TRADE RELATIONS WITH THE STATES

SPEECH AT DETROIT BY J. CHARLTON

The Question of Reciprocity in Natural Products—Suggests Meeting of a Joint High Commission.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 10.—Reciprocity between Canada and the United States was the keynote of the speeches made to-night at the reception tendered the delegates to the national reciprocity convention by the Detroit Chamber of Commerce, and the arguments in favor of it were keenly listened to. In addition to the delegates to the congress there were present at the dinner to-night nearly 200 members of the Detroit Chamber of Commerce. John Charlton, of the Canadian parliament, was the first speaker.

Mr. Charlton said that on February 11th, 1899, he had in the discussion of the trade relations between the two countries made his first attempt to reach the ear of the United States in an address to the Merchants' Club of Chicago. Since then his voice and his pen had been the service of good or broadened trade relations. When he seemed to be confronted by a solid wall of misapprehension and prejudice, it was difficult to secure consideration of Canadian subjects, difficult to remove the false impressions as to the character of trade relations existing between the two countries. Since then a rapid change had been in progress, interest had been awakened and even seemed to be moving towards the reversal of the policy that had promoted estrangement and bitterness of feeling in Canada towards the United States since 1866. A most gratifying evidence of this awakened interest is the assembling of a national reciprocity convention in Detroit at this time. If it could be shown that free trade between the United States is a good thing, and that the same natural and economic laws would govern trade between the States and Canada, it was a fitting and commendable task for the statesmen of the two countries to seek for an adjustment of trade relations of a more friendly and mutually advantageous character than those now in force. Great Britain and her dependencies earnestly desire friendly relations with the United States. British statesmen feel that the two powers will naturally move and develop in distinct fields of action. The United States should be the natural aid of Great Britain. Aside from each other, the two countries may be said to have no natural allies. The subjugation of either would mean infinite disaster to the other, and to the United States Great Britain is a buffer state, whose removal would, in all probability, entail a desperate fight for existence on the part of the United States. As for Canada, her citizens measure the colossal power of the United States at close range and fully appreciate the greatness of that power, but there is no feeling of envy in this recognition of greatness, only a desire to emulate and tread the same pathway to empire in the development of a vast territory and boundless resources. They only ask to be met in the spirit they have always stood ready to manifest, and it is certainly no fault of theirs that the relations of the two countries have not been placed upon a more satisfactory basis.

Almost half a century ago the treaty providing for reciprocal trade in natural products between Canada and the United States went into effect. It continued inoperation from 1854 to 1866. Under its influence there was a phenomenal development of trade between the two countries. The exports from Canada to the United States quadrupled in that period. In 1866 the exports and imports in round numbers were: Exports of Canada to the United States, $40,000,000; imports to Canada from the United States, $28,000,000. Of the exports, $25,000,000 consisted of farm products. The direct Canadian exports to Great Britain in this line, however, were so small, being but $3,500,000, as to warrant the conclusion that a large proportion of the amount of the farm products sent to the United States merely passed through United States channels en route to Europe, and that between exports and imports for consumption, if any balance of trade actually existed in favor of Canada, it was an inconsiderable one. When the reciprocity treaty was abrogated by the action of the United States government, Canada vainly strove to secure its renewal by offering to add a considerable list of manufactures to the free schedule. All offers for broadening trade relations were spurned and a period of repressive tariff regulations was entered upon by the United States.

