

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

A Supplementary Petition Asking That the Position of Fire Chief Be Elective.

Water Commissioners' Recommendations to Expropriate a Strip Round Beaver Lake Adopted.

A communication from the Provincial Secretary was read at the city council meeting on Monday night asking for a refund of \$138 for the transport of eight old men, formerly residents of the city, to the Old Men's Home at Kamloops.

ALD. CAMERON did not think the city liable. He moved that the communication be referred to the Home committee to report, and this course was adopted. Senator Macdonald wrote that, as the city was varying the original agreement with him in regard to the water-pipe supplying his house, that the city should not be held out to lay the pipe.

On motion of Ald. Humphrey, seconded by Ald. Hall, the matter was referred to the Water Commissioner to investigate, with power to make the refund. The Craigflower road trouble was brought to the front by a letter from Rev. Mr. Ellison. He wrote: "I have been patiently waiting for the passing of the by-law enacted two years ago to enable me to close in my two lots on the top of the old Craigflower trail. The by-law only awaited publishing in the Gazette (so I was informed) till the grading of Langford street. Langford street has been perfectly graded for some months and the by-law is yet unpublished. I would respectfully yet urgently solicit your speedy consent thereto for the following reasons: The unsafe condition of my stables to which owing to the replacement of the footpath on my lots, I cannot even put a stay, and the unsanitary conditions of my drains which are well attested to as being a public nuisance. My last tenants complained bitterly of the drains and consequent ill-health, and I much fear the scarlet fever, which has developed amongst them, may be attributed to these predisposing causes. My new tenants have a large family of young children, and it is on their behalf I would ask the city fathers to be truly such an authorize me to make such necessary arrangements as may ensure their safety."

The letter was filed and Mr. Ellison will be informed that his request cannot be complied with. It was decided to reduce the period for holding back the 50 per cent. of Hale & Bell's contract for pavement opposite the Occidental hotel, from six to three months.

The Water Commissioner recommended the building of four small dams to conserve the extra three feet of water gained by the construction of the new filter beds. On the west side of the lake were several low spots where the dams would have to be built to prevent the water running away and flooding the neighboring farms. Should the dams not be built a temporary overflow at a cost of \$200 would be necessary to direct the water down the Colquitz. The new works provide an overflow, but inside present cofferdams. Sooner or later the water would have to be raised to a higher level or a great part of the usefulness of the new system would be lost. A survey was made in September laying out the three feet rise, and an allowance of a chain back from that to 55 acres. The survey strongly recommended the expropriation of this land.

Ald. Bragg believed that it was advisable to go ahead and preserve the water in the lake. It was necessary to have a small strip of land round the lake so that it could be fenced in and the margin of the lake kept clean. He moved that the Water Commissioner be authorized to proceed.

ALD. MACMILLAN seconded this after obtaining the mover's permission to add that the work be done under a foreman who should have full power to discharge and hire men.

ALD. WILSON said he would oppose the purchase of any more land at present. If there was any more land to be bought let it be left to the coming council. It was not the labor at the lake he opposed, but he did not believe in spending \$7,000 for land. He thought, too, that there was an error made either by the engineer or the contractor in the position of the "intakes" and it would be better not to raise the water until that was ascertained.

Ald. Bragg in reply said that a charge like that Ald. Williams was making against the engineer should be made in the proper manner and not in an underhand way.

The motion as amended by Ald. Macmillan was carried, Ald. Williams opposing it. The Maternity Home asked for assistance for the pupils who were its inmates, and a reply will be sent that a donation has already been granted.

A petition of A. Parfitt and 94 others asked that a by-law be passed making the office of chief of the fire department elective.

ALD. McLELLAN moved that the prayer be granted. ALD. CAMERON questioned whether the city had the power to draw up such a by-law.

ALD. BRAGG asked that as Ald. Wilson was obliged, through illness, to leave the meeting, and as Ald. Partridge, the other fire warden, was absent, the matter be laid over until next meeting. This was done. On an item in the finance committee's report for a trip of the steamer Alert to Darcy island, Ald. Macmillan moved that the health officer be asked to explain why he had not used the Sadie, with which the city had an arrangement for such trips. This was carried.

