THE FLEET IN HOME WATERS

Changes in Distribution of Naval Squadrons Is Proposed

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Early next year changes of great importance will be made in the distribution of the British naval forces in the North Sea. The Second division of the Home Fleet, consisting of the eight battleships of the King Edward class, and the Second Cruiser Squadron, consisting of the armored cruisers Shannon, Natal, Achilles, Warrior and Cochrane, will be permanently based on the Orkneys. These twelve large ships will be supported by twenty-four destroyers.

The First Division of the Home Fleet consisting of four Dreadnoughts, and two Lord Neisons, and two other battleships, with the First Cruiser Squadron, composed of the three Invincibles and two other armored cruisers, will, it is understood be based upon Sheerness instead of Portland, as at present. The Atlantic Fleet will also retain its present base, Dover.

There is reason to believe that the Channel Fleet will be resuscitated under a new name—as the Flying Squadron—and that it will be composed of two battleships of the Formidable type with four of the Albion class and probably, some armored cruisers. Its cruising ground will be the Atlantic, between Queenstown and Gibraltar.

These changes will raise the fully commissioned strength of the fleet in home waters from twenty-two or twenty-eight battleships, and will compensate for the reductions carried out three years ago. Early next year the China Fleet will be remodelled, the armored cruisers King Alfred, Kent, Monmouth, and Suffolk being replaced by the more modern and powerful Minotaur, Shannon and Defence.

For Man or Woman, Boy or Girl

The problem is to find a suitable Christmas Gift. This store can well solve the problem.

Why Not a Good Musical Instrument?

We have the grandest Piano values in Victoria and can place one in your home at Xmas time on very easy monthly payments. Unrivalled ideas in holiday presents, such as:

PIANOS, $800 to $500, $400, $350, $300 and **$250**
ORGANS, $250, $100, $90, $75 and **$40**
COLUMBIA GRAPHOPHONES, $275 to $75, $50, $25, $20, $17.50 and **$15**
DOUBLE DISC RECORDS, all the newest in stock, each .... **85¢**
VIOLINS, $20, $15, $10, $8, $5 and **$2.50**
GUITARS AND MANDOLINS, $20, $15, $10, $7.50 and **$5.00**
MUSIC SATCHELS make an acceptable present. See our fine line, $8 to $2, $1.50, $1.25, $1 and **75¢**

FLETCHER BROS.
The Music House
1231 Government St.

Tenders Wanted!

In the Supreme Court of British Columbia
and
In the matter of the Estate of Francis L. David (deceased).

Tenders will be received by the undersigned up till noon of the 7th day of January, 1910, for the purchase of the undermentioned property, viz.: N. W. ¼ of Sec. 11 and S. ½ of S.E. ¼ of Sec. 15, Mayne Island, B. C., together with buildings and improvements thereon and live stock, consisting of approximately, 17 head of Cattle, Poultry, Farm Implements, etc.

The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

For fuller particulars apply to
WM. MONTEITH,
Official Administrator,
Victoria, B.C.

Or to
GEORGE L. FADDON,
Mayne Island, B. C.

Lever's Y-Z (Wise Head) Disinfectant Soap Powder dusted in the bath, softens the water and disinfects.

NELSON ASSIZES

Mr. Justice Murphy Holding His First Court—Judgment Given in Two Cases.

NELSON, Dec. 15.—At the assizes yesterday Mr. Justice Murphy gave judgment for the defendants in the action of Mighton & Cavannaugh vs. Swedburg for $5,000 commission on the sale of the Queen Victoria mine. R. S. Lennie and E. C. Wragg appeared for the plaintiffs and S. S. Taylor and James O'Shea for the defendant.

The suit of B. N. Quimette against the Forty Mile Creek Mining Company for $1900, balance of wages, was undefended and judgment was given for the plaintiff. James O'Shea appeared for Quimette.

The action of J. L. Stocks vs. The China Creek Lumber company was undefended. Mr. Stocks sues for the setting aside of an agreement of sale of certain fruit lands on the Columbia river for which he paid $15,000 and for the return of the purchase price, on the ground that the water available for irrigation was misrepresented and the title to part of the land was invalid. A. M. Johnson and S. S. Taylor appeared for the plaintiff and R. S. Lennie and E. C. Wragg for the defendant.

