SOME POINTERS ON WATER QUESTION

THE COMMISSIONER PRESENTS HIS REPORT

Gives Reasons Why City Should Not Buy Water From Esquimalt Waterworks Company.

In his annual report, which has been submitted to the council, the water commissioner, Jas. L. Raymur, gives a great deal of interesting information on a subject which is of vital concern to the city. Unfortunately pressure on space prevents the publication of the report in full in these columns, but that part dealing with the Goldstream phase of the question is given. On this the report says:

"The supply from Goldstream is, as you are aware, used by the Esquimalt Waterworks Company, and here also there is very little data to go upon. We know that the company have storage lakes in the mountains, from which the water is conveyed in an open ditch to an artificial lake or reservoir, thence by a steel pipe to the B. C. Electric Railway Company's power house, and after supplying the motive power for the company's dynamos, flows from Goldstream into the sea. We also know that the Esquimalt Waterworks Company is under contract to supply the B. C. Electric Railway Company with 17,000,000 of gallons of water daily, and as a matter of fact are supplying at the present time in the neighborhood of 15,000,000 gallons daily, and it is only fair to assume that before making the contract the water company satisfied itself that it was in a position to carry it out. There is thus 15,000,000 gallons of water going to waste daily, sufficient at 100 gallons per head for 150,000 people. To convey this water to town, a distance of 12½ miles, would cost from $400,000 to $000,000, according to the size and style of pipe used. This is exclusive of the cost of distribution, both in the city proper and Victoria West, which is an all important question, and should an amicable arrangement be come to with the Esquimalt Waterworks Company for the purchase of their undertaking, there must also be added the amount required to buy them out. What the Esquimalt Waterworks Company will sell out for is an unknown quantity. Overtures were made to the company with a view to purchase, but without success, as they declined to name a figure at which they would sell. Although the cost of the Goldstream scheme would be heavy, there is much to be said in its favor, as the large amount required for interest and sinking fund would be met to a certain extent by the saving of the expenses of filtering and pumping, and the revenue to be derived from Victoria West and the Tramway Company. It would have the merit of removing the hardship in the matter of water rates, from which Victoria West undoubtedly suffers. But before anything can be done in the matter of the Goldstream water the council must be in possession of full and complete data as to all the works of the Esquimalt Waterworks Company, both as to their cost and capability. This will probably be a matter of some expense, and an engineer of the highest standing should be employed, one on whom the council could fall back and say, "We have got the best advice obtainable," and one in whom the ratepayers would also have every confidence, and who could also report on the Elk lake side of the question, pointing out the merits and demerits of both schemes, enabling the people, who are the final arbiters in the matter, to obtain the fullest information on this most important question.

"I wish also to correct what seems to be a popular error, namely, that Victoria West is supplied with water from Goldstream, and that all that is necessary for the city to obtain water from Goldstream is to connect the two systems. This is not the case. The supply for Victoria West comes from Thetis lake, near Parson's Bridge, and to connect with the Goldstream system would entail, as I have before mentioned, the laying of some 12½ miles of pipe.

