

TALK

THE Victorian Order of Nurses held its ninth annual meeting at Ottawa last week. Four districts have been closed, Fort Francis and Buckingham because of new hospitals there, and Red Deer and Bracebridge for other reasons. New districts have been opened at Fort William and London and a nurse has been sent to assist Dr. Grenfell in Labrador. New Liskeard, Ont., and High River, Alta., received special nurses during epidemics last year. There is a total of 104 nurses now working, being an increase of eighteen for the year. The work in general shows great progress, several new hospitals and additions having been erected.

Senator Davis has brought up the question of Western telegraphic rates. A message from Ottawa to Halifax, 949 miles costs thirty cents, while a message from Ottawa to Fort William, 800 miles, costs seventy-five cents. This was an example. The Senator from Prince Albert also touched upon the high press rates and declared that the newspapers of the West were deprived of eastern news. Long distance telephone rates were also much higher than in the East. The Railway commission is expected to deal with the matter.

A convention of Bi-Lingual school teachers was held in Ottawa last week, teachers from Quebec and Ontario attending. Mr. Bourassa, M.P. for Labelle, gave an address on "The Preservation of French by Teaching and National Unity." He advocated a thorough education for French-Canadians and a preserving of the highest standards of the French language.

It is believed that as much coal-bearing land remains still under Government control in Alberta, Saskatchewan and in the Peace River District as has been already alienated. It is proposed that hereafter a twenty-one year lease be granted to private individuals wishing to get control of coal-bearing lands and that an annual rental be charged therefor by the Government. This rental will probably be one dollar per acre and the lease will have to be taken out for a minimum area. This minimum area will, it is said, be about 2,500 acres, so that annual rental cannot be less than \$2,500. This will insure prompt development and meet the obligations as to speculators holding coal lands for raise in price without doing anything to develop them. It will also pave the way for future Government ownership and operation of coal mines if it should be deemed advisable.

On account of the cancellation of the contract with the North Atlantic Trading Company, the interior department has made a new arrangement for obtaining high class immigrants from continental countries. An order-in-council has been passed under which bonuses will be paid to European booking agents for farmers,

farm labourers, gardeners, stablemen, carters, railway labourers, navvies, miners and female domestics who are sent out as immigrants.

It has been decided to pay a bonus of \$2.50 for adults and \$1.25 each for children.

In Prince Edward Island schools there were 18,986 pupils enrolled last year. This is the smallest number since 1877.

Two United States postal officials have been at Ottawa negotiating a new arrangement for second-class matter—newspapers and periodicals. Some time ago the Canadian authorities gave notice that the existing arrangement made in 1875 was unsatisfactory. The chief complaint is that the United States is sending ten tons of this class of mail into Canada for every ton returned and that the present free exchange is one-sided in its benefits.

Saskatchewan is creating its own University and a bill is now going through the Legislature giving it incorporation and providing for its maintenance.

New Brunswick has an exhibit at the Sportsmen's Show now being held at Madison Square Garden, New York. The game exhibits are full bodies of the animals, not heads only.

Senator Charles E. Casgrain, died at Windsor, Ont., last week, at the age of eighty-two. He was born in Quebec in 1825. He has lived in Essex County for many years; the French-Canadians in that district are numerous.

Tillsonburg gave a banquet last month to Mr. J. M. Clark, the newly-appointed Ontario Immigration Agent in the Old Country. As Mr. Clark has been closely connected with both the agricultural and the trade interests of Oxford County for many years, he ought to know just the kind of immigrant for which the Province of Ontario is yearning.

Mr. George R. Smith, member for Megantic in the Quebec Legislature, delivered an important speech in that assembly last week on the needs of Protestant elementary education in the rural districts, in which he declared that, according to the last report of the department, fully 200 of the 800 rural district schools are taught by uncertified teachers.

The officers of the 14th Regiment, P. W. O. Rifles, Kingston, Ontario, are proud over a gift just received from Her Royal Highness, the Princess of Wales, whose title the 14th Regiment bears. The gift is a large and beautiful autograph photograph of Her Royal Highness who was much interested on her visit to Kingston with the Prince several years ago when she learned of the name borne by the Kingston Rifles.

The latest news from Cobalt states that a vein was found at forty-five feet which yields a tracing of gold at twenty dollars to the ton. This was on the Gordon Cobalt property which is situated a little south of Clear

Lake. No wonder that a New Yorker asked Mr. A. S. Vogt if Toronto is not a place where you change cars for Cobalt.

Chatham may be added to the list of Ontario towns which are agitated over the subject of gas. It is stated that the citizens of Chatham have a substantial grievance against their representatives in the Council for what they regard as a complete surrender of the corporation to the Gas Company.

The Ontario Department of Agriculture, the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, various local and district associations, and the Farmers' Institutes are at the present time co-operating in a very vigorous campaign for the furtherance of the fruit-growing industry. One phase is an agreement for a series of meetings to promote the organisation of co-operative fruit-growers' association.



Col. R. R. McLellan.

The Man from Glengarry

THE death of Col. R. R. McLellan, ex-M.P., on March 8th, removed a public-spirited citizen whose personality was of unusual interest and magnetism. Col. McLellan's grandfather came from Rossshire, Scotland and fought in the War of 1812, while his father was a veteran of '37. His own title was earned as commanding officer of the 59th Battalion. He was to the military manner born and exceedingly popular as an officer.

He was one of the most famous of the Glengarry contractors, his last work being on the north shore of Lake Superior on the C. P. R. He was a director of various railway companies, honorary president of the Farmers' Bank of Canada, a director of the Manufacturers' Life Insurance Co. and of the Toronto General Trusts Corporation. He was also a governor of the Cornwall General Hospital which, with Queen's University of Kingston, shared in his most generous benefactions. The McLellan Scholarship at Queen's for Glengarry students proved his loyalty to his own county. Brave, clear-headed and warm-hearted, Colonel "Rory" McLellan will be long missed and remembered.