NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Work of Vancouver's Town Council—Board of Trade Doings—Telegraphic Service Extension.

The Huntingdon Murder Mystery Unravelled—Statement of One of the Parties.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, April 29.—A by-law has been passed guaranteeing the payment of the debt created under the local improvement by-law. By the local improvement by-law the city pays one-third of the amount raised, the remainder being charged against the property benefitted. The object of this by-law is to give the bonds a better standing on the market by guaranteeing the payment of the two-thirds, or $73,565 86, should, for some reason or other, the amount not be raised from the property.

Ald. Collins' by-law to amend the Health by-law has been read a second time and considered in committee. By the new by-law the medical health officer is entitled to report cases of destitution and relieve them. Power is also given to the medical health officer to quarantine, if he thinks necessary, any vessel not coming from a foreign port. Last summer it was found that the city by-law did not contain the power to quarantine, but the city's right to do so was not questioned. Another clause specifically gave the power to put guards upon any building in which infectious diseases have occurred. A clause was added forbidding any person from mingling with the general public after visiting a patient afflicted with a contagious disease without taking such precautions as the Board of Health shall prescribe.

The Plumbing by-law, which has been before the Council since 1891, was read a third time and passed. The by-law provides for the appointment of a plumbing inspector, who shall be a competent plumber both in theory and practice, and shall be under the direction of the City Engineer and Board of Health. There shall be a Board of Examiners of Plumbers to consist of the City Engineer, a master plumber in good standing, and a journeyman plumber, the last two of whom shall be paid $4 each per session. Every master plumber shall be licensed, for which a fee will be charged, but before he gets such a license he shall put up bonds for $500 that he will comply with the by-law. Master plumbers shall either be competent plumbers or engage only competent workmen. The fee was fixed at $25 a year, and all of that fee is to be paid upon the license being first taken out, but for the second a rebate of $2 per month is allowed for the time during the first year that a license was not held. Two convictions for infraction of the by-law cancel the license. One hundred dollars is the extreme fine for infraction.

At the Board of Trade meeting a letter from the Great Divide Co., offering to write up the city for $250 a page, was filed. President J. C. Keith will represent the Board at the Board of Trade banquet in Victoria. The Council are to be asked by a committee of the Board to celebrate the arrival of the first Australian steamer. The fact that the Government had promised to make an appropriation for postal delivery, and had not done so, was discussed.

All the societies in the city of a benevolent character will unite in receiving Lieut.-Gov. Dewdney, on the occasion of the dedicatory services of the new Y. M. C. A. building.

The Militia Department refused the request of this council that permission be given to construct a reservoir in Stanley Park.

To-day was circulated for signature a petition praying the Governor-General to veto the Government Buildings Act. The petitioners ask the veto of the aforementioned act and that the Legislature be made more representative of all parts of the Province.

VANCOUVER, May 1.—The famous veto petition to the Governor-General has over 1,000 signatures.

Rev. Mr. Chestnutt, of St. Catharines, comes to do missionary work in the Westminster district.

The C. P. R. are lowering their grade at Barnet.

Julius Hengleman cut off part of his right hand with a circular saw at Buse's mill this morning.

The short tram line to Westminster will be open on the 9th inst.

E. B. Sheppard, proprietor of Toronto Saturday Night, is in the city.

The separation meeting at Surrey was very poorly attended. Major-General Twigge, J. M. Duval, Rev. Mr. Sell, Messrs. Armstrong, Johnson, Wiltshire, Boothroyd, Smith and G. W. Kennedy were the speakers.

The Criminal assizes opened to-day before Mr. Justice Drake, the Attorney-General appearing for the Crown. In their presentment, the grand jury urged the necessity of three Supreme court judges for the Mainland, one resident in Vancouver, the want of a jail here, and an increase of the grand jury list.

Carl Levi, the deliverer of stolen goods, was sentenced to nine months at hard labor. Campbell, on a charge of receiving stolen goods, was acquitted.

Ald. R. A. Anderson and W. H. Goodwin have formed a partnership in the real estate and insurance business.

Fred. Poore, an intelligent and very popular youth, who carried the COLONIST on the Whatcom train for twelve months, and afterwards was promoted to be brakesman, had his hand badly smashed while coupling passenger cars on the C.P.R.

VANCOUVER, May 2.—There were four garnishees on city employes' salaries presented at the Council meeting. It was thought best by some of the aldermen to dismiss the employe if a second garnishee against him appeared.

