

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Municipal Elections at Nanaimo and Kamloops—Mining News from the Interior.

The Hall Mines, Limited—Coal City Firemen—Fighting Over a Young Lady.

(Special to the Colonist.)

VANCOUVER, Jan. 14.—Sweeping reductions in civil salaries are to be made in Westminster.

The last evidence in the Pat Cairns investigation was concluded to-day. He will stand his trial at the next session.

The water flooding the cellar of Champion & White got mixed with the lime stored there and started a conflagration which was with difficulty put out by the chemical engine.

J. T. Carroll has been nominated for reeve in North Vancouver.

More recent thieving has taken place, this time in Mount Pleasant. Nothing of value was secured.

The old council set for the last time this morning. The committee submitted the accounts. The new council also met, Mayor Collins in the chair, and formed committees.

VANCOUVER, Jan. 15.—The reports of committees of the city council are very interesting and are briefly as follows: Water works—There are now two hundred hydrants in the city. There have been 1,200 services put in since the city got control; altogether there are 2,600 services. For 1894 \$45,345.84 was received from patrons, and \$16,000 worth supplied for public use.

Including the rates due from 1893 the total revenue was \$61,364, against a total expense of \$52,696. The expenditure on capital account apart from this was \$40,467. For street lighting and the fire department there were expended \$42,175. Firemen's salaries, \$15,300; street lighting, \$19,600, and \$105,100 was spent for repairs and permanent improvement. At the hospital 233 persons were admitted and 21 died. For sewers built and repaired \$7,600 was spent and 247 connections were made. One hundred and seventeen persons were given free lodging in the jail. The police court receipts were \$2,860. The accounts due the city amounting to \$2,600. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund is \$98,919, of which \$78,784 is out on mortgage, and there is a cash balance of \$18,400.

The taxes due for the year are: 1897, \$105,131; 1898, \$170,101; 1899, \$338,791; 1900, \$1,106,191; 1901, \$3,277,192; 1902, \$3,318,193; 1903, \$3,973,194; 1904, \$4,831,195. Total, \$14,631,310. The expenditure for the year was \$105,310. The expenditure of the working committees and the grants to schools bring up the total to \$354,628. The revenue from all quarters was \$336,349, leaving a balance of \$20,277 for the next council to tackle.

The chairman of the new committee are: Finance, W. Brown; board of works, McPhaden; health, Shaw; water and light, Bethune; fire and police, Gallagher.

The ladies of the different churches have adopted a splendid charity scheme. The different churches choose different days and the entire congregation take turns three at a time in supplying bread and soup for the poor. So that when the other churches follow the lines laid down by the Anglican, the total number of people who are helped is a hundred people will be fed and the surplus sent home to the destitute who are in need. The outlay does not cost more than \$3 to \$4, and after every lady in the congregation has contributed her mite the first that gave takes her turn again. This is practical charity tempered with reason. Rev. Mr. McLaughlin's church deserves great praise for inaugurating the scheme.

A Chinaman has been arrested for attempting to smuggle opium in a bun to an immigrant country.

Seventy dollars was realized from the football match between the city and C.P.R. for Mr. Beaville's benefit. The young man whose foot was crushed by the train recently when on duty.

Two stowaways on the Australian boat have been sent to jail.

Another gambling den on Dupont street was raided last night. Eight Chinese, Japanese, negroes and whites were arrested besides \$22 and a complete gambling outfit being seized. The lotteries are to be raided very soon.

From all the flooded districts comes the report that the water has assumed almost its former level and the damage is comparatively small outside of a few bridges and the loss of a quantity of roots in place.

Louis Victor, the condemned man, bears up well in his cell at Westminster and seems to obtain great courage from the priests in attendance upon him.

RAILROADS.

NANAIMO, Jan. 14.—The various temperance organizations held a religious-political meeting in the Y.M.C.A. hall on Saturday evening. Rev. D. A. McKee took the chair, and in his opening remarks denounced the local press for saying that the meeting would be of a political nature. R. Cairns, however, scored the election of a man who holds an interest in a brewery, sits on a board to issue licenses to those who sell his products, and has material control of the police force, enabling those sellers to be dealt with lightly. Other speakers dealt with the matter from a general standpoint. The meeting was very largely attended.

Two young men, members of the local fire department, yesterday fought nine hard and savage rounds back of Chinatown. The fight ended in a draw, with both men too badly battered to show up for work to-day. This is much to be regretted, as they are as far as ever from settling the original question, who shall take the first place in the affection of a young lady.

Numerous crooks appear to be making this town their winter quarters. They are heard from occasionally, but not as yet in the police court.

