

BEPS  
ESSINGTON

ALLY WIPED  
LOSS \$100,000

wn Up to Check  
ames.

Jan. 5.—Port Es-  
sington destroyed by fire  
started in the  
pedonia hotel, caused  
fire. On account of  
pressure and the severe  
ing it was found nec-  
essary to demolish the  
building and centre.  
will amount to about  
covered by insurance.  
buildings were com-  
pleted. The hotel and  
Bank, loss about  
and Jackson, general  
stad's jewelry store,  
loss on building about  
to, drug store, \$3,000;  
church, \$1,000; and  
Mrs. Lewis residence,  
restaurant and its  
Chinese restaurant and  
cluding about 15 small  
contents and pert-  
belonging to the Skeena  
al Company, would  
\$30,000. Windows were  
exploded to the ex-  
tremity.

TRAGEDY.

His Wife Leads to  
maker's Arrest.

Jan. 6.—James  
maker, with a store at  
was arrested at the  
F. M. Carroll last  
the death of Mrs.  
couple had quarrelled  
715 Olive street. Al-  
the woman's  
John T. Honeycutt  
the city phys-  
they are inclined to  
the woman either took  
of acute heart disease  
the quarrel.  
barrel in the bedroom  
ame, a revolver, which  
to Joseph Roba, a  
house, was fired. The  
one, the dead woman,  
Mrs. Robinson, she  
She and Young were  
August. They had lived  
ere she died last night  
under the heat of summer and cold  
of winter.  
One family of this class would  
pend on an average not less than \$10-  
00 in buying land and building and  
furnishing a home which would be  
permanent addition to our capital  
wealth and ever after subject to tax-  
ation, and one thousand families on the  
same basis would mean a capital in-  
vestment of \$10,000,000.

VESSELS LOST.

et season sixteen ves-  
sels and six schooners,  
existence on the Great  
that were total losses  
\$831,000. They had a  
of 25,250 tons a trip,  
sels stranded and were  
e, five steamers were  
two were lost in col-  
e, steamer, founded.  
of steel. The greatest  
n was the steel steam-  
which founded in  
Twenty-four lives were  
e was valued at \$900,  
cargo was worth \$12-  
stage freight steamer  
was sunk in collision  
er Northern Queen on  
as insured for \$120,000,  
valuable cargo which  
d.

NG'S CONSECRATION.

Jan. 6.—The consecra-  
tion of Bishop of Mon-  
Church as cathedral to-day  
all the prelates of the  
Eastern Canada, and  
ressive ceremony, despite  
anti-ritualistic wing of  
ere was no disturbance.

OLDIERS IN  
N INSURRECTION

ment Troops and  
Claim Victory  
ngagement.

Jan. 6.—Official reports  
here of a revolu-  
k in Manchuria near  
housand mutinous sol-  
in the field, a column of  
troops with a gatling  
it against them.  
nt was fought on Sun-  
day insurgents, according  
version, were repulsed,  
however, are to the ef-  
troops were driven back  
sixty men killed. The  
surgents occupy an im-  
portant position. Reinforce-  
ment was asked for. The wo-  
men have been sent away  
y.

MAN SYSTEM.

ty, Utah, Jan. 6.—The  
ed of the officials of the  
& Navigation Com-  
mission. The conference  
se of exchanging views  
in the conduct of the  
of the Harriman system.

SCHEME TO MAKE  
CITY BEAUTIFUL

LOCAL COMMITTEE  
HAS OUTLINED PLAN

Would Engage Services of  
Landscape Artist—Financ-  
ing Proposal.