BIG SALVAGE CASE

Standard Oil Company Brings Suit for $41,940 on Account of Asuncion-Norwood Collision

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—A suit in admiralty to recover an aggregate of $41,940 from the owners of the steam schooner Norwood was brought in the United States district court yesterday by the Standard Oil company, owner of the steamer Asuncion. These vessels were in collision during a heavy fog October 8, 1908, about four miles off Point Gorda.

It is claimed by the libelant that at the time of the collision, in answer to warnings of the lookout, the Asuncion's engines were "backing full speed." It is alleged that the Norwood put her head the wrong way in response to the whistle and attempted to cross the bows of the Asuncion. Damages in $24,000 are alleged as well as $17,950 for 33 days' loss of the use of the vessel.

Bitten by Dog.

GLENCOE, Ont., Dec. 15.—Dr. J. W. Walker of this town has gone to the Pasteur Institute, New York, for treatment. Last Saturday he was bitten by his dog which he found shortly afterwards dead.

Governor Hughes' Father Dead.

ALBANY, N.Y., Dec. 15.—The Rev. David C. Hughes, father of Governor Hughes, died at eleven o'clock tonight, following a stroke of apoplexy. Dr. Hughes was 77 years old.

R. C. Bishop of London.

TORONTO, Dec. 15.—His Grace Archbishop McEvoy, received a cablegram this morning from Rome announcing officially the appointment of Rev. M. J. Fallon as Bishop of London, Ont.

Doctor Killed By Fall.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 15.—Dr. W. J. Furse, medical attendant for the employees of the Western Canadian Power Co., at Stave Lake, was killed yesterday by falling off the bridge onto the rocks twenty feet below.

Five Drowned from Dredge

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 15.—The tug Tormentor returned here today with the report that the dredge which she was towing from here to Cristobal, Panama, foundered during the storm off Cape Lookout on Monday with the loss of five men, including the captain and chief engineer.

Suit for $100,000.

TORONTO, Dec. 15.—The Colonial Development Syndicate, of London, England, commenced a suit before Mr. Justice Latchford today in the nonjury sittings against W. S. Mitchell, of Boston, and James A. Mitchell, of New York, to recover sums aggregating $100,000 advanced to purchase mining claims in the Cobalt district.

Manitoba Grain Growers.

BRANDON, Man., Dec. 15.—The seventh annual of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association opened in the opera house this morning with four hundred delegates, representing the seven thousand members of the association, in attendance. Delegates are still arriving on every train, and a record attendance of fully six hundred is expected before evening.

Killed Friend Too.

PASSAIC, N. J., Dec. 15.—Absent-minded Hilda Reinhold was apparently so preoccupied with her own sorrows that in committing suicide she thoughtlessly killed her friend, Fanny Kemisuk, who was quite content with life as she found it. Both girls were hotel servants and shared a bedroom. Hilda came home weeping and talking suicide. Both were found in bed with the gas jet turned on.

Insurance Bill Condemned.

TORONTO, Dec. 15. — Without one dissenting voice, the executive committee of the Dominion marine association today voiced its complete disapproval of the insurance bill now before the senate, so far as the clauses relating to marine matters are concerned. The bill is designed to absolutely prohibit the placing of insurance, including marine risks, in companies not holding a Canadian license, said Mr. King. At the present time not a single Canadian company is prepared to assume, say, a million dollars of liability on a fleet of vessels valued at $100,000 apiece, and that is only one fleet.

Slightly Demented.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—So persistent was Ellis L. Rossen, a former Bronx school principal, in his assertion that President Taft's wife and daughter Helen visited him in Bellevue hospital on Saturday night, that Henry W. Taft the President's brother, appeared in court today to disprove his statements. Mr. Taft, who is a New York lawyer, said that neither Mrs. Taft nor her daughter was in the city on the day or night in question, and that Rossen's statements were ridiculous. The former school teacher, who has been in Bellevue before, is fighting an attempt to have him recommitted as incompetent. The court reserved decision. Rossen acted as his own attorney today and closed his examination of Mr. Taft with a long dissertation on disguises, quoting extensively from detective stories. He insists that Miss Taft when she visited him was sheathed in rubber in order that she might move noiselessly, and that she left him fruit and money. Attorneys for the city told of Rossen's erratic actions, how he had been deported from Montreal and arrested in Washington for annoying the president.

