SEWER SYSTEM FOR CHILLIWACK CITY

Contractor Will Make Inspection and Report on Cost —Money By-laws

Chilliwack, April 1.—A complete sewer system will probably be the first important public improvement which the Chilliwack council will consider after the expensive street improvements now planned have been started. A proposition was made to the council at a special meeting by T. F. Sinclair, of New Westminster, wherein he agrees to make a thorough inspection of the ground, ascertain levels and estimate the cost to the city for the preliminary work. This offer will be accepted, and the estimates will probably be submitted early in the summer. Mr. Sinclair is now engaged in sewer construction in New Westminster, and is just completing a contract for a sewer system at Revelstoke. An engineer was engaged a year ago to make estimates for the cost of a sewer system here, but upon his report that it would cost $166,000 the matter was not further considered. Mr. Sinclair is confident that the work can be done for a much less figure. The question of sewerage here is a vital one, as the country is very flat, making drainage difficult. Septic tanks are used extensively, but during the summer when the water in the Fraser is high these are frequently put out of business.

Voting on the by-law for $70,000 with which to macadamize the principal business streets of the city will take place on Thursday, April 13. Together with this by-law, three others will be voted on, being duplicates of by-laws submitted to and passed by the ratepayers on July 18 of last year, but which, because of certain technical irregularities, must be voted on again. These by-laws are $21,000 for the city hall, $10,000 for road machinery and $10,000 for a surface drainage system. After these by-laws had been passed and most of the work for which the money was intended had been completed, it was discovered that the total assessment of the city which must be embodied in each by-law had been incorrectly stated.

OLD TIME RESIDENT DEAD.

Nanaimo, April 1.—The death occurred in the Nanaimo hospital Friday of Henry McMillan, a well-known resident of the Nanaimo and Wellington districts for the past twenty-five years. The deceased was a miner by occupation and up to the time of his entering the hospital for treatment resided at South Wellington. He was a native of Scotland aged 68 years, and is survived by two sons, Henry and William, residing at Brechin, and one daughter.

CROP OUTLOOK BRIGHT IN WEST

Large Increase in Acreage to Be Seeded to Spring Wheat

Winnipeg, April 2.—Careful investigation by Winnipeg Grain Exchange members, mill men and experts from Minneapolis and Chicago, show most satisfactory agricultural conditions in the Canadian west. Fall wheat is reported in excellent shape in both Northern and Southern Alberta, having come through the winter well. There is a considerable increase in acreage. Experiments with fall wheat in some parts of Manitoba are also promising.

The open character of last fall resulted in a big amount of fall ploughing, though this would have been still further increased had it not been for the continued drought, but heavy and frequent snowfalls which have had a chance to soak well in have removed this danger.

It is difficult to estimate how much new land was broken last year ready for seeding this spring, but the area must have been very considerable, especially in Saskatchewan, where entirely new districts have been brought under the plough. Estimates of the increased acreage to be seeded to spring wheat run from ten all the way up to fifty per cent.

A well-built chimney, 100 feet high, will sway from three to four inches in a high wind without any danger of falling.

SALARIES INCREASED.

New Westminster, April 1. — The finance committee discussed the estimates of that committee the other afternoon, and these will probably be presented to the council at the next regular meeting on Monday evening. Among the items included in the estimates are an increase in salary of the city clerk to $1,800 per year, city treasurer, $1,800, and the deputy collector will now receive $125 per month. The clerk and messenger will receive $60 per month and the salary of both the stenographers will be increased.

The salary of the mayor and aldermen will remain the same, as will that of the city solicitor. The mayor receives $1,500 per annum and the aldermen $300.

The matter of a grant to the R. A. and I Society was also discussed, but as it was understood that they did not intend to apply for a grant this year, no provision was made for them.

FATAL BLAST.

Seattle, Wash., April 3.—An explosion of a blast Saturday night in mine No. 2 of the Denny Renton Clay & Coal Company at Taylor, 33 miles south of Seattle, killed Samuel A. Tomes, aged 38, superintendent of the mine, and seriously injured James R. Miller, vice-president and general superintendent of the company; John Keenan, local manager of the company at Taylor, and Wm. Lawton, foreman of the mine.

The four officials were walking through a tunnel of the mine on an inspection tour. As they entered the tunnel the day shift was leaving it by another passage, after igniting the fuse of a blast, which exploded just as the four men reached it.