In 1874 the Liberals came into office in Canada, and Canadian Commissioner Brown was associated with the British minister at Washington, Lord Thornton, and a trade treaty was negotiated with the United States state department, providing for the free interchange of natural products, for free trade in agricultural implements of all kinds, for a wide list of other manufactures, for the freedom of the Northeast coast fisheries, for the construction of a canal from St. Lawrence above the Lachine rapids to Lake Champlain, and for the freedom of the coasting trade of both countries. This treaty was rejected by the United States senate. Had the treaty of 1874 been established and continued in force till the present time, Canada would have been practically, if not actually, part of the United States at this moment. The trade relations between the United States and Canada for the fiscal year 1892, do not differ materially in character from the conditions of the immediate preceding years. Import percentage of Canada's total trade with Great Britain was 29.66, with the United States, without including precious metals exported 73.8, with Germany 80.23, with France 83.27. This statement shows clearly that the trade of Canada with all these countries, except Great Britain, left a heavy unfavorable balance against her. The Canadian farmer has a vivid object lesson constantly before him which impresses his mind with the value of the English market. He finds three-fourths of his market going to that country. He caters for the one taste of the customer. There is a growing indifference in Canada to obtaining reciprocity with the United States. The Canadian manufacturer is suspicious of the movement for reciprocity in natural products, fearing that it may lead to further trade concessions. The Canadian transportation interests are somewhat averse to the introduction of this policy, fearing that it may have a tendency to divert to United States channels the stream of business that flows in ever increasing volume from the Canadian Northwest. The imperialist looks with disfavor upon the proposition, for he instinctively feels that the train of influence it will bring into play will tell against his dream of a confederation and a consolidated British Empire embracing all the colonies in one organization with representation in the great Imperial parliament in England. The farmer, the lumberman, the mine owner, and the fisherman would have their interests served by the inauguration of this policy, but the farmer is not thoroughly aroused as to the bearing of the question upon his own interests, and the lumbermen, the mine owners, and the fishermen are perhaps the only business classes at the present moment in Canada thoroughly alive to the importance of a change in our trade relations with the United States. Meanwhile Canadians almost without distinction as to party lines, feel a sense of indignation at the narrow character of the trade policy of the United States towards Canada and the practical outcome of its application and the demand for reciprocity of tariffs become more and more pronounced. Unless something is done to establish more equitable trade relations that demand will sweep everything before it.

Mr. Charlton advocated that the joint high commission should be again convened to deal with the trade question and such matters having an important bearing upon the interests of Canada and the United States.

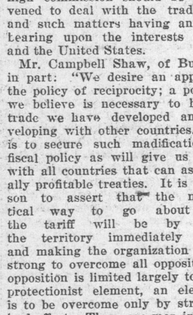
Mr. Campbell Shaw, of Buffalo, said, in part: "We desire an application of the policy of reciprocity; a policy which we believe is necessary to holding the trade we have developed and are developing with other countries. Our aim is to secure such modification of our fiscal policy as will give us reciprocity with all countries that can assure mutually profitable treaties. It is within reason to assert that the most practical way to go about lowering the tariff will be by organizing the territory immediately interested, and making the organization sufficiently strong to overcome all opposition. That opposition is limited largely to the ultra-protectionist element, an element that is to be overcome only by strong organized effort. There are men in this country who are convinced that the policy of high protection has effected its purpose, and that the interests of the country demand reciprocal trade relations with great consumers. It must be but a short time before public opinion will set determinedly for reciprocal relations with every country that can assure us a mutually profitable treaty. Since the adjournment of the joint commission the overflow of United States capital and energy increased, has so appreciated the value of the markets of that country that a mutually profitable trade treaty has become a possibility. We must persuade congress to take the initiative in inviting the re-assembling of the joint high commission; that the Canadian market may not pass from our control. It is well understood that if we concede Canada free trade in natural products, its present trade advantage in that market will not be lessened and that the preferential tariff for Great Britain will be withdrawn."

THE TELEPHONE STRIKE.

Vancouver, Dec. 10.—The directors of the Telephone Company sent for the aldermen to-day and submitted another schedule of wages and a plan of the settlement of the strike. This is being considered at a meeting this afternoon, and will probably result in a settlement before Saturday.

ACCIDENTAL?