SHIPWRECKED AT NAWITTIE BAR

Steamer Vadso Brings News of Misfortune to Settlers—Optimists From Stewart

Shipwrecked at the north end of Vancouver island when their gasoline boat stranded at Nawittie bar during the recent gales a party of eight settlers landed at Shushartie bay from the steamer Vadso to settle at the north of Vancouver island, lost most of their effects, and some of the party had narrow escapes from drowning, acccording to advices brought by the Vadso on her return to port yesterday morning. The children were thrown into the water, and were rescued with difficulty. The whole party had a strenuous experience. They were rescued by one of the government steamers—those on the Vadso did not learn which—and were landed at the place chosen for their new home.

The Vadso made a special trip to Stewart, the future metropolis at the head of Portland canal, to bring Mr. Hopkins and party who have been making surveys for a railroad, to be constructed by Mackenzie & Mann in that district. The weather was extremely cold, there being three feet of snow, and until after leaving the Skeena southbound the Vadso had six inches of ice on her deck. The thermometer was down to zero.

Portland Canal

Mr. Hopkins and party are enthusiastic regarding the future of the mining district of which Stewart is the centre, and a most optimistic feeling prevails among the residents. "Mark my words," said one of the party, "Stewart will be the centre of a mining camp with as large a payroll as Butte before long."

Other passengers of the Boscowitz company's steamer included Mr. Chewett of the Red Cliff Mining company, and some mining men who have been completing deals for purchase of property on the Naas. Mr. Von Rhys, formerly of the Marble Bay mines on Texada and now consulting engineer of some Mexican mines, was a passenger to Portland canal to make investigations. W. Pinder, surveyor, and party, came from Rivers Inlet.

The whaling steamers Orion and St. Lawrence were seen at work in the Gulf of Georgia by those on board the Vadso. The Orion was seen shooting a harpoon at a whale, and the St. Lawrence had one in tow. Both were in the vicinity of Sechelt. The Vadso coaled at Comox and also loaded 250 tons of coal for Prince Rupert.

The steamer will sail north again tonight. Included in her cargo will be a shipment of 14,000 feet of lumber for the Hudson's Bay company.

SCHOONER BALBOA WON SAILING RACE

Reached San Pedro With Stays, Sails and Part of Deck Load Gone After Rough Trip

SAN PEDRO, Cal., Dec. 15. — Stripped of stays and sails and with part of her deckload gone, the schooner Balboa, Capt. Burmeister, arrived last night from Tacoma, winning the race from that port with the schooners Nokomis and Lottie Bennett.

After the Balboa had docked, Capt. Burmeister's first question was for tidings of the schooners Lottie Bennett and Nokomis. At the Strait of Juan de Fuca the weather outside was too rough for such small vessels and for ten days the three schooners lay stormbound in Clallam bay. November 17 they nosed outside the headlands in a fierce gale. The Nokomis and Lottie Bennett put back for safety, but the Balboa, failing in making headway back into the strait, was compelled to make a run for it in the open sea.

The wind increased to 70 miles an hour and stripped of stays and sails, the Balboa ran before the wind with her helm hard down, the rail buried and the starboard scuppers awash. Capt. Burmeister's only hope was in keeping off the rocks. Waves stripped the fastenings of the lumber on deck and scattered it in the wake of the vessel. Deckload, booms, gangway, ladders and everything else movable on deck went by the board, including 20,000 feet of lumber.

The Balboa, Nokomis and Lottie Bennett left Tacoma about together and with a day the start from Clallam bay the Balboa was easy winner. The others have not yet arrived.

To Limit Horse Racing.

OTTAWA, Dec. 15.—Mr. Wallace introduced a bill in the Commons today limiting the time of horse race meetings to fifteen days. It was given first reading.

Russia and Japan

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 15.—In a semi-official communique referring to the anxiety which is beginning to permeate the business community owing to disquieting far-eastern rumors and an impending Russo-Japanese conflict, the government has emphatically declared all rumors of such complications are absolutely unfounded. It points out how in four years since the last war the government has concluded a whole series of international agreements, which are destined to wipe out all traces of enmity left by the war. In fact, the communique says, all reports of the government confirm the existence of complete goodwill with Japan.

