Banquet to Delegates

Commercial Congress Men Royaly Entertained By Citizens of Vancouver.

Eloquent Speeches Delivered on Topics of Absorbing Imperial Interest.

Hon. Chas. Wilson Points Out Necessity of Improving Communications.

Vancouver, Sept. 12.—The banquet last night to the delegates of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire in the new dining hall of the Hotel Vancouver, was a brilliant success. One of the prominent speakers was General Laurie, one of the fast thinning ranks of the Old Guard, contemporaneous with the Fathers of Confederation. General Laurie gave it as his opinion that the destiny of the Empire is yet to be fought out on the Pacific. Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper proposed the toast of "The Empire," and made a brilliant, stirring speech. He spoke chiefly on the Imperial question. He said the colonies were not asking for something without giving anything in return. We stood not as beggars or paupers, but were called a nation. Had material consideration alone governed the people, the Dominion of Canada would not be possible. But love of the Mother Country had been a ruling factor.

Hon. Charles Wilson, in proposing the health of the guests, dwelt on the necessity of improving the means for intercommunication. He thought unless this could be done the country would not progress faster than when the Indians crudely mined the ores of the Kootenay to make bullets with. Among other prominent speakers was Mr. E. J. Gillespie, chairman of the London Chamber of Commerce. He spoke of peopling the colonies and referred to 6,500,000 people leaving Great Britain for the United States. He said that Great Britain should take all the food products that Canada could spare. Canada now only supplied one-fifth of what Britain consumed. He thought that Great Britain should contract with Canada for from three to five years to supply all her food products she could to Britain. Britain now takes nearly all her supply of cheese, some 20,000,000 pounds, out of a total of 250,000,000. Referring to British investments in Canada through company promotors, he thought that the money invested had gone back to England, but confidence restored, it would come in millions, and he thought the banks were the proper agents to bring it. Mr. Gillespie said: "I have never felt away from home all the time I have been in Canada." Continuing, he said: "I am an ardent admirer of Mr. Chamberlain, and all through Canada Mr. Chamberlain's name had been hailed with applause, and I here and now invite Mr. Chamberlain to address his approval or otherwise to the course the congress had adopted on Imperial questions."

Mr. H. T. Lockyer, manager of the Hudson's Bay Company, and president of the Board of Trade, presided at the banquet.

"It is not theory, it is fact. I can extract gold and silver out of sulphide ores without smelting the ore. It is past the experimental stage. I have done it and can do it with a plant of proper capacity one-third as cheaply as smelting the ores." This is the statement of Mr. M. De Keysor, made in answer to the question if he had already proved to the satisfaction of the members of the syndicate interested in his patent that he can do what he claims. He said: "I have already treated large quantities of ore successfully, and am now installing in the old C. P. R. Cement Works one of the finest and most complete little assay and treatment plants on the Coast. The plant will cost $10,000 and will treat 25 tons a day. The idea is to treat small quantities of ore for prospectors who cannot afford to send their low-grade ores to the smelter. In thirty days we will be able to go to Van Anda with our own scows and bring ore to the works and smelt it all for $5, including freight. With ore running $10 this will leave a good margin to develop a claim with. We will handle small lots for prospectors for $5. When the plant is increased to enable us to handle 100 tons a day, we will charge only $2, and when we are able to handle 1,000 tons we can reduce the cost to $1 a ton. It will be a big advertisement for Vancouver. I cannot handle copper ore. I can, however, handle sulphide and a variety of refractory ores for gold and silver with my patent process. Besides extracting the gold and silver, my chemical process saved the oxide of iron in the ore, which makes a fine paint, or can be converted into bricketts for the foundry blast furnace. The Princess Royal ore submits with great readiness to my process. This is a sulphide ore, and all the samples I have had for treatment run about $100 to the ton. Mr. Finlay, manager of the Princess Royal mines now pays $4 to cart his ore to his wharf, $4 for freight by ship, $2 for wharfage and $4 smelting charges. There are other charges, but these sums aggregate $14. With one of my plants on the ground he could mine ore and treat the ore for about $1.50. The actual treatment costing from 30 to 50 cents a ton. I am not boasting about my invention. I have possessed the knowledge I have now for years, but am only now putting it to commercial use, with every prospect of success."

In the treatment of gold and silver ores they are first roasted, if found necessary, then crushed and automatically fed into a suitable pulverizer. A strong solution of chemicals (cynide, etc.) is fed from a storage tank into the batteries; the chemicals perform the duties of cleaning and preparing the gold and silver for the electric deposition on the plates and quicksilver (no mercury is used during the pulverizing, consequently no flouring of quicksilver is possible). The pulp which passes through a 40 or finer mesh, is conducted into a revolving electric amalgamator. The almalgamator is mechanically and scientifically constructed and consists of a large copper silver-plated cylindrical drum six by three feet, by one eight deep or larger, properly insulated from the remainder of the machine adjustable to any angle and provided with the most improved appliances, such as dynamo, meter, voltmeter, etc., for the perfect control of the current.

