...IZED
...NETTING
from 1 to 6 feet wide.
...Hardware Co.,
...D.
Victoria, B. C.

...and Liquors
...$1.25
...50c.
...$1.00
...50c.
...25c.
...$1.50
...25c.
...25c.
& Palmer's Mixed Biscuits, 2
...& Co., CASH GROCERS
in the Combine.

...Prunes
...d, positively the choicest Prunes today ...son. Now is when prunes are at their ...est. We offer them at
...r 25c.
...NDOWS.
...s 35c. per dozen.
...llace, LEADING GROCERS

...EAR CLOSES
The goods are the finest. The prices
...anish Port, 10 years old, per bot....$1.00
...e Sherry, 10 years old, per bot. ..$1.00
...lifornia Port, 8 years old, per bot. 50c
...re Native Port, per bottle ..... 25c.
...edonia Scotch, per bottle $1.00
...k's Scotch, per bottle $1.00
...DOWS.
...irocery Co. Lt.
42 GOVERNMENT STREET.
...ocery Co. Ltd.
39 AND 41 JOHNSON STREET.

...New Year's
...ippers
...e largest and best variety in the city ...opular prices, awaiting your call. See ...ows for display.
...AMES MAYNARD
85 Douglas Street, Odd Fellows' Block.

BORN.

...RCIER—At Nelson, on December 19th, ...e wife of W. Mercier, of a son.

...LLACK—At Nelson, on December 22nd, ...the wife of Henry Wallack, of a son.

...UGHAN—At Kamloops, on Dec. 20th, ...the wife of D. B. Koughan, of a daughter.

...EBEL—At Rossland, on December 23rd, ...the wife of F. Koebel, of a son.

MARRIED.

...ETIN—CUTHBERTSON—At Phoenix, ...on December 24th, by Rev. J. D. P. Knox, Daniel M. Martin and Miss Lizzie Cuthbertson.

...WICK—MARTIN—At Vancouver, on December 23rd, by Rev. W. E. Pescott, ...W. Berwick and Mrs. Louisa Martin.

...VITT—HANNA—At Trail, on December 21st, by Rev. John A. Cleland, William J. Dewitt, and Miss Sophie Hanna.

...NSON—JERVIS—At Vancouver, on December 23rd, by Rev. R. G. MacBeth, Bentley P. Johnson and Miss Blanche L. Jervis.

...TH—TOWLE—At Vancouver, on December 24th, by Rev. R. G. MacBeth, W. E. Smith and Mrs. Carrie Towle.

...ISH—PATTERSON—At Nanaimo, on December 24th, by Rev. Mr. Banton, Charles Marsh and Miss Elizabeth Patterson.

...ODWARD—FORD—At Nelson, on December 23rd, by Rev. W. W. Baer, Ernest G. Woodward and Miss Annie M. Ford.

...RK—BACON—At Vancouver, on December 25th, by Rev. R. G. MacBeth, James Clark and Mrs. Sarah Bacon.

...REST—McINNES—At Vancouver, on December 25th, by Rev. R. G. MacBeth, Richard T. Forrest and Miss Annie McInnes.

...—GROSE—At Eburne, on December 22nd, by Rev. J. M. Donaldson, Albert Brooke Lee, and Miss Ellen Grose.

...Y—CRANE—At Vancouver, on December 26th, by Rev. R. J. Wilson Patrick Fury and Mrs. Minnie Crane.

...ELVIE—SOULE—At Vancouver, on December 26th, by Rev. R. G. MacBeth, Alexander McKelvie and Miss Stella Soule.

...CE—HEMMING—At Chemainus, B. C., on Saturday, December 26th, 1903, by Rev. W. N. Carr, Mable F. Hemming of Chemainus, to Captain Henry C. Hemming, of the ship Dundee.

DIED.

...NS—At Vancouver, on December 28th, Miss Emma Evans, aged 32 years.

...RIS—At the family residence, No. 150 Chatham street, on the 25th instant, William John Harvey Harris, a native of Isle of Wight, aged 36 years and 8 months.

...LISON—At Nanaimo on December ...rd, Mrs. H. Rawlison, aged 60 years.

...U—At Victoria, on Christmas Eve., ...ter a brief illness, Nicolai C. Schou, ...ive of Dunsby Manicipality.

High School Entrance Exams

Complete Results Showing Successful Candidates Throughout the Province.