Mr. Gompers and the Hatters

HARTFORD, Conn., Dec. 15.—A deposition by President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, was read today for the defense in the boycott damage suit brought by D. E. Loewe and company, of Danbury, against the United Hatters. Mr. Gompers said that the Federation endeavored to settle strikes whenever possible. The officers of the executive board had a right to approve a strike when it was brought about by a union. He said that no officer, agent or delegate of the American Federation of Labor had ever communicated with the United Hatters relative to instituting a strike or boycott against the Loewe factory, and that the name of the firm had never been placed on any unfair list of the American Federation.

The referendum as to New Westminster's future form of government, taken in coincidence with the recent municipal election, resulted in a decision to abandon the special charter and bring the city under the general provisions of the Municipal Clauses Act.

EXTEND IRRIGATION

Canadian Pacific Preparing Plans for Eastern Part of Calgary District.

CALGARY, Dec. 15.—For the purpose of centralizing the work of colonisation of all Canadian Pacific lands in Alberta it has been decided to transact all business through the Calgary offices. Heretofore the Canadian Pacific Alberta land apart from Bow Valley was administered through Winnipeg. Such is the statement of J. S. Dennis, assistant to Second Vice-President Whyte of the C. P. R. who has returned from the East, where he was in conference with other officials regarding the extension of the irrigation system east of Calgary during the coming year.

It is now expected that the construction of a system of canals will be undertaken this coming year in the eastern section, and fully 500,000 acres served with water. Sales of lands for colonization have approximated a million a month for the past six months. The result is that the company is justified in launching a still more extensive campaign in Great Britain and the continent. C. W. Peterson, manager of the Canadian Pacific irrigation colonization company, is now in Europe extending the agency until at least four hundred agents will be employed.

A conference of American agents was held in Chicago by Mr. Dennis and Mr. Paterson, and the gathering represented over one thousand American agents. That greatly increased agricultural developments will take place next year throughout southern Alberta is evidenced by the fact that Americans are already endeavoring to contract with the development department of the Canadian Pacific irrigation and colonization company for breaking and cropping to be done immediately upon the opening of the season. Applications are being received and placed on file. It is expected that this department will break at least 25,000 acres of virgin prairie during the coming season. To complete this work it is expected that at least 30 gasoline or steam plows will be utilized, as well as a limited amount of horse power. Settlers in the district will have in 1910 an opportunity for securing most lucrative employment.

FERNIE INCIDENT

Post Office Wrecked by City Authorities in Carrying Out Fire Limit By-law.

NELSON, Dec. 15.—Considerable excitement was created in Fernie yesterday when a detachment of police and firemen acting under instructions from the city council began the work of pulling down the temporary postoffice.

A by-law exists which made it compulsory that all temporary buildings within the fire limits should be removed before November 1, 1909. The postoffice is at present located in a wooden building within the limits, its large new brick structure is not yet completed and the postmaster has been notified on several occasions to remove his office which he has failed to do.

Yesterday morning the fire chief with a squad of men began the demolition of the structure and succeeded in tearing out the whole front and part of the sides leaving it in a badly wrecked condition. As a result of the trouble there has been no distribution of mail much to the inconvenience of the business men and the general public. The work of demolition was suspended in the afternoon and the postal authorities and the city council will meet in conference and endeavor to come to some satisfactory solution of the difficulty.

H. J. Johnson, the postmaster, claims that he is being discriminated against as the council has allowed several other temporary structures to remain within the fire limits until the permanent buildings are finished.

BACK TO THE SOIL

Interest in Agriculture Stimulated by Governments of Many Nations.

The opening up of the vast arable sections of the Canadian Northwest has attracted the attention of the civilized world to the importance of agriculture, or, rather, it has revivified the world's interest in the tillage of the soil. In this province hundreds of acres are being taken up monthly by men who will produce wealth; in other western provinces it is the same. And the return to the soil is not restricted to Canada. In all parts of the world governments are encouraging their people to look to the land.

In the search for land to till as a means of livelihood many unusual incidents occur. In Alberta and in many parts of the western states dry land is being made fertile by the artificial introduction of water in lieu of rain. The reverse is the case in Europe. The entire face of the country has been materially altered by human efforts to drive water from land that is required for agricultural purposes. Of the tillable land of Holland 90 per cent has been wrested from the sea while in Great Britain a third of the land at present sown to the vegetation the world needs, was bog and marsh in the time of King Alfred.