The following memorandum on the  
"Tasse" scheme of beautifying Vic-  
toria has been prepared by a commit-  
tee of business men who make num-  
ber of suggestions as to the manner in  
which the proposal should be carried  
out:

Although Victoria has unquestionably  
a bright future before it, from a  
commercial point of view, it is not  
as yet capable of immediate and profit-  
able development is its gift from  
nature, its exceptional climate and  
magnificent situation—in these re-  
spects it has no rival among the re-  
spects of Europe. So long as it remain-  
ed a village, it was justly entitled to  
be called "Victoria the Beautiful," but  
in its present day condition, it may be  
more truly called "Victoria the un-  
tidy" and in order to bring it up to  
one must keep one's head up and eyes  
fixed far above the level of the streets.  
No one in particular can be blamed  
for this. As a city we have simply  
failed to recognize that we have out-  
grown the municipal system of years  
ago.

Twenty-five years ago, Vancouver  
was practically a forest, and Seattle a  
saw mill town. To-day, both are  
thriving cities, humming with industry,  
and possessing municipal improve-  
ments far superior to ours. While we  
probably can never again be a rival of  
them, in industrial growth, we can by  
a proper awakening of civic pride and  
public spirit far surpass them in many  
ways, and make Victoria the most  
beautiful and desirable place to live in  
on the continent of North America.  
We want a clean, healthy, just and  
mildness city. We must have an  
abundant supply of good water, deliv-  
ered to the consumer at a cost which  
will encourage its use. We must have  
a perfect system of sewerage, streets  
well paved and lighted, with perma-  
nent sidewalks, boulevards, and we can  
ent sidewalks, boulevards and shade  
and ornamental trees in all residential  
districts, and we can have all this, if  
we will only wake up and say we will.  
We can have more, we can have parks  
and breathing spaces in every section  
of the city.

With these improvements, and our  
natural advantages of climate and  
scenery, we can attract to Victoria  
as permanent residents, thousands of  
wealthy and moderately wealthy peo-  
ple, particularly from the Northwest  
provinces, who are weary of struggling  
against the heat of summer and cold  
of winter.

Each of these families would ex-  
pend annually for ordinary living ex-  
penses an average of \$5,000, which means  
that one thousand families would spend  
and not in circulation do \$5,000,000  
the benefit of which would be reaped  
by the mechanic and laborer, as well  
as all other classes. It would only be  
a few years, before this would be mul-  
tiple by ten and we would have a  
capital expenditure of \$100,000,000,  
new wealth, and an annual ex-  
penditure of \$500,000,000 from these people  
alone.

The C. P. R. has expended over \$1-  
000,000 in building the Empress hotel.  
This showing that the men of genius,  
who control this vast corporation, have  
faith in the future of Victoria. Why  
should we not follow their example?  
What shall we do? Follow a  
modest way, the example of Napoleon  
III., who in the middle of the last cen-  
tury, appointed Baron George Eugene  
Hausmann to prepare a plan for the  
beautification of Paris, a plan to be  
worked out not in one or two or three  
years, but a complete plan, which is  
still being followed.

This plan should be prepared by the  
best landscape architect obtainable—it  
should indicate the order in which the  
work should be done, and divided into  
periods of say ten years. The munici-  
pality should include certain portions  
of work in the general system, but  
matters lying outside of general mun-  
icipal work, should be controlled by a  
commission.

Every national capital and many of  
the state capitals of the United States  
receive large grants of money from  
their respective governments, which is  
expended solely for the beautification  
of the city, and there seems to be no  
reasonable objection to the government  
of British Columbia, if not assuming,  
at least contributing to a work of this  
kind in Victoria.

It is therefore suggested:  
(a.) That the government should as-  
sume the following:  
1. Have prepared and pay for the  
general plan.  
2. Subscribe \$2,000,000 or guarantee an  
issue of \$2,000,000 city debentures, re-  
payable in forty years, and pay the  
annual interest on the debentures.  
3. That a commission be appointed to  
carry out the work; and that such com-  
mission consist of three members, two  
to be named by the government and  
one by the city.

