(From Friday's Daily Edition.)

Some Practical Suggestions.

Rev. Mr. Ellison Shows How the West Coast Telegraph May Be Improved.

Its Present Maintenance a Farce So Far as Its First Purpose Is Concerned.

Telegraphic connection with the West Coast is at present securable by way of the Alberni-Cape Beale route, and has been for almost a week past. This in itself is a matter of so unusual occurrance as to be entitled to publication as news. The Carmanah signal service wire, which also is maintained by the federal authorities, is dead, as it has been for three-quarters of the time since its construction. From the standpoint justifying their construction—to enable prompt report to be made of shipping mishaps along the hazardous western coast line—both wires have signally demonstrated their utter failure, a very recent illustration being in connection with the disasters to the Hera and the Libertad. Speaking of the illustration referred to, Rev. W. G. H. Ellison, who takes a very active and intelligent interest in seamen and their cause, says in a talk to the Colonist:

"Each year witnesses an increase in the number of disasters along this dangerous west coast of the Island, and some public attention should be directed to the needs and facilities of escape places at the disposal of shipwrecked people. I was in the local telegraph station on the line running from Cape Beale to Victoria, via Alberni, when the news was flashed along the wire, 'two ships ashore at ——

"It was then the line went down.

"I said to the lineman, 'You had better go out and fix that wire.'

"His reply was 'It will do in a few days.'

"'But,' I said, 'there are probably lives and property at stake.'

"'Oh, well,' he observed, 'I'll send an Indian out now.'

"The Indian started three days later.

"Now, this government telegraph line, leased, I understand, to the C.P.R., or at all events, operated by that company, is often down for three weeks at a time, when most needed. We have a continually increasing mining traffic and much other dangerous work in progress along the whole length of the western coast. No one envies the lineman his dangerous task in winter, but it is nevertheless the duty of the government to see that the line is kept going, and the right men found to keep it up at all costs.

"Let me suggest that a telephone be fixed in each station, so that in the case of the absence of an operator, news may still be sent when absolutely necessary.

"I might suggest, too, that the Provincial and Dominion governments combine to cut a four-foot trail along the entire length of the line, which in many places is now dangerous and impassable, so that local foot traffic might be made possible; that a regular local lineman be appointed for each section, a man who will be ready to face any weather to keep the line going; and should any one station fail, so that it might be possible to carry on foot any important message to the next station.

"The line as at present conducted is almost wholly useless, except to enable a few people to draw salaries.

"A short time since, I had occasion to send a message of importance along the line, which was accepted and paid for at the head office. This message eventually arrived at its destination ten days afterwards, and by a stage, which had received it in a postal letter a week before.

"In cases of emergency, such as of shipwreck, explosion in mines, etc., or of local importance, continually occurring on the increase on the West Coast, could not some effort be made by the authorities to improve the existing condition of affairs?

"Any persons wishing to co-operate in this direction would oblige by adding their names to a petition now in preparation, asking the government to improve the means of communication referred to. This petition may be seen at the Seamen's Mission on Store street."

PROVINCIAL GAZETTE.

This Week's Issue of Routine Interest Only—Another Batch of Justices of the Peace.

Several notices of an interesting character appear in the official Gazette issued yesterday. Vancouver city gives notice of application at the next sitting of the legislature for an act to revise and consolidate its Incorporation Act, asking among other things for power to abolish the ward system, to provide under certain conditions for the government of the city by commissioners, and to assess street railways with part of the cost of watering streets. This is in line with a movement which has more or less engaged public attention in Victoria for the past few years, and Vancouver's action may have the effect of stimulating those in this city who are advocates of the abolishment of the ward system.

The boundaries of the North Saanich and Sidney school districts are redefined by the minister of education, and Clerk Fell gives notice that the time limit by the rules of the house for receiving petitions for private bills will expire on January 13, and bills must be presented to the house not later than January 25. Reports from the committee on private bills will not be received after February 1.

Other notices are as follows:

The following are registered as extra-provincial companies: The Kootenay Supply Co., Ltd., of Glasgow, Scotland; capital £20,000; local office Nelson; Pollock & Martin, attorneys.

All placer claims and leaseholds in Nelson, Ainsworth and Arrow Lake mining divisions are laid over until May 1, 1900.