And in the United States, where the work of reclamation has only begun, it is estimated that drainage will add 200,000 square miles to the farm lands area.

Speaking of farms, there is an old Civil War Veteran with a steel hook where one of his arms ought to be, who runs a queer little farm near Washington the capital of the United States. The greater part of this strange farm is under water, and the old man does not raise any chickens, grain or garden truck. He devotes all his time to the culture of water lilies and the work returns him an annual income of $1,500. He gave up a position in one of the government departments to take up this unusual task. He plants his lilies in rows keeping the different varieties separate. When he desires to send away a shipment he goes out in a rowboat and hooks the lilies in. He finds a ready sale for his wares in many of this big cities the demand exceeding the supply.

Sent Back to Coast

Nine of the ten specials sent to Hazelton from Prince Rupert were discharged on arrival and ordered back to the coast, the government considering their protection not necessary. One man was placed on the permanent force and will remain at Hazelton. The residents wired the member for the district also to the premier asking that all specials be retained here until the opening of navigation in May, but to no effect. The party left with the mail carriers for the coast last week. Two more Indians of Kisplox valley have been found guilty of participating in the recent trouble and were given two months each. Otherwise the Indian situation is quiet.

PRINCE RUPERT ON TRIANGULAR RUN

One G. T. P. Steamer Will Run to Mainland Ports, Other to Prince Rupert

The new turbine steamer Prince Rupert, first of the three funnelled liners of the Grand Trunk Pacific company to be launched by Swan Hunter & Wigham Richardson from their Tyne shipyards, will be placed on the triangular route between Victoria, Seattle and Vancouver, maintaining a similar service to that of the C.P.R. three-funnelled liners, while the Prince George, second of the fleet, will run to Prince Rupert. Announcement to this effect was made by G. A. McNicholl, purchasing agent of the G.T.P., yesterday, when he met the council of the Board of Trade and members of the Inner Harbor association to discuss the proposed changes in the wharves to be built on the inner harbor. The original plans were for wharves extending 400 feet, but, in consequence of the protests made, the length was curtailed to 300 feet and arrangements made to excavate further into the land of the wharf site. The steamers of the company will be 306 feet long, and it was maintained that piers of at least 300 feet in length would be required. The time for reception of tenders for the work was extended to December 27th. Work will be commenced as soon as the contract is let and it is expected the wharves will be ready in April.

To Obtain Names

The steamers Prince Rupert and Prince George will be registered in England. Under the new Canadian regulations whereby shipowners are not permitted to give their vessels names already in use in Canada had the new steamers been registered in Canada a difficulty would probably have arisen regarding the names, as there are Canadian steamers named Prince Rupert and Prince George in service on the Atlantic coast. The names of the Grand Trunk Pacific steamers, however, have been submitted to the authorities and accepted, and have been registered at Lloyds.

Capt. C. H. Nicholson, superintendent of the Grand Trunk Pacific company's steamship services on the Pacific, and a party of railroad officials, including G. T. Bell, assistant passenger traffic manager; W. P. Hinton, general passenger agent, Winnipeg; J. E. Dalrymple, assistant freight traffic manager, Winnipeg, and Mr. Salter, European manager of the G.T.P., are expected to reach Victoria from the Mainland today, and a further meeting will be held with the Board of Trade and Inner Harbor association to discuss the plans for the local wharf.

JAMES J. JEFFRIES' WRITTEN STATEMENT

"I greatly dislike to talk of my coming battle with Johnson, so am sending you a statement of my views," writes James J. Jeffries. Here is his statement over his own signature:

"To the Sporting Editor:

"When I presented Marvin Hart the worlds champion title a little over four years ago I had fully made up my mind to retire from the ring, because the public did not think there was any one in my class could give me an argument.

"I came out of retirement because the public demanded it and because, under the circumstances, I felt it my duty to regain the title which, after being held by Tommy Burns, fell into Johnsons hands.

"No one seems to doubt my ability to beat Johnson if I am in the form which made it possible for me to win the championship and beat all the heavyweights, but there seems to be some question as to whether I can ever come back. I don't believe there is any one in a better position to judge my condition than myself, and it was only after I had convinced myself that I could come back that I announced my intention to fight Johnson. I am absolutely confident that when I enter the ring on July 4 I will be in as good condition as ever I was in my life. I will beat Johnson and do it in much less time than many expect.