Victoria's Showing in the Recent Examinations Was Particularly Good.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

Herewith the Colonist has the pleasure of presenting, exclusively, the complete results of the Provincial High School examinations. The various centres are arranged alphabetically, so that no difficulty will be found in ascertaining at a glance the returns for any particular district. As was outlined briefly in the Colonist yesterday morning, Victoria stands very high, while Vancouver this year makes an uncommon y poor showing. Nelson stands highest in the percentages for graded schools, a proud and well-earned position. The results are as follows:

CUMBERLAND CENTRAL.
Cumberland.
Number of candidates, 11; passed, 5.
Mary Shore 649
Carlton C. Mounce 642
William White 593
Lizzie Hunden 567
Pauline Paton 560
Minto School.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
GRAND FORKS CENTRE.
Grand Forks.
Number of candidates, 6; passed, 2.
Clara J. O. Turner 604
Mary L. W. Betts 576
Private School.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
NELSON CENTRE.
Nelson.
Number of candidates, 7; passed, 6.
Ellen B. Fawcett 626
Raymond Bard 615
Robert B. McLauchlan 607
Eva McVicar 592
Jessie Hipperson 574
Charles Motley 552
Slocan.
Number of candidates, 2; passed, 1.
Kathleen V. Bentley 616
ROSSLAND CENTRE.
Rossland.
Number of candidates, 10; passed, 4.
Margaret McCraney 628
Margaret Keating 575
Elizabeth E. Cosgriffe 563
Esther B. Raymer 552
Trail.
Number of candidates, 4; passed, 2.
Lovina V. Weir 638
Thirza L. Meng 563
NANAIMO CENTRE.
Number of candidates, 21; passed, 11.
Gerald D. Wm. Davis 659
Joseph Hayse Shaw 652
Frederick Landseer Leighton 642
Elizabeth Frances Shaw 633
Jane Crossan 627
Florence Escott 616
Elizabeth Hyslop 610
John Cecil Galbraith 595
Wm. Earl Haslam 570
Effie Cora Jones 569
Mabel Sarah Targetter 566
Alexandria.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
Chemainus Landing.
Number of candidates, 3; passed, 2.
James H. Marshall 619
Arthur J. Crozier 558
East Cedar.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
Extension.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
Ladysmith.
Number of candidates, 7; passed, 4.
Susanna B. Dunsmuir 633
Matthew Spratt 603
Robert A. G. Thomson 579
Edith Hughes 550
North Cedar.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
Parksville.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
South Cedar.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
South Nanaimo.
Number of candidates, 2; passed, 0.
St. Ann's Convent.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
Wellington.
Number of candidates, 3; passed, 0.
NEW WESTMINSTER CENTRE.
New Westminster.
Number of candidates, 21; passed, 15.
Boys' Central.
Number of candidates, 10, passed, 9.
Howard C. DeBeck 726
Henry W. Sangster 662
Robert D. McKenzie 660
Dugale M. Bartlett 645
William McL. Day 644
William J. Burr 622
Oswald S. Peele 601
Lorne G. Sharp 575
Jack Lamtung 550
Girls' School.
Number of candidates, 9; passed, 6.
Laura Elley 665
Roberta M. Thornber 623
Ethel Robinson 618
Alice B. Winsemup 600
Clarissa B. Archibald 550
Sapperton.
Number of candidates, 2; passed, 1.
Lydia House 604
RURAL SCHOOLS.
Barnet.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
East Delta.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 1.
Joseph Weaver 559
Langley.
Number of candidates, 2; passed, 2.
William R. Coulter 552
Charles D. Calder 550
Westham Island.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 1.
Einar Haggman 626
VANCOUVER CENTRE.
Total number of candidates, 85; passed, 32.
Central.
Number of candidates, 7; passed, 3.
Lorne A. McAllister 580
Harry Grossman 579
Winnifred Cotter 576
Dawson—First Division.
Number of candidates, 26; passed, 7.
A. Brodie Dunn 644
Margaret Dixon 619
Kenneth V. Lopatecki 617
James T. Dall 600
Eva Watson 580
Marion McGeachie 570
Vera L. Hill 551
Dawson—Second Division.
Number of candidates, 20; passed, 9.
Charles Dickens 738
Minnie E. Muir 625
George R. Ingram 610
Jane Kilmer 604
Jessie T. McLean 591
Douglas Johnston 574
Alice V. Elmes 573
Martha W. Armstrong 563
Laura L. Forsythe 554
Fairview.
Number of candidates; 1; passed, 0.
Mount Pleasant.
Number of candidates, 12; passed, 6.
Dorothy Stafford 744
H. Norman Lister 716
Lida Davidson 587
Robert Burns 585
Jeannie Martin 563
Katie Sutherland 553
Strathcona.
Number of candidates, 19; passed, 7.
Amy M. McRae 681
Nellie W. Brown 614
Minnie Walden 611
Martha Vicars 588
William Stuart 582
Albert Duclos 566
Reuben Greenwood 551
RURAL AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.
Bowen Island.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 1.
Bessie Galbraith 618
Moodyville.
Number of candidate, 1; passed, 0.
Queen's School (Private.)
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
Private Study.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
VERNON CENTRE.
Vernon.
Number of candidates, 7; passed, 5.
Dorothea C. Bell 647
George H. Wood 639
Allan Round 623
Joseph A. McKinnon 594
Kathleen Black 584
Armstrong.
Number of candidates, 3; passed, 1.
Rosa K. Fletcher 597
Okanagan Landing.
Number of candidates, 2; passed, 0.
Spallumcheen.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
VICTORIA CENTRE.
Total number of candidates, 66; passed, 47.
Boys' Central.
Number of candidates, 8; passed, 6.
John Y. Johnston 649
Clifford O'Brien 642
Alfred N. Gowen 623
Donald A. McInnes 605
Robert Harrison 570
Frederick Cole 558
Girls' Central.
Number of candidates, 20; passed, 15.
Alice Lambert 694
Marguerite Dennam 692
Bessie M. Coates 684
Edith C. Devoe 665
Cecile Couves 663
Phoebe McKenzie 660
Marion J. Moss 658
Amy Acton 656
Sibyl K. B. Allen 644
Mary F. Loscombe 620
Edith R. Woodill 613
Emily H. Milne 603
Florence Field 592
Nancy Harrison 583
Lily V. Simms 576
North Ward.
Number of candidates, 18; passed, 13.
Clara Van Sant 901
Margaret C. Going 797
Ernest D. Sprague 738
Thelma Thompson 702
Eleanor McCandless 657
P. Archibald Babington 641
Maggie Frank 641
Annie Dempsey 638
Edward Sears 636
Lesley McDonald 620
Robert Clark 620
Frank Clark 618
Everett Taylor 595
South Park.
Number of candidates, 20; passed, 13.
Maud G. Sullivan 727
John S. Flett 662
Constance E. Fisher 655
Ethel M. Abery 651
Archibald A. Boyd 621
Winnifred Greig 614
Tillman A. Briggs 609
Florence G. Spencer 599
Ralph C. Bamford 597
James Petticrew 594
Catherine A. Munsie 569
Robert T. Mckay 568
Dorothy O. McTavish 566
RURAL AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.
Cadboro.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 1.
Marion E. Blankenbach 550
Cedar Hill.
Number of candidates, 2; passed, 1.
Margaret B. Laing 562
Esquimalt.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
Goldstream.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
North Saanich.
Number of candidates; 1; passed, 0.
Vesuvius.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 1.
Arthur E. Walter 681
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.
Private School.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 1.
Harold F. H. Eberts 553
Private Study.
Number of candidates, 1; passed, 0.