The amalgamator makes from five to ten revolutions per minute, and is so constructed that the pulp and solution passes over 100 or more plates before being discharged into the agitators. Inside the amalgamator is another conical silver-plated drum, properly insulated. Practically no values escape by this process, except in the slimes, which are successfully automatically treated and the gold and silver extracted; the material and slimes which pass out of the revolving electrical amalgamator are conducted into a series of agitators, in which a large amount of solution is fed which dilutes the slimes and makes the particles of gold and silver free. From thence they are conducted into a series of two or more amalgamators where the remaining values are collected. The material then passes through a series of amalgam traps and is finally conveyed to a suitable concentrator.

With this process the largest known percentage of gold and silver values are obtained, being automatic and simple throughout, no additional expert labor is required, and the chemical solution is accumulated for future use, and a clean-up can be made at any time without interfering with the operation of the mill.

When the ores to be treated contain too large a percentage of base metals, the pulp is first treated by a suitable concentrator and the remainder by the electrical amalgamation process.

O. F. McGee, another American, has been spying out the land in the Ootsa Lake district and Bulkley Valley. He was accompanied by Captain Johnson and Mr. McIntosh, clerk of the Vancouver police court. As Mr. McGee represented a syndicate of people all in the State of Oregon, who sent him to find out the conditions in the country, he was asked to give an unvarnished account of what he saw, as reports had come in that the country was no good for a poor man to live in, and was covered with stunted trees.

Mr. McGee said: "Bulkley Valley is a magnificent ranching country. I never saw such grass. It will cut four tons to the acre. I do not know whether that is considered big here, but I have been farming and ranching all my life, and I never cut that much to the acre. There are stretches of ten miles square. I got wet to the waist with the grass while I was sitting on my horse, and that is not stretching it. There was wild cane, blue joint and wild rye and pea vines, and the pea vine in places was over my head. You could fairly bury yourself in the grass. Talk about not being a ranching country. I heard that the man who said that had not gone further than Frances Lake. We went there to prospect the country, and we prospected it, and I staked land for myself and my son and a friend on chance, while my companions also staked land. In the Bulkley there is lots of running water, and for this reason I prefer it to the Ootsa Lake country, where there are not the same number of streams, although there are numerous lakes and marshes on the mountains for cattle. It is a magnificent cattle country, but it is a summer range. I think cattle would have to be fed three or four months, but that would cut so figure owing to the abundance of hay. In sections the ground in the Bulkley is very rich. I never in my life saw such potatoes and cabbages, and the squaw men and bachelors in there have fine, comfortable homes. I saw oats and barley growing to a great height. I do not know whether they would come to maturity. They were growing very rank and seemed to be shooting up too high. The report that hay cannot be cured is nonsense. Settlers say that there has been no rain on the hay for years until a little sprinkle this year. It is a magnificent country, but I am sorry to say that I will have to go back and tell my people that, as they are making a living now, they better stay where they are. I expected to see an open country, but I was disappointed. Roads will have to be built, and until the government build them there will be no settlers in the country but bachelors and squaw men."

Held up by the Indians in far off lonely Ootsa, was the peril which faced Mr. McIntosh, clerk of the police court, and his party. Mr. McIntosh was in search for gold. He had heard of a fabulously rich deposit, and talked to men who had picked up the quartz, speckled with gold that had dropped off the vein. From them he had learned the secret of the locality of the rich mine, and at a heavy expense had returned to the Ootsa Lake country, not only to stake land but in a search for gold. They had some trouble in securing Indian guides, but finally did so. These guides demanded a heavy pay, but guaranteed to take the party safely to the deposits of gold. On the third day out Mr. McIntosh's party became suspicious, the Indians got too familiar and were constantly talking amongst themselves. They then deliberately led him on the wrong track, and by the time they got within thirty miles of their destination, their grub was nearly exhausted. 'Twas then that they realized that the Indians had determined to steal their outfit or demand all their possessions in payment of food. They refused to budge, and became defiant when threatened, but the white men were too many for them, and turned the tables on them. They stole the canoe of their guides while the Indians slept, and, paddling all night, succeeded in finding their way back to the starting place.

PRES. MITCHELL HAS HARD TASK

Endeavoring to Induce Coal Miners in Missouri to Return to Work.

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 12.—President John Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers of America, having failed in his efforts to induce the striking coal miners at Novinger, Mo., to return to work, can do nothing further towards settling the difficulty among the union miners of the district until action has been taken by the Missouri Miners' convention, which will meet tomorrow.

