

Filipinos Fire Manila

The Story of the Attempt to Burn the City Down.

The Natives Attack the Firemen While at Work Extinguishing the Flames

Manila, P. I., March 1, via steamer Nippon Maru, to San Francisco, April 2.—After many false alarms and frustrated attempts, the off-repeated threats of the rebels to burn Manila and massacre every European and American within its walls culminated in a disastrous conflagration, and an attempted uprising, which was promptly checked, on the night of Washington's birthday. That preconcerted arrangements had been made to fire the city in half a dozen different places simultaneously there can be no doubt, but fortunately the plans miscarried for various reasons, and the natives themselves, or at least their sympathizers, lost as much, if not more, than those upon whom they sought to wreak their vengeance.

Just as the long strings of carriages which daily pass and repass each other on the Luneta were forming for the procession homeward,

A Dense Black Column of smoke rolled up above the intervening roofs, and almost immediately afterward an ominous red glare was reflected from the sky. There was a wild scramble for the city. Even when this was reached and it was ascertained that the fire was in Santa Cruz district, some distance from the residence section, the alarm was not abated.

On the streets in the vicinity of the fire, which was within two blocks of the Escoto, the wildest confusion reigned for some time. The blaze had started in a row of two-story buildings with brick foundations, on the Calle la Coste, in the centre of the Chinese section. The local fire brigade proceeded to pour three tiny streams of water upon the red hot brick walls of the first building fired, instead of attempting to prevent those opposite and adjacent from igniting. The consequence was that by the time General Hughes and his men arrived on the scene and commenced to clear the streets, the fire was spreading on both sides of the Calle la Coste.

During the excitement the houses were out five times, and other impediments placed in the way of the firemen. Upon learning of this General Hughes issued orders to his men to shoot the first man who interfered with the checking of the flames or attempted to start others. Several natives who picked up burning brands and darted off with them were either

Shot or bayoneted by the guards, and then a general roundup of all natives on the streets in the vicinity was ordered, and hundreds of protesting natives were hustled into yards and vacant lots, where they were guarded until the excitement subsided.

About 9 o'clock the European volunteer fire brigade arrived on the scene with a modern engine and after three hours' work the fire was controlled. Meantime the whole of the block on which the fire originated, two thirds of that on the opposite side of the street and a block and a half on the west of it, had been completely gutted.

Shortly after midnight, just as the weary workers and watchers were repairing to their quarters, another blaze was reflected from the smoke-bellied sky in the direction of the Tondo. This being the most densely populated district in the city which had always been identified with the rebel cause, preparations were at once made for trouble, and it was not long in coming.

No sooner had the fire brigade coupled its hose and commenced to play upon the flames which had again started in a bunch of buildings occupied by Chinese, than

Shots were fired at the men from the windows of adjacent houses. Companies E and M of the Second Oregon volunteers and M and O of the Thirteenth Minnesota volunteers, under Major Wilma, were hastily reformed by Major Goodale's battalion of the Twenty-third infantry, and an attempt was made to clear out the neighborhood.

Suddenly, however, shots were fired down half a dozen streets at once, and when this fusillade was followed by volleys from Mausers in the vicinity of the railway station, the rebels were discovered behind hastily formed barricades of paving stones and street car rails, commanding two streets, and within two stone buildings. The firing from the bushes and shacks became so hot that it was found necessary to set fire to other shacks to windward in order to

Smoke the Rebels Out, and this having been done an advance was made upon the barricades. Both were carried with a rush, but the rebels made a determined stand within the ruins of an old church, and it was not until a detachment of Oregon volunteers flanked them from an adjacent brick building that they were driven out. Thirty were shot within the inclosure and six more in another. Once the rebels commenced to fall back it was easy to keep them moving, although they threw up barricades and hastily entrenched themselves near the terminus of the Malabon street railway. This, however, occupied all of Thursday morning, the rebels not being driven out of the city limits until long after daylight. While they left 133 dead on the ground and several hundred were taken prisoners. The Americans lost was one private of the Twenty-third infantry killed, an officer and three privates of the Minnesota volun-

teers and a private of the Oregon volunteers wounded. While all this was happening beyond the scene of the fire, the flames rapidly consumed Whole Blocks of bamboo structures. So long as the fire was confined to this class of buildings no effort was made to suppress it; but when it spread to other streets, lined with stone and brick buildings, a battalion of the Twenty-third infantry relieved the native firemen and fought the flames until noon, when they were finally subdued.

It is impossible to estimate the amount of damage done by these two fires, fully 2,000 buildings being destroyed, together with their contents.

SPANISH PRISONERS.

Filipinos Want a Ransom Before They Will Allow Them to Go.

London, April 7.—The Times Madrid correspondent says: "The government has received reports from General Rios, a Spaniard, of the return to Manila of the commission that went to secure the liberation of the Spanish prisoners in the hands of the Filipinos. The commissioners report that the prisoners are well treated and are scattered over the country so that Aguinaldo himself is ignorant of their number and location. General Rios, says the Tagalos require a ransom for some but are ready to liberate many out of friendship. Not a few of the Spanish prisoners are now living with the rebels. He concludes that it is hopeless to expect the liberation of the Spanish prisoners while the war between the Americans and the Tagalos continues. It is hoped here that when diplomatic relations are resumed between Madrid and Washington on the subject of the peace treaty, the question of the prisoners in the hands of the Filipinos will assume a more favorable phase."

