.

The committee appointed to draw up a resolution on this subject was in favor of the bonus asked for going to the producer of the ore.

The report was referred back to the committee, Messrs. Belyea and Galt being added thereto.

The executive also carried a resolution to the effect that a telegram be sent to John A. Retallack, at Ottawa, asking what aid the executive could give in the way of procuring a bonus for the silver-lead industries.

The Provincial Mining Department was then subjected to a severe criticism, Mr. Belyea contending that as it existed today it was of no use to the country.

A communication was read from H. Mortimer Lamb, proposing that the British Columbia Record be adopted as the official organ of the association. Action was deferred until tonight's meeting.

Mr. Belyea complained that he had sent identical letters to the British Columbia members and senators at Ottawa in respect to the request that the Ottawa government appropriate $25,000 to the association, and that his letters had only been acknowledged by Senator Reid and Aulay Morrison, all the other British Columbia representatives ignoring the letters.

The meeting adjourned till this evening at 8 o'clock.

LIBERALS VEXED WITH LAURIER

The Faithful of Nelson Complain Bitterly of Government's Attitudes.

Nelson, B. C., April 21.—At a special general meeting of the Nelson District Liberal Association this evening, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved—That this association express its extreme disappointment that the government have not seen their way clear to grant the request of the silver-lead mine owners as supported by every Liberal Association in British Columbia for a revision of the tariff respecting lead and the products thereof, and be it

Further resolved, that the association urge upon the government the extreme necessity for their giving the earliest possible relief asked for, as in this way alone can there be secured for the Canadian lead industry its home market, and thereby an important favorable condition for such industry;

And we further reiterate our assured that unless relief is granted along these lines, the Liberals of British Columbia will feel that this important industry, involving as it does the prosperity of a large portion of our population, will not be receiving the consideration accorded other Canadian industries, and particularly other Canadian producers, and as a consequence that the party will suffer a severe blow in this province.

"And further be it resolved, that we are of opinion that the mine owners and business men are unanimously of opinion that no bonus proposition as suggested or otherwise can possibly relieve the present condition of the lead industry, and in any event is not the proper, nor can it be made an adequate, remedy to apply to such conditions."

It was further decided to hold a convention of the entire constituency to consider what further action should be taken, and a committee was appointed to arrange for an immediate call for a convention to be held at Nelson at the earliest date possible.

Scrofula is a bad thing to inherit or acquire, but there is this about it—Hood's Sarsaparilla completely cures even the worst cases.

Gamey Takes French Leave

Crosses the Line and Absence Nearly Results in a Great Fiasco.

Located In Buffalo but Says he Will Return Whenever he Is Wanted.

Toronto, April 21.—Owing to the non-appearance of Gamey, there was considerable excitement at the bribery investigation this morning. The whereabouts of that gentleman seemed to be the only topic of conversation in the court room. Hon. Mr. Stratton was on hand sharp at 10 o'clock and smiling. From ten to ten minutes after Mr. Blake, chief counsel for the prosecution and Mr. Johnstone, chief counsel for the defence, held a consultation in the antechamber. The court did not open until ten-twenty. Mr. Blake opened the proceedings by informing the judges that he wished to call as witnesses Mrs. Sullivan, wife of Frank Sullivan, and his fatherin-law, George Wilson, of Rochester, who would not be here until Thursday. He said counsel on both sides had encountered difficulty in the unaccountable absence of Mr. Gamey, and of whose whereabouts he could give the court no information. If the case had been a private one between Gamey and others alone, he would feel inclined to drop it, but there were two difficulties to be considered. First Gamey's disappearance was as yet unaccounted for, and he was a member of parliament; second, the case would have great effect on Gamey's character. If Gamey is not here Thursday my learned friend may think fit to drop the case. Personally I think it ought to be continued, as it effects the public. It is for judges to say whether they think it their duty to have it withdrawn or continued.

Chancellor Boyd said the disappearance of Gamey was unexpected, and put a different aspect on the situation. The case was not a private one, but the matter which pertained to the good of the country. In the case, counsel should be retained so as to assist the judges to decide the case. Gamey might appear Thursday. In that case it would be unfortunate if Mr. Blake was to withdraw. Some one else would have to be procured to act instead of him. It is our wish that you continue in discharge of your duty, so that all honest persons may know the truth." Chancellor Boyd then asked Mr. Blake if he had any witnesses to appear other than the two he mentioned. Mr. Blake replied that he had only one more witness, and that he wished the bank books examined. He understood that Johnstone was also anxious to see the bank books, and thought that the court should be adjourned until Thursday morning.