The Fire department reported for the month of April, two fires. Registrar Beck reports 29 births, 10 deaths and 17 marriages. The Police Magistrate had before him during the period, disorderly characters, 12; drunks, 16; larceny, 3; absent from ships, 1; insane, 1; vagrancy, 6; smuggling, 3; assault, 2; violations of the Indian Act, 3; total, 48.

A steam launch 45 feet long is being built for Capt. Thompson at Cooper & Doherty's ship yard.

Nakusp is having a great boom here.

At noon yesterday a little girl of three years ran in front of an approaching car on Cordova street, and stood in the centre of the track. The brakes were applied by the conductor, and the car brought to a standstill very quickly, but not before the child had been knocked down by the platform.

Mr. Jas. Scott, Hudson Bay travelling manager at Winnipeg, is here in connection with the company's business.

Mr. Cooper, of Cooper & Doherty, has returned from England after a long absence. He does not recognize his old home.

Mr. S. A. Rogers, M.P.P. for Cariboo, is at the Hotel Vancouver.

Mr. McLaren, of St. Andrew's church, asks his congregation to put $1,800 on the plate a week from next Sunday. Mr. McLaren preaches in Victoria next Sabbath.

The surface drain contract has been completed. Excavation for the foundation of street paving begins to-morrow.

Mr. P. Morris, consul for Chili, is in receipt of a letter from a friend in Peru, who writes that the President-elect is a worse dare-devil than was Balmaceda, and even more ambitious and wicked, and that at the present time Peru is in a dangerous condition.

R. G. Tatlow was elected chairman of the Lytton Hydraulic Mining Syndicate yesterday; G. D. de Wolf, secretary; J. M. Ruxton, E. Mahon and Captain Bold, directors.

The Carolyn Gage company played to a fair-sized and very appreciative audience last night. The different members of the company are versatile and very clever. Miss Gage is a most beautiful woman in face and form.

The Haytian Republic has been chartered to load ore at the Redenda iron mines for Oswego smelters. A party of excursionists visited the mines on Saturday by the steamer Mermaid.

Mr. C. T. Dunbar left for Yale yesterday to superintend work on a mining claim.

Rev. A. W. Hooper, D.D., of Calgary, is the guest of Rev. E. P. Flewelling.

C. C. Chipman, chief commissioner Hudson Bay Company, is at Hotel Vancouver.

Some of those who purchased Chilliwack railway townsite lots at auction are trying to get their money back. Several meetings have been held and they are organized.

Mt. Pleasant people will consider the proposed guarantee to the street railway *en masse* on Friday.

Zion Church gives a musical and literary entertainment on May 4.

Mr. Jin, of Jin & Tamura, proprietor of the Sun Ban, was a passenger on the Empress of China.

Mr. A. Williams, of McPhilips & Williams, left yesterday to open a law office in Kaslo or Nelson.

The exodus for Kootenay yesterday was large. Speculation in outside property has caused the local real estate market to become dead and uninteresting.

Contracts have been been let for two particularly fine residences. One for Mr. S. O. Richards on Seaton street and one for Dr. Wilson on Robson street.

Mr. B. Flagler, a leading shareholder of the Niagara Falls tunnel scheme, was in the city Saturday.

A new lodge in the C.O.O.F., M.U., has been instituted at Howe Sound with quite a large membership. The lodge is named Loyal Elphinstone Lodge, the officers being as follows: J. Armstrong, N.G.; H. Smith, V.G.; Rev. E. Manuel, Secretary; G. W. Gibson, Treasurer.

On Sunday the members of the three lodges of the I.O.O.F. commemorated the seventy-fourth anniversary of the foundation of that order by attending divine service in St. Andrew's church in regalia. There was a very large turnout, while the lady members of the Rebecca Degree joined the brethren at the church. The sermon was preached by Bro. Rev. J. W. Macmillan, the choir of St. Andrew's assisting in the choral service. The collection was in aid of the Orphans' Home.

Mr. R. L. Patterson, manager for Miller & Richards, typefounders, Toronto and Edinburgh, is spending three or four days in the city.

The Western Press Association will be entertained by the Council on their visit here, May 16.

The Provincial Secretary wrote, saying that Dr. McGuigan would not be paid by the Government for inspecting incoming trains during the late smallpox trouble, but they would pay him $355 for inspecting outgoing trains. The Council, in turn, declined last night by resolution to pay Dr. McGuigan for inspecting incoming trains, on the ground that all cities west of Huntingdon were benefited.

A committee of the Council will meet a committee of the Board of Trade and arrange for a demonstration on the arrival of the first steamer from Australia.

The grade of Granville street has been cut down on the corner of Georgia and the tram track lowered.

The new school at Mt. Pleasant was opened yesterday, and occupied for the first time.