"You can rest assured that when the sun sets on July 4 next a white man will be champion pugilist of the world.

"JAMES J. JEFFRIES."

Killed an Italian

A powder house at a construction camp at Copper river was blown up Monday, and an Italian named Mike Masteron instantly killed. A small powder house at the railway camp near Hole in the Wall on the Skeena river, containing a number of cases of high explosives, blew up on Saturday morning. Slight damage was done to the railway grade and the Yukon telegraph line. The cause of the explosion is not known.

The Passing of "Old Sack."

Frozen stiff and found dead in a snowbank by a farmer on his way to feed his stock in the early dawn, "Old Sack," a Scotch half-breed hose real name was Henri Blain and whose dilapidated, wizened figure was familiar on the streets of Winnipeg for many years, has crossed the Great Divide. "Old Sack" was familiar to thousands of Winnipeg children of the past generation. Although little more than a beggar his Indian blood suggested a connection with the romantic days of Old Fort Garry and his tale of woe seldom failed to excite pity and induce a contribution. Boys and Girls delighted to tease the old man and he, stick in hand and hurling awful imprecations, would give chase. The evening before the discovery of his frozen body the old fellow had been having a rather hilarious time with a family of halfbreed friends and he was highly illuminated at the time of his demise.

Interesting Developments Promised.

In the arrest on a forgery charge in Vancouver of George W. Maynard, formerly in the employ of the B. C. Electric Railway company there promises to be developments of a sensational nature in the case brought against several prominent B. C. Electric officials last year for misappropriating funds. At that time (August and September, 1908) Maynard and another man named Sharman were charged with falsifying the company's payrolls, and the latter was sentenced to three months' imprisonment and fined $100. The former, however, defaulted his bail and was not heard of for months, when he returned to Vancouver, and no prosecution was made by the bondsmen. The charge against him at the first arrest on August 1st, 1908, was that of the theft of $56 from the company, and the warrant executed yesterday accuses him of forgery, that of a check for $59 on the Bank of Commerce signed by "A Smith," and drawn on August 10th, 1907. It is stated that this is but a single charge and that others in reference to the B. C. Electric case will be preferred. His bail was fixed at $2,000 for himself, and two sureties of $1,000, but it was not secured.

Connected with the case and that against Sharman were the arrest and conviction last September of the former Superintendent of the company, James Milne, who was sentenced to two years' imprisonment on the charge of misappropriating $1,000 from the company, including in all 22 distinct charges. His defence at the time was that he had trusted his private work to a foreman in the company's employ and was not aware that material going into his private enterprises was being charged to the company. It is now stated that a confession has been made, which would tend to exonorate Milne, and which alleges a conspiracy. When the case goes forward, it is expected to have very sensational and far-reaching developments. The arrest is further alleged to have a material connection with this supposed confession.

LAST DAYS OF THE HUNTING SEASON

Shooting Now Said To Be Better Than Earlier in the Year.

These are spoken of as the "last days" of the hunter. He goes about with dejected mein and saddened heart. On the 1st of January, New Year's Day, comes the "end of things" from his standpoint. Then follow months of dull routine during which the birds—lucky creatures!—may roam the wilds complacent and comfortable in the knowledge that if any mere man dares levy a gun at them in anger, or prompted by the mania of slaughter, the law will intervene and wreck a summary vengeance. Of course it is doubtful whether they will take too many chances even under such conditions.

With the end drawing near the majority of the ardent disciples of the chase are enjoying just as much sport as time and circumstances permit. And they report that the shooting is much better now than it was early in the season.

"Why?" asked the unsophisticated writer yesterday.

The hardened woodsman from whom the information was obtained unhesitatingly replied that the reason was that fewer hunters braved the adverse weather conditions of the winter months. Their enthusiasm wasn't greater than their fear of the wet and cold and so the game that was available didn't have to be distributed among so many. Quite a few first-class bags had been brought in during the past few weeks consisting for the most part, of willow grouse and ducks.

Dr. Green is a mayoralty candidate in Cranbrook.