Mr. Johnstone said that further discussion was useless. Mr. Blake's position was not unreasonable. He fully concurred in the view taken by the judiciary.

"I think that the charges ought to be investigated to the fullest possible extent. I think an adjournment till Thursday commendable, and that the intervening time will not be wasted."

Chief Justice Falconbridge, to Mr. Johnstone: "Are you ready to proceed with your witnesses?"

Mr. Johnstone—"Within half an hour's notice."

The Court then adjourned until ten o'clock Thursday morning.

Toronto, April 21.—R. R. Gamey, M. P. P., for Manitoulin, whose sudden disappearance from the city caused such a decided sensation, has been located. He is at the Mansion House, Buffalo, and says that he intends to return. The Mansion House was called up by telephone this afternoon, and Gamey was got to the telephone. "Would you mind saying, Gamey, why you are in Buffalo?" he was asked. "What did they do at the court this morning?" asked Gamey. "The whole case nearly went up in the air owing to your absence." "That's strange," said Gamey. "They have got my evidence and they have got the circumstances to keep the case going for a day or two." "And you are coming back?" "I'll be back whenever they want me," was Gamey's reply. "And your not gone for good?" "What, leave the country?" exclaimed Gamey, "How could I leave the country."

Regarding the $900 deposit, Gamey said the deposit was his own private business. The money was his private funds, deposited in his private account, and had nothing to do with the case at all. He had done nothing wrong, he declared, in regard to the deposit slip or anything else, and he was not keeping out of the way. Mr. Gamey added that his friends need not worry as his absence would be explained, and he would be on hand when wanted.

POLICE COURT AMENITIES

A Vancouver Magistrate Exchanges Compliments With Lawyer for Defence.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, April 21.—W. J. Bowser had a serious altercation with Magistrate Russell in the Police Court today. When the magistrate was lecturing Bowser's client, Gedley, charged with intimidation, on his grave offence of criticising a decision of the court, Bowser said it was nothing; that the magistrate had been heard by him (Bowser) criticizing decisions of the Supreme Court, and he himself had done so too. The magistrate asked Mr. Bowser if he placed himself on a level with a prisoner in criticizing decisions of the police court. Bowser said he had often done so. The magistrate said he would attend to the matter later on, and Mr. Bowser said he could do so as soon as he liked, that his reputation would not suffer at the hands of citizens alongside that of the Police Magistrate. The magistrate then refused to go on with the case.

In the Euphrats advertising case it is said Euprats has offered to make restitution by handing back all money paid for advertising.

STILL OPEN.

Venezuelan Matter Subject of Negotiations Regarding Terms of Reference.

London, April 21.—The House of Commons re-assembled today with a small attendance. Foreign Secretary Cranborne informed a questioner that negotiations were still proceeding at Washington regarding the precise terms of the reference of the matters in dispute between Venezuela and the powers to The Hague.

SILVER-LEAD BOUNTY.

Mr. Retallick Points Out to East Gravity of the Situation.

Montreal, April 21.—J. R. Retallick, of Sandon, B. C., president of the Lead Miners' Association, is in the city today. Discussing the budget, he said: "Speaking on behalf of the Silver-Lead Miners' Association of British Columbia, to say that we were disappointed that no duty was placed on lead would be putting it mildly. The only thing that we can hope for now is that the government will at once take up the question of an adequate bounty. Until such time as some protection is granted, it will be absolutely impossible to reopen the mines."

STERN JUSTICE.

Meted Out to Riotous Soldiers of Leinster Regiment.

Pretoria, Transvaal, April 21.—Five private soldiers belonging to the Second Battalion of the Leinster Regiment, were sentenced to death in the Supreme Court here today. The conviction of the men followed their trial in connection with a riot which took place at the barracks on March 28, when the military police attempted to arrest a number of drunken soldiers. The latter, reinforced by some of their comrades, secured rifles and ammunition, and opened fire on the military police. One of the latter, a member of the Leinster regiment, was killed, and sixteen men were injured.