F. C. Gamble, inspector of dykes, will receive sealed proposals up to January 6 for furnishing and installing two pumps of 16,000 imperial gallons capacity per minute at the Matsqui dyke.

The following companies are incorporated: Boundary-Republic Mines, of Rossland, capital $1,500,000; Tammany Gold Mine, of Rossland, capital $125,000; The Unexpected Mines, of Rossland, capital $62,500; Sutherland, Hydraulic Gold Mining Company, of Cariboo district, capital $500,000; The Magic Crater Co., of Kamloops, capital $15,000.

Sealed tenders will be received by W. S. Gore, deputy commissioner of lands and works, up to January 3, for the construction of a wagon road from the east side of the Westminster-Hastings wagon road, at its intersection with the continuation of Hastings street, in the Hastings townsite, to Barnet, situated at Burrard Inlet.

As a result of the recent examination in assaying, certificates have been granted to the following to practice assaying in the province: Under Sec. 2 Sub-Sec. 1.—Wm. J. Watson, Vancouver; Geoffrey B. Kitto, Victoria; Wm. M. Oobeldick, Vancouver; Thos. R. Robertson, of Albert Canyon. Under Sec. 2 Sub-Sec. 2.—Cicil M. Bryant, Vancouver; G. P. Gillman, Vancouver; Chas. P. Merritt, Grand Forks; Horace W. Mussen, Nelson; Chris. Outbett, Kamloops.

Judge S. Perry Mills will hold courts of revision as follows: For Victoria City.—At Victoria, Dec. 29 and 30, at 11:30 a.m.; for South Victoria, at Royal Oak, on Dec. 23, at 11:30; at John Camps, South Saanich, Jan. 13, at 12 noon; for North Saanich, at Sidney hotel, on Jan. 12, at 12 noon; for Esquimalt, at H. Price's, Parson's Bridge, Dec. 22, at 11 a.m.; for Coast, Rupert, Sayward and Quatsino land districts, at Victoria, on Jan. 9, at 12 noon; for Barclay, Clayoquot and Renfrew land districts, at Victoria, on Jan. 5, at 12 noon.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to make the following appointments: To be justices of the peace for the counties of Victoria, Nanaimo, Vancouver, Westminster, Yale, Cariboo and Kootenay: Harry Sammonds Law, Alberni; Justus E. Knight, Ashcroft. Harry Wright, of Nelson, to be mining recorder, collector under the Revenue Tax Act, for Nelson district, registrar for births, marriages and deaths for Nelson riding, collector of votes for Nelson riding, and registrar under the Marriage Act, vice Duncan A. McBeath, resigned. To be notaries public: Robert K. Houlgate and George A. Boult, of Vancouver, for the counties of Victoria, Nanaimo, Vancouver, Westminster, Yale and Kootenay; Walter J. G. Hillier, of Essington, for the counties of Nanaimo, Vancouver, Westminster, Yale, Cariboo and Kootenay.

WINNINGHAM-MURRANT.

St. James' Church Witnesses a Pretty Evening Wedding.

At St. James' church, James Bay, last evening the Rector, Rev. Mr. Sweet, performed the ceremony that made Miss Lucy Murrant, eldest daughter of Mrs. J. S. Murrant, the bride of Mr. Joseph D. Winningham, of Seattle. The bride's gown was of white silk, trimmed with the significant orange blossoms, while her attendant friends, Miss Alice Allan and Miss Mary Murrant, were attired respectively in cream silk and white lawn. The brother of the bride, Mr. Richard Murrant, gave the young lady away; while the groom was supported by Mr. William Peden. The groom's souvenir gifts to the bridesmaids were pretty brooches, the one of pearls and the other of pearls and opals. At a reception following the church ceremony, and held at the home of the bride's mother, 17 Pioneer street, Mr. and Mrs. Winningham received the congratulations of a select company of twenty-five most intimate friends. They are taking up their residence at 64 View street.