NOTES FROM LADYSMITH.

Frank Melbourne's Funeral Takes Place at Wellington—A Masquerade Ball.

Ladysmith, Dec. 28.—The funeral of Mr. Frank Melbourne, who died Wednesday last, took place at Wellington on Saturday. Deceased, who was 78 years of age, was a native of Cumberland, England. He leaves two sons and four daughters.

A masquerade ball was given in Gould's hall Christmas eve. The dance was well attended and greatly enjoyed.

Damon lodge, No. 8, K. of P., held a meeting last week to elect officers for the ensuing term.

The Rebecca intend giving a social dance in Oddfellows' hall on New Year's night. An enjoyable time is anticipated.

The Ladysmith Liberal Association, at a meeting held last week, passed a resolution endorsing Ralph Smith as Liberal candidate for the House of Commons.

The Masons of this town gave a most enjoyable social on Saturday evening. There was a splendid musical programme and a good supper was served at the Abbotsford hotel.

Geo. Hannay has challenged Arthur Fountain to a twenty-round glove contest for good stakes and the gate receipts.

LET OTHERS EXPERIMENT.

There is always some thing new in the way of medical treatment and you are constantly invited to try newfangled, unproven remedies. Let others experiment and so risk health and lose time. Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills have been tried in the crucible of time, won the approval of public opinion and demonstrated their right to a place in every home as a family medicine.

COLLIER LONG OVERDUE.

French Naval Vessel About Given Up as Lost With All Hands.

(Paris, Dec. 29.—It is feared that the collier Vienne, of the French navy, manned by 51 officers and men, which left Rochefort for Toulon, has been lost. The vessel is 19 days out, and though in the track of steamers, has not been reported.

Austrian Emperor Takes A Fall

Spurs Catch in Carpet and Aged Monarch Gets Shaking Up.

Medical Attendants Report Result Trifling But Levee Postponed.