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death on the man who fell from the window ledge on which he had fallen asleep. But the death was really due to carelessness which made the accident possible. There are a great many lives suddenly terminated as a result of carelessness, although the medical certificate may read "heart failure." When a man takes chances with his stomach and neglects the warning symptoms of disease, he is carelessly inviting calamity.



Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures diseases of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition. It enables the perfect digestion and assimilation of food, which makes strength. It stimulates the liver, cures biliousness, and removes bilious impurities from the blood.

"I had been troubled with a pain in lower part of my stomach for three years, so severe I thought it would kill me in time," writes Mr. Aaron Van Dam, of (Kensington) 249 19th St., Chicago, Ill. "I could hardly work; it felt like a big weight hanging on me and got so bad that I had to take medicine. I used Stomach Bitters for a time, but it did no good so I wrote to Dr. R. V. Pierce for advice, which he gave me immediately. I followed his directions; used two bottles of his medicine and was cured. I had a torpid liver which was troubling me instead of cramps (as I thought), so Dr. Pierce told me. I have pleasure in living now; have gained in weight 15 pounds since then."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure constipation. They do not beget the pill habit.

FOUR VENEZUELAN WARSHIPS SEIZED

BY COMBINED GERMAN AND BRITISH FLEETS

They Have Been Towed Outside the Harbor of La Guayra—The Ultimatum.

Caracas, Dec. 10.—At 4 o'clock this afternoon the combined German and British fleets seized and towed outside the harbor of La Guayra all the vessels which were then there. These were the warships General Crespo, Totumo, Ossuett and Margarita. The ships were manned by 390 men.

The news of the capture of the warships is not generally known at the capital. Great excitement will undoubtedly prevail when it is announced.

It is said on good authority that the captain of the British cruiser Retribution this afternoon sent a special courier from La Guayra to Caracas with an ultimatum for compliance with the note deposited yesterday by the British and German ministers at the home of the foreign minister before their departure from Caracas. It is said the ultimatum gives a maximum of 48 hours in which Venezula is to accede.

The note, it is said, requests the immediate cash payment of $34,000 each to Great Britain and Germany, and a settlement of claims arising from past revolutions by a mixed tribunal, the same as the last agreement made with France. It is also said that the British minister at the last moment failed to present claims except for $40,000, but his demand is not duly supported by legal documents and facts, and is considered absurd.

Another Gunboat Seized.

London, Dec. 10.—The admiralty has received information of the seizure of the Venezuelan gunboat Bolivar at Port of Spain.

Left to Commander.

London, Dec. 10.—7.20 p. m.—No information of an official character has been received at the foreign office from Venezuela, everything being left to the commanders of the British fleet, who received explicit instructions as to what course they shall pursue.

Claims Against Republic.

New York, Dec. 10.—The principal British creditors whose claims are to be enforced by the ultimatum against Venezuela are, according to the Tribune correspondent in London, harbor improvement companies. Some of these companies complain of defaults of interest guaranteed by the Venezuelan government, and another corporation which took up an issue of bonds claim that a considerable amount of unpaid interest is due it. There are also claims for damages to railways and other property from war losses, and also for unpaid charges for freight on the government's account. The British claims in the main are based on government defaults or negligence, and are not uncollected private or business debts.

The German claims are larger in amount and more varied in their nature, and the responsibility of the Venezuelan government for the redemption of the obligations is less obvious in certain section account.

There are no intimations here of the accounts either of the French or the American claims which must be considered also. The precautions taken by the United States in ordering a strong fleet to the Venezuelan coast does not escape attention. This is considered a sign that the Washington authorities are on their guard against the taking of too drastic measures on the part of either Germany or England for the collection of a debt from a weak power distracted with revolution European nations have been financing railways and harbor improvements schemes in South America for half a century, but they have not been accustomed to depend on naval demonstrations for the collection of defaulted interests.

No News at Berlin.