Among the many presents received by the bride and groom were the following: Mr. and Mrs. Burrows, tray, tray cloth and fruit dish; Mr. and Mrs. Firth, silver tray and lemonade set; Mr. and Mrs. Davis, hearth rug; Mr. and Mrs. Adams, tray and tea set; Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, fancy fruit dishes; Mr. and Mrs. Watson, glass centre piece; Mr. and Mrs. Osborne, pair of vases; Mr. and Mrs. Ward, card receiver; Mr. and Mrs. Hick, fruit bowl; Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins, card receiver; Mr. G. Porter, two large steel engravings; Mr. W. Peden, silver spoons; Mrs. Murrant and daughter, afternoon tea service; Miss Wilmont, table set; Miss Alice Allan, fruit basket; Miss Parsell, one dozen serviettes; and Mr. R. Murrant, centre lamp.

CANVAS RAFT FOR SOLDIERS.

When Not in Use on Water Can be Rolled Up Like a Blanket.

Experiments have just been made in France with a novel raft, designed for the use of soldiers, the inventor of which is Capt. Habert of the Fifteenth Chasseurs. Fashioned of canvas and stuffed with straw, reeds, rushes or leaves, it is shaped somewhat like a boat. When not in use it can be rolled up like a cloak and can be carried on a saddle or over a man's shoulder. When the time comes to use it it can be unrolled and fitted for its work on the water in less han fifteen minutes. It is almost impossible to capsize it. Rings are attached to it and with the help of those who are about to embark easily place it in proper position on the river's bank. Only two openings are visible in the canvas, and these are so tightly laced that water cannot enter.

In order to cross a river the current of which is not swift, it is only necessary for a man to lie flat on this raft and to use his arms as oars. In the case of a swift current it is advisable to connect the two banks by a rope.

At the moment of embarking the raft is held in a parallel direction to the course of the water and is kept steady by men who hold the rings. Four, five or six men can find room on it, according to its size and the weight of their arms. They sit one behind the other with their legs widely apart and each grips the man before him as firmly as he can with his knees. They must be seated thus before they start and their knapsacks and arms must be safely piled near them. Once afloat they must maintain a stooping position from the moment when they start until they arrive at their destination. They are ordered not to budge an inch, but to remain like statues the whole time they are on the water.

One of these rafts is said to be less dangerous than an ordinary canoe. It will float even if a hole is bored through it, and it will act as a buoy if it happens to be turned upside down. During the last few weeks several hundred French soldiers have tested it in many ways on rivers, and up to date there has not been a single accident. These experiments have shown, however, that two rafts, coupled together, work more satisfactorily than one, and Capt. Habert is now engaged in preparing double rafts for the French army.—New York Herald.

A Pleasing Production.—St. James hall was well filled last night at the entertainment given in aid of the hall fund. In the concert which constituted the first part of the programme Mr. W. T. Williams and Mr. E.H.Russell gave pleasing solos. Mr. Coles sang a solo from "The Runaway Girl" in rousing style, for which he received a vigorous encore. Miss Russell and Miss Shrapnel gave piano and violin solos respectively, and Miss Schwengers gave a greatly appreciated rendition of "A Dashing White Sergeant." After the concert a very funny farce entitled, "The Jack Trust," in three acts, was put on. The plot thickens rapidly from the start, and only stops doing so at the climax, which ends the play happily for all. In this, Mr. W. Allen was very amusing and droll, and was well supported by Misses Agnes and Alma Russell and Misses Trimen and Sorby.

Pain from indigestion, dyspepsia and too hearty eating, is relieved at once by taking one of Carter's Little Liver Pills immediately after dinner. Don't forget this.

Heroes of the West Coast.

How Men of Clayoquot Proved Their Right to Badges of the Humane Society.

Captain of the Lost Hera in a Very Unworthy Position—A Magnificent Spectacle.

An interesting private letter in reference to the burning of the schooner Hera has just been received from Clayoquot, the writer (a lady) having a view from her window of the still-burning vessel even as she wrote.

"We have had great excitement here all day," she says in this letter, which bears date of November 25. "About 10 o'clock Fred. (Mr. Spain, the provincial constable), and several others sighted a three-masted ship at sea flying a flag of distress. They thought she was on a rock, so Fred. and five others decided to go out to her, although there was a terrible sea running.

"I think you can imagine better than I can describe my anxiety, as well as Mrs. Jacobsen's and Mrs. Brewster's, whose husbands went also. It was a very brave act, as they encountered a great deal of danger, and now have the satisfaction of knowing that they saved the lives of six men.