Municipal affairs received a thorough discussion in the opera house to-night. Dr. McKee took the chair and the advocates of both parties made favorable speeches. As the time of the election proceeds interest is growing and the fight will be close and hard. The following tickets were nominated to-day:

For Mayor—Arthur Wilson, miner; Edward Quennell, butcher.

Duncan Stewart McDonald, merchant; John Henry Cocking, livable keeper; George H. Lee, miner.

For School Trustees (six candidates): Henry E. James, teamster; John Hubert, undertaker; Robert E. McKee, physician; William McGee, mine manager; Tully Boyce, miner; Edward Quennell, butcher.

WESTMINSTER, Jan. 15.—The Zischow case was resumed yesterday and the coroner's jury returned the verdict that Heinrich Zischow came to his death from being foully murdered by a party or parties unknown. Robert Marshall and wife testified that on November 4th last the murdered man came to their public house and had a meal, leaving his valise in the sitting room. He talked excitedly and attracted attention. He said he had property that he was offered \$100,000 for, but would not take less than \$200,000; that he was in Canada getting naturalization papers and papers to prove his right to the property. He was very restless and could not sit still a moment. He would sit down on a chair and immediately spring up again. All the time he was being watched closely by a tall, fair stranger who had come in immediately after him. They left at the same time and neither of them ever returned, Zischow leaving his valise behind him.

The Westminster Council has passed a by-law providing for an indemnity to the mayor amounting to \$750. Ald. Keay's salary reduction by-law was adopted. The city clerk will get \$110 a month; the treasurer, \$84; the clerk of the peace, \$125; the police magistrate, \$92.50, and the city engineer will be dismissed with a retiring pension, for his services in getting the new buildings erected.

A panther is supposed to be roaming on Mayne island, having been seen by a resident and its tracks followed up in the late snow. Some few years ago a specimen was also taken there.

The tide on Friday and Saturday was exceptionally high. Logs and other timber which have been lying embedded on the banks for the past twenty years were removed by the incoming water.

The Galliano public school is being redecorated and school duties will be resumed next month.

A meeting of the Plumber Pass Rifle Association will take place on Saturday the 19th inst.

MIDWAY. (From the Advance.) Word has been received from Mr. Mara, M.P., that a post office will shortly be established at Boundary Falls.

Six men are at work for Mr. Ross on the Gold Road. The shaft is down 35 feet and will be continued to a depth of 100.

The new shaft on the Clark is down 90 feet on the vein, and will be continued for another ten feet. The other level sunk by the S. & G. N. mining company off the vein has been filled up. Three assays of the Clark level have been made and respectively 288 ounces silver, one ounce gold; 766 ounces silver, one ounce gold; 780 ounces silver, one ounce gold.

A fine collection of St. Lawrence and slatted has been sent to Paris by Mr. Clement Vacher, with a view to inducing French capital to take hold of some of the mining properties in this section.

At the Tonkasi Indian school (Okanagan) on the Columbia, one of the scholars, Moses Lambert, 12, while stooping over a large heating tub used for washing purposes, slipped and fell into the hot boiling water. He was so badly scalded that he died in about twenty hours afterwards.

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The recent fall of snow has started the stockmen feeling that the winter will be a great quantity of feed has been consumed.

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UNFORTUNATE FRANCE.

It Again Loses Its President—Casimir Perier Resigns the Chief Magistracy.

Result of the Struggle Against the Parliamentary Regime and the Public Liberty.

PARIS, Jan. 15.—M. Casimir-Perier has resigned the office of President of France. He announced his resignation this evening at a specially summoned meeting of the cabinet, having previously informed M. Challeme-Lacour, president of the senate, of his inability to solve the problem presented by the resignation of Premier Dupuy.

The news of the President's resignation spread like wildfire throughout Paris, and was received everywhere with consternation amounting almost to paralysis. In the newspaper offices the first report was considered absurd, but was soon confirmed. Almost simultaneously crowds began gathering in front of the newspaper offices and in the public places, inquiring for further particulars and discussing the situation. The following official communication, dictated or written by M. Casimir-Perier, was sent to the President of the Republic:

"The President of the Republic has taken a resolution to resign his official functions. Yesterday's proceedings and the vote in the Chamber of Deputies are in his eyes but secondary incidents of the struggle that has begun against the parliamentary regime and the public liberty. He had hoped that the President of the Republic, being unprovided with the means of action, would remain out of the lines of party struggle, and that the political confidence of all parties would give him the necessary force and authority. He had hoped that those who, in spite of himself, had placed him in a position where he cannot defend himself, would undertake the defence of the first magistracy of the state. He has requested the ministers to withdraw their resignations provisionally in order to assure the regular transmission of his powers to a successor. M. Charles Dupuy, president of the council, has informed the president of the senate and the chamber of deputies of the decision of the President of the Republic, and they are going to convene parliament with urgency."