St. Andrew's Church Christian Endeavor Society sent a delegate to the Portland C. E. convention; Mrs. J. J. Banfield was chosen. The local concern sent a banner suitably inscribed.

Steamer Coquitlam left yesterday morning for Comox.

The Walla Walla arrived Sunday.

The Haytian Republic came in from Portland this morning.

The German barque Heinrich, 923 tons, Capt. Henne, is loading lumber at Hastings' Mill for South America.

WESTMINSTER.

NEW WESTMINSTER, April 29.—Hedges Eyre, arrested three months ago on a charge of setting the fire which, on December 10, last, destroyed the large saw mills at Vancouver, belonging to the Morse Saw Mill Co., was tried and honorably discharged today by Justice Bole. A host of witnesses were examined, but the evidence amounted to nothing.

The sheriff of New Whatcom was in town to-day looking for two men who had escaped from jail there. He left later for the Mission, having learned that they had been seen in that locality.

Governor Moresby went over to Huntingdon yesterday, and returned to-day bringing proof positive that Albert Stroebel had deliberately murdered John Marshall on Wednesday, 19th inst. The convicting evidence is furnished by a boy named Franklin Eyerly, fifteen years of age, belonging to Sumas city. His story is as follows: On the evening of the murder Albert Stroebel met him and said, "Let us go and rob Marshall." Eyerly consented, and the two went up the track together. Opposite Marshall's house they halted, and Stroebel, telling the boy to stop there and watch, went towards the house. He was gone half an hour and during his absence Eyerly heard two revolver shots. Stroebel returned presently and the pair went away together. Before parting Stroebel showed the boy a number of $20 gold pieces and said he would divide in the morning. This fixes the murder on Stroebel. Governor Moresby brought Everly to the city to-day and he is now in the Provincial jail.

NEW WESTMINSTER, May 1.—Hon. Justice McCreight has returned after a holiday of four months. He says the Ottawa papers misrepresented him in many ways. Regarding the present political situation he said nothing.

The rainfall in this vicinity during the month of April was remarkably heavy. According to the figures furnished by Captain Peele rain fell on 24 days of the month, the heaviest fall during 24 hours being 2.10 inches, with a total precipitation of 7.5 inches for April. This was the heaviest record for April in 21 years.

The spring freshet is commencing and the river is rising slowly. The rise at Chilliwack since Tuesday last has been two feet. Old timers still hold to the opinion that the water will be higher this year than since 1882.

The Royal City mills are shipping six carloads of beautiful spar timber to St. John, N.B. Each stick is 22½ by 24 inches and 70 feet long. The lumber trade is picking up fast.

NEW WESTMINSTER, May 2.—Hon. Theodore Davie was in the city all day. He visited the Government offices, went out and inspected the proposed site for the Fraser river bridge, and took a run through the eastern and upper portion of the city. A petition was signed by many citizens asking the Premier to address a public meeting in the Opera House, on Tuesday, May 9, and it is thought he will consent. Last evening the Premier dined with a few friends at the Hotel Douglas.

J. P. Alport's general store at Aldergrove was totally destroyed by fire last night. Cause unknown.

Public meetings will be held in Chilliwack, Burnaby and Coquitlam on Saturday to discuss the political situation.

Rev. Father O'Riordan, O.M.I., of Ottawa, is about to commence a mission here lasting eight days.

A new council of the R. T. of T. has been organized at South Vancouver with the following officers: S.C., Capt. Alcock; V.C., Bertha Hurrell; chaplain, John Sullivan; recording secretary, Fred. Goss; financial secretary, J. Mitchell; treasurer, Kate Alcock; herald, John Alcock; guard, J. Chandler; sentinel, A. Stintzon.

George Blackstock, a well-known Maple Ridge logger, was struck by a falling tree yesterday and terribly injured. With a horrible gash in his head, his right shoulder smashed, eight ribs crushed in, his right leg terribly cut and bruised, and his ankle broken Blackstock worked himself out and made his way, by crawling and rolling, over a mile to the house of the nearest neighbor. From there he was taken to Port Haney and thence to the city. He now lies in St. Mary's hospital in bad shape, but will recover, the doctors think.

The quarterly meeting of the Fruit Growers' association is in session. A general discussion was had on fruit pests and the effect of the cold of last winter on peach and pear trees. So far as known, the damage was not nearly so great as had been anticipated earlier in the season.