"When they got to the ship after a long, hard pull, they found her to be on fire, and six desperate men ready to jump into the boat as soon as she came near enough. Of course if they had done this the boat would have been swamped and all drowned, and it was only by standing up with axes in hand and calling out that the first man that jumped in would be killed that this was prevented. Then one by one they were safely got on board.

"By this time the whole ship was red hot. If it had been anything but a burning ship they might have saved it and made a good deal out of it. The ship was on her way to Honolulu, and had 12 pianos on board, besides a large cargo. But the strangest part is they left the ship out at sea. The wind was blowing very strong, and the tide was coming in, and she came along with it just as though she had had captain and crew on board steering her.

"As I write, she is just in front of the house, on a sand bar, one of the grandest and yet one of the most awful sights I have ever seen. The whole room is lit up with the light from her, and I have only to turn my head to see her. She is one mass of roaring flame, and as it is a very black night, the entire harbor is lit up.

"The captain of the burning ship acted like a brute. There was only one boat, and he and the owner of the vessel, with his daughter and two men, got into it and left the others to perish. They had built themselves a raft, but it would have been worse than useless in such a sea. The ship is the Hera."

This Hera, it may be remembered, was the same vessel that acquired so unenviable a reputation on a recent trip from Cape Nome, on which starvation faced the unhappy passengers. She was at that time commanded by the same skipper whose courage and devotion to so honor is so directly challenged in the letter quoted above.

The intrepid gallantry of the Clayoquot folk stands out in splendid contrast with the action of the Hera's master, and it is meet that the representatives of the Humane Society should lose no time in taking such steps as will secure its proper recognition by that organization.

LOCAL NEWS.

The Service Suburb.—Work on the various buildings being erected by the Imperial authorities at Esquimalt is proceeding rapidly, though the wet weather has interfered to some extent. It is understood that next year greater improvements are in contemplation.

The Reason of It.—Sportsmen are complaining that pheasants are very scarce this season, and attribute this to the fact that the game laws are broken with impunity by pot-hunters, hen pheasants being shot quite as frequently as cocks by these unscrupulous sportsmen.

Prospects of a Busy Spring.—A good spring trade is anticipated in view of the expected rush of miners to Cape Nome, many of whom will pass through Victoria and purchase supplies here, the superiority of the goods dealt in by Victorian merchants being now well known to American miners.

Christmas Donations.—The chairman of the special committee for receiving and distributing Christmas donations in behalf of the Friendly Help Society requests the ladies of that committee to meet at the close of the Women's Council session on Monday afternoon at the city hall for the purpose of discussing all arrangements.

McCord's Close Call.—In connection with the recent visit of the little sloop-yacht Xora to Cocos Island, Mr. J. C. Voss, who has just returned to Victoria, gives particulars of an adventure that occasioned Captain Percy McCord the scare of his life, and came within an ace of ending his existence there and then. McCord, in company with a son of Captain Gissler who resides on the island, lost themselves in the forest while hunting wild pigs. They were searched for when their long absence had begun to occasion alarm, and were ultimately found in an utterly exhausted condition, after they had lain down to die.

He Fell Among Friends.—At a time when the police force comes in for a certain amount of unfavorable comment, it is pleasing to record an incident transpiring yesterday which reflects credit on the department. Patrick Burke, a fireman employed on one of the steamers running out of Seattle, arrived in Victoria a few days ago on his way to San Francisco. Missing the steamer, Burke proceeded to try the process of keeping his spirits up by pouring spirits down, and was picked up about 3 o'clock yesterday morning on Government street by Officer Carson, in a condition popularly known as "paralyzed." Searched at the police station he was found to have on his person $560 in gold, an amount which would have made a nice haul for some crook. Burke paid his fine of $2.50 in the police court, but when given his liberty and his money he was still in no state to take care of himself. Sergeant Hawton recognizing this induced the man to go to a hotel and deposit his money in the safe until such time as he had recovered from his little celebration. Had this not been done another story might require to be told.

For the Hospital.—The treasurer of the Provincial Royal Jubilee hospital has received, per Hon. Justice Drake, the sum of $41—a contribution towards the institution collected at Justice Drake's residence, Esquimalt road.