Vienna, Dec. 29.—Reports which reached Vienna today of an accident to Emperor Francis Joseph created much alarm. It appears that during the Emperor's customary Christmas visit to his daughter, the Archduchess Maria Valeria, at Wallse, he was ascending a stairway when his spurs became entangled in the carpet. He fell forward but arose immediately without assistance.

The Emperor has returned to Vienna, and his doctors say that the injuries sustained by the accident are quite unimportant, some muscles of the back being slightly strained and the forehead being bruised. The doctors recommend that he rest for a few days, but they consider no further medical attendance necessary. It has been announced that the audiences fixed for New Year's Eve may be postponed.

BRYAN RETURNING.

London, Dec. 29.—W. J. Bryan has returned to England from The Hague. He sails for New York December 30 on the Celtic from Liverpool.

Mr. Bryan said tonight that he had found his European trip extremely interesting and instructive. Asked as to whether his study of the financial conditions abroad had resulted in any change in his views on the silver question, he replied: "Not the slightest." Mr. Bryan said he regretted that lack of time had prevented him from making a more extensive investigation of the social and industrial conditions of the countries through which he had passed.

THE GLOW OF HEALTH.

When the blood is rich and pure there is a healthful glow to the complexion which speaks of the vigor and vitality of the system. There is no more certain way for pale, weak people to attain the glow of health than by the persistent use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

AWFUL HOLOCAUST IN A CHICAGO THEATRE

Over Six Hundred Lives Snuffed Out in Ten Minutes by Fire Smoke and Frightful Rush of Panic Stricken People

The Iroquois, the City's Newest, Largest and, as Far as Human Power Could Make It, the Safest, Burns With a Roar

Chicago, Dec. 30.—Three hundred people were killed in ten minutes this afternoon during a fire in the Iroquois theatre, the newest, the largest and as far as human power could make it, the safest theatre in Chicago. A few of those people were burned to death by fire, many were suffocated by gas and scores were trampled to death in the panic that followed the mad plunge of the frightened audience for the exits.

It will be many hours before the number of dead is accurately known and many days before all of them will be identified. There are bodies lying by dozens in the undertaking rooms tonight, in the police stations and in the hospitals, from which nearly everything that could reveal their identity had been burned or torn.

The accounts of the origin of the fire are conflicting, but the best reason given is that an electric wire on the tower part of a piece of drop scenery suddenly broke and was grounded. The fire spread rapidly toward the front of the stage, causing the members of the chorus, who were then engaged in the performance, to flee to the wings with screams of terror. The fire in itself up to that time was not serious, and possibly could have been checked had not the asbestos curtain failed to work. As soon as the fire was discovered Eddie Foy, the chief comedian of the company, shouted to lower the curtain, and this was immediately done. That dropped half way and then stuck. The fire thus was given practically a flue through which a strong draught was setting aided by the doors, which had been thrown open in the front of the theatre. With a roar and a bound the flames set through the opening over the heads of the people on the first floor, and, reaching clear up to those in the first balcony, caught them and burned them to death where they sat. Immediately following this rush of flames there came an explosion, which lifted the entire roof of the theatre from its walls, shattering the great skylight into fragments. As soon as the flames appeared beyond the curtain, a man in the rear of the hall shouted, "Fire! Fire!" and the entire audience rose as one person and made for the doors.

GAS EXPLOSION.

It is believed that the explosion was caused by the flames coming in contact with the gas reservoirs of the theatre, causing them to burst.

Will J. Davis, manager of the theatre, said after the catastrophe that if the people had remained in their seats and had not been excited by the cry of fire not a single life would have been lost.

This, however, is contradicted by the statements of firemen, who found numbers of people seated in their seats facing toward the stage, as if the performance was still going on, and it is the opinion of the firemen that these persons had been suffocated at once by the flow of gas which came from behind the asbestos curtain.

As near as can be estimated at the present time, about 1,300 people were in the theatre. Three hundred of these were on the first floor, and the remainder being in the balconies and in the hallways back of them. The theatre is modelled after the Opera Comique in Paris, and from the rear of each balcony there are three doors leading out to passage ways toward the front of the theatre; two of these doorways are at the end of the balcony and one in the centre. The audience, in its rush for the outer air, seems to have chosen, for the greater part, to flee to the left entrance and to attempt to make its way down the eastern stairway leading into the lobby of the theatre.

Outside of the people burned and suffocated by gas, it was in those two doorways on the first and second balconies that the greatest loss of life occurred. When the firemen entered the building the dead were found stretched in a pile reaching from the head of the stairway at least eight feet from the door, back to a point about five feet in the rear of the door. This mass of dead bodies in the centre of the doorway reached to within two feet of the top of the passageway. All of the corpses at this point were women and children. The fight for life which must have taken place at these two points, is something that is simply beyond human power to adequately describe. Only a faint idea of its horror could be derived from the aspect of the bodies. There lay women on the top of these masses of dead who had been overtaken by death as they were crawling on their hands and knees over the bodies of those who had died before. Others, with arms stretched out in the direction toward which lay life and safety, holding in their hands fragments of garments which they had not thrown away. They were evidently torn from the clothing of others whom they had endeavored to pull down and trample under foot as they fought for their lives.