IF LORDS REJECT THE VETO BILL

London Journalist on Probable Action of the Liberal Government

London, April 3.—Sir Henry Lucy writing in The Observer, says if the Lords throw out the parliament bill on second reading or fatally emasculate it in committee, parliament forthwith will be prorogued, but only for a single day, and twenty-four hours after King George's first parliament dies the second will be at work at Westminster.

He adds that necessarily there will be all the formalities of a new session, including the speech from the throne. Then the parliamentary bill will be reintroduced and for the second time sent to the Lords.

If it be rejected again the premier will avail himself of the privileges provisionally secured before his last appeal to the country and will rush in a sufficient number of new peers to transform the ministerial minority in the House of Lords into a irresistible majority.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

Nanaimo, April 1.—Customs returns for Nanaimo and district for March show an increase of over 30 per cent. over those of the preceding month, the collections being $10,219.43 for February, and $13,265.17 for March. The collections last month were as follows: Nanaimo, $7,115.61; Ladysmith, $1,583.62; Chemainus, $730.64; Union Bay, $3,709.69; Port Alberni, $1,394; Cumberland, $1,958; Alberni, $73.51; Courtney, $18.78; total, $13,265.17.

SECTION FOREMAN KILLED.

New Westminster, April 3.—Cut to pieces by a fast passenger train, the remains of Richard Johnson, section foreman of the Great Northern railway, were brought to the city this morning tied up in a blanket. Coroner Captain Pittendrigh was notified and an inquest will be held to-morrow with a view of ascertaining the facts in the case.

CRIMINAL CARELESSNESS.

Seattle, Wash., April 3.—"Pearl Moore came to her death by drowning in a pool at the Washington natatorium, and we feel that it was caused by criminal carelessness and neglect of the grossest sort on the part of the management of the said Washington natatorium in not employing proper, sufficient or competent help to look after the patrons at all times, the said place is open," is the verdict of the coroner's jury.

"You don't need to worry mamma, there's a man there to take care of us," was the laughing reassuring remark of Pearl Moore as she left her mother's presence, with a wave of the hand and set out Wednesday afternoon for the Washington natatorium to enjoy her first visit to a swimming pool, accompanied by two little companions. A coroner's jury Saturday, sitting in inquisition on the death of Pearl Moore by drowning, found in one of the bitterest arraignments ever given in this city against a corporation, that the man was not there, and that the girl's death was due to criminal carelessness on the part of the natatorium management.

NEW SUPER-DREADNOUGHT.

An American woman, Mrs. Lewis Harcourt, christened the Super-Dreadnought Monarch which was launched at Elswick. Thousands cheered as the fifth of this type of British battleship took the water. The Monarch is the largest battleship ever built on the Tyne and inaugurated a departure in ship construction, being launched with her boilers, funnels, bridges and other equipment installed. She is of the same type and armament as the Thunderer which was launched on February 1. Her displacement is 22,000 tons and turbines of a total of 27,000 horse-power are expected to make possible a speed of 21 knots an hour. The vessel is 584 feet in length, and she is armed with ten 13-inch guns and twenty 4-inch guns.

COUNCIL CONSIDERS AUDITOR'S REPORT

Does Not Necessarily Go Into Effect If Adopted by Aldermanic Board

New Westminster, April 1.—According to the auditor, if the city council adopt the report which was submitted last year, it does not necessarily follow that it goes into effect, but merely becomes a matter of record, unless the council sees fit to follow out the suggestions contained therein. This was shown when the mayor asked Auditor Cotsworth, at a special meeting held to consider the report, if the adopting of the report would put a certain clause into operation. The answer was that it would not. At the mayor's request the question and answer will go on the records.

The clause in question was the one dealing with the supposed excessive charges for different trips the aldermen were obliged to take, to Victoria, Seattle or Portland. A speial meeting was held to consider the report. It was read clause by clause by Auditor Cotsworth. Some of them were laid over for further consideration and some were adopted after discussion.

The first argument arose over the clause dealing with the offer of Mr. Cotsworth to do the work for nothing. The clause reads: "I realized that the only immediate practical way to get the audit completed and secure reform was to get the council to pass the resolution under section 96, by my undertaking to do the work free for a month, which we then thought might suffice to complete it." Ald. Lynch claimed that the word month had been inserted since the report had been completed. The auditor has since been paid for all services at the rate of about $3 per day. This remuneration, however, is supposed to be only for the expenses of the auditor during that time. Ald. Lynch did not object to paying the auditor; in fact, he was at the meeting of the finance committee when the bill was passed, and raised no objection. His point was that, if the word "month" had been inserted afterwards it would make him suspicious of the whole report. A vote was taken whether the clause would be laid over for further enquiries, but it was voted down.