Quartz on Cedar Hill.—J. M. Jones is proceeding with development work on a quartz claim at Cedar Hill, with very gratifying results. The ore goes $5 to the ton, and as greater depth is obtained much better results are anticipated. Residents of the district are watching with keen interest the development of this property.

An Active Demand.—One result of the great interest aroused in the war operations in South Africa has been an extraordinary demand for the illustrated British weeklies. This has been felt by local stationers, the demand being particularly keen for the Christmas editions, the supply of which is greatly inadequate.

Mr. Peter's Funeral.—The funeral of the late Henry Thomas Peter took place yesterday from the residence of Mr. R. Hampton. Third street, the remains being laid at rest in Cedar Hill cemetery. Rev. Thomas Grundy officiated at the house and grave side, and those acting as pall-bearers were Messrs. Davidson, Glover, Reid, Tway, W. G. Anderson and J. H. Meldram.

West Coast Properties.—A number of mining men from Spokane and other points are at present in the city. They are understood to be engaged in an effort to bond or secure working options on as many West Coast properties as possible. A number of big deals are pending, which may mean much for the West Coast, but it is impossible as yet to secure details concerning them.

A Christmas Dance.—The members of the Y. M. I. and Y. L. I. have decided to join hands in the Christmas entertainment of their friends, at a dance on the evening of the 27th instant. The preparations are in the hands of an energetic joint committee. Another social event in contemplation for the first week of the new year is a fancy dress ball, to be given at the Assembly rooms under the auspices of the firemen.

Home Nursing Society.—The annual meeting of the Victoria Home Nursing Society was held in the city hall yesterday morning, when Mrs. D. W. Higgins was re-elected president, Mrs. A. J. C. Galletly vice-president, and Miss Perrin secretary-treasurer. The reports of the year were submitted and showed that the trained nurse in the society's employ to go among the sick had attended on over 400 cases and had made 600 calls during the year.

County Court.—At the regular session of the county court yesterday morning, before Mr. Justice Drake, a few judgment summons were disposed of, the other cases being adjourned. In the suit of Ah. Sing v. Joseph Knox, of Craigflower road for $50.50, for improving land, the court allowed the plaintiff $16.75, providing he complies with the provisions of the contract. Frank Higgins appeared for the plaintiff and C. E. Pooley, Q.C., for the defendant.

A Valuable Opinion:—B. Gallagher, mining engineer, representing wealthy Montana copper capitalists, returned from Alberni by yesterday's train, accompanied by Col. G. H. Hays. Mr. Gallagher during the summer visited the various mineral deposits of the Island, and yesterday said that he is most favorably impressed with their extent and value, and believes that there is every prospect that Vancouver Island ores will be extensively worked with profit. He leaves by the Sound steamer this morning for home.

Not Unknown Here.— The Indian prince Adrian (also known as a prince of love-makers and a past master of bunco steerers, with references in the latter role from New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, New Jersey, and San Francisco), is still in the hands of the Vancouver police, but expects to wiggle through, as his good luck has not yet deserted him. He is not unknown here, either, for the management of the Hotel Victoria have an unpaid account made out in his name, to which they would respectfully direct his attention when he leaves his present boarding house.

The Century Fund Scheme.—At the recent meeting of the Presbytery of Victoria, held in Wellington, special consideration was given to the million dollar century fund scheme of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church in Canada, and the necessary arrangements were made for the systematic and vigorous prosecution of the scheme in all the congregations and mission fields of the presbytery. Messrs. E. D. McLaren, of Vancouver, and W. Leslie Clay, of Victoria, are convener and vice-convener for the synod of British Columbia. About $75,000 of the $100,000 expected from the ministers of the church has already been subscribed, by a few more than half of the ministers of the church, which of itself augurs well for the complete success of the scheme. Contributions at the option of the subscribers are applied to the reduction or extinction of debts on church buildings or to the missionary or benevolent schemes of the church. Rev. E. D. McLaren, of Vancouver, addressed the congregation of St. Paul's, West Victoria, last evening, and will address a union meeting of Knox church and St. Columba's this evening, speaking to the congregations of the First church, St. Andrew's and St. Aidan's, Cedar Hill, next Sabbath, all in the interest of the scheme.