President Mitchell is anxious to arrive at a settlement of the differences, as the operators refuse to treat with the union or its representatives until those in authority can demonstrate their ability to compel the union men to live up to their agreement. The operators, however, have the highest respect for President Mitchell personally, and they are willing to confer with him, as they know that he is disposed to deal fairly with them. There are 6,500 union miners in Missouri in 57 local unions, and all will be represented. It is President Mitchell's plan, it is said, to have the convention tell the men officially to go back to work, and follow that action up, if necessary, by the extreme action of forfeiture of charters. President Mitchell knows that if the charter is not upheld, another will never be secured and the effect on not only the Missouri, but in the whole United States, not only among miners but all craftsmen, will be disastrous.

TRAIN WRECK.

Milwaukee, Sept. 12.—An Evening Wisconsin special from Fairchild, Wis., says four persons were killed and several injured in a wreck on the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha road six miles from Fairchild. A train was held up here and sent to the scene of the wreck to bring the injured to Eau Claire.

MANCHURIA EVACUATION.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 12.—The Washington government has received satisfactory assurance from the St. Petersburg authorities that the general evacuation of Manchuria will occur October 8th. If for some reason, purely local to the province in question Russia should request permission to postpone the withdrawal of her troops from that particular province for several months it is said to be for China to say whether the request shall be granted. The request, in the opinion of State Department officials, does not indicate that Russia intends to break her pledge to the Powers.

Secretary Hay will prepare instructions for Mr. Conger, on the receipt of which the letter will advise the Peking government of the attitude of the United States.

RUSSIA ASKS MORE TIME.

Requests Postponement of Date for Evacuation of Portion of Manchuria.

Washington, Sept. 12.—Russia has requested permission of China to postpone her evacuation of one of the frontier provinces of Manchuria for several months after October 8th, the date of the general evacuation of Manchuria. Minister Conger cables the State Department this fact, and the matter has been referred to Secretary Hay at the secretary's summer home in New Hampshire for consideration. The State Department apparently is not concerned over Russia's request, as it is pointed out the province is a small one and the postponement is only for a short time.

Agreement To Prorogue

Federal House May Reach Adjournment The First Week in October.

Leader of Conservative Party Back At Ottawa Much Improved In Health.

Cabinet Hears Appeal of C. P R. Against Order of Railway Committee.

Ottawa, Sept. 12.—Mr. Borden returned today, greatly improved in health.

Lord Strathcona visited Ottawa today, but he cannot remain to open the exhibition on Monday. Commissioner Hutchison telegraphed the exhibition authorities that the Queen's Jubilee presents could not be packed in time to show at Ottawa next week.

It is reported that an agreement has been reached between both parties for prorogation to take place the first week in October.

The cabinet this afternoon heard the appeal of the Canadian Pacific against an order of the railway committee of the Privy Council, which granted permission to the V. W. & Yukon railway to cross their tracks at Sapperton. Crysler, for the Canadian Pacific, endeavored to reopen the Westminster waterfront question on V. W. & Yukon's location there; but Mr. Morrison, for the latter road, contended that the only question to be considered was that of the crossing. The cabinet upheld Mr. Morrison's view after full argument and evidence of engineers. The decision was reserved until Mr. Keefer's report is received, when a further argument will be heard. The C. P. R. are striving hard to prevent the crossing, but the V. W. & Y. solicitors have been equally careful, and are confident they have the merits of the case with them. The embroglio at British Columbia was incidentally referred to by Mr. Morrison in his argument.

Awful Tales of Slaughter

New And Sensational Reports of Murder of Christians In Macedonia.

It is Believed That the Numbe of Victims Will Total Six Thousand.

Sofia, Sept. 12.—With the arrival of new and sensational reports of the wholesale slaughter of Christians in Macedonia, the situation here is hourly becoming more alarming. If the latest messages which state that 6000 Bulgarians have been slaughtered in the districts of Okhrida and Leron should be confirmed, no doubt exists that the government will be forced to order the mobilization of the army. According to information brought to the revolutionary paper Autominie, a force of Albanians, assisted by Turkish regular forces acting under orders direct from the Yildiz Kiosk, massacred the entire Bulgarian Christian population of the Okhridr and Leron districts. Fearful description is given of the sights seen there, the soldiers slaughtering men, women and children in every direction, displaying a barbarism never before witnessed. The number killed is not stated in the despatch, but according to reports from other sources the total number of the victims will reach 6000.

Official circles are so far without information regarding the reported massacre, but in view of the character of the latest advices from Macedonia it is feared the news is only too true. Rumors are current that at a council of the ministers today, it was decided to mobilize immediately the first and second army division.

This is officially denied, but well informed persons do not doubt that the cabinet, which is meeting in council daily, is seriously considering such a measure.