Clause 83, which put the blame for the inefficiency of the staff, which resulted in the need of extra assistance on the finance committee, was laid over and will receive further consideration. Ex-Ald. Jardine was chairman of the finance committee at that time, and made some explanations in the council last year.

Included in the report is a clause dealing with the alleged assault which was made upon the auditor by ex-Ald. Gilley. Ald. Lynch called for a ruling from the chair on whether this had anything to do with the audit. Mayor Lee replied that it certainly did, as it was a case of one civic official impeding another in the performance of his duties.

One clause deals with the reasons certain persons were named in the report and not others. Ald. Lynch wanted to know the reason some names were not included. The auditor replied that it would be folly to itemize the numerous small infractions.

NO CAUSE FOUND FOR SECHELT MISHAP

Passenger Who Escaped Death Anticipated No Danger at William Head

Frank McKenna, who was a passenger on the Sechelt when she made her ill-fated voyage, was the principal witness at Saturday's session of the preliminary inquiry in the post office building. He was one of eight or nine men who left the boat at William Head, not, as has been alleged, because they regarded further transit in the boat as unsafe, but because that point was nearer their destination.

Prior to taking passage in the Sechelt he had been engaged as assistant cook in one of the construction camps at Peddar Bay. Witness demonstrated that he was qualified to give evidence by stating that he had been four years in the United States navy, leaving with the rank of first class quartermaster. He had also served for a year as an ordinary seaman in the British merchant service.

On going aboard the vessel he noticed that there was no cargo on the top deck, but that on the starboard side below the main deck there were some rails. That was the only part he saw, as he was not on the port side and could not see from his position if anything was there. He gave the weather conditions as mild wind and heavy sea, accompanied with misty rains at intervals. He could not say if the Sechelt had a list or not but he stated that she pitched rather heavily and rolled quite a bit.

"Was there any danger in your opinion?" asked Captain Eddie.

"Oh, no, I did not think so."

"Did she seem to have too much cargo?"

"No, I could not say that."

Witness admitted, however, that she shipped a lot of water, not down below, but forward when she was bucking the sea. He did not see any opening at all down below.

When the vessel reached William Head he and about eight others bound for the same camp left the boat. When they did so he did not hear anyone say that the boat was unsafe to continue in. One or two of the men who were going on to Sooke were very sick and stated that that was the reason of their leaving so that they might walk the rest of the way. He did not hear of any complaints, but as there were a number of foreigners on board all speaking in their own tongue he would not have understood anyway.

Witness also stated in reply to questions that if he had been bound for Sooke that day he would have gone. He did not anticipate any danger.

Mr. Kinghorn, inspector of hulls, stated that he had examined the Sechelt and that she had passed satisfactorily. He had been aboard her in all kinds of weather and he considered her a safe, reliable boat.