LABOR TROUBLES IN RUSSIA.

An Alarming State of Affairs—Troops Suppress Riots.

London, April 6.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times telegraphs an alarming statement regarding the spread of serious labor troubles and strikes in the manufacturing districts of Russia.

Ominous rumors, he says, are in circulation in St. Petersburg, reports of troops being sent to suppress outbreaks of the wholesale destruction of property, of numerous arrests and of the gagging of the press—yet not half of what is happening ever reaches the ears of the capital.

"Down now," mills and factories, the correspondent declares, are literally inundated with secret socialist and revolutionary proclamations by agitators who are undoubtedly assisted from abroad. All this, together with the agitation fomented by the students, creates a serious political outlook.

AID FOR SOURVY PATIENTS.

Seattle, April 5.—Captain W. R. Abercrombie, who is to command the military expedition to Valdes and the Yukon river by an all-American route, has been instructed to hasten with all speed the departure of the expedition, and supplies for relief of the sourvy patients at Valdes and the interior.

It is said that there are thirty victims of scurvy in the government hospital at Valdes and many between the Valdes glacier and Lake Mantas who are fearfully afflicted by the scourge, and who are in great need of medical supplies and assistance.

Acting under special telegraphic instructions from Secretary McKeljohn, Captain Abercrombie will purchase within the next day or two dog teams of six dogs each, and will organize a relief expedition, which will be despatched with all possible speed to Valdes, and thence, over the summit, to the camps between the Valdes glacier and Lake Mantas. Surgeons will accompany the relief expedition.

SEE WORE BLOOMERS.

And an Inn-Keeper Refused to Serve a Man.

London, April 5.—In court to-day Viscountess Sprague began a suit against Sprague, who keeps an inn near London, for refusing to serve her with a meal because she wore bloomers. The testimony evoked repeated laughter. The Viscountess is leading a "rational" dress crusade.

BARNET SAWMILLS.

To Be Running in Full Steam in About Ten Days.

Ottawa, April 5.—David McLaren states that their new sawmills at Barnet, B.C., nine miles east of Vancouver, will be started and working in the course of ten days. Men leave here in a couple of days to start them going.

WEALTH WEBS WEALTH.

New York, April 4.—Youth and beauty and millions in money were joined together in matrimony at noon to-day when Virginia Fair became the bride of William B. Verderbi, Jr. About one hundred and fifty guests were present at the ceremony, which took place in 87th street, the residence of Herman Oelrichs, whose wife is the sister of the bride.

SPOILED PROVISIONS.

Havana, April 6.—Capt. Noel Gaines, who is in charge of the destitute in Havana, and provost of the city, has declined to give a receipt and thus make himself accountable for 5,000 cans of beef, 300,000 cans of tomatoes and quantities of dried apples and other stores, knowing that part of these provisions are spoiled.

AN ATTACK ON LIBERTY.

Berlin, April 6.—The Prussian diet is disturbed over the question of an appropriation for a carpet for the chamber of deputies. Many deputies, including Count Limber, are opposed to the idea because so many members are chronic tobacco chewers.

CABINET COUNCIL.

Vancouver, April 6.—Premier Selin arrived yesterday from Victoria, and Mr. Cotton is expected to-day. Mr. Martin is here. A cabinet council will be held to-day in this city.

BRITAIN AND GERMANY AGREE.

London, April 6.—Special despatches from Berlin say that Great Britain has agreed to the German proposal for unanimity in the decisions of the Samoan commission.

Teachers Disperse

Final Meetings of the Convention Held in the South Park School.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor Advocates a Reduced Curriculum.

A portion of the report of the committee on legislation presented at yesterday's session of the Teachers' Institute was published in last evening's Times, but the whole of it is given below as finally adopted. Considerable discussion took place in regard to the various clauses, which were considered seriatim.

(1) That the Council of Public Instruction be recommended to make a regulation providing that children in rural schools do not attend school outside their own district, except by the agreement of both boards of trustees interested.

(2) That an advisory board consisting of the members be appointed, five by the government and five by the Provincial Teachers' Institute, whose duties shall be to make recommendations to the Council of Public Instruction as may be deemed advisable.

(3) That the Council of Public Instruction be advised to revise the list of authorized text books, particularly with a view to the introduction of the study of literature, the histories, the grammars, the geographies and the anatomies.

(4) That the Council of Public Instruction be asked to hold the supplementary examination during the last week of the school year.

(5) That the Council of Public Instruction be asked to hold the supplementary examination only at the beginning of the school year.

(6) That the Council of Public Instruction be asked to publish a suggestive limit table for the province, and that the high school result can only be obtained by the cultivation of the brain which does not involve the destruction of the body.

(7) That the Council of Public Instruction be asked to choose the board of examiners partly from the teachers actually engaged in the profession.