General plan should include:  
Improvement of all parks in and  
around the city, and connecting them  
by a general driveway.  
The clearing of the Gorge.  
The improvement and extension of  
the ocean drive on the Dallas road.  
Colonel E. G. Prior (E. G. Prior &  
Co.)  
Colonel F. B. Gregory (Fell & Greg-  
ory)  
H. B. Thompson, M. P. P., (Turner,  
Peston Co.)  
Goulding Wilson (Wilson Bros.)  
Fred. A. Pauline (Pauline & Co.)  
R. Kerr (Brackman-Kerr Milling  
Co.)  
Joseph Tasse, (wholesale cigars).

HANGING AT MACLEOD.

Bitter Weather: When Mah Song Pays  
Penalty of Murder.

Macleod, Alta., Jan. 5.—Sharp at 8  
o'clock this morning with the ther-  
mometer at 25 below zero and in the  
presence of a dozen persons Mah Song,  
the condemned Chinaman murderer,  
was hanged, showing no emotion. Rad-  
cliffe officiated and performed the  
work without a hitch.

CARIBOO OLD TIMER DEAD.

Capt. Hugh Stalker Came to Coast  
During Gold Rush Nearly Fifty  
Years Ago.

Vancouver, Jan. 5.—The death took  
place yesterday of Capt. Hugh Stalker,  
aged 77. Born in Nova Scotia he came  
to British Columbia at the time of the  
Cariboo gold rush and had lived on  
Burrard Inlet since 1867.

FRANCO-CANADIAN  
TRADE TREATY

PROSPECTS BRIGHT FOR  
ITS RATIFICATION

Likely to Go Through With  
Modifications—Hon. W. S.  
Fielding Still in Paris.

(Special to the Times)

Ottawa, Jan. 5.—Word which has  
been received from Paris within the  
last few days indicates that the pros-  
pects for the ratification of the Franco-  
Canadian trade treaty by the French  
senate have greatly brightened, and  
the present outlook is that the treaty  
will go through with modifications.  
Hon. W. S. Fielding is still in Paris  
conferring with members of the French  
government relative to the treaty. He  
is expected to return to Ottawa just  
prior to the opening of parliament.

TELEPHONE PLEDGE  
STILL UNFULFILLED

(Special to the Times)

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 5.—At  
a bye-election meeting in Vir-  
den last night the Hon. R.  
Rogers announced that although  
there were profits of \$500,000 on  
the telephone operations last  
year, the reduction in the rates  
would not be given till next  
year.

LABOR MAYOR.

Port William, Ont., Jan. 5.—Mr. Pelle-  
tier, the labor candidate, has been elected  
mayor.

RED RULE STILL HOLDS  
SWAY IN RUSSIA

Military Court Pronounces 41  
Death Sentences—Strik-  
ers Are Victims.

Yekaterinoslav, Russia, Jan. 5.—The  
military court has pronounced forty-  
one death sentences—nine for recent  
crimes. Thirty-two of the condemned  
men were strikers in the railroad trou-  
bles of October, 1905. In addition to  
the death sentences, twelve strikers  
were condemned to penal servitude for  
life, forty-eight to lesser terms of exile  
and thirty-nine were acquitted.

These sentences grew out of the  
event of 1906, when strikers attempted  
to tie up the whole railway system,  
the reducing of the tax on improve-  
ments from one to 50 per cent, and the  
appointment of two assessors to assist  
City Assessor Northcott in an equaliza-  
tion of the assessment.

INDIAN KILLED.

Brother Reports Finding Him Lying  
Unconscious on Roadside.

Ashcroft, Jan. 4.—An Indian known  
as Pop met his death at Soda Creek on  
Monday last. He is in company with his  
brother Sandy and three half-breeds  
were drinking during the evening.  
About 8 o'clock they started for their  
homes. Before parting they wrestled  
for the drinks and passed the bottle  
several times. The half-breeds say  
that they were drinking about 9 o'clock.  
At midnight Sandy came to Wab Sun-  
and told them he had found Pop lying  
unconscious on the roadside. The  
Chinaman assisted in bringing the In-  
dian to their house where they tried to  
warm him up. Half an hour later he  
died.