HORRORS AT EXITS.

As the police removed layer after layer of dead in those doorways, the sight became too much even for the police and firemen, hardened as they are to such sights, to endure. The bodies were in such an inextricable mass and so tightly jammed between the sides of the door and walls that it was impossible to lift them one by one and carry them out. The only possible thing to do was to seize a limb or some other portion of the body and pull with main strength. Men worked at the task with tears running down their cheeks, and the sobs of the rescuers could be heard even in the hall, below where the awful scene was being enacted. A number of the men were compelled to abandon their tasks and give it over to others whose nerves had not as yet been shaken by the awful experience.

As one by one the bodies were dragged out of the water-soaked, blackened mass of corpses, the spectacle became more and more heartrending; there were women whose clothing was completely torn from their bodies above the waist, whose bosoms had been trampled into a pulp and whose faces were marred beyond all hope of identification.

In the first and second balconies the bodies were piled up in the aisles three and four deep, where one had fallen and others tripped over the prostrate forms. All had died where they lay, evidently suffocated by gas. Others were bent over the backs of seats where they had been thrown by the rush of people for the doors, and killed with hardly a chance to rise from their seats. One man was found with his back bent nearly double, his spinal column had been fractured as he was thrown backwards. A woman was found cut nearly in half by the back of the seat, she having been forced over it.

TRAMPLED TO PULP.

In the aisles nearest to the doors the scenes were harrowing in the extreme. Bodies lay in every conceivable attitude, half naked, the look on their faces revealing some portion of the agony which must have preceded their death. There were scores of people whose entire faces had been trampled completely off by the heels of those who rushed over them, and in one aisle the body of a man was found with not a vestige of clothing, flesh or bone remaining above his waist line. The entire upper portion of his body had been cut in two and carried away by the feet of those who had trampled on him. A search was made with the hope of finding his head, but at a late hour it had not been discovered, and all that will ever tell his friends who he was is the color and appearance of the clothing on the lower limbs, and this is in such a condition to be hardly recognizable.

The theatre had been constructed but a short time, and its equipment was not all yet in place. This included, unfortunately, a fire escape in the rear of the building. The small iron balconies to which the iron ladder was to be attached were up, but the ladder had not yet been constructed. When the panic was at its height a great number of women ran for the fire escapes only to find as they emerged from the doorway upon the little platform that they were thirty to forty feet from the ground, a fire behind and no method of escape in front. Those who reached the platform first endeavored to hold the flooring and to keep the crowd that pressed upon them from the rear. The effort was utterly useless, and in a few moments the iron ledges were jammed with crowds of women who screamed, fought and tore at each other like maniacs. This lasted but a brief interval and the rush from the interior of the building became so violent that many of them were crowded off and fell to the granite pavement below. Others leaped from the platform, fracturing legs and arms, and two were picked up at this point with fractured skulls, having been killed instantly.

FIGHT LIKE MANIACS.

George H. Elliott, secretary of the Ogden Gas Company, was in a building directly across the alley from the scene, and noticing smoke went to ascertain the cause. When he reached the scene women were already dropping into the alley and Mr. Elliott immediately rushed for a ladder in the effort to save as many as possible. No ladder was available and the only method of assistance they were able to devise was to hurriedly throw some planks together and throw them across to the frightened women on the platforms, with instructions to place the end firmly on the woodwork. Before this could be done a fearful loss of life ensued and the women were being pushed every instant to the alley, and by the time the bridge was constructed few persons remained to take advantage of it. However about two dozen are believed to have made their way across this narrow causeway.

The members of the theatrical company, being on the first floor, had comparatively little difficulty in reaching the street, although their situation was for a moment highly critical because of the speed with which the flames swept through the mass of scenery in the flies and on the stage.

EDDIE FOY'S ACCOUNT.

Eddie Foy, principal comedian in the play, was one of the last to escape by getting out through a rear door after assisting the women members of the company to safety. He went into the Sherman House in his stage costume and with his face covered with grease paint in order to secure surgical attendance for some burns he had received. In describing the commencement of the fire Foy attributed the cause of the catastrophe to the failure of the fireproof curtain to work properly. Because of this, he said, the flames readily obtained access to the main part of the theatre, and the draught, carrying with it gas as well as fire, swept up the two balconies, where the loss of life was greatest.