"There is still the alternative of buying water from the Esquimalt Waterworks Company. Clause 10 of the "Esquimalt Waterworks Extension Act, 1892," provides that in the event of the corporation so desiring, the Esquimalt Waterworks Company shall deliver water, at some point west of Victoria Arm, within the city limits at the rate of six cents per one thousand gallons, the agreement to be for a period of not less than five years. Under date the 14th February, 1903, the company proposed to modify this arrangement, and offered to supply water to the city at the rate of six cents per thousand for the first million gallons, five cents for the second million gallons and four cents for all over two million gallons, provided that not less than one million gallons per day were taken, and also agreed to pay half the cost of conveying the water across the Arm, provided that the company's share did not exceed $10.000. In this connection I wish to point out that the cost of pumping water at present is two per cent. per one thousand gallons, or less than half what the company proposes to charge, and I cannot for the life of me grasp how it would be cheaper to give up pumping for 2 cents per thousand gallons, and buy for 6 cents or the lesser rates mentioned. To make the connection, and deliver the water, via the Gorge road and Bay street, at the corner of Edmonton and Richmond roads, would cost approximately $75,000. This is, of course, exclusive of distribution. The annual charge for interest and sinking fund would be $3.500. Our present consumption averages two million gallons, and selling it at rates from 10 cents to 20 cents looks like good business, and so it would be were every service metered; but as I understood the matter, the removal of meters from residences shall form part of it. The removal of meters from residences would probably raise the daily consumption to 2½ million gallons, representing a daily charge for water of $130, or $47,450 per year, add to this $4 per month for 180 hydrants, equal to $8,640 per annum, and we have a total of $56,090 as the minimum yearly charge for water. The expenses of maintenance, other than pumping stations and filter beds, would still be the same; at present the annual charge for maintenance is about $14,000. The annual cash revenue from the waterworks is about $60,000, under this arrangement with the Esquimalt Waterworks Company, we would have to pay $56,090 for water, $14,000 for maintenance, and $19,408 for interest and sinking fund on all loans, a sum total of $89,498, or nearly $30,000 more than the revenue, and which deficit will have to be made up out of the general rates, equal to an additional 2½ mills on the dollar on the tax rate, or a corresponding increase in the water rates will have to be made. This allows nothing for construction or extensions, for which money would have to be borrowed, or further inroads made on the general rates.

"At present the policy of the council is to make the water rates as low as possible, compatable with paying all expenses, and leaving a small surplus for extensions, the ratepayers getting the profits in the shape of reduced water rates. Under the proposed arrangement, unless every service is metered, the more the city extends, the worse off it will be, and it is no exaggeration to say, that as the year's roll by, and the population increases, a very large portion of the entire revenue of the city will be devoted to paying the Esquimalt Waterworks Company for water. It has been hinted that the company is willing to throw Victoria West into this scheme. Well, so much the worse for the city, the more people to be supplied, the greater will be the deficit. Every gallon of water used for public utilities, except that used for flushing and washing gutters, or of filling of tanks for fire protection purposes' would have to be paid for. This would include water used in all municipal buildings, schools, parks, cemetery, street sprinkling and flushing of sewers, etc. Under the Esquimalt Waterworks Company's Act, the price fixed for fire hydrants supplied by the company, is $4 per month; the city has at present 180 hydrants, so the monthly payment on this account alone would be $720, or $9,640 per year. The only manner in which the city could work this proposition so in any way to come out even, would be to meter every service, which course I do not think would meet with the approval of the ratepayers. With an unmetered service, the deficit would increase in the same ratio as the consumption. In fact, a scheme more inimical to the best interests of the city of Victoria, it were difficult to imagine.

"A most important feature in connection with this water question is distribution. It would be an absolute waste of money to bring in large mains and leave the distribution system in its present condition. Every year we are taking up as much small pipe, and replacing it with larger, as our means will permit, but it is slow work, and much remains to be done. Should the distribution system be neglected, a fire as disastrous as that of last August may happen at any time. I went more fully into this matter, in my report of the 3rd of November last, and there estimated the amount necessary to put the distribution system in first class order as $135,720, and these figures will be practically the same no matter what system is adopted.

"Such in brief are the various problems that confront the ratepayers of the city of Victoria in regard to their works, and it is for them to decide what is the best course to pursue; whether if an expert engineer so advises, to bring the present Elk lake system up to present and future requirements; or if possible to acquire the Goldstream water, and so control the entire water supply of this portion of the Island; or to buy water from the Esquimalt Waterworks Company, and simply act as water rate collectors for that company; or to drift along in our present condition, and with an entirely metered system, endeavor to tide over a few more years. Of these four propositions, the purchase of the Esquimalt waterworks, if it can be accomplished on in any way reasonable terms, is certainly the most tempting."

FULL COURT OPENS.

Appeal of Le Roi From Assessment Now Being Heard.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

The Full court was opened this morning at 11 o'clock, Chief Justice Hunter, Mr. Justice Martin and Mr. Justice Morrison presiding. Mr. Justice Duff is absent in the East in consequence of the death of his father, while Mr. Justice Irving is convalescing after an operation for appendicitis. Quite a number of legal practitioners from outside points were in attendance.