Coroner Hoops was notified and held  
an inquest. The verdict was that de-  
ceased came to his death by being  
beaten about the head at the hands of  
some person whose name is unknown  
to the jury. Sandy was given a pre-  
liminary hearing and sent up for trial.  
The half-breeds were heavily fined for  
supplying liquor to the Indians.

LEAVES FOR NEW ZEALAND.

North Vancouver, Jan. 4.—Mr. Peers,  
who has been residing at the corner  
of Keith road and Mahon avenue, left  
with his family yesterday for Sydney,  
N. S. W., on route for Auckland, New  
Zealand, where he intends to settle.

COME FOR A HOLIDAY.



Joseph Martin, K. C., stated yesterday that he was going to England in a month or two. He said that he was not going to practice before the Privy Council or to enter English public life, as has been stated. He was quitting the law and was going home for rest and enjoyment.—Vancouver News Item.

JOE—"By Jove, Arthur, old fellow, as I often said to Cory Ryder and the chaps at the Union Club when I was in the colonies, we of the culchawed classes should avoid beastly politics and enjoy life as gentlemen."

FAVOR BOARD OF  
CONTROLLERS

ALDERMEN RECOMMEND  
IDEA TO NEW COUNCIL

Reduced Tax on Improvements  
and Equalized Assess-  
ment

It is getting close to civic election  
day and the aldermen are not anxious  
to commit themselves to any policy  
which may have an adverse effect on  
votes. The increase in the water rates,  
which is evidently going to meet with  
some objection from the consumers,  
was not taken up on Monday, but will  
be left over for the new council to face.

As an offset to this the old council  
will pass on some ideas for their suc-  
cessors to think over and put into ef-  
fect if they see fit. Three recommenda-  
tions were made on Monday after  
some discussion. They were introduced  
by Mayor Hall, who said they had  
come up during the year, and it would  
be advisable to refer them to the in-  
coming council for consideration.

The matters on which the old coun-  
cil is giving of its wisdom to the new  
are the obtaining of legislative power  
for the election of a board of control,  
the reducing of the tax on improve-  
ments from one to 50 per cent, and the  
appointment of two assessors to assist  
City Assessor Northcott in an equaliza-  
tion of the assessment.

The first matter the mayor brought  
up was that of the appointment of two  
persons to assist the city assessor in  
making an equalization of assessment  
throughout the city. A great many peo-  
ple thought that some property was  
assessed too high and other property  
not high enough. Mr. Northcott had so  
much to do that he could not visit and  
see every bit of property.

Ald. Mable thought this would be all  
right if these two made a separate as-  
sessment and reported to Mr. North-  
cott. While he was fully aware of the  
ability of the city assessor, the making  
of this step to the incoming council.  
Tax on Improvements.

Mayor Hall remarked that when the  
tax rate was being struck last year  
the matter of a reduction of the rate  
on improvements had been mentioned,  
but it was then too late to do any-  
thing. He suggested that a recommen-  
dation be made to the new council to  
take this matter up early. It was  
thought by many that the rate should  
be levied on 25 per cent. of the value  
of the improvements instead of on 50  
per cent, as at present. The rest would  
go on real estate.

Ald. Cameron believed the majority  
of the council was in favor of the pro-  
position. It might be assumed now and  
the details left to the legislative com-  
mittee to work out. For instance, there  
would be the question how far this  
would let out large companies whose  
property was almost entirely in build-  
ings.

Repair work on the steamer Glen-  
farg is proceeding rapidly and will be  
completed well within the 35 days  
named in the contract.  
Ald. Fullerton pointed out that the  
E. C. Electric Company, among other

SETTLERS' RIGHTS  
ACT ATTACKED

FULL COURT HEARS  
APPEAL UNDER IT

E. V. Bodwell Contends Against  
Transfer in Friddick's  
Case.

(From Tuesday's Daily)

The January sitting of the Full court  
opened this morning with Hon. Jus-  
tices Irving, Morrison and Clement on  
the bench. There were a number of  
members of the legal profession pres-  
ent, including Joseph Martin, K. C., J.  
G. McPhillips, K. C., A. P. Luxton, K. C.,  
A. H. MacNeill, K. C., A. E. Mc-  
Phillips, K. C., R. T. Elliott, K. C., E.  
V. Bodwell, K. C., J. A. Aikman, E. E.  
Wootton.