A deputation of leading professors and representatives of the professional classes yesterday waited upon the ministers and urged the government to order immediate mobilization.

Premier Pretoff replied to the deputation that the ministry was unable to admit the necessity for such a step at the present time.

The Turkish government is believed at the present moment to have no less than 60,000 soldiers in the Vilayet of Adrianople, large bodies of them within ten to fifteen kilometers of the Bulgarian frontier. It is argued that Bulgaria would be amply justified in mobilizing the first and second army divisions, the headquarters of which are at Sofia and Phillippis and which comprise the force nearest the Turkish frontier.

The government appears to be firmly resolved to avoid giving Turkey the slightest pretext for beginning hostilities and is doing its utmost to restrain the war fever. Sofia and the country are outwardly as calm as in the most peaceful times, but the Bulgarians say this calm is to be feared more than at any other time.

An engagement is reported to have occurred between a force of insurgents and Turkish troops at Suipindot, in which not a single revolutionary was killed, while the Turks lost heavily. Telegrams from Burges says the Bulgarian population is fast disappearing from the district of Losengrad, and that every one unable to escape to the Bulgarian frontier is killed.

Five hundred fugitives who have arrived at Burgas from Tekengea report that two men, one 100 years old and the other 85, were impaled by the Turks. The War Office here is greatly concerned over the increasing number of deserters who go to joint the insurgents.

ADMIRAL RETIRED.

Washington, Sept. 12.—Rear-Admiral Francis A. Cook, who commanded the Brooklyn at Santiago, was retired today after forty years' service, on his application.

GRIT ELECTION CANARD.

Nanaimo, Sept. 14.—Wm. Lee, manager of the iron mine Texada, was yesterday flung from a cart drawn by two runaway mules. His arm and ribs were broken and he also is suffering from internal injuries. His condition is reported to be serious.

The Times' story that Mr. Young will be elected by acclamation in Comox is all nonsense. A big requisition, already very numerously signed, inviting Mayor Grant to accept the Conservative nomination, is in circulation, and his formal endorsement by the convention will take place tomorrow.

Mr. Taylor, the Socialist candidate in Alberni, has definitely retired, thus making a straight fight between McInnes and the Conservative nominee. The latter will probably be Mr. Hickey.

Austin and Spinliff, the prospectors supposed to have been lost in the Gulf, have been heard from. They reached Douglas Bay in safety, but had a rough time, their boat being stove in.

ANCIENT CASTLE DISCOVERED.

Berlin, Sept. 12.—A prehistoric castle, which is believed to have existed four hundred years before Christ, has been brought to light near Cassel.

ANTHRACITE COAL OUTPUT.

Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 12.—Anthracite coal to the amount of 5,160,000 tons was produced during August, which is about the same as the previous month.

EARLY SNOW STORM.

Denver, Sept. 12.—One of the heaviest storms of the year prevailed last night throughout the state. The snow lies deep on the continental divide.

THIEVES' SAD MISHAP.

Norfolk, Va., Sept. 12.—In an attempt to steal a quantity of alcohol from the cruiser Olympia in the drydock at the Norfolk navy yard tonight, a barrel of the fluid exploded. Two men were killed outright, and a master-at-arms is missing.

HURRICANE PREDICTED.

Washington, Sept. 12.—The following special bulletin was issued at the Weather Bureau: "Hurricane centre near southern point of Florida. Dangerous for vessels of all classes to sail for or from Gulf ports."

SNOW IN MONTANA.

Butte, Mont., Sept. 12.—Reports tonight from various points indicate heavy snowstorms generally throughout the state of Montana. In Carbon county and the southern portions of the state from two to four feet of snow is reported, and the damage to second crops of alfalfa and oats will amount to thousands of dollars.

ROSSLAND SHIPMENTS.

Ore Output for Week Nearly Nine Thousand Tons.

Rossland, B. C., Sept. 12.—Production of Rossland camp for week ending tonight is close to 9000 tons, the totals being as follows: LeRoi 5220, Centre Star 1710, War Eagle 1380, LeRoi II 220, Jumbo 330, Spitzee 60, I. X. L. Milled 50, total for the week 8970. Year to date 267,827.

POPE'S COMMENDATION.

Rome, Sept. 12.—The Pope, fulfilling a promise made to the Rev. Dennis McConnel, rector of the Catholic University at Washington, when the latter was presented to him by Cardinal Gibbons, sent him today a very cordial letter containing a brief in favor of the Catholic University at Washington. The Pope most warmly recommends the university to the support of the whole people of the United States, trusting in their generosity to enable it to accomplish its object, which is to maintain and augment the intellectually supremacy of America.

MARYLAND LAUNCHED.

Big U. S. Cruiser Takes Water From Newport News' Yard.