"The fire began in the middle of the second act," said Mr. Foy. "An electric wire broke, which grounded, and from this the flames were started in the rear of the stage. The stage is unusually wide and there was so great a draught that the flames spread rapidly. They soon attacked all the scenery in the rear of the house. I never believed it possible for fire to spread so quickly. When it started I went to the footlights, and, to prevent alarming the audience, said that there was a slight blaze and that it would be better for all to leave quietly. Then I stepped back and called for the asbestos curtain to be lowered. This curtain went about half way down and refused to go further and thus an additional draught was created. This swept the flames out into the audience and I knew the theatre was doomed. I hurried back to the stage and aided in getting the women members of the company into the alley. Some of them were in their dressing rooms and were almost overcome by smoke when they got down to the stage door. The simple fact that the curtain did not descend entirely was what saved half the lives of the company, although it caused the horrible catastrophe in the front of the house. After the curtain had refused to descend, there came the explosion of the gas tanks and with the curtain down all the fire and gas would have been confined between the rear wall of the theatre and the fireproof curtain in front. Under these circumstances it would not have been possible for a single member of the company to escape alive unless he had been standing immediately in front of the door leading into the alley. As it was, the draught carried all the gas and fire out beneath the curtain, and the company was saved, although their salvation was the death of so many poor people in front."

Rarely in the history of Chicago has its people been so stirred as by the calamity of today. It is, next to the Chicago fire, the greatest catastrophe that has ever occurred here, and the speed with which it came and went, seemed for a brief period to appall the business section of the city. The news spread with great rapidity, and in a short time hundreds of men, women and children were rushing towards the theatre. The building in which the calamity occurred stands midway between State and Dearborn streets, on the north side of Randolph street.

Although every available policeman within call of the department was immediately hurried to the spot and men placed in lines from the ends of the block, allowing nobody to enter Randolph street from either Dearborn or State, it was found for a time, almost impossible to hold back the frenzied mob that crowded forward, many of them having a friend or relatives in the theatre and being anxious to learn something of them. The conduct of the police was beyond all praise. The officers held their ground firmly, and gently pushed back all who sought to gain an entrance to the theatre, although in instances frantic people anxious to look for their loved ones, actually beat the officers with their fists in their rage at being prevented. In spite of the efforts of the police, however, a large number of people succeeded in breaking through the lines and entering.

DEAD AND INJURED.

The following is a partial list of the dead and injured in the fire:

Killed—Mrs. F. A. Merrill, Mrs. A. Sullivan, wife of Alderman Minwagen, Miss Edith Horton, Mrs. Hartsaugh, Irene Lang, Hortense Lang, E. A. Wilson Mrs. W. T. Marshall, Mrs. Donnelly, three men employed in the fly on the stage, Abbier Raymer, daughter of Alderman Raymer.

Missing—Miss Mary Piamondon and guests attending her theatre party; Miss Minnie Overlock, from Virginia, guest of Mr. A. L. Thomas; Remington Thomas, twelve children ranging in age from 12 to 19 years, the guests of J. C. Sanborn, 634 Walnut street. Seventy-five unidentified bodies are at Rothson's morgue.

According to Stage Manager Carlson, all the theatrical people are accounted for, though some were slightly burned. Among the burned are Polly Whitner, queen of the fairies, and Dottie Marlow, of the ballet.

Mr. Sanborn had engaged two boxes, and the children were the guests of his son, Harold, and daughter, Eugenia, who are also missing.

Injured—Frank Radtk, 1917 Artisan avenue, seriously burned; Mrs. Helen Pilash, 34 Humbert avenue; Mrs. A. Bressen; Felix and Jesse Guerriere and two children; Mrs. Emma Lang, 584 Fifty-fourth street. Mrs. Lang lost her two daughters, Hortense aged 16, and Irene, 11, who are believed to be among the dead. Herman Deil, 266 Division street, both hands burned off; Mrs. Wigall, 4446 Oakenwald avenue, seriously burned; Wm. McLaughlin, a nephew of Dr. Frank Gunsaulus; Mrs. Malian, Dunning, Ill.; Mrs. C. Kramse, Racine, Wis., badly burned and will die; Winnifred Lindsay, 17 years of age, face and arms burned; Anna Tubbs, daughter of Mr. Tubbs, superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph Company, hands and face burned; Emma Tubbs, mother of Anna Tubbs, condition serious; Emma Kingsley, 2552 North Paulina street, will probably die from burns; Fred. Kingsley, her son, burned on face and hands; Warren F. Morgan, 1496 Webster avenue, burned while rescuing his three-year-old son; Miss Marie Morgan, Detroit, severely burned, may die; M. A. Merriam, of the Geo. A. Fuller Company, seriously injured while rescuing his daughter; Lester Doty seven-year-old son of L. G. Doty of the Illinois Steel Company; Verdie Black, badly burned; Mrs. Henry Miller, Dutcmgson, Mich.