SIR OLIVER'S PALL-BEARERS.

Chief Dignitaries of Dominion Will Officiate Today.

Toronto, April 21.—Premier Laurier, Hon. Mr. Ross, Chief Justice Moss, Sir Wm. Mulock, Hon. Mr. Gibson, and Sir John Boyd will be honorary pall-bearers at Sir Oliver Mowat's funeral tomorrow. The legislature reassembled today, but adjourned till after the funeral.

SULTAN OF JOLO.

Manila, April 21.—Major-General Davis, of the United States army, has returned here from the Jolo Archipelago. He did not see the Sultan of Jolo as the latter went to Singapore three days before General Davis arrived. The Sultan's absence compels a temporary abandonment of the negotiations.

NEW YORK MARKETS.

New York, April 21.—There was quite a comprehensive upward movement of prices today, led by the Gould group and Baltimore & Ohio, as other parts of the list came into the movement a disposition became manifest to take profits in the early leaders, which led to a moderate reaction all through the list and closing was easy and dull. It was plain that a speculative party had been organized to advance the market, and they made their operations effective today. Their campaign seems to be based on general conditions. Southern Pacific was lifted two points late in the day on an unconfirmed rumor that a settlement had been effected between the Harriman and Keen interests.

POCKET EDITION OF THE DURBAR

Provided by Algerian Tribesmen In Honor of President Loubet of France.

Elkreider, Algeria, April 21.—President Loubet participated today in a veritable Durbar with the nomadic tribesmen of the desert. The tribesmen gathered in thousands from all parts of Southern Algeria for a ceremony of Oriental splendor. The ceremony was held on a vast plateau. Here the tribesmen assembled from all quarters, some having journeyed for miles across the desert. The chiefs were mounted on horses, but the tribesmen were on camels, and formed a great caravan. Their tents were arranged, as is the Arab custom, each tribe occupying a large circle, in the centre of which were droves of richly harnessed camels.

Over 8,000 men participated in the gathering. A superb tent of camel hair fabrics and Arab tapestry had been erected for M. Loubet. As each tribe passed in review, its chief dismounted and paid homage to the President of France, who distributed decorations to the principal leaders.

After the review came a native fantasia, or exhibition of sports. There were feats of horsemanship and much burning of gunpowder. The exhibition ended with a charge of all the native cavalry, which wheeled across the plain and charged towards the station occupied by the President, pulling up their horses within 300 yards of his position. A banquet followed, this representing an attack upon and capture of a caravan by a desert tribe. The ceremonies were brought to a close by a grand "diffa," or Arab banquet, given by the chiefs in honor or M. Loubet.

NEW SOLOISTS FOR REGIMENT BAND.

Victoria's Splendid Band to Be Strengthened by Several Good Performers.

The Fifth Regiment band is to be strengthened by the addition of several splendid soloists. Bandmaster Finn has been especially fortunate in the new musicians engaged by him, for as a result of this accession of strength, the regiment band will be in a position to hold its own with any organization in the Northwest. Yesterday Mr. Finn received a letter from James Allan, solo oboeist of "The Kilties," recently on a visit to the Coast and now finishing their season's tour in the East. Mr. Allan wrote that he desires to settle permanently in Victoria, being attracted by this city and that he will arrive here about the third week in June. As an indication of the rarity of oboe players, it may be stated that Bandmaster Finn has been trying to procure an oboe player for the Festival orchestra, but without success, as no players of this instrument can be obtained north of San Francisco.

When Mr. Allan of Kilties fame, joins the regimental band it will have therefore, the distinction of possessing the only oboe player north of Frisco.

Mr. Finn also states that Malcolm, the solo euphonium, has also come to the conclusion to remain in Victoria. This is evidenced by the fact that he has purchased a house and lot and will shortly join the ranks of the benedicts. Mr. MacGregor has played in all the leading organizations of America, including Sousa, Liberti and Thomas. Another addition to the band will be H. C. Micking, solo cornetist and violinist, who is expected to make his first appearance here at the 24th of May celebration concerts. Mr. Micking is considered one of the best performers on the continent, having been for a number of years soloist of the famous Alvin Joslin theatrical band. Mr. Finn also announces that he is in communication with G. K. Peele, of New Westminster, who is a fine bass player. Mr. Peele is a brother of Stanley Peele, the lacrosse player, now a resident of this city.