The St. Catherines Star says: "The Home Mission committee of the Presbyterian church, through their convener, Rev. Dr. Cochrane, have asked Rev. Mr. Chestnut of this city to take charge of a mission church in New Westminster, B. C. Mr. Chestnut, if he decides to accept, will require to leave in a very short time. It is not yet known what his mind in the matter may be, but it is well known that he prefers mission work of this kind to laboring in a settled charge, and, considering this fact, as also the fact that he has gathered up nearly all the available material in his present field, it is likely he will consider it his duty to go. He has done excellent work here, and the people would be sorry to see him move away."

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, April 29.—The members of the local lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows attend divine service in St. Andrew's Presbyterian church to-morrow morning, when Rev D. A. McRae will preach.

The first ice-cream social of the season will be given in the Wallace street Methodist church, on Wednesday evening, May 10.

At the annual meeting of the Nanaimo Building Society held last evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Directors—J. E. B. Tagart, W. H. Morton, D. S. McDonald, J. Freeman, A. Raper, (all reelected) R. Pollock and J. Galloway; secretary, J. Shaw (reelected); treasurer, B. H. Smith (reelected); auditors, W. Hunter and C. C. McKenzie, M.P.P.

Arrived—Barks McNeil, General Fairchild.

Sailed—Ship W. H. Macey.

NANAIMO, May 1.—The second anniversary of St. Alban's church will be commemorated on Wednesday evening by a social reunion, at which a musical programme and refreshments will be provided.

There was a large attendance of Odd Fellows at St. Andrew's Presbyterian church yesterday morning. Rev. D. H. McRae preached an eloquent sermon dealing with the objects of the Order.

To-morrow District Registrar M. Bray will receive the nominations of candidates for election as representative of the Vancouver Island District in the Dominion Parliament. So far as is known at present, Mayor Haslam will be the only one nominated, and will therefore be elected by acclamation.

The Quadra sailed this afternoon for the North. She took on board a quantity of rock from the Newcastle Island quarry, to be used for mooring buoys.

Richard Hilbert, of the Lion boot store, assigned to-day to P. J. Martin, of Montreal, and J. Ganner, of this city. The amount of his liabilities is not yet known, but there are sufficient assets to pay a hundred cents on the dollar.

Three white men paid $165 into the Police court this morning, for supplying liquor to Indian women.

The foreign coal shipments for April amount to 57,400 tons.

David Richards, a miner, was severely hurt this afternoon, in No. 3 shaft, by a fall of coal.

The May Day concert and ball in the Opera House to-night, under the auspices of the Miners' and Mine Laborers' Protective association, was a great success. The house was packed, and the dance was a very enjoyable affair. The floor was crowded all night.

The steamer Montserrat arrived this afternoon from San Francisco to load at the Esplanade wharf, and the ship C. F. Sargent to load at Wellington.

The production of the musical cantata, Belshazzar's Feast, in the Opera House Thursday evening promises to be quite a success. Professor Spear has been mainly instrumental in getting up the performance and in training the participants. Mrs. W. R. Leighton, Mrs. Harder, Mrs. Smith, Miss Smith, Messrs. A. E. Planta, Ralph Johnson, and H. Allsop will take the principal parts.

Last month the foreign shipments of the Wellington colliery amounted to 16 551 tons, whilst the East Wellington colliery's output was 2,490 tons.

The customs returns for April were: Duty collected, $3,114 15; oil inspection, $45 20; sick mariners' dues, $192 10, the total being $3,352 15. The value of the imports for the same month was $12,187.

The shipping in Nanaimo harbor and Departure Bay is rapidly increasing, and there is every prospect of busy times for the next few months at any rate. There are now fourteen vessels loading or waiting to load, and many more are on their way from Californian ports. The output of coal at the Wellington colliery is nothing like up to the demand, and until No. 4 shaft is reopened there will be delay in loading the vessels.

It is proposed to build an addition to the North Ward school, to be used for high school purposes. At a meeting of the school trustees, to be held to-morrow afternoon, it will be decided whether to build or not. At present the council chambers are used by the high school—neither a very convenient nor suitable location.

This afternoon Mayor Andrew Haslam was elected by acclamation Member for the Vancouver Island district in the House of Commons. Mayor Haslam, in a brief speech after Registrar Bray had declared him duly elected, said he had consistently supported the present Government, which he believed had done much to build up Canada and place her in her present satisfactory position among the nations of the world. He would not pledge himself to any hard and fast lines, and would always reserve the right of using his own judgment, particularly on matters in the interests of his constituents.

Arrived, steamer Haytian Republic.

DUNCAN.

DUNCAN, May 2.—Lock, a Chinaman, was sent up to Nanaimo jail yesterday for three months in default of paying a fine of $100 and costs imposed by Indian Agent Lomas for supplying liquor to an Indian.