The appeal in Spencer vs. Drysdale was stood over to a date to be fixed later, when Mr. Justice Duff returns. That in Victoria City vs. Meston was adjourned to the next session of the Full court in this city.

The appeal in Hopper vs. Dunsmuir was set down on the list, Mr. Justice Morrison taking the place of Mr. Justice Irving in the court. Of course, before this is heard the evidence taken before the commission in San Francisco will have to be on hand.

The appeal of the Le Roi Mining Company from the court of revision on its assessment under the Assessment Act was proceeded with. E. P. Davis, K. C., is appearing for the appellant company, and J. Elliott for the crown. The appeal is the upshot of the Le Roi company's refusal to pay $15,426.47, which the provincial government insists upon under the workings of the two per cent. tax on the value of the ore mined. Argument on this appeal is still in progress.

PREPARING FOR TROUBLE.

Both Turkey and Bulgaria Are Getting Ready for Possible War This Year.

London, Jan. 10.—The active preparations already reported to have been made both in Turkey and Bulgaria for a possible war this year are fully confirmed by a private letter received in London from a minister accredited to the Balkan courts.

This minister, who has just completed a tour of the Balkan capitals, writes that the Turkish and Bulgarian governments are energetically preparing for trouble. Large shipments of arms and ammunition have been made, and recruits from Asia Minor are arriving at Salonica weekly for service in the Turkish army. The Bulgarian and Greek bands in Macedonia are increasing daily and are fighting each other and the Turks. This three-cornered guerilla warfare threatens to assume the bloodiest phase in the spring.

"But," concludes the minister, "whether or not there will be real war between Turkey and Bulgaria in the spring, I am not prepared to say. Unless certain powers think the time is opportune, war may be postponed this year at least, but, in any event, we are a year nearer the inevitable conflict."

"Man will eat 200 or 300 more foods in the year 2000 than he eats now," said a chemist. "A movement is on foot among the world's governments to increase the varieties of our foods, and every week from somewhere or other a new vegetable or fruit or nut is added to the international bill of fare."

Cavalry cover four miles an hour when walking, nine miles an hour when trotting, fifteen miles an hour galloping.

Winston Churchill at Thirty

BY ONE WHO KNOWS HIM

Mr. Winston Churchill is 30. Few men ever achieved so much at his age. He is one of the most talked-about men in England. If his object in life, as his political opponents suggest, were to get himself talked about he might retire and live on his reputation. But the good people who scoff at Mr. Churchill as a forward young man who wants to teach his elders, forget that youth, even extreme youth, has accomplished some of the most noticeable achievements of history. Pitt was 24 when he became Prime Minister at one of the most critical times of our history. Innocent III. held all Christendom in awe when he was only a few years older than Mr. Churchill is. Youth is not necessarily a handicap in politics or in any other field of action.

In politics youth is a particularly valuable asset, and the men who have made their mark in parliament have almost invariably entered the House of Commons quite young. In their youth they led the forlorn hopes, and gained the experience to carry through great reforms in later life. In fact, the history of heroes is not less the history of youth in parliament than in the world outside. Mr. Churchill appeals to the imagination of the country, because he promises to add another name to the list of young men who, starting their parliamentary careers on a bench below the gangway, have finally guided the destinies of the country. There are, of course, particular reasons why he should appeal to the imagination of the House of Commons and the country. The young man who enters the House of Commons with a great parliamentary name behind him is always listened to with great eagerness. Mr. Churchill had not only the name of Lord Randolph Churchill, his father, as an introduction to parliament, but he had also, by his own achievements, won a right to a respectful hearing.

Soldier and Author.