Practically all the cases on the list  
were found to be ready for argument.  
The court took up first the case of the  
E. & N. Railway Company vs. Friddick,  
one of the settlers' rights cases, argu-  
ment on which was begun at the Van-  
couver sitting. E. V. Bodwell, K. C.,  
and A. P. Luxton, K. C., appeared for  
the company, and L. G. McPhillips, K.  
C., and E. E. Wootton for the respon-  
dent.

Mr. Bodwell further elucidated the  
point he had raised in Vancouver, that  
the lands in the railway belt are only  
held by the Dominion government in  
trust to aid in railway construction.  
The E. & N. Railway Act passed in  
1883 says in section 3 that the lands  
are conveyed "in trust, to be appro-  
priated as they may seem advisable,  
and that they include coal, coal oil and  
all other substances thereon, therein  
and thereunder. This, Mr. Bodwell  
argued, was not a transfer of the land  
but of the right of administration. He  
raised the further point that the legis-  
lature could not interfere with this act  
without repealing it wholly or in part,  
and that in the Settlers' Rights Act of  
1894 there was no repeal.

Another argument advanced was that  
the evidence, especially that of W. S.  
Gore, former deputy minister of lands  
and works, showed that the issue of  
the original crown grant was not an  
executive act at all.

Mr. McPhillips said Mr. Gore could  
not speak of what occurred in coun-  
cil. He intended, he said, to argue  
that the evidence of Mr. Gore was not  
evidence at all in this case and that  
there was none offered to show that  
the issue of the grant was not an  
executive act.

Mr. Bodwell quoted from the evi-  
dence of Mr. Gore to prove his conten-  
tion. He said that the mining busi-  
ness was better in the Kootenays at  
present than it has been for some time.  
"About a year ago," he said, "the  
business was rather depressed. The  
rapid rise in the price of metal was  
followed by a boom. Everything was  
worked to its utmost capacity. Labor  
became scarce and wages high. Then  
metals went down, a lot of operators  
were wiped, and depression followed.  
Now business has got back to normal  
conditions and is in a more healthful  
state than it has been for a long time  
past.

Consul Norton, of Chemnitz, Germany,  
says that public recognition of Esperanto  
is steadily advancing in Germany.

AMENDMENTS TO  
MUNICIPAL ACT

PROPOSALS THAT AFFECT  
CITY OF VICTORIA

Routine Business Transacted at  
the Council Board Last  
Night.

(From Tuesday's Daily)

Outside of the discussion of new ideas  
for next year's council the city fathers  
did little last night, and after adjourn-  
ing from the council chamber they sat  
in the committee room to discuss the  
programme for Friday evening, when  
those in charge of street works will be  
called to explain the cause of the trou-  
ble in that connection.

There was an echo of the refusal of  
Oak Bay to accept the city's terms for  
the supply of water in the reading of a  
letter from the city solicitors, enclosing  
one from Bodwell & Lawson, the Oak  
Bay legal advisers, who told the coun-  
cil that "the agreement is not a proper  
one for the municipality to enter into."  
The communications were ordered filed.  
Council was advised of the prepara-  
tion of the requisite petition in support  
of the city's bill asking for the right to  
utilize its water powers for the produc-  
tion of light and power. A suggestion  
that the petition be signed in the polls  
on election day was negated by the  
mayor, who said there would not be  
time, and the petition will be circu-  
lated in the usual way.