Newport News, Va., Sept. 12.—The United States 15,000-ton armored cruiser Maryland was launched at the yard of the Newport News Shipbuilding Co. today. An accident attended the launching, marring but little, however, the success of the event. The intensity of the heat caused the melting of the tallow with which the ways were greased, and the big keel, instead of gliding down to the water, clung to her cradle. When she was finally released the warship dipped her stern heavily and grounded in the mud. The ship was so skilfully handled by the experts in charge of the work that no injury was sustained. The cruiser will be safely afloat in the morning. More than 10,000 people witnessed the launching.

AN AMAZING TALE OF FRAUD

Some Shady Insurance Transactions Which Have Shocked Scotland.

Edinburgh, Sept. 12.—An amazing tale of an alleged insurance fraud has been unfolded in Edinburgh. John Grant, director and manager, and Arthur Blackhurst, secretary of the Star Fire & Burglary Company, limited, were charged in the High Court of Justiciary with obtaining insurance premiums by fraud from 2000 persons. According to a liquidator, the company began business with £7. The total premiums received came to £2311, and the risks undertaken amounted to £875,025.

A clerk earning 16 shillings and expenses a week, said he was advised by Blackhurst, whom he had known for some time, to become a director of the company.

At the first meeting, he continued, Grant, on the suggestion of Blackhurst, was appointed manager at a salary of £750 a year. Then Blackhurst, on the proposal of Grant, was elected secretary at £100 a year.

The only other director was Grant's brother. On the motion of the ex-clerk, it was agreed to pay in cash or preferential debenture stock £1000 each to Grant and Blackhurst, the bonds carrying 10 per cent.

He acted, said the clerk, on the suggestion of the two accused men. He had "perfect confidence" in them, and was assured the bonds were all right.

At another meeting, at which he and Grant were present, the minutes stated that application had been received from John Grant, and had been acceded to, for £5000 debentures.

The clerk was appointed chairman, and eventually the company applied for liquidation.

Several English and Scottish witnesses gave evidence as to insurance transaction, on the representations, printed in the company's forms, that the guarantee fund was £250,000.

ANOTHER CREAMERY OPENED.

Nanaimo's New Factory Turns Out Its First Products.

Nanaimo creamery is at last in active operation. The first butter was made yesterday by Mr. Thompson, the man in charge, and although it has not at the time of writing been brought into town, it is said to be first class butter in every particular, says the Nanaimo Herald of yesterday. Only a small batch, about 70 pounds, was made yesterday owing to the fact that only a few of the members knew that cream was required and had it not been that the advertisement calling for cream had been inserted in the local papers and several farmers had responded with the goods, no attempt would have been made, but when the cream arrived the plant began operations in the presence of several of the directors, and yesterday afternoon the butter was finished. The butter will be brought into town this morning and distributed among the grocery stores. Only a few pounds will be given each store, but the following grocery stores will have a small quantity: Co-Operative, Jas. Young, H. A. McMillan, James Hirst, W. T. Heddle.

The next batch will be made on Tuesday and it is hoped that enough cream will be received before then to make a full batch. Patrons are requested to send in their cream right along as the creamery will be kept in active operations all winter if the cream supply will justify it.

Pacifying the Royal City

Premier McBride Lays the Facts Before Exhibition Authorities.

Managers Satisfied That Elections Will Not Interfere With the Show.

Good Progress Being Made On the Fraser River Bridge.

From Our Own Correspondent.

New Westminster, Sept. 12.—The political pot continues to boil merrily and interest during the last few days has centered on the City Hall, the headquarters of Mayor Keary, the opposition candidate. On Friday a conference was held by appointment between Premier McBride and the executive of the R. A. & I. Society, when was discussed the probable effect on the provincial exhibition of the government's action in moving forward to October 3rd the date for the general elections. All kinds of ulterior motives have been ascribed for the change, the one most favored by the local grits being a blow at New Westminster city and exhibition, and its manager, Mr. Keary, was struck either deliberately or thoughtlessly by the government. This horse has been ridden to death already, and will peter out entirely in a day or so, when Mr. Keary will probably realize that he was talked into his present position during the time he was very angry and before the other side of the story had been heard. The other side aforesaid was heard at this conference, when, after hearing the explanations and proposals of Premier McBride, the assembled directors of the exhibition concluded that the big fair would not be so materially affected as they at first had feared.

The Premier explained that it was impossible for the government to set any other date for the elections, and that they were practically forced to take that date. They did not know at the time that the fair would not be over, as they thought that it would be concluded on Friday, October 2nd. However, should the Society suffer any financial loss owing to the change of date, the government would indemnify it. Moreover, the different agents of the government had been instructed to do all in their power to aid the Westminster Exhibition, and it is thus hoped to overcome any effect that the elections may have.