Berlin, Dec. 10.—The foreign office here had not received up to noon anything from La Guayra since Monday evening, when Charge D'affaires von Pilgrin Baltazzi cabled that he had gone on board the Vineta. The officials here have no confirmation of the announced arrest of all the German and British subjects at Caracas and are therefore disposed to discredit the statement. They say that possibly a few Germans and Englishmen have been arrested under some pretext by President Castro, but the foreign office authorities consider it extremely doubtful that he would permit the arrest of all the Germans and Britishers at Caracas.

Time Limit Expires.

London, Dec. 10.—In the House of Commons to-day, Under Foreign Secretary Cranborne said the government had no official information of the seizure by the Venezuelans of 200 British and German subjects, or of the seizure of the Venezuelan warships by the fleets of Great Britain and Germany.

Lord Cranbourne added that the British claims which necessitated coercion will be fully disclosed by papers to be laid before the House. They include a demand for compensation for interference with trading vessels, the imprisonment and ill-treatment of British subjects and the destruction of property. The under secretary asserted that the government will follow precedent of the enforcement of analogous claims.

Replying to Mr. Bryce, Liberal, Lord Cranbourne said the British minister at Caracas had been instructed to wait until after the presentation of the ultimatum, and failing to receive a reply to proceed to La Guayra, where he was to wait another 24 hours on board a British ship. The period expired last night Unless in the meantime a concession had been received it was necessary for His Majesty's government to take forcible action. The government had not yet been informed that such action had been taken.

At the foreign office the arrest of the British subjects is thought to provide against their ill-treatment.

CASTRO INTERVIEWED.

Says Venezuela Will Enforce Her Rights —Foreign Subjects Arrested.

Caracas, Dec. 9.—All British and German subjects in Caracas were arrested to-day.

President Castro received the correspondent of the Associated Press at Miraflores Palace to-day, and in reply to questions, the President of Venezuela said:

"The Venezuelan government has not received any ultimatum, properly speaking, but rather simultaneous requests from Great Britain and Germany. The claims Great Britain asks this government to settle are small and up to the present we have not been aware of them. Never having been aware of them, Venezuela has consequently never refused to settle them. Great Britain's action is therefore without justification. The Venezuelan government cannot decide on foreign claims before the revolution has been entirely crushed. At present the government is working for the re-establishment of public order, and other questions must necessarily be subservient to this object. Nevertheless, to prove Venezuela's desire to settle all pending claims in a comfortable manner, the government issued a decree during the last session of Congress, on November 28th, creating a committee to which all pending claims should be referred. No claims have been presented to this committee, and no claims have been rejected. There has been no denial of justice. Why then should foreign chancelleries intervene, thereby ignoring our laws and endeavoring to violate our national sovereignty? We do not understand this action."

The correspondent then said to President Castro: "What do you intend to do in view of the present attitude of the powers?" "Enforce our rights, and explain to the world that Venezuela has laws; prove that we have never denied our engagements."

The President was then asked what reply the Venezuelan government would make to the requests handed it by the German and British envoys? He replied, after reflection: "The Venezuelan government is astonished that after the notes which were transmitted to it by the diplomatic representatives of Germany and Great Britain, these envoys should leave Caracas without awaiting the reply of the Venezuelan government."

The correspondent then asked President Castro what course he intended to pursue should the powers declare a blockade? The President excused himself from answering this question. No ultimatum had been delivered to the Venezuelan government up to 2 o'clock this afternoon. Should Venezuela refuse or fail to reply to the notes of Great Britain and Germany, it is believed that an ultimatum will then be delivered. The ultimatum would possibly be transmitted by Admiral Douglas, commanding the combined British and German fleets, or by the captain of the British cruiser Retribution.

Castro Indifferent.

Kingston, St. Vincent, Dec. 9.—The British cruiser Indefatigable, which has arrived here from Laguiara, Venezuela, brings a report that President Castro, of that country, is defiant and indifferent to the threatened blockade. It is asserted that President Castro is prepared even to expel the German and British residents in Laguaira, and to close that port.