CARPETS, RUGS, ART SQUARES

UP-TO-DATE GOODS IN EVERY LINE.

We show 10 patterns to any other stores one.

Axminsters, Wiltons, Brussels, Riche Velvets Tapestry, 370 pieces Carpets, 324 Rugs, 214 Art Squares

Above goods were just received by us in one shipment from the manufacturer.

WEILER BROS, . Victoria, B. C.

Schooner Rattler Too.

San Francisco Vessel From Kadiak Included in the Overdue List.

Inner Harbor to be Dredged At Request of the Board of Trade.

Among the overdue vessels, for which keen anxiety is felt, is included the two-masted schooner Rattler, now over fifty days out from Kadiak, Alaska. "The vessel left the Alaskan port on October 10, and has not been heard from since," says the San Francisco Examiner. "Four days later the schooner Herman sailed from the same port and arrived here nearly a month ago. The Rattler is a fast sailing craft and has the reputation of being as stanch a little craft as there is afloat. When she left Kadiak she was in ballast, and this fact would be against her in a storm, as she was high out of the water. The Herman encountered a severe storm off the southeast coast of Alaska which came very near ending her career. Her life-boats were smashed and heavy seas washed completely over her. She was compelled to lay to for forty-eight hours, and even during that time she was in constant jeopardy. Capt. Thunnell of the Herman says that he caught the last of the storm. The course of the Rattler was the same as that of his vessel, and if she got into the centre of such a hurricane there is small hope for her. The North American Commercial Company, owners of the overdue craft, profess to still have hope for her safety, and they clutch at straws to support their hope. But as the days go by the wise one shake their heads sorrowfully and say that nothing short of a miracle could bring the vessel into port. If she were still afloat and disabled, they argue, some passing ship must have seen her. But not a word comes from the sea, and the fears gain ground that the legend 'overdue' must soon give way to that of 'missing' at Lloyds'."

Marriage Law Amendment.—It will be noted from the report published yesterday of the recent meeting of the Victoria presbytery that a committee has been appointed by that body to urge forward amendments to the existent legislation respecting the protection of children, temperance reform and the sanctity of marriage. This committee is to co-operate with similar committees appointed by the various other church bodies and with a general committee representative of the Ministerial Association. The matter of securing reforms in the marriage laws is one that is receiving especial attention, not only from the Presbyterian body, but from the majority of the other Protestant churches, the Anglican synod having first taken up the subject. It is particularly desired that the law be so changed as to increase the difficulties of securing divorce and limiting the remarriage of divorced persons. One of the Victoria city clergy, in conversation yesterday, made the startling statement that at the present time in one-third of the marriages solemnized in this city one or the other of the principals has been granted a divorce. He subsequently amended this statement by saying that the proportion was very large, but he might be exceeding the fact in giving one-third. The general committee representative of all the churches is expected to meet very shortly to formulate their plan of campaign.

Vertical Writing.—The Victoria schools having not long ago adopted the principle of vertical writing, (so-called), and as this system is now being taught in all the public schools, it will interest those concerned to know that this same system is being abandoned by the San Francisco schools, after a three years' trial, in favor of the Spencerian. The California educational authorities are now ready to assert that the vertical plan came into favor chiefly through its "booming" by the supply houses, who were anxious to work off a profitable stock; they say that it proved a fad, and that the name itself is a misnomer, the pupils writing either back-hand or a limited forward style, but not a true vertical, which would be an impossibility. It is also claimed that the general speed, combined with neatness, is less than under the Spencerian style; that individuality is entirely subordinated, and that the new system possesses no artistic possibilities. One-third of the teachers of Victoria, or perhaps one-half, on being interviewed on the subject, concur in the California view. The others favor the new system as producing average writing of improved legibility, combined with fair speed, while two or three teachers take the novel position of recommending the vertical style for those who purpose embarking in business careers, and the Spencerian style for all others—as the most artistic by far.

THIN, WATERY BLOOD.

When the blood is thin and watery, the nerves are actually starved and nervous exhaustion and prostration soon follow. Feed the nerves with Dr. A. W. Chase's Nerve Food and you will impart to them the new life and vigor of perfect health. Face and fac-simile signature of Dr. A. W. Chase on every box of the genuine.