The Premier announced that for the convenience of those attending the fair, polling booths would be established near the city, as follows: Delta, at South Westminster; Dewdney, at Sapperton; Richmond, in Burnaby near the city limits, and Chilliwack, at Riverside, from which place there would be steamboat connection with the city.

The press was excluded from the meeting, but a statement embodying the above facts was handed out later. The interview with the Premier was comparatively brief and he retired to commence to fill numerous engagements. Not so the exhibition directors, however, who remained in the Mayor's office for over an hour longer. What then took place has not yet leaked out, but though no noise of strife issued from the room, the countenances of the men when they came out showed the atmosphere had been decidedly warm. It is rumored that the manager of the exhibition was given to understand that there was altogether too much politics and that he would be doing a graceful thing if he withdrew from the contest for a seat in the legislature now that the fact has been made clear that the government was not hostile in the exhibition. However, nothing official has transpired to substantiate this, though it is generally believed that this may yet be done before nomination day.

In the meantime it is satisfactory to know that preparations for the provincial exhibition are going on apace. Arrangements are being made for a special steamer to go through the gulf islands and take up the exhibits for the fair. It is expected that arrangements will be made whereby Victoria residents will be enabled to take in the fair and return home the same day. From Whatcom there will be a special excursion on "American Day," and there are assurances that a large number of people will take advantage of the special transportation offered over all the roads and visit the greatest fair in the West.

The premium list is the largest of any show west of Toronto and the attractions this year will be second to none, as the society believes in having the best. This year they will have lacrosse and baseball matches and fireworks as special features and balloon ascensions and a host of side shows. Every available inch of space in the immense main building has been applied for twice over; and the stock stalls promise to be full. The Gun Club's Bench Show promises to be one of the largest yet held on the Coast.

Those who are desirous of staying in the city overnight would do well to communicate at once with the City Clerk, who has started a free information bureau on behalf of the billeting committee. Already the hotels are making arrangements for the crowds.

Premier McBride stated yesterday that the government agent had been instructed to push to completion the new trunk road to Ladner and other Delta points.

Work on the Westminster bridge is progressing well. No. 3 pier, the last in deep water on the city side of the river, is nearly finished and the masonry is well under way on one of the No. 2 (double) piers, in shallow water, to support the fantail approach which is an unique feature of the big structure. In the meantime the contractors for the superstructure have carried their framework half-way across and are now preparing to erect the first of the long spans, one 380 feet long. Twelve carloads of steel have already been used, and the compressed air riveting machines are working incessantly. About forty carloads more of steel is en route from Montreal. The designer, Mr. Waddell, has just returned from the interior where he has been superintending the erection of a suspension bridge over Chimney creek. Another workman on the bridge was injured this week. William Lyle had his right hand jammed in a block and tackle and was obliged to have two fingers amputated.

Owing to the provincial jail here having become overcrowded, there being but 66 cells and 76 prisoners, ten of the latter were transferred yesterday to the Nanaimo jail, the squad being in charge of Sheriff Armstrong and two assistants.

VESSEL ARRIVES.

Savannah, Ga., Sept. 14.—The steamship New Orleans, from Baltimore, which was reported to have gone aground at Hunter's Island, forty miles north of Beaufort, arrived here today. All of the forty passengers were reported well.

FARMER KILLED.

Waterford, Ont., Sept. 12.—Walter Moore, a well-known farmer, was instantly killed yesterday on the farm of J. Beanstead, Brook township, by the prong of a fork penetrating his throat and breaking his neck.

HEAVY STORMS.

Rome, Sept. 12.—All along the sea coast heavy windstorms have occurred, doing considerable damage. It is not known if any fatalities resulted from the storm.

REPORT DISCREDITED.

Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 12.—Clement A. Griscom, president of the International Mercantile Marine Association, speaking today in reference to the news despatch from Liverpool that it was rumored that the White Star Line is likely to again become a partly British firm, discredited the report.

PAPAL MONEY MISSING.

Rome, Sept. 12.—The Tribunal says in its issue today: "It is insistently rumored that the discovery was made recently that a sum of money was missing from the treasury of the propaganda. Pope Pius ordered that an inquiry into the matter be made by Cardinal Del La Volpe, prefect of economy of the propaganda, who, according to the reports, found $20,000 to be missing.

CALIFORNIA MURDER.

Wealthy Farmer of Paso Robles Held Up and Killed.

Paso Robles, Cal., Sept. 12.—Charles Kuhnle, one of the best known and wealthiest farmers of this section, was murdered early this morning. Kuhnle and his wife were in town attending lodge, and left at midnight for their home in the country. When within a mile of home a masked man stepped out from the bushes beside the road and ordered, "Hands up." Afterwards Kuhnle was directed to get out of the rig, and had no sooner reached the ground than a shot was fired point blank, and he fell mortally wounded. After taking a satchel containing $60 from the vehicle, the murderer ordered Mrs. Kuhnle to drive away.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.