M. Challeme-Lacour, president of the senate, allowed himself to be interviewed by the United Press correspondent late this evening, notwithstanding the great pressure of business thrust upon him by the president's resignation. He said that he had not yet been decided whether to convene the national assembly to elect a successor to M. Casimir-Perier for the 18th or 19th inst. He will probably announce the date to-morrow on the meeting of the senate, and the chamber of deputies. M. Casimir-Perier's ferocity in his public communication to his inability to defend himself in the presidency was the reason of the trustworthy information obtained by the United Press correspondent, he explained by the fact that as he was a sub-secretary of state in the cabinet which concluded the railway convention in 1882, he regarded the president of the republic as a personal reflection upon him, although he had no voice in the cabinet when the conventions were made. Whether this be the reason or not, he is now a personal enemy to what length he is prepared to go to against the Socialists, whom he regards as aiming at a revolution.

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CAPITAL NOTES.

Uncertainties of the Law Exemplified in Decisions of the Supreme Court.

The Liquor Question Before Their Lordships on Seven Distinct Interrogations.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Jan. 14.—Parliament will be asked to incorporate a company to build a railway from the Trail Creek mines district of Kootenay to the junction of Trail Creek and the Columbia river.

The revised voters' lists are coming in fast and the staff of the printing bureau is being increased to meet the rush.

Your correspondent had a long talk with General Herbert to-day, apropos of the existing rumors. The General remarked: "My relations with Hon. Mr. Patterson are of the most friendly and cordial character. I have never sent in my resignation and have no intention of doing so at present. Since Mr. Patterson has been the head of the department our official intercourse has been of the pleasantest character. I notice, however, that whenever there is any talk of the annual report being published certain enterprising newspaper correspondents set malicious yarns going. I would therefore ask you to contradict them, I trust, once for all."

The Ottawa newspapers continue to slate Lord Aberdeen for withdrawing his patronage from the Carnival. As a protest to the Governor's action subscriptions are fairly pouring in.

OTTAWA, Jan. 15.—The glorious uncertainty of the law was never more strikingly exemplified than by the Supreme court to-day. One moment it decided that the Ontario local option act was perfectly constitutional and a few minutes later that it was ultra vires. This apparent inconsistency arose from the fact that the personal opinion of the court which heard the case was not the same. The case of Hason v. the Township of South Norwich, Ont., involved the question of the validity of a by-law prohibiting the retail sale of liquor within the township under the authority of the Ontario local option act. The court dismissed the appeal, Judges Gwynne and Sedgewick dissenting.

The court held by a majority that the Ontario local option act was constitutional. The next case was a reference submitted by the Dominion government in regard to the whole prohibition case, so as to decide whether the power to prohibit by the Dominion or the Province. The justice who heard this case were Chief Justice Strong and Justices Fournier, Gwynne and Sedgewick. The questions submitted by the Dominion and the answers to them are as follows:

1. Has a provincial legislature jurisdiction to prohibit the sale within the province of spirituous, fermented or other intoxicating liquors?

Answer—No; Chief Justice Strong and Justice Fournier dissenting.

2. Has the legislature such jurisdiction regarding such portions of the province as to which the Canada temperance act is not in operation?

Answer—No; Chief Justice Strong and Justice Fournier dissenting.

3. Has a provincial legislature jurisdiction to prohibit the importation of such liquors into the province?

Answer—No; unanimous.

4. If a provincial legislature has not the jurisdiction to prohibit the sale of such liquors in portions of the province, has such legislature jurisdiction to prohibit the sale at retail, according to the definition of a sale by retail, either in the statute in force in the province at the time of confederation or any other definition thereof?

Answer—No; the Chief Justice and Justice Fournier dissenting.

5. If a provincial legislature has limited jurisdiction only as regards the prohibition of sale, has the legislature jurisdiction to prohibit sale subject to the provisions of the several sub-sections of the 99th section of the "Canada temperance act" and of the revised statutes of Canada, chapter 106, section 99?

Answer—No; the Chief Justice and Justice Fournier dissenting.

6. Has the Ontario legislature jurisdiction to enact the 18th section of act 53 Victoria, to improve the liquor houses acts as said action is explained by the act passed by said legislature in the 54th year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled "An act respecting local option in the matter of liquor selling" (Title refers to the case of Hason v. South Norwich)?

Answer—No; the Chief Justice and Justice Fournier dissenting.

The fisheries museum, a government institution, is to be re-opened next week.

THE LAST CHAPTER.

VANCOUVER, Jan. 14.—(Special.)—The bullet English college graduate Ashford put into his brain