THE CITY MARKET

Oils—	
Pratt's Coal Oil	1.55
Eocene	1.75
Meats—	
Hams (B. C.), per lb.	.20@ .23
Bacon (B. C.), per lb.	.25@ .28
Har (American), per lb.	.25
Bacon (American), per lb.	.22
Bacon (long clear), per lb.	.22
Beef, per lb.	.10@ .25
Pork, per lb.	.10@ .25
Mutton, per lb.	.15@ .30
Lamb, hindquarter	2.50@3.00
Lamb, forequarter	1.75@2.00
Veal, per lb.	.10@ .25
Suet, per lb.	.15
Farm Produce—	
Fresh Island Eggs	.30
Butter, Cowichan	.50
ter, Victoria	.50
Butter, Salt Spring	.45
Butter (Eastern Townships)	.35
Lard, per lb.	.20
Western Canada Flour Mills—	
Purity, per sack	1.80
Purity, per bbl.	7.10
Hungarian Flour—	
Ogilvie's Royal Household, per sack	1.80
Ogilvie's Royal Household, per bbl.	7.10
Robin Hood, per sack	1.80
Robin Hood, per bbl.	7.10
Vancouver Milling Co., Hungarian, per sack	1.80
Vancouver Milling Co Hungarian, per bbl.	7.10
Lake of Woods, per sack	1.80
Lake of Woods, per bbl.	7.10
Calgary Hungarian, per sack	1.80
Calgary Hungarian, per bbl.	7.10
Enderby, per sack	1.80
Enderby, per bbl.	7.10
Pastry Flours—	
Silver Bell	1.75
Snowflake, per sack	1.75
Snowflake, per bbl.	7.00
Vancouver Milling Co., Wild Rose	1.75
Drifted Snow, per sack	1.75
Grain—	
Wheat, chicken feed, per ton	35.00@40.00
Wheat, per lb.	.02½
Barley	35.00
Whole Corn	35.00
Cracked Corn	37.00
Oats	35.00
Crushed Oats	37.00
Rolled Oats (B. & K.), 7-lb. sk.	.35
Rolled Oats (B. & K.), 20-lb. sk.	.90
Rolled Oats (B. & K.), 40-lb. sk.	1.90
Rolled Oats (B. & K.), 90-lb. sk.	3.50
Oatmeal, 10-lb sack	.50
Oatmeal, 4n sack	2.25
Rolled Wheat, 10 lbs.	.35
Cracked Wheat, 10 lbs.	.35
Wheat Flakes, per package	.12½@ .35
Whole Wheat Flour 10 lbs.	.35
Graham Flour, 10 lbs.	.50
Graham Flour, 50 lbs.	1.75
Hay—	
Hay (baled), per ton	20.00@27.00
Straw, per bale	.75
Middlings, per ton	33.00
Bran, per ton	32.00
Ground Feed, per ton	33.00
Shorts	33.00
Poultry—	
Dressed Fowl, per lb.	.35
Ducks, per lb.	.25@ .30
Geese (Island), per lb.	.20@ .25
Garden Produce—	
Cabbage, per lb.	.03
Potatoes (local)	2.25@ 2.50
Seed Potatoes, per sack	2.50
Onions, per lb.	.05
Carrots, per lb.	.02

WHOLESALE MARKET.

Bacon	.21
Hams	.17
Lard	.14½
Cheese	.15½@ .17
Creamery Butter	.30@ .32
Eggs	.25@ .27
Apples	2.00@ 2.75
Bananas	.05½
Beets, per sack	2.00
Cabbage, per lb.	.02½@ .03½
Cranberries, per bbl.	12.50@14.00
Celery, per doz.	.90
Cauliflower, per doz.	1.75
Grapefruit, per box	4.00
Lemons	3.00@ 4.50
Rhubarb, per lb.	.12½
Lettuce, per crate	1.50
Oranges, Nav case	2..5@ 3.25
Onions (Australian), per cwt.	3.75
Potatoes, per ton	38.00@ .00
Parsnips, per sack	2.00
Tomatoes, per crate	2.50@ 3.50
Florida Tomatoes	5.25
Turnips, per sack	1.00
Haddies, per lb.	.10
Kippers, per lb.	.08
Halibut, per lb.	.15
Salmon, per lb.	.15
Brazils, per lb.	.15
Almonds, per lb.	.20
Chestnuts, per lb.	.15
Filberts, per lb.	.07
Peanuts, roasted	.10
Walnuts, per lb.	.15@ .21
Dates, per lb.	.07½@ .08½
Figs, per lb.	.10@ .12
Cucumbers (hot-house), per doz.	3.50
Artichoke (Rose), per doz.	1.25
Parsley	.40
Watercress	.40
Brussels Sprouts	.12½
Bitter Oranges, per case	3.75
Asp agus	.15
Radishes, per doz.	.60
Mint, fresh	.60

ADDED TO THE ROLL.

New Solicitors and Barristers Called and Admitted.

Before Mr. Justice Murphy in the Supreme court this morning the following who have passed their final examinations, held last week, were sworn in as solicitors and signed the roll:

Call and Admission—William Garnet Anderson, Isidore Albert Goodstone, Albert Edward Tulk, George Roy Long, James Alexander Findlay.

Call—Peter Rankine Duncan, Cecil Bernard Swinitive Phelan, Ezra Isaac Joseph Hyam.

Admission—Norman Victor Gilling, Joseph Albert Maughan, Stephen Geo. Footner.

The new members of the bar were introduced to his lordship by H. Dallas Helmcken, K. C., and the usual formalities of the occasion gone through. The results of the intermediate examination are not yet issued.