Want of funds was the reason given by the street committee for their report for refusing a number of sidewalks and street improvements.

With a view of having the annual report of the city placed in the hands of the electors as early as possible, Ald. Williams moved that the chairmen of committees and heads of departments be asked to get their reports in shape to hand to the printers by the 31st inst. He was well aware that parts of the manuscript could not be completed until January 6 or 7, but by January 2, 38 pages of the report would be ready for

the printer, and by placing this in the printer's hands the whole report would be published three or four days before the civic elections.

Some of the aldermen thought the reports could hardly be got ready by December 31 and Ald. Williams motion was voted down, he and Ald. Bragg only being in favor of it.

The milk by-law was reconsidered and finally passed and the council adjourned.

THE "ISLANDER" AFLOAT.

Yesterday's Effort to Release the Steamship Proved Successful—Pilot Foster's Statement.

Just three hours after she was reported afloat yesterday afternoon, the splendid steamship Islander steamed into port, unassisted, and bearing no visible marks of her two-day experience with the rocks at Portlock point. The ship struck at 5.30 o'clock on Sunday morning, and was held hard and fast until about noon yesterday, when with the assistance of the Princess Louise, which was on her way down from the Fraser, and the Rainbow, which was by her side since Monday morning, she was pulled off the rocks. This news was heralded almost before the arrival of the Louise, for a telegram which the C.P.N. Co. received earlier in the day announced that the holes in the vessel's bottom had been patched up, indicating her almost certain release. Once off the rocks it was not long before everything was in readiness for the steamer to proceed to Victoria. Pilot Foster, who was in charge of the Islander at the time of her accident and who remained by her throughout the difficulty, said last evening that when he and Mr. Clarke, the company's carpenter, were left alone on Monday night they began to place planks over the holes. When the tide was low they cemented these planks all over, making them perfectly tight. After this they transferred the water in the fore hold into the main hold by means of the steamer's own pumps and at a quarter to eleven o'clock they were in readiness to float the steamer, the Islander pulling with powerful steam winches on two big six-inch hawsers and the Rainbow rendering auxiliary power. At this time the Princess Louise came along, and half an hour from the time the effort was begun the steamer was afloat.

Regarding the cause of the Islander's mishap, Pilot Foster says: "Had Quartermaster Studdart steered the course he had given him the accident would not have happened. When the steamer rounded Mount Head the quartermaster got his course to clear Portlock point; but this he did not follow. I am not desirous of discussing this matter through the newspapers with an incompetent man, for such the quartermaster has proved himself to be. A man who has been running to Vancouver for months past as quartermaster ought to be ashamed of his statement in yesterday's COLONIST."

The Islander berthed in the harbor yesterday and will not probably enter the dry dock for a few days. The forward part of her forward bulkhead has a rent in it 30 feet long, this being her principal injury.

SHIPS AND SHIPPING.

The steamer Edith in command of Captain Clancy and manned by the crew of the Sehome, arrived here from the Sound on her first regular trip yesterday morning. She had a large number of passengers on board, the following being a list: Ross Eckart, Miss Davis, W. J. Watkins, W. Kirsht, J. A. Charley, F. Moore, W. Turner, A. E. Simpson, M. J. Johnson, S. Johnson, Miss Roe, G. Knight, T. Begg, W. H. Leicester, P. Tyson, W. Irving, A. Carter and mother, J. C. Bishop, J. E. Church, M. Doushay and wife, J. Finlayson, C. McArthur, C. J. Osborne, J. A. King, A. Hutt, C. E. Barrows, G. H. Richardson, P. H. Kenny, T. Murray, C. Galliher, H. W. Carter, C. Stephenson and T. Herbert.

MR. AND MRS. SPICE, leaders of the Centennial Methodist church choir, Gorge road, were completely taken by surprise last evening, when the members of the choir in a body met and worked at the church on the occasion being the anniversary of their wedding. All present enjoyed a few hours in singing and games, after which refreshments were served. At the conclusion of the evening's programme all joined in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Spice every future happiness and success.

THE MAYORALTY.