Outlook Not Bright.

Berlin, Dec. 9.—It was learned this evening that the ultimatums did not fix a time limit for an answer, but that the officials of the German and British legations were instructed to leave Caracas at the end of 24 hours after their delivery if there was no prospect of a favorable reply. This, however, was left to their discretion.

The officials could have extended their stay at the Venezuela capital if they thought it advisable to do so, and the fact that they left is taken to mean that President Castro does not show signs of giving in.

SUFFERING AMONG POOR.

Bitter Cold Weather in Eastern States —Fuel Scarce.

New York, Dec. 9.—New York and New England have experienced during the past 24 hours the coldest weather of many years. In this city it was the coldest December 9th in 26 years. The thermometer registered, as it did in that year, 8 above zero. The severity of the cold was intensified by the fact that the people were not prepared for it. Scarcity of coal caused much suffering among the poorer classes, and even those able to afford the luxury of a ton of anthracite, had to use it sparingly. Every effort is being put forth to alleviate the suffering, charitable organizations having taken steps to supply the poor and the board of aldermen have voted to ask an appropriation of $100,000 to buy coal for the poor. The cold in the city was mild, compared with that prevailing in the Northern sections of the state and New England.

Like in New York the situation at Schenectady was made more serious by the scarcity of coal, many families having to face 22 below zero weather without coal to heat their homes. Navigation on the Upper Hudson closed early in the day, steamers which had not winter quarters having to be towed out of the ice. The cold wave struck New England at the same time it arrived in New York. Through Maine the termometer registered from 8 to 20 below, a fall in some places of 40 degrees in 12 hours. Norfolk, Conn., reported a temperature of 23 degrees below zero, the coldest in years. A rise in temperature is predicted by the weather bureau for to-night and to-morrow.

Frozen in Ice.

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 9.—A special to the Herald from Oswego says that last night was the coldest there since 1896, 12 below zero. Vessels coal laden for Canada are frozen in. Tugs are trying to release them so that they may sail.

STABBING AFFRAY IN JAPANESE SHOP

ORIENTAL PUNCTURED BY KNIFE IN FOREARM

Prosecution Will Continue the Look Den Case—Detective Sergant Palmer on Witness Stand.

A Japanese named Sum on Tuesday stabbed a fellow countryman in the arm with a penknife and is now in jail awaiting the sentence of the court, which will likely be imposed on him to-morrow morning. It appears that he and a number of other Japanese who live over a barber shop on Government street, near Herald, got involved in a dispute which went through several evolutions until fists and finally a knife were used. Sum was the man who drew the latter, and Nakamuro was the victim. The latter was stabbed in the forearm. The onlookers then concluded that the affair was getting serious so they leaped in and separated the combatants. The police were notified and the belligerent Sum was taken into custody. Dr. Robertson was summoned and attended the wounded man's injuries.

Sum faced the magistrate in the police court on Wednesday. He looked still in fighting trim, while his coat was off. There wasn't much fight in him, however, that is as far as the charge against his was concerned, for he pleaded guilty.

Dr. Robertson gave evidence as to Nakamuro's wound, which consisted of a cut about an inch and a half long on the outside of the forearm. The wound was not a serious one. The case was adjourned until to-morrow morning, when the amgistrate will probably inflict the penalty. The knife drawn by Sum was a common pocket knife.

The prosecution has not dropped the Look Den case by any means. When it was called this morning Frank Higgins, prosecuting counsel, announced that he intended to go ahead, so the defence put Detective Sergeant Palmer in the box. The sergeant told of going down to Look Den's on the day of the assault and of asking Look Den who cut him. The latter replied that he didn't know.

Mr. Higgins objected to evidence of statements made by Look Den in the presence of the detective on the ground that the wounded man had not been asked when giving his testimony if he had made them. The magistrate overruled the objection. He pointed out that while the admission may not be strictly regular, the interests of justice demanded that it be received. A note was made of the objection.