Mrs. Bowden, Koksilah, was at the court house to-day convicted by Indian agent Lomas for supplying an Indian with rum and fined $300, and not being able to find the money has to undergo six months' imprisonment.

Peter Te-whe-lun, a Clemclemaluts Indian is in the cells and will be brought up this morning for being intoxicated yesterday. Indian Moscheles is also wanted for a similar offence.

R. Wicks returned, and the following came up from Victoria on Saturday: A. J. Mowat, M. T. Johnston, J. C. Prevost, H. Croft, M. P. P., Lieut.-Col. Haggard and Mrs. Haggard. All have returned to Victoria except Col. Haggard and wife, who are at the Quamichan hotel.

F. H. Price and J. Irving returned from Cowichan Lake, where they report the fly fishing season to have begun in good earnest, and went down to Victoria yesterday.

A blacksmith and wheelwright shop are being erected by Mr. C. Dobson on Station street.

The estimated cost, $8,000, of lowering Somenos Creek, and thus freeing the low lying lands surrounding Somenos Lake from water, has put a damper on the scheme, and it is doubtful whether the work will be proceeded with.

UNION

UNION, April 27.—The members of Union Presbyterian church choir held a social tea and entertainment on Saturday evening. Mr. William Mitchell occupied the chair and an excellent programme of songs, readings and recitations was ably gone through by the members.

The Courtenay Athletic Club gave a performance here on Monday evening entitled "Hercules." The hall was well filled by an attentive and appreciative audience, and the farce, which is a difficult one to handle, was performed in a manner which reflects great credit on the members of the club. The proceeds are in aid of the new reading room at Courtenay.

Samuel Sutton, who was injured in the mines some time ago, has so far recovered as to be able to resume work again.

Mr. Alexander Fraser has been appointed telegraph operator here in place of Mr. T. A. Fryer, who has resigned. Mr. Fraser commenced work on Monday, and has proved himself to be an efficient operator. The line is open to Nanaimo, and several messages have been sent and received every day this week. A long-felt want is now supplied and the public will not be slow in taking advantage of it. Mr. Conway, foreman of the Telegraph Co., came up by the Joan on Wednesday, bringing with him the telephone instruments to be used at Comox, Courtenay and Union. He will place them in working order and return by the Joan on Friday.

The milk "war" is still raging at Union, but so far no serious battles have taken place, and the prices remain as usual. Mr. Harrigan, the new vendor, intends shortly to visit the town twice a day, and hopes to receive considerable support.

Mr. Simon Leiser, of Victoria, is up on a visit to Union. He is proud of his mammoth store. The interior has recently been fitted up by the addition of shelves and centre counters, and the quantity and quality of goods displayed is marvellous.

The Presbyterian bazaar at Comox, on Tuesday last, was a success. A number of Unionites took advantage of the weather and drove over in carriages supplied by Mr. Grant of the livery stables. The new stage coach was out for the first time, and was admired by all who saw it.

The Cumberland Store (McKim's) is nearly complete. The painters are busy decorating the exterior of the building. Mr. McKim opened his store on Tuesday, and is doing a good business already.

Dr. Lawrence goes down by steamer Joan to-morrow to attend an examination in Victoria. He expects his wife and family shortly from the East.

The Union Colliery Co. are having all their cottages re-painted and whitewashed, and what has already been done is a very great improvement.

A large consignment of goods for the Methodist Ladies' Aid Society arrived by the Joan on Wednesday. The ladies are working hard and determined to win.

REVELSTOKE.

REVELSTOKE, May 1.—The Columbia has been rising steadily during the past week, and to-day the first of the large boats—the Lytton—arrived up. She will leave early to-morrow morning, having a good passenger list and considerable freight for the lower country. So far this season the boats have been making good time on the trip.

The hotels here are doing a rushing business, as every incoming train brings its quota of men on their way to the great Kootenay mining district.

The family of late Roadmaster Kellie leave to-morrow for Seattle to join Mr. Kellie, who has been spending the winter in that city.

A public meeting was held in the school house last Friday evening to discuss the advisability of requesting that the Government road appropriation of $400 should be partially applied to opening up a convenient road to the neighborhood of the freight shed and the saw mill. Mr. A. H. Holdich took the chair and called upon J. M. Kellie, M.P.P., to explain the circumstances connected with the appropriation.

Mr. Kellie opened his remarks by saying that a report had been put in circulation that only $6,000 had been set aside for West Kootenay district. This idea must have originated in Revelstoke. The amount of the appropriation was $12,600, while the total amount for all services was $75,500. The petition which had been circulated praying for a wagon road from the North Arm to Trout lake had not reached him. At the present time trail connection will be good enough for places where there are mines in that district. In connection with the roadway under discussion, he considered it would be necessary for the people of Revelstoke to make some arrangement with the C.P.R. for the permanency of the road, as it was over the property of the C.P.R., and the Government would not be disposed to open up a road unless the roadway was guaranteed.