The following are added to the missing—Miss Gladys Streiton, Alpena, Mich; Louise Bushnell, 801 Wellington avenue; Frank Dooley, son of Justice Dooley; Joe Kingsley.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—The coroner has been notified that there are 422 bodies at the different morgues and hospitals. All have not been heard from yet as a number of bodies were taken to the undertakers in different parts of the city.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—9:30 p. m.—It is declared by the police that 637 bodies have been taken from the ruins.

THIRTEEN FAMILIES HOMELESS

New York, Dec. 30.—Thirteen families were rendered homeless by fire today in North Berne. Four persons were injured. Nine houses were burned and five others partially destroyed.

Japan Will Not Yield To Russia

Compromise Cannot Be Effected on Basis of Manchurian Stipulations.

Japanese Will Insist or Demand That Integrity of China Be Preserved.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

Japan wil lnot compromise with Russia on the basis of Russian supremacy in Manchuria and Japanese control in Korea. The Japanese are insistent upon their demand that the integrity of China shall be preserved, as well as that Korea shall remain an independent kingdom. In these demands the people of the Island Kingdom believe they have at least the moral support of the other nations interested in the trade of the Far East.

Against all influence of the vernacular press and the people of Japan, the government is still maintaining its conservative position, and Japanese passengers on the Shinano Maru believe the Japanese government will not be swerved from its course. If war comes, it is insisted, it will be the outcome of a prolonged endeavor to secure the concessions that Japan believes should be granted to Russia.

"China is the nation with which Japan must do business," said Hajime Ota, commissioner from Japan to the Louisiana Purchase exposition, as he discussed Japanese affairs on his arrival. "The trade of that country is rich even now, and Japan enjoys a position that gives her control of a large portion of this commerce. As China develops and her people grow through contact with the outer world, the trade of China will become more profitable, and Japan cannot afford to see Russia take this rich territory without a protest.

"Though I am connected with the Japanese government through the fair commission, I am not in close touch with the department of state, and my opinions of the probability of war are those of a private citizen of Japan. The great mass of the people, as well as nearly all of the Japanese newspapers, are insisting upon war. All the pressure that can be wielded from this source is being exerted upon the government to compel a declaration of war.

"I do not believe the government will be swerved from its position. To the last the public officials will be conservative and safe. They will not sacrifice any of Japan's interests, but they will not permit Japan to be plunged into a war if that can be possibly avoided.

"Japan will never yield on any of the demands that have been made upon Russia. That country promised to evacuate Manchuria last October, but has done nothing to indicate she intends to keep her pledge. Japan, however, must insist that China shall be preserved intact. We cannot afford to permit Russia to encroach first upon Manchuria and then upon the entire empire. Japan will not yield any of her demands with regard to China for concessions in Korea. Russian influence must be taken away from the Chinese court and the country allowed to exercise a free voice. Korea has been an independent kingdom and must so remain.

"I believe the other nations sympathize with Japan in this controversy. They are as deeply interested in the outcome as Japan, for no other country can permit Russia to become permanently settled in China.

"Diplomats representing the other countries are too shrewd to take any active part in the controversy against Russia. They have given the moral support of a joint request that the convention relating to Manchuria shall be recognized, but I believe this is all they will do at present. It is a serious question whether they would aid Japan in a struggle with Russia. They might be more inclined to sit by and prepare to reap the benefits of a war.

"Everyone recognizes that a war is costly and something to be avoided, if possible. Even a victory cannot compensate for some of the losses that would have to be sustained. That is one reason why the conservative government of Japan is endeavoring to settle the Manchurian controversy by diplomacy rather than war.

"I do not know what the outcome may be. No one can predict that. Tension is severe, and there are some indication of trouble. But I do not believe there is an immediate prospect of war. Russia and not Japan, however, must yield."

SLEEPLESSNESS

You can't sleep on the calmest and stillest night, if your stomach is weak, circulation poor, and digestion bad.

Hood's Sarsaparilla strengthens the stomach, improves the circulation, perfects digestion, and brings about that condition in which sleep is regular and refreshing.

It does no do this in a day, but it does it—has done it in thousands of cases.

NEWFOUNDLAND RAILWAY.

Montreal, Dec. 28.—A rumor is going the rounds that Cornelius Shields, president of the Consolidated Lake Superior Company, will sever his connection with that company and join the management of the Newfoundland railway with Messrs. Reid. Mr. Shields visited Newfoundland recently.

Freight Rates Are Advanced

Cost of Transportation Will Be Increased By Seventeen and Half Per Cent.