Municipal Amendments.  
The city solicitors advised council of  
the receipt of the report of the execu-  
tive of the Union of British Columbia  
Municipalities on the consideration of  
the amendments to be proposed in the  
ensuing session to the Municipal  
Clauses Act and the Municipal Elec-  
tions Act. So far as Victoria is con-  
cerned the programme of the Union in-  
cludes the following:

To increase the council's power to  
levy taxes for school purposes from  
five to ten mills.  
To compel the fencing of unfenced  
lots in specified streets and districts.  
To prevent depreciation of assessable  
property by advertisement, upon or  
adjacent to public streets, etc.  
To prevent acquisition of title by pre-  
scription to land of city streets.  
To tax lands adjacent to parks, etc.,  
for local improvement.

To enable numerous works of local  
improvement to be grouped together.  
To provide regulations for the fencing  
in, darning, filling up or leveling  
city lots.  
To enable the council under section  
59 of the Municipal Clauses Act to better  
deal with nuisances.

To adjust the mode of tendering com-  
pensation before arbitration proceed-  
ings.  
The following matters, in which  
amendments were recommended by the  
legislative committee of the Victoria  
council, were omitted from the report  
of the Union: Power to charge a rea-  
sonable fee for recouping administra-  
tive expenses on all licenses, etc.; the  
like as to liquor licenses and matters  
coming before the board of licensing  
commissioners; for consolidating messy  
by-laws without the consent of the  
Lieutenant-governor in council.

Ald. Pauline suggested that the com-  
mittee on legislation meet the executive  
of the Union when that body comes  
here to meet the legislature.  
The petition of the members of the  
fire brigade asking that the scale of  
pay be placed on the same basis as in  
Vancouver was referred to the favor-  
able consideration of the incoming  
council along with the petition of many  
of the merchants of the city supporting  
the request of the firemen.

Question Time.  
Ald. Gleason wanted to know why  
the council had not followed the plan  
of collecting the taxes a month earlier  
this year.  
Mayor Hall said it was because of  
the great increase of work and the  
cramped quarters in the city hall.

Ald. Fullerton asked why the audit-  
or did not make a report to council every  
three months as it was understood he  
should.  
The mayor replied that no one had  
asked for it.

Ald. Fullerton insisted that it was  
understood when the appointment was  
made that there should be a quarterly  
report.  
Ald. Gleason asked when the financial  
statement of the Agricultural Associa-  
tion might be expected. The auditor  
was supposed to furnish that statement  
too.

DILEMMA IN NEW WESTMINSTER

Newly Elected Alderman Cannot Sit  
on Board Until He Resigns Gov-  
ernment Position.

New Westminster, Jan. 5.—Alex.  
Garret, elected alderman at the recent  
election, and who has since been no-  
tified by the provincial government  
that he must not sit on the board be-  
cause he holds a government position,  
did not take the oath of office yester-  
day in company with the other mem-  
bers of the council. Mr. Garret has  
thirty days in which to decide wheth-  
er he will abandon the aldermanship  
or his government employment as leg-  
islator.

LOOKING FOR CRWB.

Master of Ditton Will Engage Number  
of Men Here.

Capt. Saunders, of the steamer Dit-  
ton, which is loading lumber at Che-  
mainus, was in the city Monday to  
see about a crew for his outward voy-  
age, his cargo being nearly complete.  
The ship will need about fifteen men  
over and above those already signed  
on. These will be secured here, but it  
is not known whether or not she will  
call for them or whether the men will  
be sent up to her.

50 DEGREES BELOW ZERO

Fairbanks, Jan. 5.—The thermometer  
has reached 50 degrees below zero, and  
is still going down.  
In towns, most deaths occur between  
noon and six in the evening. In the coun-  
try the most fatal hours are 6 a. m. to  
noon. The fewest deaths, both in town  
and country, occur between six in the  
evening and midnight.

of securing the coal which lay below.  
He built a small cabin, cleared 2 1/2  
acres about it, and got his food from  
a sister, who lived on another claim.  
It was a time when men were flocking  
to the land for the coal that was in  
it, and Fiddick was not a bona fide  
agricultural settler.  
The court adjourned at half-past  
twelve until afternoon.