A resolution expressing the desirability of obtaining such a road was passed by a majority of one, after a very animated discussion between representatives of the upper and lower town, the latter being in opposition.

A committee was appointed to interview the C.P.R. officials, to ascertain in what way they will meet the wishes of the people.

Mr. Thomas Paton, who has been the Presbyterian missionary here for the past two years, leaves to-night for Kettle River, where he will take up the same line of work. His successor has not arrived yet, but is expected this week.

Rev. James Turner arrived up from Nelson, on the Lytton, to-day, en route for Victoria, to attend the Methodist conference. He will be accompanied from here by Rev. C. Ladner, who is also on the same mission.

The school concert, which was to have been given this week, has been postponed indefinitely.

(From the Kootenay Star.)

Mining capitalists have been figuring on erecting large sampling works at the mouth of the Intaichtukok creek, where there are falls sufficient to run any amount of machinery.

The river is fast rising, and in all probability will attain its highest point much earlier than last year.

J. C. Wagner and two American capitalists, who have bonded his claims for $40,000, went over to look at the Wagner group last Tuesday.

The hotel at Thomson's is full of prospectors and capitalists waiting to go into the new Eldorado—Lardeau.

Work on the Revelstoke & Arrow Lake railway will commence next Wednesday. About thirty men will be employed by Mr. Nault in clearing the right-of way. Close upon their heels will follow the work of grading and track-laying. The road will be in operation before snow flies. Work on the Nakusp & Slocan will be commenced simultaneously with that on the Revelstoke branch.

Messrs. L. Mason, George Laforme, J. Sweeny, Chas. Norleans, Solomon Holden, Thomas Maloney and Wolsden have arrived from Big Bend. The placer mines there have been fairly remunerative during the past winter, more especially the past two months. Over $90 was taken out in one day by three men, and good paying ground has been entered upon. Mr. Mason, one of the owners of the Consolation mine, has sold his share to Chas. Norleans, the other partners being Geo. Laforme and John Sweeney. Each man had a fine showing of nuggets (some of them large size) and considerable dust.

KAMLOOPS.

(From the Inland Sentinel.)

Commencing Monday, May 1, the train service on the Shuswap and Okanagan railway will be daily, with the exception of Sunday.

P. A. Barnhart, the well-known C.P.R. conductor on the Pacific division, has gone as a British Columbia delegate to attend the convention of railway conductors, which meets in Toledo, Ohio, on May 9.

The water in the North and South Thompson is rising rapidly. The small islands at the immediate junction of the rivers, which make their appearance at low water, are already submerged. Very high water is looked for, as the snows are deep in the mountains and have been held back by the cold weather.

VERNON.

(From the News.)

The Stratheyre Mining Co. are rushing their machinery through. Several four-horse teams leave Penticton every fourth day.

Mr. Commiskey, C.P.R. agent at Sicamous, is reported to be the possessor of a gold mine, which he obtained by grub staking an old prospector.

Mr. McLaren, of Grand Prairie, has leased the Coryell and Murray ranch for the season. They will experiment in growing the new fodder plant known as the *laytheus sylvestris*, a variety of the wild pea.

The trail to the Harris creek mining camp is well under way. Two bridges are being built over Mill creek and Harris creek, and the trail has been well located. By means of this trail ore will be packed out from the mine to the main road in White Valley, and from there freighted by wagon to Vernon for shipment.

NELSON.

(From the Nelson Tribune.)

Articles of incorporation of the War Eagle Mining company were recently filed in Spokane, capital stock, $50,000. The trustees are E. J. Roberts, Austin Corbin, George K. Reed and William H. Sameon, all of Spokane, and A. Pugh, of St. Paul, Minn. The mines of the company are in Trail Creek district.

Eugene Callnin is in from Rover Creek, where he has been running a crosscut tunnel on the Snow Water, a gold claim in the neighborhood of Goepel's Whitewater. The ledge was struck in 135 feet, and it shows up fine.

Joe Young, who first discovered a practicable route into the Slocan country from Lower Arrow Lake, has sold the Neosho, a Hot Springs bonanza, to New York capitalists. A shaft has been sunk over 100 feet, and two drifts run on the ledge from the 100-foot station. The price Young gets for the property is said to be $35,000.