COLUMBIA'S DEGREE TEAM WON THE CUP

Interesting Competition Between the Three City Lodges of Odd Fellows

The hall of the I. O. O. F. on Douglas street was filled to its utmost seating capacity last Friday evening by members of the order eager to witness the competition in conferring the initiatory degree between teams from Victoria, Columbia and Dominion lodges.

About six months since, with the view of arousing greater enthusiasm in lodge work and ensuring a better attendance at meetings, F. Landsberg, a member of Victoria lodge, donted a handsome cup to be competed for by the three lodges in the initiatory degree.

Committees were appointed by the lodges, and the joint committee met and formulated rules to govern the contest, in harmony with the expressed wishes of the donor of the cup. These, in effect, were: That the contests were to take place in the initiatory degree at the end of the first quarter of each term; teams to be composed of the regularly installed officers of each lodge; no points to be allowed for substitutes; the cup to become the property of any lodge winning it three times.

The result aimed at in presenting the cup has been more than realized; the attendance has been better, and lodge officers have usually been found in their places on the night of meeting. For weeks past the captains have been hard at work drilling their teams in the intricacies of the floor work. The interest of the membership generally in the contest was manifested by the large attendance on Friday evening, the hall being well filled until the end, which was about 1.30 a.m.

It was the regular meeting night of Victoria lodge, and three bona fide candidates were on hand to be initiated into the mysteries of Odd Fellowship. Judges had been brought from Vancouver, being Wallace Law, P. G. M.; H. H. Davies and J. L. Laidlaw, who were accompanied here by W. Hogg, P. G. M.; T. C. Gray, P. G. M., and T. E. Godfrey. By previous arrangement, Dominion lodge team (J. Aspland, captain), took the first candidate, Victoria lodge (T. C. Hubbard, captain), the second and Columbia lodge (D. Dewar, captain), the third.

The three teams did remarkably good work, though there were weak spots in each, and the probable result gave rise to much speculation. The judges gave their decision on Saturday afternoon as follows: Columbia lodge, 739 points; Victoria lodge, 660; Dominion lodge, 640.

During the evening an interesting event occurred, when W. Hogg, P.G.M., on behalf of the five past grand masters of Vancouver, presented the grand secretary, Fred Davey, M. P. P., with a handsome gold-headed ebony cane, and a gold-headed umbrella for Mrs. Davey, in token of their appreciation of the assistance which Mr. Davey had rendered them when in office.

Mr. Davey, on behalf of Mrs. Davey and himself, thanked the donors for their beautiful gifts. The five past grand masters are: T. F. Neelands, W. Hogg, T. C. Gray, H. B. Gilmour and W. Law.

At the close of the competition short addresses were given by several of the visiting brethren. Coffee, cake and sandwiches were served in the library during the evening.

TELEPHONES HUSBAND THEN SHOOTS HERSELF

Woman Fires Fatal Shot After Telling Husband of Her Intention

(Times Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, Cal., April 3.—"I'm going to kill myself. Come up and get our daughter, Mary."

Telephoning this message to her husband, Chas. A. Beck, who was engaged in divorce proceedings with her, Mrs. Beck shot herself last night and to-day is dead in the emergency hospital. A policeman to whom Beck appealed when he got the death threat, arrived just as Mrs. Beck fired the fatal shot.

AUTOMOBILE OWNERS.

Speeding to Be Frowned Upon and Prevented—Officers Elected.

A resolution to assist in the prevention of speeding, and the appointment of committees and election of officers, occupied the attention of the members of the automobile club at its last meeting. The resolution was carried and the officers and committees are as follows: President, J. A. Turner; vice-presidents, D. R. Ker and M. B. Jackson; honorary secretary-treasurer, J. A. Hinton. Committees: Laws, R. H. Pooley, A. G. Sargison, and J. H. Gillespie; good roads, D. R. Ker, Herbert Cuthbert, Luke Pither, James Wood, John Arbuthnot, A. H. Styles, S. C. Weston; runs, tours and routes, A. E. Todd, G. H. Wilson, Herbert Cuthbert, John Dilworth, T. W. Howard, T. Plimley, J. E. Smart; and discipline, R. H. Pooley, D. R. Ker, A. E. Todd.

The association has arranged to proceed with the compilation of an illustrated pamphlet containing maps of the good roads on the island, showing desirable touring places, and having interesting reading matter regarding each.