"Jimmy Roche" To Visit Victoria

The Irish Conservative-Nationalist Expected During the Next Few Days.

Something About a Curious Domestic Tangle—Imperial Affairs Discussed.

Hon. James Boothby Burke Rocke, member in the Imperial parliament for a constituency in Kerry, Ireland, is expected here in the course of the next few days from San Francisco, where he has been spending some little time. He is an Irish Nationalist member, or as he terms himself a "Conservative-Nationalist"—which is to be interpreted as meaning that while he is a staunch advocate of Home Rule, he does not feel prompted by his conscience to support the cause of England's enemies.

To quote the Examiner of a recent date, "Mr. Roche, when he was much younger than he is now married the daughter of Mr. Frank Work, of New York, Mr. Work being a millionaire several times over with a taste for good horses. His daughter was considered one of the most beautiful girls in New York when she became the wife of Mr. Roche. The union was not a happy one. Roche was an aristocratic Democrat, and Mrs. Roche was a Democratic aristocrat—or at least she thought she was.

"After a couple of years of bickering Mrs. Roche returned to the United States and brought suit for divorce in Deleware. Ex-Secretary of State, ex-Senator, and ex-several-other-things Bayard, was her attorney. She got a divorce and with it the possession of the children. She has three children, the oldest a girl now fifteen, and two boys, twins. The first of these boys to appear, the one who had the blue ribbon put around his arm, will be the future Lord Fermoy if he outlives his father. He is now at private school in Connecticut.

"Mr. Roche did not recognize as legal the divorce obtained by his wife. When he was nominated by the Tim Healey wing of the Irish Nationalists for a seat in Parliament for Kerry four or five years ago, his enemies and opponents raised the issue that he was a divorced man. This, in a strictly Catholic constituency, would invariably prove fatal. Roche denied the divorce, and sued for libel the publisher of 'Burke's Peerage' that stated in his pedigree that he had been divorced. The libel suit was tried, and the Irish Supreme court held that the divorce granted to Mrs. Roche by the state of Delaware was not legal in Great Britain.

"This put Mrs. Roche in an anomalous position. She is one of the undisputed leaders of the New York Four Hundred. She calls herself Mrs. Burke-Roche, always with the hyphen. Mr. Roche says that is not her name. He says his name is plain Roche and that he was named James Boothby Burke after one of his fathers friends. Mrs. Roche, however, thinks that the hyphen gives her distinction in New York and Newport. When Lord Fermoy dies, and he has been an invalid for ten years and is liable to cross the divide any day, Mrs. Work-Burke-Roche will be in a more embarrassing situation still. The courts of Great Britain will recognize her as Lady Fermoy. Her oldest son will be the heir to the title and vast estates of the family, yet, according to her own contention, supported by the courts of Delaware, she will be merely Mrs. Burke-Roche.

Conversing with a reporter of the Examiner Mr. Roche said: "There cannot be any trouble between the United States and Great Britain. There is too much common sense in both countries for that. I would like to see a positive alliance between the two countries, although I know that most Irishmen residing in America are very much opposed to it. I do not take my views, however, from a majority of my countrymen. I claim the right to create and formulate my own views.

"In time the boundary question will be settled satisfactorily to all concerned. I am not a stickler. I have some extensive mining interests in the Klondike region and I would just as soon that my property should be under the jurisdiction of the United States as of Great Britain.

"We are apt to have some set-backs in South Africa, but they will not last. We will whip the Boers, and our control of the territory will be in the interest of civilization. We all feel more or less nervous at the present time. I, for instance, have two nephews and three first cousins in the army in South Africa and another at Kimberley.

"There is no danger that the European powers will intervene. They all have troubles of their own and will not be disposed to bother us. I do not think that our people contemplate the abolishment of the Transvaal Republic; but we surely shall extort a more definite and more satisfactory understanding and will insist that Britons residing in the Transvaal shall be put on an equality with those of Dutch descent.

"It is my impression that if the government of the United States was eager and in earnest it would eventually compel the government of Great Britain to take up and consider favorably the question of bi-metalism. Mr. Arthur Balfour, the government leader in the House of Commons, is a strong bi-metalist. So are most of the country gentlemen representing agricultural interests in parliament from England, Ireland and Scotland. The Irish Nationalists, to which party I belong, are almost a unit in favor of the restoration of silver as money.