It looks as if there was going to be a lively contest for the mayoralty of Victoria this year. So far two candidates have entered the field, Mr. John Teasdale and Hon. Robert Beaven. Both gentlemen issued cards this morning stating that having been asked by many ratepayers to present themselves as candidates for the mayoralty, they had consented to do so. At least two other probable candidates for the honor have been mentioned, but so far they have not announced their intention to run. There are, so far, no candidates offering for aldermen, but a day or two more will likely bring them to the front, and after the New Year the contest promises to be one of the most interesting that Victoria has seen for a long time.

The following is the team chosen to represent Victoria next Saturday at the Canteen grounds in the match against the Navy: Full back, H. Petticrew; three-quarter backs, J. M. Miller, (Capt.) G. Gamble, H. D. Morton and K. Scholefield; half backs, J. H. Barney, Sugrue and F. Smith; forwards, L. Crease, A. Crease, J. K. Macrae, H. Austin, A. G. Langley, P. Wollaston, A. A. Green and F. Ward. The team will leave Campbell's corner by the 2:15 car.

To the aged, with their poor appetite, feeble circulation, and impoverished blood, Ayer's Sarsaparilla is a boon beyond price. Its uses are to check the ravages of time, by invigorating every organ, nerve, and tissue of the body. See Ayer's Almanac for the new year.

Burdock Blood Bitters purifies, renovates and regulates the entire system, thus curing Dyspepsia, Constipation, Sick Headache, Biliousness, Rheumatism, Dropsy, and all diseases of the stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels. It also removes all impurities from the system, from a common pimples to the worst scrofulous sore.

IN THE FAMILY. Mothers, Fathers and Children all speak in praise of Hagar's Pectoral Balm as the best cure for coughs, colds, asthma, bronchitis, sore throat, quinsy and all throat troubles. Price 25c.

PLAIN FACTS. Burdock Blood Bitters purifies, renovates and regulates the entire system, thus curing Dyspepsia, Constipation, Sick Headache, Biliousness, Rheumatism, Dropsy, and all diseases of the stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels. It also removes all impurities from the system, from a common pimples to the worst scrofulous sore.

WEAK AND TIRED. Dear Sirs,—I can heartily recommend Miller's Cod Liver Oil Emulsion. For a long time I felt as if I could hardly keep my feet. Every thing I tried was of no use. I took two bottles and the fatigue and tired feeling left me and have never returned. MRS. E. CHURCHILL, Springfield, Ont.

THE CITY.

THE CASE OF DR. J. K. GARROW and Harry Creech is to be again proceeded with in the police court to-morrow. It promises to drag through several days more.

THE St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society has prepared a specially interesting programme for their monthly social on Monday, and a dance will close the evening.

BARRISTER L. P. DUFF, of Hunter & Duff, lectured before the Victoria Law Students' Association on Monday evening, his subject being "Contracts with corporations."

A YOUNG seafaring man who had imbibed too freely of the cause of much evil, was fined \$10 and costs in the police court yesterday, for drawing a loaded revolver in the course of a quarrel in a Johnson street saloon.

THE annual entertainment and Christmas trees for the children of the Protestant orphanage will be held in the large dining hall at the home on Hillside avenue, on Friday at 3 p.m. The ladies committee extend a cordial invitation to the friends of the institution to attend.

THE children of the Central Presbyterian Sunday school are to have their annual treat on Friday evening of this week. Children, other than scholars, will be admitted on payment of ten cents at 6.30. Friends of the children will be admitted at 8 o'clock, when a good programme will be rendered.

A VERY quiet and important ceremony was performed by Rev. Mr. McEwen last evening, when he united in marriage Mr. Thos. Prece and Miss G. A. Carter. The bride was attended by Miss Williams and the bridegroom by Mr. John Stewart in the presence of a large number of the immediate friends of the contracting parties were present.

THE tug Sadie, which left here for Boundary Bay last week with a party of hunters, is back in port again much earlier than was expected. Her voyage was not the most pleasant imaginable, owing to the stormy weather of Sunday and Monday; but according to her passengers the trip was very profitable. The amount of game killed was, of course, by no means indicated by the quantity which they brought home with them.