A report from the deputation to the attorney-general was received.

ENDORSES RECIPROCITY.

Salmon Arm, April 1.—There was an excellent turnout at the general meeting of the Salmon Arm Liberal Association, President Gibbard in the chair. Several matters of local importance were discussed, and it was decided to ask the Dominion government to appropriate a sum for the clearing out of the Salmon river, on which stream no public work has been done for some time.

The election of officers resulted in the following being placed in office for the ensuing year: Hon. presidents, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Senator Bostock; president, F. W. Clinghan; vice-president, F. Buchan; secretary-treasurer, R. J. Glasgow; executive committee, Messrs. McPhail, Scales, Bibbard, Armstrong, Harbell, Toombes, S. M. McGuire, F. McLeod, R. Turner and W. F. Palmer.

Dr. Wade, president of the Kamloops Liberal Association, was present by invitation and delivered a short address, and several other speakers also addressed the meeting.

A resolution expressing confidence in the Laurier government and endorsing the reciprocity trade agreement was adopted unanimously. Another resolution adopted was one requesting the Dominion government to place orchard implements on the free list.

The meeting was a very pleasant and successful one, a large number of new members signing the roll.

RECORD OUTPUT OF COAL AT NANAIMO

Fifty-Five Thousand Tons During March—Outlook is Bright

"Coal is King" is no literary phrase so far as Nanaimo is concerned, for day by day the importance of the coal mining industry of this city is being made more apparent, says the Nanaimo Herald. In the issue of March 23, the Herald published a four-column article dealing with the outlook for the local mines in which it was stated the output of coal for the month of March was expected to reach the total of 54,000 tons. Many expressed the opinion that the figures were exaggerated, but as an actual fact they were too conservative, for the output of the Nanaimo mines of the Western Fuel Company for the month of March, ending Friday totalled 55,000 tons, the largest in the history of the coal mining industry in this district.

Of this large total No. 1 mine alone contributed 38,000 tons, which also was a record for this mine, and considering this output was made during only one hoisting shift daily, whereas for years the mine hoisted two shifts daily, the record is all the more remarkable.

When the wheels of No. 1 ceased whirling Friday the mine had been working continuously (Sundays excepted) sixty-one days, and during this time not a single break of any seriousness had occurred, showing the remarkable condition of the mine machinery and capable management on the part of the officials.

Fifty-five thousand tons of coal in one month is a condition of affairs of which any mining centre in the world might boast of without at all considering it flattery, and when it is remembered this high water mark of production is not only to be maintained but increased, the outlook for Nanaimo and district is exceedingly bright, for as Manager Stockett informed the Herald only a week ago, his company was opening two new mines at an initial outlay of $800,000 which, when fully developed would add fully 1200 workmen additional to Nanaimo's already large number of wealth producers, and increase the population of Nanaimo and suburbs probably as much as 5,000.

RESTORE OLD RATES.

Meeting in Seattle to Prevent Rate War in Trans-Pacific Trade.

Agents and representatives of the various trans-Pacific steamship companies, operating freighters from Puget Sound and Portland to the Orient, will meet in Seattle this week and restore the old rate of $3 a ton for carrying wheat and flour to the Far East. The reduced tariff of $1.50 on flour and $2 a ton on wheat will remain in force until June 1, after which the former rate will be put in force.

In addition to the members of the trans-Pacific Traffic Bureau, representing the old-established lines, J. Walter Ransom, agent of the Portland & Asiatic Steamship Company has said that the owners of the two Japanese lines running out of the Sound have agreed to charge the higher rate. The Japanese companies were accused of being the first to slash the tariff. At all events, about two months ago the rate cutting was begun on the Sound, and it was not long until each of the companies had been drawn into the affair.

The low rates of $1.50 and $2 a ton on flour and wheat, respectively, were quoted by the trans-Pacific Tariff Bureau, with the announcement that they would remain in force for a month. At a later meeting it was decided to transport the cereal across the Pacific at the same tariff in May. On this basis considerable business has been secured for the steamers and consequently the rates could not be increased before June 1.

Fresh from the hands of her builders the halibut power schooner Prospector left Seattle yesterday for Ketchikan on her maiden trip. The first voyage of the Prospector is being watched with interest as she is the first vessel of her exact type to be employed in the halibut fishing trade in Alaskan waters. She was built as an experiment by the New England Fish Company, being the first vessel of that concern. The fact that she is somewhat of an experiment accounts for her name. If she proves a complete success it is probable that she will set the pattern for halibut vessels in the north in the future.