When he entered parliament in 1900 as the member for Oldham, there were few men in the House who had done so much in 50 or 60 years as the young stripling had in 26. There were very few soldiers in the House with so many medals and clasps, for Mr. Churchill can boast of having been in at least five campaigns, in Cuba, on the frontiers of India, in the Soudan and in South Africa. There were certainly very few men in the House of Commons who could claim to have written five books, four of which were a brilliant success. His first book, the story of the Malakand Field Force, was a really remarkable production for a boy of three-and-twenty, while his "River War," an account of the taking of Khartoum, has a description of the battle of Omdurman that is exceedingly well done. But his real claim to be considered as a writer lies in his descriptions of the South African war, in which Mr. Churchill acted as a special correspondent to the Morning Post. Mr. Churchill made two volumes out of his articles, and they were among the most successful books written about the war.

His experiences in South Africa read, indeed, like a romance, and the story of his capture and escape from Pretoria is quite a breathless narrative. In his escape from prison he revealed the resource and daring which has stood him in such good stead in the House of Commons. Indeed, if daring and energy could win the world, Mr. Churchill would soon become its master. A young man, who had fought for the Spanish in Cuba, who had ridden through the charge at Omdurman, and who had come scatheless through a campaign of hairbreadth escapes in South Africa, for he was nearly killed by a shell that fell between him and his cousin, the Duke of Marlborough, at the battle of Diamond Hill, might be forgiven for feeling at times that Providence had some signal mission for him in life.

"Ambitious and Pushful."

Mr. Churchill is ambitious; no one would deny that he is pushful, but his ambition is of that high order described by Lord Beaconsfield in "Coningsby." "Coningsby's ambition," said Lord Beaconsfield, "was that noble ambition, the highest and the best, that must be born in the heart and organized in the brain, which will not let a man be content unless his intellectual power is recognized by his race, and desires that it should contribute to their welfare. It is the heroic feeling that in the old days possessed demi-gods; without which no state is safe; without which political institutions are like meat without salt, the crown a bauble, the church an establishment, parliaments debating clubs, and civilization itself but a fitful and transient dream."

His career in the House is a great tribute to his courage and perseverance. He had been trained to take an interest in politics from a young boy, following closely his father's career. He was a born demagogue, and even at Harrow, as a young boy of 15 or 16, he would make passionate speeches to his schoolfellows from a chair in the Tuck shop or any place where he could command an audience. He took a very high rank as a debater, but it cannot be said that his views, or rather his ways of expressing them, made him altogether popular. Even in those days he showed his independence of spirit by fiercely assailing anyone who differed from him on questions of policy, especially on the point of finance. He was willing to swallow the ordinary school boy patriotism, but he would have it that our expenditure must be limited by our means, and that we did not need a large army.

Attacks on the Government.

He was, of course, following in his father's footsteps, and this he set himself to do in a more complete sense when he entered the House of Commons. One of his early speeches took the form of a scathing attack on the growth of expenditure. It was, in fact, a challenge to the government; if they did not mend their ways there would be no place for the son of Lord Randolph Churchill in their ranks. This naturally led him to make an equally strenuous attack on the army corps scheme and its waste of public money. It was in one of these early speeches that he forcasted the rise of a statesman who would advocate protection as the result of overgrown budgets, and the fierce battle that would split the Conservative party from top to bottom on that issue.

He fondly hoped that the party to which by personal choice and family tradition he naturally clung would brace itself up to a constructive policy which he dreamt of. Instead, he found them turning their backs on all that he instinctively believed in, and his mind was too sincere to accept the bogus apologetics by which Mr. Balfour tried to bolster up the Tory policy. It was then he had to make his choice, and his determination to cross the floor of the House caused Mr. Churchill many pangs at the time. It is no small matter, especially in the House of Commons, to be met with a scant nod and a curl of the lip from the friends of your own set, from your own schoolfellows and messmates. It requires great courage to break with your family tradition. Mr. Churchill looked indeed prematurely old and overburdened while the struggle of the choice went on. He might have been seen talking with bent shoulders, head thrust forward, and eyes that glowed in a white face as he strode through the lobbies, eager as any young man in such a position might be to find a friend to talk to.

In the Liberal Vanguard.