SIGNOR SALVINI'S PLANS.

Signor Salvini has made arrangements to divide his time in future between Vancouver and Victoria. Having secured a number of pupils in the Terminal City, he has decided to visit there on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of each week, spending Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in Victoria. He has secured studio rooms with Dyke, Eyrams and Cavanagh in Vancouver, and with Fletcher Bros. in Victoria.

THE KING'S HEALTH.

Unfounded Rumor That His Majesty Is In Need of Immediate Rest.

Valetta, Malta, April 21.—The Royal yacht Victoria and Albert, with King Edward on board, sailed for Naples today, escorted by the whole British Mediterranean fleet. As the yacht steamed out of the harbor she was saluted by the guns of the forts and cheered by thousands of people, who lined the sea front to bid her farewell. The King was bronzed and apparently in excellent health when he left Malta.

London, April 21.—An investigation of reports circulated in the United States by a news agency that as a result of the alarming state of King Edward's health, he had been ordered to take four days rest at Naples before going to Rome and that the programme for His Majesty's entertainment at Rome had been curtailed, shows them to be unfounded. The King left Malta in good health, and there has been no change in his plans or curtailment of the Rome programme. It is announced that the King will arrive at Naples on April 25 and proceed to Rome on April 27, as originally arranged.

A telegram from Rome this afternoon describes the preparations for King Edward's visit and gives no intimation of any curtailments of the programme.

Ocean Dock's Busy Scene

Four Large Liners at Wharves Yesterday---The Altas' Predicament.

Mutiny on the Schooner Sequoia ---Princess May Arrives From Skagway.

There was quite a fleet of liners at the ocean docks yesterday—and a large number of Chinese were landed here. There is a notable influx of coolies latterly, presumably on account of the threatened increase of the head tax. The steamer Shinano Maru, Capt. Thompson, was the first to reach port. She docked about 8 a.m., and two hours later the fine Japanese liner Aki Maru—the largest of Japan's mercantile fleets—arrived from Seattle on her outward voyage, and at the opposite dock the steamer Tremont, Capt. Garlich, of the Boston SS. Co., moored, inbound from Kobe. Later in the day the big white liner of the C. P. R., the Empress of China, arrived at the ocean docks—making a gross tonnage exceeding twenty-thousand tons, at the ocean docks yesterday.

The steamer Shinano Maru sighted the steamer Tremont ahead of her when two days out from Yokohama, and on Saturday last the Boston company's steamer was seen on the beam. The Shinano Maru left Yokohama on the 7th, and the Tremont left Kobe the day previous. The Shinano Maru brought a cargo in the neighborhood of 2,000 tons, including a heavy shipment of silk and silk goods for rush shipment to New York. Her cargo was made up of matting, rice and general Chinese and Japanese goods, including everything from lacquer work and porcelain to gunny sacks. She landed 110 tons at the ocean docks. The Japanese liner brought, all told, 351 passengers, 18 Europeans, 183 Japanese and 131 Chinese—all excepting one debarking at this port. There were twelve of the European passengers, four of whom were en route East via Canada, and 14 Japanese—one a woman—for Victoria. The saloon passengers were: C. L. Parker, E. H. Kofod, J. W. Hartman, D. W. E. Eckman, S. Uyeda, Mrs. M. Ayama, Mr. and Mrs. R. Imamura, A. W. Talbot, M. Karl, Y. Sugita, M. Hess, E. J. Peters, M. McGrath, Mrs. H. Nisimya, U. Matsuda, T. Yoshino and N. Hayashi.

The steamer Tremont had an uneventful passage. She experienced favorable weather. The steamer brought a small complement of passengers, but 20 all told, 8 Chinese and 12 Japs—all for Victoria. The cargo amounted to about 1,500 tons of matting and general Chinese and Japanese merchandise. The amount landed at Victoria totalled 149 tons. The steamer proceeded to the Sound during the afternoon, after discharging her cargo and landing mails and passengers. The steamer Shinano Maru also sailed for Seattle yesterday.