AUTOMOBILES ON THE CARIBOO ROAD

Thirteen Are Already in Commission—Settlers for the North

Ashcroft, April 1.—The Cariboo road is gradually breaking up and transportation north from Ashcroft to Quesnel and Fort George is now being done by wagon and automobile. Some forty freighting outfits, which are struggling northward are meeting with stretches of very muddy roads. Automobiles are carrying passengers to the Fifty-nine Mile-House, twelve miles beyond Clinton.

The snow is practically off the ground at Quesnel, and the ice in the Fraser river began to run out last Saturday. Passengers and some freight are being transported over the river at this point by means of cable and car. The road from Quesnel to Fort George via Blackwater, being new and soft, is still almost impracticable. The mail, however, is going into Fort George over that road once a week.

Though the time is not auspicious to go into the northern interior, many are leaving Ashcroft on foot, as well as by stage and wagon. Two transportation companies already have thirteen automobiles in commission, and the steamer Chilcotin is being got ready for summer traffic. Captain Ritchie is at work on the wrecked Chilco, endeavoring to get it free from ice, and in condition to bring down to Quesnel to undergo repairs. A new company has been formed to run the little steamer Quesnel, and this company, it is rumored, will also take over the historic steamer Charlotte, now on the ways at Quesnel. A new hull will be necessary before the favorite craft of the Upper Fraser can again breast the current.

Extra supplies are being sent north each week from Ashcroft to accommodate the incoming settlers who are filling up the two hotels. If it is found necessary, an emergency tent hotel will be erected here to accommodate the people. If the reports are only half true as to the number of settlers coming, this will be absolutely necessary.

Howard Du Bois, L. A. Bonner, T. Felker and other managers of large placer hydraulic works in Cariboo have left for the north to get their works in readiness for the spring opening. They all anticipate an excellent year for mining, as the unusually heavy snow fall will insure plenty of water for the hydraulic works. Some twenty outfits will make a "clean-up" this year, which is expected to be one of the largest in the history of the historic gold mining country around Barkerville and Stanley.

BOY STOLEN ON STREET IN VANCOUVER

Seven-Year-Old Lad Seized by Two Men, Who Drive Away in Carriage

Vancouver, B. C., April 3.—What is believed to be a kidnapping case occurred in this city at 11.15 this morning. Mrs. A. Cockburn, who resides 1556 Park Drive, Grandview, had just back to the house to get her umbrella leaving her 7-year-old son outside. When she returned the boy was nowhere to be seen. Two of the little small playmates, who were standing on the street outside the house, said that a rig containing two men had driven up to the house and asked the boy if he wanted a ride. When he refused, one man jumped out and seizing the boy thrust him into the carriage, and then drove away.

The only reason for the abduction which is given by Mrs. Cockburn is that the boy's father, B. W. Rayfuse, of Spokane, from whom she had obtained a decree of divorce two months ago, had stolen him. It is said Rayfuses has made several attempts to obtain possession of the boy.

ALLEGED BREACH OF PRIVILEGE.

Lord Aberdeen's Message to Liberal Candidate Subject of Inquiry By Committee of Commons.

London, April 3.—The committee of privileges of the House of Commons, consisting of Premier Asquith, Sir Rufus Isaacs, and Eugene Wason, government; Mr. Balfour, Colonel Lockwood, and Sir Gilbert Parker, opposition; and Mr. Swift MacNeill, Nationalist, is hearing cases involving two peers, Lord Roden and Lord Aberdeen, the Irish viceroy.

Lord Roden is accused of personating himself. He was on the register for South Down as Colonel Jocelyn, a commoner, but on the day before the election of January, 1910, he succeeded to the Peerage as Lord Roden. He voted in that election and in the election of December, Colonel Jocelyn's name being still on the register. Thereby it is said that he infringed the liberty and privileges of the House of Commons.

Lord Aberdeen, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and Lord Lieutenant of the county of Aberdeen, is accused of infringing the liberties by interfering in the West Aberdeen election by his messages to the Liberal candidate with regard to Home Rule. The inquiries are rather academic, as the prime minister has publicly recommended the abolition of sessional orders against peers which the House of Commons cannot enforce.

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