Many men on his own side were downright rude to him, and the Conservative benches would of set purpose empty when he rose to speak, or his opponents would howl him down. Fortunately Mr. Churchill possesses a certain spirit of detachment. He had been too engrossed in his work to make many intimate friends in the House, and for this reason the break was easier when he joined the Liberal party with which he naturally had far greater sympathy. He kept one friendship, which he valued above all others, and that was the friendship of Lord Hugh Cecil. This, perhaps, explains why, in some ways, Mr. Churchill still retains a touch of the high and dry Tory. But those who watch him most closely believe that this is only a veneer on the surface, and that his instincts have always been democratic.

His really remarkable gift of speech would alone lead him far. To this he adds a capacity for work and a perseverance that do not generally go with the kind of genius that his speeches show. He is, in fact, a more stable and less meteoric, but in many respects an equally brilliant edition of his father. Those who admire his talents need not fear that there is no character behind. He, of course, lacks experience and ripeness of judgment, but these will come in time. Meanwhile, he is by far the most interesting figure among the younger men in the House of Commons, where he did splendid work for the Liberal party last session. He is in fact one of the best assets the Liberals have, and may they long possess him.

HAVE REACHED END OF OUR TETHER

THUS REMARKS THE WATER COMMISSIONER

Victoria Has Outgrown Its Supply and Something Must Be Done—Those Water Meters.

In yesterday's Times was published that portion of the water commissioner's report dealing with the question of the Goldstream supply. Following is his reference to meters:

"In the spring of 1904 the council ordered a further lot of 350 meters, but owing to their not arriving until September the effect was not so marked as in 1903. There are now some 1,200 meters installed, and unpopular though they may be, without them, under present circumstances, the works could not supply the demand in the summer, and were the meters to be removed from residences, a large number of houses would be without any water at all during the sprinkling hours. The meter is not intended to run up a large bill, but to check waste and stop leaks; as a leak detector, a meter has no rival, for there is no more efficient way of making a consumer look after his plumbing and see that there are no leaks, than to make him pay for the water wasted. This is proved in almost every case where a meter is installed, particularly in the "down town" part of the city; almost invariably the first month's bill is a large one, then the plumbing is attended to, and one more source of leakage stopped. No one not connected with the waterworks has any idea of the amount of water that is wasted through faulty plumbing, and which no amount of inspection or patrolling can stop. Had we an unlimited gravity supply this would not so much matter, but when 75 per cent. of the water used is pumped, it then becomes a very serious affair.

It is claimed that the meters are of no use in the winter time, but if there is any frost at all, it is harder on the waterworks than the driest day in summer, for then the taps are open for the entire twenty-four hours, instead of during the restricted hours of sprinkling. I may mention a case in point: There was no frost last winter, but at one time in January there was every sign of it; the pump immediately jumped 15,000 strokes per day, and son continued until all danger of frost was over; this was conclusive proof to my mind that taps were open all over town, to prevent the water in the pipes from freezing. Were all these taps metered, the plumbing would be so arranged as to minimize the danger from freezing, and thus save the city the cost of water pumped, only to be let run down the sewer.

"This whole question of meters is entirely in the hands of the ratepayers. Under existing circumstances meters are an absolute necessity, no matter how unpopular they may be. Should the people vote the money for an unlimited gravity supply, then, if so desired, the meters from residences may be removed; but until that happy day arrives, I am afraid there is no other course open but to continue the meter system. We have certainly the summer of 1905, and probably that of 1906, to tide over, and the ever-increasing demands for water and the extension of the sewers make the problem more difficult than ever. The meters removed will not be dead stock, as they can be used on business properties, and all consumers outside the city limits. The meters bought both this year and last—Worthington and Hersey—are giving good satisfaction, the absence of sand and grit from the Victoria water reducing the damage to meters from this, which is the principal cause of trouble, to a minimum. There were only 184 cases of meters requiring repairs during 1904, and the majority of these were trifling matters, such as broken glass, etc., which could be fixed without removing the meter. The inspection and reading of the meters, which is done at one and the same time, averages about $30 per month.