There were several members of the crew of the steamer Tremont who were virtually passengers—but as each was signed on the articles—the steamer reported—no saloon passengers. Those who arrived by the Tremont included A. H. Brown, of the Bellingham Bay Oyster Company, who has been to Japan to select samples of the Japanese oyster for planting on the Sound. There was a large shipment of these oysters from Mikadoland, which are of a size between the Eastern and Olympian oyster. Others who came on the Tremont were Mr. and Mrs. Godwin, Mrs. Johnson and Miss Farrel—all from Manila.

Steamer Empress of China, which arrived about 6 p.m., brought the first of the new season's tea from Japan—909 cases. She brought 59 saloon, 9 intermediate and 334 steerage passengers, of whom 40 were for Victoria. The total freight amounted to 1,748 tons, made up as follows: 465 cases of raw silk, 40 cases of silk, 112 cases of silk goods, 10 cases of cigars, 909 cases of tea, 12,654 of rice and 8,416 general.

Hon. Sydney Fisher, minister of agriculture, was not among the passengers as was expected. He will not return until the sailing of the next Empress, leaving Yokohama on May 2. Mr. Hamilton, of the Agricultural Department, who has been visiting Northern Japan, to make a report on the horticulturaly resources of the country, and who was a member of the Canadian party, says that the Emperor of Japan is to open the exhibition, and the Canadian building on the 26th, and the Minister will remain for that function. He will also attend the great review to be held at Kobe, for which over fifty warships had gathered when the Empress left. Mr. Hamilton says that the report that the Canadian Minister is to be decorated is correct. Mr. Hamilton says that Japan has some excellent orchards, and although there is exceedingly good opportunities for trade in other directions, Japan will be able to grow its own fruit.

The most distinguished of the passengers who arrived by the Empress were Major-General Sir F. Carrington and Lady Carrington, who have been touring in China and Japan, en route from South Africa to England via the Orient.

There was also the usual contingent of diplomats, missionaries, army officers, tourists, United States merchants from Manila, commercial travelers, etc. The list included: Mr. Thos. Carter, Lieut. Chilcott, R. E., R. N., Col. A. G. Churhill, Mr. R. H. Dickson, Mr. N. B. Dinshaw, Mr. L. Dyson, Capt. Fagneux, Mr. H. G. Garrett, Mr. Duncan Glass, Mr. James Gold, Mrs. James Gold, Capt. G. C. Grahame and valet, Mrs. G. C. Grahame and maid, Mr. J. Guillemin, Dr. C. Cuthbert Hall, Mrs. C. Hall, Miss K. S. Hall, Miss E. M. Hall, Mr. D. B. Hall, Mr. G. J. Hennessy, Mr. Abel Heywood, Mr. G. A. Hildreth, Mr. A. Y. Hogg, Capt. J. Hope, R.N., Mrs. J. Hope, Miss Hope, Mrs. Horsfield, Dr. R. E. Hume, Mr. W. B. Huntington, Mr. L. W. Huntington, jr., Rev. H. Goodman Johnson, Mr. A. Laspe, Mr. W. H. Lee, Mr. K. H. von Lindholm, Mr. A. F. Maclaren, Miss Marmion, Mr. P. C. Marsden, Mrs. P. C. Marsden, Miss Marsden, Miss H. G. Marsden, Mr. H. C. Mitchell, Lieut. E. L. C. Muntz, R.N., Mr. C. P. Noyes, Mr. Edward Platt, Mr. Thos. Rich, Mr. J. Rutherford, M.P., and valet, Mr. J. N. Sidebottom, Mr. J. H. Skelton, Lieut. M. B. Webb, Dr. R. Woifendale, Miss Worts. The steamer had a pleasant voyage until the last two days, when heavy weather was experienced.

FROM SKAGWAY.

Steamer Princess May Returned from Lynn Canal Yesterday Morning.

Steamer Princess May, of the C. P. N. Co., Capt. Gess, reached port yesterday morning from Skagway, bringing a small complement of passengers. The only arrivals were Rev. R. J. Bowen and wife, of White Horse, and Miss L. Carter, who have come to take up their residence on the Island. The officers report that the weather was mild at Skagway, and the trail was getting very soft, although travel had not been stopped. There was not much travel—it being, as it were, between seasons. Several vessels were passed by the Princess May en route South, the Danube being seen in Seymour Narrows, bound Northward, and the brigantine Blakeley, which is engaged in the fishing business, was seen in Granville Channel, laden heavily with halibut. According to advices received from Dawson by the steamer, the sluicing season in the Klondike is later this year. It is not expected that there will be any shortage of water, for old-timers predict high water on account of the heavy snow fall. Good reports are continuing to come from Duncan creek. Pay has been located for thirteen miles up this creek, which is regarded as a rival of Bonanza.