All Pacific Coast Freight Is Affected By New Ruling of Railroads.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

Transcontinental freight rates will be subjected to a general advance (in so far as the commodity tariff is concerned) on January 18 next.

All the transcontinental roads have agreed to the advance, and Eastern connections have given their assent.

As a result of this agreement between the various roads, shippers will find that the increased rates will apply to nearly every shipment made from the east to the Pacific Coast. The average of the advance amounts to 17 1-2 per cent.

Announcement of the new tariff was made at Vancouver by Mr. B. W. Greer, general freight agent of the Pacific division of the Canadian Pacific railway. Roads touching this territory which have agreed to the advance are the Canadian Pacific, Great Northern and Northern Pacific. The Union Pacific, Sante Fe and Burlington are also announcing the increase. The advance in commodity rates was decided upon at a general meeting of traffic agents held in Chicago about a month ago.

"The railroads were forced to advance their commodity rates on account of the general increase in the cost of operation of all lines," said Mr. Greer in discussing the matter. "For years the wages of railroad employees all over the country have been steadily mounting; the cost of iron and steel has advanced enormously during the past few years, and lumber used in railroad construction has also gone up in cost. In the face of this general increase in expenditure on the part of the railroads, freight rates have been steadily declining. Rates in many cases have depreciated to such a point that on the long transcontinental haul the roads have been handling freight at a dead loss. I do not believe, however, that the consumer has been a beneficiary from this liberality on the part of the transportation lines, as the cost of living has not decreased coincidentally with the dropping of railroad tariffs.

"Now that the railroads have decided to advance the commodity rates, merchants may find it incumbent upon them to slightly increase the cost of their goods, but to the individual consumer the burden will hardly be noticeable. Finding that it was impossible to continue transporting freight at the old rates, the tariffs were carefully revised at a meeting of freight traffic officials held in Chicago, and the new tariff represents the lowest rates the roads can possibly afford to give under the changed conditions of the wage and other markets which now confront them. Nearly all the freight shipped from the East to this Coast is classed under commodity rates. Little tonnage comes within the scope of the class rates. Practically all freight shipped to the Coast will come under the application of the new tariff, which takes effect on January 18 next."

As an instance of the application of the new tariff, it may be mentioned that the rates on all ship chandlery supplies, with the exception of marline and oakum, are increased 10 per cent. On clothing in less than carload lots the rate will advance from $2.60 to $3, and on canned corn, peas and beans the 75-cent rate will be replaced by one of 95 cents, which will only apply to carload shipments. Machinery in carload lots advances from $1.25 to $1.45. The recent ruling which abolished the differential between carload and less than carload lots on liquor shipments will cease to be effective after January 18 next, and in its place will come a tariff which restores the differential, but which also increases generally the rates on the transportation of liquors.

Following the announcement of the advance in commodity rates comes the statement from the railroads that transportation privileges heretofore accorded to the agents of shippers of poultry and livestock are to be curtailed. It has been the practice to permit shippers of poultry and livestock in carload lots to send a man in the car free of charge, and return transportation has been provided for this man gratis. Hereafter the man who travels with a carload of poultry or livestock will have to pay his way, and he will also have to buy a ticket home or walk.

Fire Department Wants More Pay

Last Evening's City Council Meeting the Last For Year 1903.

Only Routine Business Transacted--Petition From Firemen Referred.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

Last evening's meeting of the city council was devoted solely to routine matter. There were present His Worship Mayor McCandless and all the aldermen.

The chief item of business was the petition of the men of the fire department for increase in salaries, which was referred to the incoming council for its most favorable consideration.

Communications were read from Hon. Mr. Justice Martin, asking for electric lights on St. Charles street, between Cadboro Bay road and the turn, also asking for repairs to the street. Referred to the electric light committee and the city engineer.

From E. H. Fletcher, postoffice inspector, asking for permission to attach postoffice boxes on electric light poles. Permit granted, subject to the approval of the city engineer and ordered that the permit be drawn out by the city solicitor, he to reserve certain rights to remove poles when necessary.

From the water commissioner re gum boots for water works employees. Resolved that one pair per year be allowed, said boots to be the property of the city.

From the building inspector re cabin on Fort street, advising that it be torn down. The usual procedure to be adopted and the owner notified to meet the council.

From the men of the fire department petitioning for increase in remuneration as follows:

To His Worship the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen.

Gentlemen: We, the undersigned call officers and members of the Victoria fire department, do hereby humbly petition your honorable body that you may take into your favorable consideration the matter of granting our request for an increase in salaries. We beg to submit the following reasons for making the above request:

(1) Some years ago, when the work in connection with the department was less, a higher rate of pay was allow