"The disastrous fire which occurred last August brought home to the minds of the citizens of Victoria in a most forcible manner the weak points in our water system, and although I have annually reported for some years past that the demand for water was fast outgrowing the supply, it really needed some such catastrophe to emphasize and call the attention of the people to the actual state of affairs. We have simply outgrown our supply, and what was considered ample fifteen years ago, is now not sufficient. All waterworks, particularly those in new and growing towns, are in a more or less state of transition, and periodically have to meet large demands for increased supply. New York and Birmingham, to instance two cases, are spending enormous sums of money on their waterworks, and the neighboring city of Vancouver is confronted with large expenditure, to enable its system to supply the demands upon it.

"A brief history of the Victoria waterworks may at this juncture be opportune. The first pipe, a 12-inch, was laid in 1874, connecting with a small filter bed; in 1890 the 16-inch main was put in, with a small pump to supply the high levels, which there was no idea of having to supply when the works were first installed. In 1895 the present filter beds and clear water reservoir were built; in 1898 a larger pump for the high levels had to be bought, and finally in 1900 the North Dairy pumping station was installed. You will therefore see that there has been no addition to the main conduit pipe since 1890, but since that date over 2,000 services have been connected, some 35 miles of distribution pipe laid, and the entire sewerage system installed, with its 2,000 odd connections, and over 100 flush tanks. Every year sees an increase in the demands, and makes it more difficult to keep up the supply. In fact, we have about come to the end of our tether, and a radical change will have to be made as soon as possible.

"In accordance with instructions contained in a resolution of the council, on the 3rd of November last, I submitted a report to your honorable body, outlining a system of pumping to a reservoir from Beaver lake, and supplying thence by gravitation, the estimated cost of which, including distribution, is $500,000. This scheme is open to objection on the score of the constant expense of filtering and pumping; there is also the question as to how many people the Elk and Beaver lakes watershed is capable of supplying. The alternative proposal is to obtain a supply from either Sooke lake or Goldstream. In the absence of any surveys regarding the former, it is almost impossible to give any accurate information, but at least 30 miles of pipe would be required, a large part of which would have to be laid through a rocky and mountainous country, and it is extremely doubtful, after allowing for friction, whether there would be sufficient head, for it must always be remembered that we have an elevation of 245 feet to supply."

If some people worked as hard to pay off their debts as they do to pay off their grudges, the financial condition of many persons would be materially improved.

COMMERCE COMMISSION.

The Secretary of the United States Navy May Give Evidence.

Washington, Jan. 11.—Secretary of the United States Navy Morton will leave on Saturday for Chicago prepared to appear as a witness before the interstate commerce commission in its investigation of allegations that the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Company had granted rebates to the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company, in violation of law. Mr. Morton was formerly vice-president of the Atchison road, and will confer with the president of the company, Mr. Ripley, before reaching a decision as to whether he will appear before the commission.

SPOKE ON TEMPERANCE.

Jonas Bushell Delivered an Address in Temperance Hall Tuesday Evening.

Jonas Bushell, one of the inspectors of paving in Seattle, gave a lecture in Pandora street Temperance hall on Tuesday, under the auspices of the Independent Order of Good Templars, in whose behalf he is in Victoria.

The speaker alluded to the waste caused by strong drink, and emphasized the necessity for preventing young people from becoming drunkards. The actuaries of the large insurance companies throughout the United States are now discriminating against the moderate drinkers, it being an established fact that between the ages of forty and fifty 74 per cent. more moderate drinkers die than total abstainers.

Mr. Bushell spoke of the wonderful advance made in Germany by the Good Templars. He referred to a circular sent out by the school congress of Neuenberg, which states that teachers and physicians are of the opinion that alcoholic beverages injure body, soil, mind and character of the children. The circular adds: "Parents, if you love your children, never give them alcoholic beverages. All scientists who have studied the alcoholic question agree that beer, wine and distilled liquor are harmful to the growing generation. These beverages lessen the appetite, injure the stomach, lower the children's natural power to resist contagious diseases, and very often cause dangerous diseases in the liver and kidneys. These beverages lower the children's power of attention, weaken the mind and make it harder for the children to learn anything. They excite the children, making them obstinate, irritable and disobedient. Thus it will be harder for you and for the school to educate them."