(8) That the Council of Public Instruction be urged to request to establish a normal school, and if that be not immediately practicable that two model schools, one on the island and the other on the mainland, be established.

(9) That the Council of Public Instruction be asked to request to establish a normal school, and if that be not immediately practicable that two model schools, one on the island and the other on the mainland, be established.

(10) That the Council of Public Instruction be asked to request to establish a normal school, and if that be not immediately practicable that two model schools, one on the island and the other on the mainland, be established.

(11) That the programme for the next instruction be arranged by assigning subjects to persons selected by the executive and designating some teachers to superintend each of such subjects so assigned.

(12) That one session of the institute be set aside for sub-conventions.

At the conclusion of the meeting the following resolution, moved by Mr. J. B. Hands, seconded by the secretary, Miss Agnes Deans Cameron, was passed: "That all those who have in any way helped the members in the work of the present session, particularly the Victoria school trustees, for kindly placing the South Park School at the disposal of the institute, also the ladies and gentlemen, who did so much to entertain us at the reception and meetings, and to the transportation companies, who so liberally assisted us, be invited to this convention from a distance; and that the secretary send copies of these resolutions to the persons entitled to them."

The Closing Meeting.

It had been decided to draw the annual convention to the Victoria school trustees, for kindly placing the South Park School at the disposal of the institute, also the ladies and gentlemen, who did so much to entertain us at the reception and meetings, and to the transportation companies, who so liberally assisted us, be invited to this convention from a distance; and that the secretary send copies of these resolutions to the persons entitled to them."

The proceedings were late in commencing, owing to a delay in the arrival of the speakers. The first speaker was His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. He was accompanied by Inspector Wilson and the following gentlemen occupied seats on either hand of His Honor: His Worship the Mayor, the Lord Bishop of Columbia, Hon. Abraham W. Smith, U. S. Consul, Ven. Archdeacon Scriven, Dr. Pope, Rev. Dr. Campbell, Rev. W. Leslie Clay, and School Trustee R. B. McKimick.

His Honor prefaced his address by apologizing for being a little late, which he knew was considered by all teachers to be one of the unpardonable sins, but which upon this occasion he forgave as it was due to no fault of his. He said that although a resident of this province for a quarter of a century, it had never before been his privilege to meet so many teachers as he had met during the last few days, and without being fulsome or using any "Irish blarney" he might say that he had been very favorably impressed by the appearance and intelligence of the teachers who had attended the convention. He considered that the province which had so large a staff of competent men and women to whom to entrust the bringing up of the rising generation was indeed a fortunate province. He spoke of the teachers in the name of Her Most Gracious Majesty and encouraged them in her name to go on faithfully working in the noble task they had undertaken.

He would take the liberty of making one suggestion; something which had been uppermost in his mind for a number of years. The subject to which he was going to refer might be of a controversial nature, and one upon which a difference of opinion might exist, but His Honor felt that he was justified in asking the teachers to consider it during the ensuing year and that at their next convention they should be able to assist in solving the problem.

His Honor continued: "I believe the public schools in this and every province have at least three times as many subjects as they should or ought to have. (Applause.) The public schools are for the purpose of laying the foundation of good citizenship. They are for the purpose of preparing the rising generation for the struggles and battles of life, and of enabling the rising generation to take advantage of every opportunity for the advancement of our country and of the Empire at large. I believe that instead of the present system, under which there is so much "cramming," extending over fourteen subjects, the curriculum ought to be cut down to six subjects, reading, arithmetic, geography, grammar and history, and the boy or girl, or the man or woman, who is thoroughly acquainted with these subjects is by no means illiterate. The person who has made a thorough study of these subjects has the foundation of the education which must be completed in the wider arena of daily life. Most of the boys and the girls, especially the girls, attending the public schools are withdrawn from them at the tender age of 13. They are situated financially so that their services are required perhaps sometimes to support a widowed mother and orphan children, and they leave school with a very imperfect knowledge of twelve or fourteen subjects instead of having a thorough knowledge of five or six. It is utterly absurd that a boy or girl with a tender, plastic brain should be placed on the stretch and compelled to study out 12 or 14 subjects; just as absurd as it would be to place them at the labour of hard physical labor. To place them at work which would be expected from an adult will result in making them mental and physical wrecks. A young brain can only stand a certain amount of strain, and the high result can only be obtained by the cultivation of the brain which does not involve the destruction of the body. Without the necessary physique to stand the strain of the mind, there is no life in life. I make these suggestions for you to think over if you think them worthy of your consideration, and I shall be glad to hear from you on the subject a year from now."

His Honor then introduced His Worship Mayor Redfern, who expressed surprise that he should be asked to follow after the Lieutenant-Governor. He had expected to be asked to make a few remarks, but not to be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow from nothing to its present proportions. When he came here there was no public school system, but now there is one which compares favorably with that of any other country in the world, not even excepting the great country to the south of us. He regretted very much that he could not be asked to make a long speech. He felt it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words on educational matters to the teachers of the province and apologized for being unable to attend the reception given to the visitors the previous evening. He had seen the educational system of British Columbia grow