BERTRAM hall was filled to its utmost capacity at the masquerade ball on Monday evening. The hall was decorated in a most artistic manner, and the music was furnished by the Collis and Baird orchestra. The prize for the best dressed gentleman was awarded to Miss Lily Taylor, and the prize to Miss Lily Taylor. There will be a leap year masquerade during January.

THE arrangements are complete for the New Year's Eve national ball and many tickets have been already sold. Four handsome prizes, which may be seen in Speed Bree's window, will be given to the handsomest national costume. Richardson's orchestra will furnish the music, and a fine supper will be served. The companions of the Forest know how to arrange for a ball, and the committee is as energetic as ever.

THE midnight mass at St. Andrew's cathedral last night was heard by a large congregation which crowded the church to the doors. The singing was in the most beautiful style, and being sung by Madame Rowlands assisted the choir of twenty-four voices, and the solo and choir singing was wonderfully good. Rev. Father Nicolay was the celebrant, Rev. Father Althoff, deacon, and Rev. Father Laterne, sub-deacon. Rev. Father Althoff preached the sermon.

MR. AND MRS. SPICE, leaders of the Centennial Methodist church choir, Gorge road, were completely taken by surprise last evening, when the members of the choir in a body met and worked at the church on the occasion being the anniversary of their wedding. All present enjoyed a few hours in singing and games, after which refreshments were served. At the conclusion of the evening's programme all joined in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Spice every future happiness and success.

THE Presbytery of Victoria had an adjourned meeting in St. Andrew's church, Nanaimo, yesterday, when at the urgent request of the congregation the resignation by Rev. D. A. MacRae of his charge of St. Andrew's was allowed to lie on the table. Mr. MacRae being granted six months leave of absence with the hope that the state of his family's health may be such as to enable him to resume his pastoral work. Rev. W. Leslie Clay was appointed convener of the Presbytery's home missions and augmentation committee during Rev. Mr. MacRae's absence, and Rev. Alexander Young, Presbytery treasurer and convener of the committee of church life and work. The Presbytery has adjourned to meet in the First Presbyterian church here on the first Tuesday in March next.

FOR Saturday evening next an excellent dramatic entertainment has been prepared by several well known amateurs, and those who wish to wind up the Christmas festivities cannot do better than attend at St. James hall to witness the performance, which is likely to be a marked success. The pieces selected are the comedietta "Perfection," and the farce "Fast Coach." "Perfection" is not only one of the standing dishes at all the London theatres, but is quite a favorite among those venturesome young gentlemen and ladies who mingle in private theatricals, the part of Kate O'Brien having many times been personated by the Marchioness of Londonderry at amateur performances in Ireland. The "Fast Coach" is most cleverly written, and the working up to the plot causes much amusement, and no little edification and enlightenment to the audience. The full cast for Saturday evening's performance will be given later.

IF you once try Carter's Little Liver Pills for sick headache, biliousness, indigestion, or any other ailment, you will find them to be a pure vegetable, small and easy to take. Don't forget this.

WEAK AND TIRED. Dear Sirs,—I can heartily recommend Miller's Cod Liver Oil Emulsion. For a long time I felt as if I could hardly keep my feet. Every thing I tried was of no use. I took two bottles and the fatigue and tired feeling left me and have never returned. MRS. E. CHURCHILL, Springfield, Ont.

SEASON'S GREETINGS!

Handsome Press Compliment to British Columbia's Representative in the Cabinet.

More Light on the "Times" Fiction Anent Comments of Eastern Press.

Mr. Wood Took His Place in the Council Yesterday—What the "Globe" Says.

Apologising for precipitating a politico-religious quarrel upon this peaceful community at the merry Christmas season, the opposition candidate announced through the Times that had Hon. E. G. Prior been made a cabinet minister the case would have been different. The Times asserted that Col. Prior was to be simply a controller, and denied even the Premier's written declaration to the contrary, amongst other grounds because, as it alleged, so late as Friday last, "every newspaper in the Dominion that announced the appointment next morning stated that Col. Prior was a controller and not a cabinet minister."