HELENA BISHOP'S PROMOTION.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—Monsig-  
nor O'Connell, appointed auxiliary  
bishop of San Francisco, will be suc-  
ceeded as rector of the Catholic Uni-  
versity of America within a month by  
Bishop John Carroll, of Helena, Mont.

LOGGER MURDERED.

Vancouver, Jan. 5.—A Robie, a log-  
ger, was murdered near Sechelt on  
Sunday by two loggers, according to  
information received here to-day.

PROVINCIAL APPLES ON  
AUSTRALIAN MARKET

Objection is Urged That Fruit  
is Too Large for Dessert  
Purposes.

Shipments of British Columbia apples  
have been made to Australia in the  
hope of developing a trade. This fall  
quite a number were sent forward, and  
apparently meet the demand fairly  
well. J. S. Larkie, Canadian Trade Com-  
missioner, reporting on them, says:  
"The first considerable shipment of  
apples from British Columbia by the  
last Canadian-Australian steamer, the  
Marama, landed in admirable condition.  
The only objection to them is that  
they average a little too much in  
size for the fruiterers to handle to the  
best advantage. Three pence each is  
charged for them. There has been an  
unusually large importation of apples  
from Australia and New Zealand from  
California and Oregon. The Californian  
apples affected with the coding moth  
were refused admission into New Zea-  
land, but were allowed into this market  
after being treated. The consequence  
was a very great congestion of apples  
upon the arrival of the Canadian fruit.  
The demand here is not because of  
any failure of the Australian apple  
crop, but simply because good Aus-  
tralian fruit does not come into the  
market until the beginning of the year,  
and apples from Canada or the United  
States arrive here when there is com-  
paratively little dessert fruit to be had.

ROYAL CITY SCHOOL CROWDED

New Westminster, Jan. 5.—Owing to  
the lack of accommodation at the  
High school, thirty-five children, en-  
titled to promotion from other schools,  
have been excused from attending for  
one week, while temporary provision  
is made for them.

51 BELOW ZERO.

Battleford, Sask., Jan. 5.—The ther-  
mometer was 51° below zero here last  
night.

GETS FIVE YEARS FOR  
KILLING MOTHER-IN-LAW

'Frisco—Court Gives Murderer  
an Extraordinarily Light  
Sentence.

San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 5.—For kill-  
ing his mother-in-law, John Mangin re-  
ceived a sentence of five years in San  
Quentin prison from Judge Cook on  
Saturday. Mercy was extended because  
of the previous good character of the  
defendant.

Mangin, according to the records of the  
case, went to the house of his mother-  
in-law in the Mission district on the  
night of October 17th last, and endeav-  
ored to persuade his wife, who had left  
him, to return to their home in Contra  
Costa county. His wife refused to  
comply with his request and was up-  
held by her mother. A quarrel ensued  
and Mangin shot his wife's mother  
twice, death being instantaneous.

Besides his wife there was an eye-  
witness to the deed. Mangin eluded  
the police for two months and then  
gave himself up and on Saturday  
pleaded guilty.

\$75,000 FIRE AT BRANDON.

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 5.—The large  
warehouse of Codville & Co., grocers,  
at Brandon, was gutted by fire at  
midnight. The loss is fifteen thou-  
sand dollars on the building, and sixty  
thousand on the stock.

IMPROVED CONDITIONS  
IN KOOTENAY MINES

Manager of Le Roi No. 2 Tells  
of Outlook in In-  
terior.

Vancouver, Jan. 5.—Paul Couldey,  
manager of the Le Roi No. 2 mine,  
of Roseland, is staying in the city. Mr.  
Couldey stated that the mining busi-  
ness was better in the Kootenays at  
present than it has been for some time.  
"About a year ago," he said, "the  
business was rather depressed. The  
rapid rise in the price of metal was  
followed by a boom. Everything was  
worked to its utmost capacity. Labor  
became scarce and wages high. Then  
metals went down, a lot of operators  
were wiped, and depression followed.  
Now business has got back to normal  
conditions and is in a more healthful  
state than it has been for a long time