Continuing, the sergeant stated that Look Den had told him that the light was down low at the time of the attack and he couldn't see. He also questioned the younger wife, Jung Shee, through an interpreter, in another room, but she replied that she knew nothing about the attack. She had been tired attending to her household duties and large family and therefore slept soundly. They then arrested the accused about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, but did not charge him because they had no evidence against him. They took him into custody to guard against his escape in the event of his being connected with the crime.

While the witness was at Look Den's house Dr. Hanington came in and the sergeant asked him to question the victim. The doctor did so but all he could elicit from the wounded man was that he didn't know who struck him. Look Den spoke fairly good English. Witness again asked Look Den if he wouldn't tell him who cut him, and he replied "Oh, I don't know, the light was low and I couldn't see." He said he would try to find out and would talk to his wife about it. The slippers that he understood were found in the room after the assault were perfectly dry the next morning, although rain had fallen heavily the night before. They arrested the accused and the woman because it was freely said in Chinatown that they were guilty and the police held them for investigation.

Cross-examined by Mr. Higgins, the sergeant said that he laid the information against Pong Wong on Tuesday evening, November 18th. On the Monday of the attack Look Den appeared to be suffering from its effects. He didn't talk much in the morning but did so quite freely in the afternoon. The witness was told by Chinamen in Look Den's place that the latter would talk more readily if his elder wife, Di See, was arrested. The police got something more tangible to work on after the woman was taken into custody.

The sergeant was examined some time longer and after Constable Clayards had given evidence as to being called to the scene of the attack on November 17th and the finding of the slippers, the case was adjourned.

FIVE SCHOONERS ASHORE.

Were Driven on Coast During Blizzard Off Newfoundland.

St. Johns, Nfld., Dec. 8.—The blizzard is still raging and five schooners, the Ellen James, Arbitrator, Industry, All Right and Rogers have been driven ashore on different parts of the coast. All the crews escaped.

The captain of the steamer Albano, Hambuig for New York, which arrived here yesterday after experiencing hurricane weather in the Atlantic, expresses fear of losses to shipping owing to the recent gales in mid-ocean.

FITS "Liebig's Fit cure for Epilepsy and kindred affections is the only successful remedy, and is now used by the best physicians and hospitals in Europe and America. It is confidentially recommended to the afflicted. If you suffer from EPILEPSY, FITS, ST. VITUS' DANCE, or have children or relatives that do so, or know a friend that is afflicted, then send for a free trial bottle and try it. It will be sent by mail prepaid. It has cured where everything else has failed. When writing mention this paper, and give full address to THE LIEBIG CO., 179 King street west, Toronto. CURED

HANDSOME WATCH FREE

A Solid Gold Ladies' or Gents' watch costs from $25 to $50. Don't throw your money away. If you want a Watch that will equal for time any Solid Gold Watch made, send us your name and address at once and agree to sell only 9 boxes of our famous Vegetable New Life Pills at 25c. a box. A grand remedy for all impure and weak conditions of the blood, Indigestion, Stomach Trouble, Constipation, Weakness and Nervous Disorders, and for Female Irregularities they are unequalled. A grand tonic and life builder. These are our regular 50 cent size; they are easy to sell. Don't miss the chance of your life. Send us your order and we will send the nine boxes by mail, when sold you send us the money ($2.25) and we will send you the WATCH with A GUARANTEE FOR 20 YEARS the same day money is received. A rare chance. We are giving away these watches to quickly introduce our grand remedy, and when you receive the watch we ask you to please show it to your friends. Hundreds have received watches from us and are more than delighted with them. This is a glorious opportunity to get a fine Watch without paying a cent for it, and you should write at once. Address: THE NEW LIFE REMEDY CO., DEPT. , TORONTO, ONT.

SURPRISED COMMISSIONERS.