Patronize the Store That Gives You Values For 75c

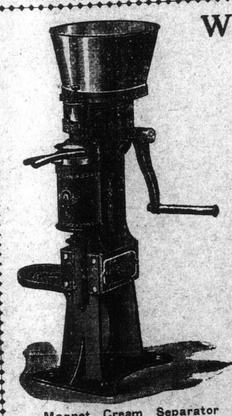
Housewives are alive to the fact that much money can be saved at Ross's—that quality is the finest and everything is fresh and up-to-the minute here:

FINEST SMYRNA FIGS, per lb. 25c
FINEST SMYRNA COOKING FIGS, 3 lbs. for 25c
FINEST BASKET FIGS, 2 baskets for 25c
SMYRNA FIGS, per box 15c
HALLOWI DATES, per lb. 10c
FARD DATES, per lb. 15c
HOME-MADE PLUM PUDDINGS. You should try these —they're better than mother used to make, each $1.75, $1.25, $1.00 and 75c

SPECIAL TODAY
FINEST SMYRNA TABLE FIGS, 10 Pound Box for 75c

DIXI H) ROSS & CO.
Independent Gocers. 1317 Government Street.
Tels. 50, 51, 52 and 1590.

Wake Up Dairyman!
Use Your Eyes Before You BUY A
CREAM SEPARATOR


Magnet Cream Separator

Look at the stand, and if it is so strong and rigid that it can be set up and operated on the ground or any floor, it is a Magnet, because it is the only one built that way. Look inside, and if you find it has a strong and perfectly arranged square gear, again you will know it is a MAGNET, as it is the only one built that way, and your judgment will tell you that it is the machine to buy even if it is a little more in price, because it will wear longer and be cheaper in the end.

Then look at the MAGNET'S extra large bowl, which is supported at top and bottom, when all others have only one end supported. A Perfect Brake which circles the bowl. A SKIMMER in one piece that takes out all the butter fat, at the same time separates all impurities, and the MAGNET is so easy to operate a child can turn it. If you buy a MAGNET the size can be increased to larger sizes up to 1,000 lbs. an hour in the same machine and a child can turn that size also. Your close examination will show that the MAGNET is not slighted in any part and that each part is so built and fitted together that the machine will not wear out in fifty years.

It will cost you one cent to look the MAGNET over and try it in your own dairy. Why not spend the cent on a postal card now.

THE PETRIE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.
Head Office and Factory—HAMILTON, ONTARIO, CAN.
Branches—Winnipeg, Regina, St. John, N.B., Drawer 91 Vancouver, B.C., Calgary, Montreal.

NEVER AGAIN

If you got up early on a Sunday morning, if you tramped weary miles through the woods, packing a heavy gun and wearing unaccustomed attire; if you shot two pheasants and returning took them to a restaurant,—and if you gave them to the cook and told him to stuff one with oysters and the other with chestnuts and to bake potatoes and cook asparagus with them until everything was a delightful brown,—and

If you invited three friends to meet you at the restaurant at midnight Wednesday and discuss those birds and the tout ensemble,—and

If you waited an hour and then telephoned one friend and found him playing bridge and he said, "To the mischief with your pheasants"; and to another, and he said, "I have married a wife, and therefore to the mischief with your pheasants" and the third said "I am looking for a dog with green spots and highly unnecessary bottle green eyebrows and I don't like pheasants anyway,"—

Say, would you feel peevish.

He did anyway and that was why last evening he sat down at a table in the New England and waited vainly for some one to come along and join him.

Oh joy. In through the door came the face and body of a familiar. "You to the trough," said the waiting one. "Me there with the pheasants cooked to your dildoed fancy. The big eat for you. Sit down."

Over his face stole a satisfied smile as the newcomer seated himself. As the newcomer shook out a napkin and placed it over his knees, there came the complacent look of the benefactor of mankind over the features of the whilom hunter. But when the newcomer smiling a sad, sad smile said:

"Thank you old man. But pheasants this time of night are too rich for my blood,"—the hunter tore wildly at his hair and ejaculated—

"Never again."