A number of steamers are being prepared at Dawson for travel to the Tanana district, which is expected to be heavy, despite the black eye the country is receiving from those who mushed in there. Fares are placed at $100 for single fare to Fairbanks, and $100 a ton for freight.

TO LOAD PROPS.

Annie E. Smale Was Towed to Pender Island Yesterday.

The four-masted schooner Annie E. Smale, which has been chartered by W. A. Ward of this city to load mining props at Pender Island for Santa Rosalia, passed up yesterday morning to her loading point in tow. The Annie E. Smale is from San Francisco, where she was hauled out on the dock in consequence of a stranding accident. The British ship Glenalvon, which has been discharging cargo at the ocean docks, left yesterday morning for Vancouver in tow of the tug Lorne. The tug Bahadah, one of the new steel tugs built on the Sound for the Admiralty Tugboat Company, arrived yesterday morning for the Norwegian bark Catherina, which was taken from the Royal Roads to Tacoma. Capt. Samuelson went to Tacoma and arranged a charter for the vessel to load lumber at Tacoma mills for South Africa.

MUTINY ON SEQUOIA.

United States Schooner Bound Here Scene of Exciting Incidents.

News of a mutiny, and the shooting of the ringleader, on board the United States schooner Sequoia, which sailed from Seattle on October 4 for Manila, and was leaving that port on a return voyage to Royal Roads, was received in the mails from the Orient yesterday. The Sequoia had shipped a crew at Manila, including Murphy and Chamberlain, two beach-combers who had been at Manila for some time. The Sequoia had reached Corregidor and was tacking seaward when the crew, half crazed with whiskey, supplied by the ringleaders—the first mate being amongst them—mutinied. Capt. White had his wife on board the schooner, and he handed his revolved to a sailor who came aft, and told him to go forward and quell any disturbance there might be in the foc'sle. Murphy resisted the sailor's attempt to put down the mutiny and was shot. The sailor then threatened to shoot the remainder if the orders were not obeyed.

Capt. White said that the mutiny of the crew almost caused the wreck of the vessel. The men refused to lower the jibs under a fresh squall encountered off Corregidor, and the vessel had a narrow escape from going ashore. Johnson, the mate, was drunk and helpless. The belligerents were all arrested, and Murphy, who was badly wounded, was removed to the hospital.

Capt. White in his testimony regarding the mutiny, in the Manila court stated that the mutiny was little better than attempted piracy. His first mate, Johnson, had stowed the clothes of Murphy and Chamberlain, who were not signed on, and were practically stowaways, in his room, and from the conversation of the crew, it seems that the plan was to seize the vessel, cower the master, and take the vessel to the Philippine Island coast. What was to be done with her was not clear. The schooner was still at Manila when the mails left, awaiting a new crew.

HAS NO FLAG.

Efforts to Get Alta Under United States Flag Causes Trouble.

The Chilian bark Alta, which towed from the Royal Roads to Port Townsend a few days ago, is in trouble. When the ship was last in United States ports—she sailed from the Sound some months ago for Manila—she carried the Chilian flag. She proceeded to Manila, from which port she came to Victoria, and there, as soon as the status of the Philippines as regards the treasury regulations was established, she was granted a license permitting her "to trade between American ports." Under this authority the Alta recently arrived here, as stated. Inquiry proved the vessel was not regularly under American registry; neither did she have Chilian papers, so the matter was referred to the department for settlement.

It came on today in a form that will be expensive to the owners of the Alta, for the vessel is now called upon to pay alien tonnage at 50 cents per ton, light dues at the same rate, and also regular tonnage tax, the entire assessment aggregating something over $1,300. As the Alta came across in ballast, it will be seen she did not have very profitable trip from Manila. Several months ago a like exacting was made against three scows without documents, which were taken to Port Townsend from Vancouver to carry coal from Seattle. The customs officials pounced upon the three, and they were finally released upon payment of $30, representing the several customs exactions mentioned above. This is the first time, however, that the law was ever called into effect against a sailing vessel. As she stands today, without her Chilian papers and holding only a special Philippine permit, the Alta is a vessel without a country and without a flag.