The first of the Eastern newspapers arrived here on Saturday last, and the COLONIST quoted from them in extenso, showing the above assertion of the Times to be absolutely untrue. What these papers said was, in brief: Montreal Gazette—"Col. Prior is now in the Cabinet." Montreal Star—"Col. Prior has accepted a position in the Cabinet." Montreal Witness—"Col. Prior will have a seat in the Cabinet." Toronto Mail and Empire—"Col. Prior taken into the Cabinet." Hamilton Spectator—"Col. Prior has accepted a seat in the cabinet."

The brief quotations above given are the substance of the column of notices from Eastern newspapers of Monday, December 16, which the COLONIST published on Sunday last. They were so conclusive that the Times on Monday withdrew its starting declaration of "No Cabinet Minister!" and editorially it offered this explanation: "With the large number of quotations from the Eastern papers of last Monday we need not deal, for they carry their own explanation. We may inform our neighbor, though, that the announcements spoken of in the Times were not those made in Monday's papers, but on Tuesday and subsequent days. These are delayed by the accident to the Islander."

Well, yesterday the delayed papers arrived—those of Tuesday and Wednesday, the 17th and 18th inst. As expected, they contained small comfort for the Times, for while two or three of the smaller papers published the incorrect announcement that Mr. Wood and Col. Prior would not be cabinet ministers because the act dealing with the controllerships prevents that (which is not the fact), the leading newspapers knew better.

THE "GLOBE" HAD NO DOUBTS. The Toronto Globe—the chief organ of the opposition—for example had this despatch: "Ottawa, Dec. 16.—(Special)—At today's meeting of the Cabinet Lieut. Col. Prior, M.P., for Victoria, B.C., was appointed Controller of Inland Revenue, in place of Hon. John F. Wood, appointed Controller of Customs, vice Wallace, resigned. Both Controllers are to be members of the Cabinet. This practically abolishes the Controllerships as predicted last night, and substitutes Cabinet Ministers, thus increasing the size of the Cabinet to unprecedented and unparalleled dimensions." In another place in the same issue (Tuesday's) the Globe said: "Col. E. G. Prior, M.P. for Victoria, B.C., has accepted a seat in the Premier's Cabinet as Controller of Inland Revenue in the place of Mr. John F. Wood, appointed Controller of Customs. The Controllers will now have seats in the Cabinet."

The Times printed as a telegram from a Mr. Magurn the statement that "Mackenzie Bowell told me that Prior was not a cabinet minister. Mail and Empire and World, Toronto, announce the same thing."

On Monday the Mail and Empire announced that "Sir Mackenzie Bowell has invited Col. Prior to accept office and a seat in the Cabinet," and on Tuesday it followed this up with the news that the office accepted was that of parliamentary head of the inland revenue department. It said not a word in contradiction to the announcement of the previous day, that besides the office referred to he had been offered a seat in the cabinet. The first part of this despatch appears in the Times of yesterday—to give the inference that the Mail and Empire had said nothing about a cabinet position, which it did not on Tuesday having made the fact quite plain the day before. The Times, however, omitted this interesting reminiscent paragraph which closes the despatch: "Before coming to Ottawa to take the oath of office, Col. Prior will submit himself to the endorsement of his constituents. The bye-election in Victoria will take place at the earliest possible date, so that the new Controller of Inland Revenue may be in his seat in parliament before the session is far advanced. Col. Prior's opponent in the last election lost his deposit, polling only 449 votes, whereas the Colonel polled 1,031. It is altogether likely that there will be no opposition to his re-election under the circumstances."

YESTERDAY the Times took fresh courage, and again paraded its absurdly false statement "No Cabinet Minister!" at the head of this matter, dated from Ottawa: "Ottawa, Dec. 24.—At eleven o'clock today John F. Wood was sworn a member of the privy council by Lord Aberdeen at Rideau Hall. This bears out all that has been said in the Times as to the position of controllers. What was done in Mr. Wood's case was to make him a privy councillor. It is simply a waste of time discussing such a ridiculous question, and shows how unfit a man like Col. Prior is to ask people's votes when he does not seem to know the difference between a cabinet minister and a privy councillor."