"Archbishop Welch of Dublin, one of the ablest men in Great Britain, shares with Mr. Balfour the leadership of the bimetallic forces in the Empire.

"No, Home Rule for Ireland is not dead, nor sleeping, nor dreaming. It is bound to come. It may take some time, but it is inevitable. We have no great leader now, although we have plenty of conspicuous ability. Some day some man modelled on the lines of Parnell will spring up and then will come the finish. There never can be a consolidated British Empire until an Irish parliament is established in Dublin."

IMPROVING THE CHANNEL.

The work of surveying and sounding in the inner harbor which has been in progress during the past two or three days, under the direction of Mr. C. C. Worsfold of the Dominion public works office at Westminster, is in direct and prompt compliance with a recent request of the Board of Trade, who had by resolution asked that the channel be accurately surveyed and charted from Laurel point, along the water front, as far as the Sayward mills. The reply of the minister of marine was an immediate acquiescence, and the promise is also contained in a letter in the hands of Secretary F. Elworthy that the dredge will be sent over as soon as the survey is completed, to clear the channel and wharf approaches of their accumulation of silt.

NOME TICKETS IN DEMAND.

Both Alpha and Amur to Have Full Passenger Lists—Improvements Under Way.

Since the announcement that the steamers Alpha and Amur would sail in the early spring for Cape Nome, the agents of the companies operating those vessels have been besieged with applications for passage, and it is stated that the berthing accommodation of the two vessels has already been secured. Messrs. Muirhead & Mann have been awarded the contract for the construction of the new cabin and deck house improvements to be made by the C. P. N. Co. on the Amur, prior to the departure of that vessel. Messrs. Muirhead & Mann state that the work will be commenced immediately and rushed to completion at the earliest possible moment.

CHAMBERLAIN'S UNDERSTANDING.

The fact is that the combination that can be formed among the European powers at any moment depends entirely upon the interests of each. It is folly to talk of all the others combining against any one, for that would fatally disturb the balance of power; and there would always be some whose interest would forbid this. Germany simply could not afford to see Britain crushed, neither could the United States, and this is the basic fact which best supports Mr. Chamberlain's "understanding." Of all the powers, Britain is in the best position to face a hostile combination, single-handed.—Montreal Gazette.

"Col. Otter's advance on Pretoria" will perhaps be among the headlines of the near future.—Mail and Empire.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

CURE Sick Headache and relieve all the troubles incident to a bilious state of the system, such as Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, &c. While their most remarkable success has been shown in curing

SICK Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint, while they also correct all disorders of the stomach, stimulate the liver and regulate the bowels. Even if they only cured

HEAD Ache they would be almost priceless to those who suffer from this distressing complaint; but fortunately their goodness does not end here, and those who once try them will find these little pills valuable in so many ways that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all sick head

ACHE is the bane of so many lives that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.

Carter's Little Liver Pills are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not gripe or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents; five for $1. Sold by druggists everywhere, or sent by mail.

CARTER MEDICINE CO., New York.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

TO BREWERS

E. L. Clarke

22 St Francois Xavier St.

MONTREAL.

Machinery and Brewery Fittings

DEALER IN Malt, Hops And all... Brewers' Supplies.

Crown Brand Pressed Hops for Bakers' and Grocers' Use.

Correspondence Solicited.

EPP'S COCOA

GRATEFUL COMFORTING

Distinguished everywhere for Delicacy of Flavour Superior Quality, and Highly Nutritive Properties. Specially grateful and comforting to the nervous and dyspeptic. Sold only in ½-lb. tins, labelled JAMES EPPS & CO., Ltd. Homœopathic Chemists, London, England.

BREAKFAST SUPPER

EPP'S COCOA

APIOL & STEEL PILLS for Ladies.

A REMEDY FOR IRREGULARITIES

Superseding Bitter Apple, Pil Cochia Pennyroyal, &c.

Order of all Chemists, or post free for $1.50 from EVANS & SONS, LTD., Victoria, B. C.

Martin, Pharmaceutical Chemist, Southampton.