LUMBER FOR FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

That the market for British Columbia lumber is growing year by year is evidenced by the ready sale it commands all over the world. This month will see the first shipment forwarded to France. The bark Gryfe, which arrived from England with a cargo of coal for the navy yard a short time ago, will have the honor of being the first vessel to load at British Columbia for that country, having been already chartered to carry a cargo from the Hastings saw mill to Marseilles. She will leave for Hastings this week. There are at present four vessels loading at the Hastings mill, and one of these, the Heinrich, is taking a cargo for Hamburg, Germany, being the second ship ever known to convey lumber from British Columbia to that country. The other vessels at Hastings are the Blairholle, for Sydney, N.S.W.; Signard, for Port Pirie, and the Mary Low, for Peru, S.A. The B.C. Stevedore Co. have the contract for loading the five vessels, and yesterday, through their representative, Alex. McDermit, they were given the contract for the discharging of the schooner Americana, now in port.

FOR THE NORTH.

Steamship Princess Louise, Capt Nickerson, sailed for Port Simpson and way ports last evening with a fair freight but small passenger light. Among those who left on her were Capt. R. J. Cunningham and W. Nish, a fishery commissioner.

ALMOST A RECORD BREAKER

The Empress of China Makes a Very Fast Voyage From Yokohama to Victoria.

Heavy Passenger List and Large Number of Chinese—Some Distinguished Tourists.

Ten days, twenty-three hours from Yokohama to Victoria is not very bad time, even for one of the Empresses, but it is not as good by twelve to eighteen hours as Chief Engineer J. Fowler, R.N.R., of the Empress of China, intended it should be when he left Yokohama on April 21 and started across the Pacific to break the record.

The first three days out the weather was very heavy, constant head winds and a lumpy sea making it impossible to get up the speed to the desired point. From then until half way across both wind and sea gradually eased down, and from "108" to Victoria the weather was charming, allowing the passengers to get out on the deck and enjoy the fresh air while the Empress bowled along at from 375 to 400 miles a day. She arrived here last evening about 5 o'clock, "all well on board," and passed quarantine without delay.

The first saloon passenger list is a long one, there being 112 on board, as follows: Miss Adams, Mr. Asser, Miss Asser, Mr. S. Akusawa, Mr. J. W. Briscoe, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd, Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Black, Mr. H. Brookbank, Mr. J. C. Barrett, Major Barrett, Mr. Bonar, Mr. G. W. Burston, Capt. and Mrs. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Clark, Mr. F. Astley Cooper, Mr. A. Astley Cooper, Mr. P. Chasé, Mr. P. Caroe, Mr. A. H. P. Clacke, Mr. and Mrs. P. Chirnside, Mr. Cockseedge, Mrs. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Denholm, Miss Dudley, Mr. Daly, Mr. D. Dick, Mrs. Chew, Mrs. Lee, Miss Drew, the Earl of Dysart, Major Farmer, Mr. Farwell, Mr. Griffie, Miss Garvin, Capt. Grattan, Mr. W. A. Hedderwick, Major and Mrs. Hawkes, Mr. J. N. Jordan, Col. and Mrs. Kilbreth, Miss Kilbreth, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Klein, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Kingman, Mr. H. C. Lewis, Miss A. Lewis, Miss Lewis, Mr. Le Fleming, Col. C. Larking, Rev. A. Lamont, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Lees, Mr. E. Logan, Mrs. and Mrs. Makant, Major-Genl. and Mrs. Molyneaux, Miss Molyneaux, Mrs. E. S. Morgan, Mr. George A. Merrick, Mr. Masujima, Mr. Matsukata, Mr. J. Mackenzie, Dr. and Mrs. Merrett and family, Miss Newcombe, Miss J. Newcombe, Mr. Orman, Dr. and Mrs. Pilkington, Miss Padgett, Mr. H. W. Robert, Mr. A. W. Robert, Mr. Robison, Mr. H. Range, Mr. and Mrs. Freer, Mr. E. Smedley, Mr. J. Smedley, Mrs. Sutherland and two children, Prof. B. Spencer, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Stallard, Mr. Staniford, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Shoemaker and child, Miss Smith, Mr. E. Schmidt, Dr. and Mrs. Thompson, Miss Virtue, Mr. C. P. Wilson, Mrs. C. Willis, Miss Whetstone.

Besides the first saloon passengers, there were a great many steerage passengers, divided as follows: For Victoria, four Japs and 82 Chinese; for Vancouver, 207 Japs and 804 Chinese. The cargo consisted of 2,896 tons, principally tea and silk.