ABOUT the time the above appeared in print Hon. John F. Wood telegraphed to his colleague in Victoria, as follows: "OTTAWA, Dec. 24. "Lt.-Col. Prior, Com. Inland Rev., Victoria: "Compliments of season. Was sworn in cabinet minister and took my seat in council to-day. (Sd.) "JOHN F. WOOD." With the change of a name the sentences about "how unfit," etc., might be brought into service here—but this is Christmas Day!

TRIBUTE TO COL. PRIOR. "His Manliness and Straightforward Ability Have Made a Most Favorable Impression."

The Montreal Gazette is the leading paper of the great commercial metropolis, and is habitually cautious in its editorial utterances. On the subject of the affairs of parliament and the members of that body there is no more competent journalistic authority, and the knowledge of this fact gives special value to what the Gazette says of the appointment of Col. Prior, of which it thus speaks in terms of cordial approval: "The admission of Col. Prior to the Cabinet will strengthen the government in the West, where the gallant Colonel is as popular as he is among his colleagues of the House of Commons. British Columbia has long been crying out for a seat in the cabinet, and the growing importance of the province justifies the demand. Col. Prior's manliness and straightforward ability have made a most favorable impression on all who have met him. Though not a frequent speaker, he is able to give a good account of himself when he does get on his feet, displaying good common sense and a business-like way of looking at things. The fact that he knows when to be silent makes him no less useful or popular in the house, which does not regard its more loquacious members as unmitigated nuisances. Sometimes, indeed, there is a tendency to look upon them as unmitigated nuisances."

On the previous day—Monday—the Gazette had said that "Col. Prior is a man who will serve the country well in any capacity he may be asked to act" at the same time announcing that he had been called to the cabinet, his departmental portfolio to be announced later. This additional news appeared on Tuesday, the same issue as that containing the complimentary editorial reproduced above, in a despatch headed "Changes in cabinet—Mr. Wood and Col. Prior Are Made Privy Councillors," and proceeding: "OTTAWA, December 16.—(Special)—Mr. John F. Wood, the controller of inland revenue, was honored this morning by Sir Mackenzie Bowell with an appointment to the office of controller of customs, to which he was appointed temporarily on Saturday, accompanied with appointment to the privy council. The transferee of Mr. Wood to the customs department leaves a vacancy in the inland revenue department, to which it is understood Col. Prior was appointed. Besides being controller of inland revenue Col. Prior will also be sworn in as a privy councillor. Before coming to Ottawa to take oath of office he will submit himself to the endorsement of his constituents. The bye-election in Victoria will take place at the earliest possible date, so that the new controller of inland revenue may be in his seat in parliament before the session is far advanced. Col. Prior's opponent in the last election polled 1,031. It is altogether likely that there will be no opposition to his re-election under the circumstances."

On Wednesday, for the third issue in succession the Gazette dealt with the subject. Being well informed the writer saw that the elevation of the holders of the Controllerships to be Cabinet Ministers foreshadowed the restoration of the offices to their old status, and this editorial appeared: "It is announced that Messrs. Wood and Prior, the new controllers of customs and inland revenue, will be sworn in of the Privy Council. It is not known whether this step is intended to be preliminary to restoring these positions to their old status of Cabinet officers, but it seems to be in that direction. The duties of the controllers are quite as important as those which attach to the offices which the public has not yet developed an affection for, and if it was discarded no one would object." Another editorial paragraph in the same issue says: "The appointment of Lieut.-Colonel Prior to the Controllership of Customs takes away from Ontario another Ministerial position. According to population the big province was rather under-represented in the government even before Mr. Wallace's resignation. The equanimity with which the people accepted the situation will serve as an example to other provinces when their turn to see their favorite statesmen passed over in like manner arrives."

"HAS COME TO STAY." The Star on Tuesday as on Monday had in its news columns conflicting reports at variance with the facts, one despatch incorrectly asserting that "the only difference is that they will be sworn in, members of the Privy Council, so that they may be the better able as privy councillors to consent with the Premier, while another in the same news column declared: "The report that the Hon. John F. Wood, controller of inland revenue, has been called to the cabinet and will be at the head of the department of customs, gives great satisfaction in Brockville, which he has represented so faithfully and well for many years. His proud position to which he has risen is due to his strict attention to duty, his high sense of honor and marked administrative ability." The editor of the Star, however, seemed to have no doubt as to what had been done, for the leading editorial on the same day (Tuesday), under the heading "The Cabinet Changes," says: "This last little shuffle of the Controllerships and ministerial portfolios results in adding a new Minister with a salary to the cabinet. The serious point is the addition to the gilded cabinet. Canada is too expensively governed as it is; and there had

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The Quick Cure for COUGHS, COLDS, CROUP, BRONCHITIS, HOARSENESS, etc.