Widow Gives Evidence of Her Struggles to Pay Coal Company's Bills.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 9.—Tales of evictions from houses owned by G. B. Markle & Co., the narration of the death of a wife as a result of an enforced removal from her home, and the story of a mother whose husband was killed in the Markle mines, of how she and her two boys struggled for years to pay the Markles the back rent and coal bill she owed them, were the principal features of to-day's sessions of the Coal Strike Arbitration Commission. The miners today concluded the calling of witnesses against the Markle company.

The attorneys for the large coal companies have nothing to say regarding the testimony now being presented, but those representing the miners are well pleased.

After closing the Markle case, the representatives of the miners called witnesses who had formerly been employed in the mines of several companies to show that a blacklist exists, and that some of the companies had broken the agreement which ended the strike, and resulted in the appointment of the arbitration commission.

National board member Gallagher resumed the witness stand at the afternoon session, and explained the powder question. An 18-year-old Hungarian slate picker employed by the Markle company said that before the strike he received 85 cents a day, now he receives only 55 cents. He said the breaker boss, who stands over the pickers, often clubbed him, kicked him, and swore at him for not picking slate faster.

Mrs. Kate Burns, of Jedo, was examined by Lawyer Darrow, and said her husband, who was an engineer inside in the Markle mines, was killed underground, leaving her with four children, the oldest a boy of eight years The company never offered her a penn but the employees gave her about to defray the funeral expenses. her husband had been killed sh from her four room house int taining only two, the one ab other, and for the next six ye struggled on as best she could to along. She took in washing, scrubbed for the neighbors, and once in a while she was given work cleaning the offices of the Markle company. During these six years she said she kept her children at school. When the eldest child was 14 years she sent him to work in the mines. At the end of the first month the boy brought home his wage statement showing that the mother owed $396 for back rent. The boy's wages for the month had been taken off the bill and he came home open handed. She submitted to this and in the course of time her next boy was old enough to help earn a living, and he too, was sent to the colliery. Like the other brother the second boy received no pay, his earnings being deducted for rent. When the woman added that the money she earned for cleaning the Markle office was never given to her, but kept by the company for rent, the commissioners looked at one another in surprise. She said it took the three of them 13 years to make up the debt. The mother's earnings from neighbors being the principal contribution towards the maintenance of the family. The debt was cleared last August. During the six years from the time her husband was killed until the time when the boy went to work the company never asked her for rent.

FITZSIMMONS'S CHALLENGE.

Decides to Re-enter the Ring and Will Fight Any Man in the World.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 10.—Robert Fitzsimmons and James J. Jeffries gave a sparring exhibition here last night, and before going on the stage Fitzsimmons declared his intention of re-entering the ring. He said: "I am willing to fight any man in the world, bar nobody. I did intend to quit the ring after my fight with Jeffries, but I am as good a man to-day as ever I was, and better than any other fighter that I know of, except the present champion."

Jeffries and Corbett.

San Francisco, Dec. 10.—James J. Corbett, through his brother, Harry Corbett, has deposited $2,500 with Samuel Thall, temporary stake holder, to secure a fight with James Jeffries before the club offering the best inducements. The fight is to take place next May or June.

AGAINST SUBSIDIES.

Report of Select Committee of the Imperial Commons.

London, Dec. 9.—The report of the select committee of the House of Commons on the steamship subsidy was issued this evening. Its general tenor is distinctly against the principle of granting subsidies. The committee finds that British shipowners have suffered much from the fostering effects of subsidies paid by foreign governments, that subsidies are merely minor factors and that commercial skill and industry were the major factors in the recent development of shipping and trade of certain foreign countries, notably Germany.

NEW WESTMINSTER FIRE.

Damage is Estimated at Seventy-two Thousand Dollars.

New Westminster Dec. 9.—The fire here to-day destroyed property valued at $72,000. The Dupont block, built by Major Dupont, Victoria, was completely gutted, and five business firms burned out.