Winnipeg, Man., Sept. 12.—Word was brought to the city today of a murder and suicide last night at St. Pierre, in which a young man known as "Kid" Breton, of Winnipeg, was shot and killed by Joseph Canters, a resident of St. Pierre.

The killing was the result of a row and personal encounter. After shooting Breton, Canters was seized by onlookers; but before he could be disarmed, he turned the pistol on himself, inflicting a fatal wound.

Politics In Northern Districts

The Conservative Candidate For Newcastle Has Enthusiastic Reception.

Probability That Labor Organizations will Support Mr. Bryden.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Nanaimo, B. C., Sept. 12.—With the acceptance this afternoon by Mr. Alex. Bryden of the nomination of the Conservatives of Newcastle district which was signified at an enthusiastic meeting held at Ladysmith, at which the Hon. Capt. Tarlow was present, the campaign is fairly inaugurated in that constituency. Although somewhat late in the field Mr. Bryden will prove a strong favorite in the polling. Already, it is reported, the Liberals out in the district, who are not by any means satisfied with the choice made by the convention of a Ladysmith man, while an excellent young man, who has no particular qualifications for the position of legislator, are signifying their intention of supporting Mr. Bryden and the growing feeling that he, being the strongest candidate, should be permitted to fight the Socialist party without interference may yet lead to the withdrawal by the Liberals of their nominee.

Meanwhile in Nanaimo Mr. Quennell's campaign is going on swimmingly. Here, too, Liberal defections will swell his vote, it being a matter of common report that a large number of the members of that party, now that the decision has been taken to support the Labor candidate, hold themselves absolved from any allegiance to Mr. Sheppard. On the other hand also, unfortunately for Mr. Sheppard, his own friends do not approve the alliance, and it is doubtful if all the votes he gains by it will compensate with those he will lose. Whatever the results of the campaign may be in other directions, it is certain to be disastrous to Mr. Ralph Smith, as a test of whose strength this fight by proxy is generally recognized. Both Conservatives and Socialists dismiss the Liberal-Labor combine from serious consideration when estimating the probable results of the election and the former are calmly confident that when the votes are counted those polled for Mr. Quennell will outnumber those polled by the only opponents it is necessary to take into account.

The news that two Richmonds were entering the field which he has hitherto had to himself has sent Mr. W. W. B. McInnes off to Alberni in a hurry, and he is now busy with his fences there. Mr. McInnes has been hard at work for many weeks, and it must be conceded that it will take a very vigorous pursuit to catch him up. If, as is probable, Mr. R. J. H. Hickey comes out in the Conservative interest, the easy victory on which Mr. McInnes counts will be by no means assured. Mr. Hickey has the advantage of being a farmer and a resident. He also carries a splendid record for service in the field as a soldier of the late Queen, and his simple integrity has earned for him the respects of the community. Mr. Hickey will not only take all the Conservative votes, but if, as now seems probable, the Liberals who are dissatisfied with Mr. McInnes, do not run an independent, some of theirs as well. On the other hand, although the Socialists themselves have no hope whatever that their candidate will be elected, he cannot fail to secure some vote, and these will be such as would otherwise have gone to the Liberal candidate.

It is not positively known whether or not Mr. Robert Grant will accept the Conservative nomination for Comox. The first advices received indicated that he had done so, but these have not been confirmed. Should he accept his election is a foregone conclusion, as his opponents are a Nanaimo lawyer, Mr. F. McB. Young, and a Socialist. That the latter has but little following even in Cumberland, where his entire strength lies is indicated by the fact that the local union has surrendered its charter to that Socialistic organization, the Western Federation of Miners.

In Cowichan Mr. Skinner's return is assured. There, as in so many other constituencies, the Liberals have the machine and the Conservatives have the votes.

The new creamery here began operations yesterday, turning out seventy pounds of excellent butter as a sample. It is expected that the manufacture will proceed steadily all winter.

The aborigines of Peru can, in the darkest night and in the thickest woods, distinguish respectively a white man, a negro and one of their own race by the smell.

Germany owns 10,220 miles of telegraph cable, or one twenty-fourth of the entire system of the world, while Great Britain owns two-thirds of the total mileage.

Mr. Ritchie To Resign

British Chancellor of the Exchequer to Retire From Balfour Cabinet.

Great Excitement Attendant on Council Meeting Held Yesterday.

Mr. Chamberlain Hooted By Crowd on Arrival At Downing Street.

London, Sept. 14.—From all parts of the country and the continent British cabinet ministers came to London today to attend the meeting, which was regarded as marking the most important phase in the recent political history of the United Kingdom.