Mr. Bushell made a strong plea to those in the audience to advance the good work. He will go from here to Duncans, thence to Chemainus, Ladysmith, Nanaimo and Union, and then to the Mainland, beginning at Vancouver. He will continue in the work until March.

MINER KILLED.

Shot by Business Partner on Fox Island, Southeastern Alaska.

Seattle, Jan. 11.—Word was received here last night of the killing of William Dippe by Robert Ball on Fox Island, in southeastern A'aska, on January 2nd.

The men were friends and associates in some marble property close to the scene of the shooting. A few months ago they had a business disagreement which resulted in a personal encounter in this city, in which Ball was worsted. Since that time they have been bitter enemies, and it is said that each had made threats to kill the other.

Ball was president of the Great American Marble Co., a concern capitalized at $7,000,000, until last October. He claimed to be a graduate of the Michigan University college of law, and said that he had practiced his profession in New York and San Francisco. Dippe had been a miner and prospector for a number of years and was well known in Alaska.

COUGHS.

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KRUGER'S CURIOUS WILL.

Inventory of Movable Property Includes Celebrated Silk Hat.

The following curious extracts are from documents which have been deposited with the deeds office, Pretoria, bearing on the will and testament of the late Mr. Kruger:

"On this, the 14th day of December, 1901, appeared before me, Wynand Corneils Veuystingh, notary, at Utrecht, Holland, who, desirous of making his will, has instructed me, and I, in accordance with his wishes, have taken down in writing, as follows:

"'I, testator, declare as executors of my last will, directors of my funeral, managers of my inheritance, and executors in my estate, and in my inheritance, Messrs. Frederick Christorfel Eloff, my son-in-law, and Hermanus Christiaan Bredell, my private secretary.'"

A codicil was added to his will at Clarens, Switzerland, bestowing a gift of £200 on Susanna Cornelia Kruger, daughter of the late Sarel Johannes Kruger.

Among the articles included in the movable property left by the ex-President Kruger in Europe, the following are enumerated for the purposes of the will:

One bottle of snuff, one tall silk hat, one black ear-tube, various psalm books, a large Bible, six smaller Bibles, eight button decorations, a purse containing one Transvaal sovereign, one Transvaal half-sovereign and one Transvaal shilling; one straw hat, the Great Cross of the Netherlands Line, the German Red Eagle, the Portuguese, the Belgian and the French Cross of the Legion of Honor, the Great Cross of Monaco, and two envelopes containing hair and beard of deceased.

There are also portions of the following: Cemetery, Pretoria; the Dutch Reformed church, Pretoria; picture of the late President's arrival at Marseilles in 1900; portrait of L. Jacobaz; map of the Transvaal and Orange Free State; portraits of Boer prisoners at Ahmednagar fort, and Rev. Mr. and Mrs. P. Poutma; same psalm books, a wire-cutter, a purse containing one Transvaal half-sovereign of 1897, one Netherlands ten-guilder piece, one ten-cent piece, one English sovereign, two English half-sovereigns, one shilling, two English sixpences and seven English threepenny pieces, one gold watch and chain, a gold ring, another large Bible, and one state coach with harness. Cash in European banks as follows: French francs, 183 (about); Dutch guilden, equivalent to £32,228 English sovereigns, 2,149.

LEFT-HANDED APPENDICITIS.

A well-known minister of the gospel, who has a delightful charge not 1,000 miles from Brooklyn, tells a good story on himself. During his vacation this summer he was suddenly seized during the night with a severe pain in his side. He is extremely nervous, but, withal, brave. His groans awakened his wife, who trembling asked:

"Why, dear, whatever is the matter?"

"Oh, I have a terrible pain in my side."

"I know," said the wife, "it's that terrible appendicitis. I have been afraid you would get it some day."

"It can't be appendicitic, my dear, it is on the left side."

"But, John, you must remember that you have always been left-handed."—Brooklyn Eagle.

EXCESSIVE FREIGHT RATES.

Member of Boston Fruit Growers' Exchange Gives Evidence Before Interstate Commerce Committee.