An Unfortunate Voyage

The German bark Seine, bound from Tocopilla to Hamburg, with a cargo of nitrate, has put into Falmouth to land the body of its young captain. The Seine had a most unfortunate trip. When on the coast of Ecuador the whole of her crew were struck down with fever peculiar to the Ecuadorian coast. One by one the men succumbed to the dreadful disease, and then the captain and eleven sailors were buried at short intervals. A new captain and crew were then engaged, and on the homeward voyage the captain—who was only 28 years of age, unmarried, but the only support of his widowed mother—was taken ill, and succumbed.

Charles Nelson of Phoenix, supposed to be afflicted with the South African sleeping sickness, awakened Monday after a 60-hour nap. The symptoms continue identical with those of the South African malady.

Mining

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Mining in the North.

Just what stimulus the cons of the Grand Trunk Pacific has given to the development of n Northern British Columbia is of ascertainment, but it is cert a number of promising prospe being vigorously exploited in tion of transportation. Navig the Skeena River is over for t ent season, and the inevitable mantle of snow has fallen. able prospecting has been do year, much more than doing years, and a large number of cations have been made and The greatest activity has bee further north on the Portland and as the Annual Report of cipal company operating is now press, it will be possible in th of a day or two to deal with it columns, and at the same time review will be given of all th and prospects upon which been done. Sufficient informat hand to confirm the opinion he most reliable mining men th adequate transportation, the section of the province will pr as rich, and as profitable as famed Kootenay in the south.

Zinc and Spelter.

Much interest is being takes zinc convention which opened at Nelson. Owing to the rap creasing demand for spelter t est in zinc production is becom noticeable every year. This due to the fact that American adian makers of corrugated s now doing their own galvaniz galvanizing is the branch of t try which furnishes the larges for spelter.

Until a few years ago this t almost entirely in the han South Staffordshire sheet ma by degrees it has become imp this side of the Atlantic, and American and Canadian manu turn out an article which comp favorable with the old product the higher grades of thin sh still imported.

The use of galvanized c sheets is still in its infancy i The Australian, South African dian markets have kept Engli facturers busy for the last thi The reason of this is two-f abundance of cheap lumber, heavy cost of imported shee that the product has become a the advantages of corrugated lumber are being widely reco is more portable, more durable much less costly in transporti only drawback is that it is adapted for a damp climate, t dry belt it is easily the best for barns and outbuildings, an doubtedly become more popu year for this purpose. The Coal company, of Glace Bay, ton, imported corrugated s which to build their immen houses in 1894, and the buildi good today as when they we The future of zinc is bound u corrugated sheet trade for ou and its development will be with interest.

Granby Dividend.

The affairs of the Granby M Smelting company have rece dealt with at considerable these columns, it is therefor more gratifying to be able to the announcement of anothe of 2 per cent, which was ann the last monthly meeting of pany. This dividend amount 000, and is at the rate of 2 per annum.

Gypsum.

Considerable interest has cited by the announcement th Evans, Coleman & Evans, known Vancouver merchants, cured a long lease on 800 fee front at Port Moody for th of erecting a gypsum plant, erated by the British Colum company. It is understood t matter the Vancouver firm i behalf of the Pacific Coast company of Tacoma, which has an absolute monopoly o iness at the coast.

The new plant will have of 50 tons per day of hard ter. The raw material is to from Alaska in large shipme tons each, and for the purpo portation the company will operate its own steamers will be constructed at Port that the vessels can disch cargoes at the mill. It is manufacture hard wall plas of Paris, and hair and wood ter. The mill will adjoin th to the west of Fort Moody a in the neighborhood of $75,

Additional interest centres velopment because of the re of another Vancouver capit curing control of extensi areas in the interior of Bri bia. It is intended that th developed by a local compa independent of the Tacoma The plans of the competin are progressing favorably, short time it will be possib a definite announcement. T great opening for this new British Columbia. The rapid Vancouver and Victoria wil market for many years to co thing depends on the qual gypsum, and in this respect by experts that the Britis deposit is equal to any in W ada, or the States.

Oil in British Colum

Oil seems to be the topic ment, and it is about time Columbia came to her own tion with this branch of the dustry. No one who has subject doubts that sooner berta or British Columbia scene of a development wh prise the "wiscacres" who frowned upon its prospects

It is true that a great de has been spent, and up to which could fairly be call has been located, but there reasons for this. The firs is doubtful whether any c yet had at its disposal, at sufficient sum of money to proof as is necessary. I doubtful whether any comp cured the best technical control. Money has been r by the sale of stock whic