The Times voiced public sentiment in saying it was "a great occasion," more important even than the historic meeting when Home Rule was uppermost, for the main issue today is the "Unity of the Empire." Not since the fateful day when the cabinet framed an answer to President Krugers' ultimatum had such crowds gathered around Downing street. From early morning loiterers assembled here in the hope of catching a glimpse of political leaders. However, when it was announced that the cabinet would not meet until 3 o'clock the spectators dwindled away.

Mr. Balfour, who arrived in London from Scotland yesterday evening, went to Downing street early. There was a number of treasury officials closeted all the morning with Mr. Balfour's secretary, and going over the statistics on which the cabinet is supposed to base its decision for or against free trade. Mr. Chamberlain, who was the central figure in today's proceedings, left Birmingham accompanied by his wife. A large crowd bade them farewell at the railroad station. On their arrival here Mrs. Chamberlain went to their London home, and Mr. Chamberlain proceeded to the Colonial Office.

Upon the arrival of Mr. Chamberlain at Downing street he was loudly hooted. A crowd of laborers employed nearby joined in the unusual demonstration against the Colonial Secretary. Mr. Chamberlain, who was accompanied by Gerald Balfour, president of the Board of Trade, showed his customary indifference to this reception. The police eventually were obliged to form a double line from Mr. Balfour's house to the Foreign Office, so as to enable the cabinet ministers to enter the latter place.

The cabinet meeting ended at 5.50 p.m. It transpired that the predicted division in the cabinet over Mr. Chamberlain's fiscal proposal actually occurred, and that a partial reorganization of the ministry will take place. Mr. Ritchie expressed his unalterable opposition to any change in the fiscal system, and nothing is believed to have occured to modify the opinion held this morning that he will resign the chancellorship of the exchequer. In spite of the South African war commission's severe criticism of Lord Lansdowne's course as Secretary for War, it is declared he proposed to remain at the head of the Foreign Office.

Another meeting of the cabinet will be held tomorrow. It may, therefore, safely be assumed that no definite decision regarding the fiscal question was reached today.

According to Prince Meerchersky, in most Russian families there is no period in the life of a child when its parents consider themselves bound to instil into it moral principles.

JAPAN AND BRITAIN EXCHANGE VIEWS

Russia Cannot Be Allowed More Time to Strengthen Hold on Manchuria.

London, Sept. 14.—The Associated Press is informed that Japan and Great Britain have exchanged views on the latest demands made by Russia on China and that they have decided to protest separately to the Pekin government against the acceptance. In case this should prove fruitless and Russia continues her occupation of Manchuria, Japan proposes to break off the negotiation of Russia for a definition of their respective rights in Manchuria and Korea and to demand of the St. Petersburg government that it order the evacuation of Chinese territory.

"We cannot permit the postponement of the evacuation," said the Japanese authorities, "for Russia would utilize the additional time to strengthen her fleet and army in the far East. Already her naval tonnage there is equal to ours. Public sentiment in Japan is deeply stirred up by Russia's failure to carry out her promise to evacuate Manchuria and demands the withdrawal of her troops on the date fixed a year ago."

ANOTHER SERVIAN PLOT.

London, Sept. 14.—A special despatch from the Bulgarian frontier reports that another Servian military plot has been discovered at Kragujevots, fifty-nine miles from Belgrade. Several more officers have been arrested.

STEAMER CAPSIZED.

Lacrosse, Wis., Sept. 14.—The steamer Park Bluff was capsized in a fierce storm which prevailed on the Mississippi last night and engineer Ferguson of this city was drowned. The members of the crew were saved.

EVERYTHING LOVELY.

Washington, Sept. 14.—The Navy Department today posted the following bulletin: "Admiral Cotton telegraphs from Beyrout the 13th inst. that he had exchanged satisfactory visits with the governor-general. The governor-general has personal charge of the vice-consul case. Twenty-eight persons, including the principals in the disturbance of last Sunday have been arrested. Beyrout is quiet. The administration of the new governor-general inspired confidence. The former governor-general left on the 12th inst. for Constantinople."

STORM IN MONTANA.

Much Damage Done to Crops by Heavy Fall of Snow.

Butte, Mont., Sept. 14.—Reports from outlying farming districts give conflicting details as to the damage done by Saturday's and Sunday's snowstorm. Beaverhead county appears to have suffered the most, as hardly a third of the grain crop had been harvested when the storm broke and for ten hours the snow fell inches deep. The snow was wet, clinging to grain and bringing it to the ground. Estimates of damage done are placed as high as $75,000 in that county, but prominent ranchers declare if conditions are favorable much of the oats beaten down can be harvested. The second crop of alfalfa in many parts of the state will suffer greatly and in some instances is almost ruined. Carbon county, in the southern part of the state, reports considerable loss in the oat and alfalfa crops. Many fruit trees were stripped of their branches.