Washington, Jan. 9.—The interstate commerce committee of the House to-day continued its hearings on bills to further restrict the carriers.

Geo. F. Meade, a member of the National League of Commission Merchants, of Boston, and of the Boston Fruit Growers' Exchange, was heard. Referring to the so-called private car lines, he said they had grown to such an extent that Armour & Company practically controlled the price of perishable food commodities in the United States. He held that this company was operating without a license and could see no reason why they had the right to "prey upon our business and hold us up by the throat and demand whatever they see fit."

These private car companies, he said, can break men, firms and even states by their traffic rates.

In response to questions, Mr. Meade said many business interests had been ruined and many were on the point of bankruptcy because of freight rates. Mr. Meade thought the railroads would welcome a change and be free from a company which threatened to destroy their business, because they held the exclusive contract.

JAPANESE POLICEMEN.

A Japanese policeman seldom has much trouble in making an arrest. He is invested with all the majesty of the law, and to the Japanese law is supreme. It seems very peculiar to see him holding a solemn court in the street to settle some dispute.

The surrounding crowd shows no disposition to ridicule and banter. With the utmost gravity he examines the parties interested, notes down the information given, and finally pronounces his decision, which is generally obeyed without question.

This absolutism strikes the foreigner all the more because the policemen are usually youthful in appearance and small in figure. Five feet two inches is the standard height, and twenty-one the minimum age for entrance into the force.

Every policeman receives minute instructions as to his deportment, the position of his hands when standing, sitting, and so on, including the length of his hair, which "must not be more than two inches in front, or seven-tenths of an inch on the neck."

They are an intelligent, determined and courageous set of men, well disciplined, and said to be above corruption.—Cassell's Saturday Journal.

The sight of birds is extraordinary, and the simple fact that the eye of a hawk or pigeon is larger than their whole brain gives some idea of what their powers of sight must be, and of how easily they can fly hundreds of miles if they have marks to guide them.

It is hard to deal with a practical joker. Breaking his head about once a month is about the most satisfactory treatment.

Land Registry Act.

In the Matter of an Application for a Duplicate Certificate of Title to Sub-Division No. 10 of Lot 121 A., Victoria City.

Notice is hereby given that it is my intention at the expiration of one month from the first publication hereof to issue a duplicate of the Certificate of Title to the above land, issued to Ellen Carroll on the 13th day of May, 1865, and numbered 1353.

S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar-General.

Land Registry Office, Victoria, B. C., 13th day of December, A. D., 1904.

G. R. LAWRENCE:—

Please take notice that should you fail to meet your portion of expenditure for assessment work for year ending Sept. 11th, 1904, on mineral claims Cascade and Forest King, on head waters of Chemainus River, your interest in same will be forfeited in time and as provided for by statute.

A. R. SHERK.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that sixty days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for leave to purchase forty (40) acres of land situate on Dease Lake, Cassiar District, opposite Porter's Landing, and about one (1) mile south of the outlet of the said Lake into Dease River: Commencing at the northwest corner two (2) chains west of this point, thence twenty (20) chains south, thence twenty (20) chains east, thence twenty (20) chains north, and thence back to northwest corner.

WARBURTON PIKE.

Dease Lake, Cassiar, B.C., Oct. 2nd, 1904.

Notice is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a special license to cut and carry away timber from the following described lands: Fraction S. W. ¼ Sec. 31, Fraction Sec. 32 and Fraction Sec. 33, Denman Island, Nanaimo District, containing in the aggregate 487 acres more or less.

H. McFARLAN.

December 5th, 1904.

SECOND-HAND PIANO FOR SALE—$135. This instrument has been used by a teacher and is thoroughly well made. Will be delivered free to any wharf or railway station in B. C. Hicks & Lovick Piano Co., 88 Government street, Victoria; 123 Hastings street, Vancouver. We have others. Write us for catalogue.

FOR SALE—Pure bred Guernsey bull, 2½ years, from best stock in Canada, $180; strong team general purpose horses, $240; fifteen tons good hay. J. Legh, Salt Spring Island.

FOR SALE—Cedar posts. Address Oldfield, Box 406, city.

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