$200.00 IN GOLD GIVEN AWAY FREE

LPAPE	NREOCA	UPML	ATSWRYREBR
CPAHE	RCYREH	YBRAPRSRE	ERPA

Can you arrange the above sets of jumbled letters into the names of eight well known fruits. If so, YOU CAN SHARE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ABOVE PRIZE. It is no easy task. But by patience and perseverance you can probably make out 5 or 6 of them. To the person who can make out the largest number we will give the sum of One Hundred Dollars. To the person making out the second largest number the sum of Fifty Dollars. To the person making the third largest number the sum of Twenty Dollars. To the person making the fourth largest number the sum of Twenty Dollars. Should two persons send answers equally correct, the first two prizes will be divided between them, (each receiving $75.00). Should three send in equally correct answers, the first three prizes will have to be divided, (each receiving $60.00). Should four persons send equally correct answers, the whole sum of $200.00 will be equally divided (each receiving $50.00), and so on in like proportions, provided they comply with a simple condition about which we will write as soon as answers are received. WE DO NOT WANT A CENT OF YOUR MONEY WHEN YOU ANSWER THIS ADVERTISEMENT. If you can make out anything like a complete list, write us at once enclosing 2-cent stamp for our reply. DO NOT DELAY, WRITE AT ONCE. Address, PARISIAN MEDICINE CO., Dept. W.53 LONDON, ONTARIO.

$1.00... Per Year

The subscription price of the Semi-Weekly "Colonist" has been reduced to $1 per year to all countries in the Postal Union.

SHEARWATER AT ESQUIMALT

Cruise of the Warship Amongst the South Sea Islands Uneventful.

H. M. S. Shearwater returned last night from her cruise amongst the islands in Southern waters. Nothing of an eventful nature occurred on the voyage. The just-returned warship escaped by a week the hurricane that caused the loss of so much life and property in the Southern Pacific. On the voyage down the Shearwater arrived at Honolulu two days ahead of scheduled time. They were very hospitably entertained and paid a visit to Capt. Cook's monument, and found it in very good state of repair. The inscription they touched up, and repainted the guns which are mounted at the foot of the memorial. From Honolulu the ship went to Fanning Island, which was reached on December 19, and found the all-red cable line working satisfactorily. Coal was taken on before proceeding to the Christmas group, where a stay of one day was made. The next place visited was the Caroline Islands, where they made another very brief stay. At the latter place the pearl fisheries were found in full swing, and also the guano excavation, which are being worked by the Sunlight Soap Company of Liverpool, England. Tahiti was reached on the first of January, and three men were lost by desertion. It was after leaving this beautiful isle that they escaped the great devastating hurricane. When Pitcairn Island was reached, it was found impossible to anchor on account of a strong wind which was blowing. One day was spent there, and the islanders came off in the boat that was presented to them by Queen Victoria. The islanders now have communication every few weeks with Tahiti.

Thursday October, son of the celebrated mutineer of that name, is enjoying his 88th year, and has splendid health, and the prospects of a good many years yet.

The island is very fertile and the natives do not seem to trouble themselves very much with the cultivation of it. Miss Rosy Young, the only school teacher there, is practically, as far as as the officers of the Shearwater could discover, the only educated person on the island. There are in all about 162 inhabitants, and of those who have become imbued with the desire to roam, almost all have returned, dissatisfied with the world, and quite ready to settle down again by their old firesides.

Strong head winds were encountered at Easter Island, and the stay there was not prolonged. A large portion of this island has been leased from the Chilian government, by a company for the purpose of raising stock for exportation. There is an old woman inhabitant of Easter Island, as nearly as could be calculated, 138 years old. She claims that when she was a very young girl she saw Capt. Cook when he landed on the island. Dr. Cooper, who is a resident, says the climate is very healthy, and the people live as a rule to a good old age.

The warship arrived at Coquimbo on February 6, and picked up Lieut. Ennals. Acapulco was the next place that was visited, and strong head winds were again encountered. Ensinada and Corinto were the next ports of call. In the latter harbor they made a short stay and surveyed it. The voyage from there up to Cape Flattery was without any incident worthy of notice. Heavy weather was met with off the Cape.