The losses are as follows: R. F. Anderson & Co., hardware, $35,000, insured to 80 per cent; K. A. Lee, furniture, $6,000, insurance $3,500; Alex. Matheson, liquors, $7,000, total loss; H. T. Kirk, stoves, $4,500, insurance $2,500; Liberal Club, $1,000; Gas Company, $200; N. J. Larsen, grocer, and Brown's restaurant, $200.

Lee's loss is comparatively heavy, as he had just started in business, and three carloads of furniture, his day's bank deposit, and the store cash of $250 and books were all destroyed.

The burned out merchants are already preparing to open new quarters. Larsen's grocery stock, uninsured, was all removed safely with little loss, other grocers coming to his assistance. The Liberal Club occupied rooms recently vacated by the public works department, and it was lately furnished with two billiard tables.

IN FRANCE.

Proposal to Settle Difference Between Minister and Deputy By Arbitration.

Paris, Dec. 8.—The seconds of Deputy Sylveton and Minister of Justice Valle (who exchanged heated remarks in the Chamber of Deputies on Saturday) met to-day in the Chamber of Deputies, and after a conference lasting an hour separated to confer with their principals. They refused to disclose the nature of decision.

y's riotous scene in the Cham- to occupy the attention of press here. Sober second ating the incident as a la- dection on the parliamentary s of the republic, which it is to discredit and what may pos- overthrow the present parliament system.

It was announced later that the pourparlers were interrupted as the seconds were in favor of arbitration, instead of a duel, but they were unable to agree as to the number of arbitrators.

CHEMAINUS BALL.

The Second Annual Function Will Be Given by the Woman's Auxiliary.

The annual ball given under the auspices of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Chemainus hospital will take place on Friday evening. Last year the first ball was given and proved a very enjoyable function. A special train from Victoria took a large number from this city, who spent a most enjoyable evening. This year the ball will be conducted largely upon the same lines. The reception committee is as follows: Mrs. E. J. Palmer, Mrs. S. F. Erb, Mrs. J. S. Gibson, Mrs. H. E. Donald, Mrs. Walter Dunn, Mrs. R. P. Roberts, Mrs. H. Burchell. The general committee is as follows: Dr. H. B. Rogers, E. J. Palmer, E. Calder, H. E. Donald, A. H. Lewis, Capt. J. S. Gibson. A. J. Thurston will act as floor manager.

The dance programme for the evening is as follows:

Waltz	Zenda
Two-Step	Dreamy Eyes
Barn	Medley
Waltz	Symposia
Lancers	The Elite
Two-Step	Southern Sweethearts
Waltz	Rose of Killarney
Barn	The Chatterbox
Two-Step	The Tale of a Kangaroo
Waltz	Fr. A Runaway Girl
Extras, 1, 2, 3.	
Two-Step	Creole Belles
Waltz	Toreador
Lancers	Marimar
Schottische	The Honeysuckle
Waltz	Don't Be Cross
Two-Step	The Thoroughbred
Waltz	Crown of Beauty
Two-Step	'A Frangesa
Waltz	Please Go Way and Let Me Sleep
	Home, Sweet Home

DISPUTE SETTLED.

Denver, Col., Dec. 10.—At midnight last night it was announced that the meeting between the proxy committees of the conflicting interest in the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company had reached a compromise, and everything had been amicably settled.

Foul, Loathsome, Disgusting Catarrh!

SECURE RELIEF IN 10 MINUTES AND A RADICAL CURE.

Does your head ache? Have you pains over your eyes? Is there a constant dropping in the throat? Is the breath offensive? These are certain symptoms of Catarrh. Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder will cure most stubborn cases in a marvellously short time. If you've had catarrh a week it's a sure cure. If it's of fifty years' standing it's just as effective.

Dr. Agnew's Pills are the best.

40 Doses 10 cents.

Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—10