The most distinguished of the passengers is the Earl of Dysart, a Scottish nobleman who is making a tour of the world, and will take in the sights at the World's Fair en route. He is accompanied by two young relatives, Messrs. A. Astley Cooper and F. Astley Cooper.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Chirnside are from Australia. They were married just before leaving the land of the Southern Cross and are now on their bridal tour. Like a number of the other passengers they are destined for the old country, but have determined to visit Chicago while in America.

Mr. J. W. Boyd who, with Mrs. Boyd, helped to swell the list, is a Scotchman who has been in the East for eight and a half years. He has been with the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock company at Hongkong, an immense concern, owning six dry docks and two patent slips and employing some 2,500 men. Mr. Boyd is leaving Hongkong for good. He will go to Glasgow and engage in business on his own account. Speaking of business prospects in the East, he says:

"We have all suffered out there very much on account of the depreciation in the value of silver, and should the United States Government decide to release the immense store it has, the inevitable result would be to ruin many men as well in China as in Hongkong and India. The silver question is the one that is agitating people out there now."

Mr. John Clark and Mrs. Clark are among the passengers. The former is one of the partners in the great cotton thread works known all over the world. He has been travelling for pleasure and before returning to London, goes to Chicago for a month or two.

Mr. J. Frear is a theatrical man, who provides a whole entertainment himself, and will occupy the Vancouver and Victoria playhouses before going East. His trip in China and Japan has been eminently successful.

Another small party of Australians, en route to Chicago, consists of Mr. H. C. Lewis, Mrs. A. Lewis and Miss Lewis. They came up to Hongkong and Yokohama and will have an easy trip around the world, possibly returning this way.

There are any number of missionaries on board, including Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Klein, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Kingman, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Lees, Rev. Dr. Merrett and family, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Pilkington, and Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Shoemaker. Rev. A. Lamont, another returning clergyman, has been laboring in the South Sea Islands.

The Empress left at 9 o'clock last evening for Vancouver. The usual thing is for the Canadian Pacific Company's officials at Vancouver to meet their ships here, but this once they failed to connect. They started all right, but the quick passage of the China was too "fast" for them, and the result is they did not get here. Next time they will come down on Sunday.

THE ARTILLERY'S GREAT SCHEME.

A special dispatch from Ottawa received last night gives encouragement to those members of the British Columbia Battalion of Garrison Artillery who have been discussing the possibility of their corps being represented at the Garrison Artillery tournament to take place at Halifax in August. The project at first sight would appear to be so large as to be out of the question, but the fact that a rifle team from this Province will be in Ottawa about the end of August, and that the riflemen will probably all be efficient artillerymen as well, makes the matter a comparatively simple one. Though the officers here favored the idea no practical step had been taken in the absence of information as to how the Dominion Artillery Association and the Militia Department would take to the proposition.

The issue making the suggestion having reached the capital, the COLONIST's Ottawa correspondent inquired at the Militia Department, and he telegraphs, on the authority of Lieut.-Col. Irwin, inspector of artillery, that the Department will give every encouragement to the proposal, and that the Government will defray the cost of transport from Ottawa to Halifax. To accommodate the British Columbia team, should one be sent, an arrangement will be made for them to fire in the last days of the Halifax meeting, which will be about ten days before the opening of the Dominion rifle matches. These commence on August 28.

The teams for the artillery gun practice, in which it is wished to participate, consist of two officers and seven non-commissioned officers and men. All the garrison artillery in Eastern Canada are represented at the Halifax meeting, and have the advantage of practice there with the most modern artillery in the Imperial station, and are warmly welcomed and assisted in every way possible by the Imperial troops.

At the R. E. School Room.

Every preparation is being made by Mrs. D. R. Harris and those assisting her for a specially enjoyable entertainment at the Reformed Episcopal school room to-morrow evening. The stage has been enlarged and will, on the present occasion, be set to represent a fancy bower, while the body of the hall will be handsomely decorated with corresponding good taste. The programme, given under the attractive title of "Fairy Revels," in three scenes, will be presented by such favorites as Miss Hayward and Miss Wilson, Mr. Laundy, Mr. Boyd, Mr. Wolff, Mrs Helmcken, Miss Schwengers and Mr. Perrin.

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NOTICE.

Estate Late Robert Hunt, of Fort Rupert.

Notice is hereby given that all claims against the above estate must be sent in immediately, and all parties indented to the estate are requested to settle the same forthwith.

ELI HUNT, Sole Executor.

Fort Rupert, April 30, 1893. my2-wkly-1m

NOTICE.

From and after this date I will not be responsible for any debts which my wife Martha Akerman may incur.

JOSEPH AKERMAN.

Burgoyne Bay, 22nd April, 1893. ap29-1tw

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