Mrs. JOSEPH NORWICK, of 68 Soranuen Ave., Toronto, writes: "Pnyn-Pectoral has never failed to cure my children of croup after a few doses. It cured myself of long-standing cough after several other remedies had failed. It has also yielded the most certain cure for my family. I prefer it to any other medicine for coughs, croup or hoarseness."

H. O. BARBOUR, of Little Rock, N.B., writes: "As a cure for cough Pnyn-Pectoral is the best medicine I have; my customers will bear me out."

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ERIE MEDICAL CO., Buffalo, N. Y.

MARRIED. JONES-MOAT—in this city, on the 18th inst., by Rev. Rev. Bishop Crdee, Richard Jones, Collector of Inland Revenue, to Helen Graham, daughter of the late Capt. Mount, Hon. R.B. Co.

PRECE-CARTER—in this city, December 24th, by the Rev. H. P. McEwen, Thos. Prece, to Miss G. A. Carter, both of this city.

DIED. POWELL—in Berkeley, California, on the 20th inst., Walter H. Powell, eldest son of Mr. Walter Powell, manager of the San Francisco branch of the Bank of British Columbia, a native of Victoria, aged 21 years.

COLE—in St. Joseph's Hospital, on the 23rd inst., George Cole, late of Macleod, a native of Essex, England, aged 72 years.

better be a reduction of than an increase to the Ministry. Another grave phase of the change is the giving of a portfolio to British Columbia. This will almost certainly become a permanent addition to the already unwieldy cabinet, for neither party will like to offend the Pacific province by taking away its portfolio.

A RUSH ORGANIZING.

A Free Gold Ledge Just Discovered to the North of Alberni

Assaying Many Thousands of Dollars to the Ton—Miners Still More sanguine.

Mr. Thomas Tugwell, who left Alberni on Monday morning, reports the town full of people, the hotels being crowded and several new buildings in process of construction. The feeling is buoyant and the utmost confidence is felt and expressed in the future of the mines.

An important discovery was made last week in a hill north of Mineral Hill, not far from the town of Alberni. A free gold ledge was found, specimens from which were brought to Alberni Tuesday night. They are richly studded with gold and will assay many thousands of dollars to the ton. The discoverer said the ledge was 20 inches in width and that in a creek which cuts through the ledge he had found float rock in which the gold was plainly visible.

A rush was organizing for the new field when Mr. Tugwell left. Mr. Tugwell has taken up several claims down the canal and outside the city. The rock is highly mineralized and free gold is visible in some of the specimens. Fifty pounds of the rock will be brought down by the Mande. Mr. Tugwell, who has examined the country thoroughly, predicts a brilliant future for Alberni and will return to the district early in the new year.

"LET US HAVE PEACE!"

LONDON, Dec. 24.—An appeal has been issued by British authors, signed with 1,800 names, to their conferees in the United States. It says: "At this crisis in the history of the Anglo-Saxon race, there are two paths. One leads us to know not whither, but in the end through war, with all its accompaniments of carnage, unspeakable suffering and hideousness to the inevitable sequel of hatred, bitterness and disruption of our race. It is this path we ask you to join us in an effort to make impossible. Not on the grounds of political equity do we address you, but we are united to you by many ties."

CANADA'S DEFENCES.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—The Manchester Courier says orders have been given at the Woolwich and Devonport arsenals for a large quantity of ammunition, together with a great number of magazine rifles, Martin Henry rifles and other guns, for shipment to Canada in July. The Courier also learns that the defences of Canada are to be gradually strengthened.

If sick headache is misery, what are Carter's Little Liver Pills if they will positively cure it? People who have used them speak frankly of their worth. They are small and easy to take.