Winding Up Their Business

Final Session of the School Board Before the Elections.

General Regret Expressed at the Retirement of Trustee McCandless.

The last meeting of the board of school trustees as at present constituted was held yesterday evening. Little business of importance was transacted. Expressions of regret at the announcement that Trustee McCandless would not present himself for re-election as a member this year were indulged in, and the chairman spoke approvingly of the conduct of the members of the board in dealing with school matters during the past year.

There were present Chairman Hall and Trustees Mrs. Gordon Grant, Mrs. Helen Grant, Drury, Brown and McCandless.

A letter from Mrs. Wheeler accepting a position on the teaching staff was received and filed. Miss Grenfell, who had been appointed to a similar position, was notified by wire to be in attendance on Monday next, having been delayed in arriving over difficulty in getting a substitute for the school at Nakusp, where she has been stationed.

The teacher at the Kingston street school expressed thanks for an increase in salary, and asked for repairs to stoves and for fuel. Referred to supply committee.

Applications for the position of janitor of the Hillside avenue school were received from R. A. Taylor and Miss Branson. Laid upon the table.

Trustee Brown raised the question of the too frequent dismissal of the schools by the teachers when unnecessary. The Boys' Central, the Girls' Central and the Victoria West scholars had been dismissed after assembling on the opening day. This practice was most reprehensible. It appeared that the teachers were inclined to take too many holidays. It had been alleged in defence of the practice that an opportunity was afforded by the dismissal for the children to purchase needed school books. The rules should not be broken, and he hoped the board would insist upon their enforcement. As a matter of fact, the school hours were too short—they should be at least one hour longer each day.

Trustees Drury and McCandless agreed with the remarks of Trustee Brown. The duration of the sessions at present was too short. Trustee Mrs. William Grant understood that the custom of closing the schools on the opening day was a very old one.

The matter was left in the hands of Superintendent Eaton, who will notify the teachers of the opinion of the board on the question.

Trustee Brown also inquired if teachers were empowered to order scholars to purchase books other than those ordered by the department. A teacher in the Victoria West school had ordered pupils to purchase dictionaries. On motion of Trustee McCandless, the superintendent was instructed to see that the teachers were notified that the board viewed such a course with disapproval.

Trustee Drury drew the attention of the board to the necessity of some thought being given to the question of the proper heating and ventilating of the school rooms.

Trustee McCandless thought all teachers should be instructed to attend to the ventilating of the rooms after school hours.

The necessity of repairs to the radiators at the North Ward school was left in the hands of the buildings and grounds committee.

This exhausting the business before the board, Chairman Hall before adjournment took occasion to express his thanks for the assistance which he had received from the members of the board during the past year in the discharge of his duties. While there was a difference of opinion at times as to certain questions which came up for discussion, he was sure all were working in the interests of the schools. He felt keen regret at Trustee McCandless' retirement. The latter had made a most efficient trustee.

Trustee McCandless felt gratified to think that the board had conducted its deliberations with as much smoothness as any other civic body. Each member of the board had worked faithfully in the interests of the schools. He was sorry that circumstances would not permit of his again being a candidate. He hoped that, with the exception of himself, the members of the old board would be returned.

Regret at Trustee McCandless' retirement was expressed by each member of the board present, and, replying to the complimentary references made to himself, the latter promised to always take an active interest in school matters, and to work unceasingly for the securing of a new High school.

The board then adjourned.

OUT SHOPPING.

Perils and Tribulations of a Man Among the New York Women.

The New York Times has the following wail from an unfortunate man who undertook to go shopping in that city. Apparently a man stands no chance with women in big New York stores if his story is to be believed:

For the first time in many years I have had imposed upon me the responsibility of Christmas shopping, and which I regret to say has proved to be anything but complimentary to the women of this city. A more brazen, impudent, uncouth, ill-bred, and indecent specimen of womanhood has never before been on public exhibition, than those I came in contact with at ——'s. In walking from one department to another, I was pushed, shoved, and knocked about like a rubber ball, being nearly thrown upon the floor on one occasion and trampled upon. At the elevator I tried Chesterfieldian mannerisms by waiting until three elevators had been filled, and then, on trying to get on the fourth, the rush act was tried, and when I stood my ground I was assailed by a storm of uncomplimentary epithets. At one department one of these impudent vixens actually snatched a piece of goods out of my hands, and then proceeded to knock me away from the counter by punches in the ribs with her elbow under full swing from a big pair of shoulders.

At No. 2 there was simply a mob of women pulling, hauling, and crowding, affording just the kind of an opportunity sought by thieves and pickpockets. My watch was touched twice in going half way through the ground floor. On the —— street entrance the mob was even worse, making pedestrianism impossible. The only policeman in sight was one on the avenue at the crossing, helping to swell the mob. Pickpockets and thieves had their own way. It occurred to me, as well as to many others, whose expressions were public, that if the captain of the police of this precinct was in the recent shake-up it would be well for the chief to make another shake and get rid of him.

At No. 3 the crowd was largely from the country, consequently it was more orderly and decent, but at No. 4 it was similar to that at ——'s, besides some of the clerks showed more impudence than a grass-fed mule.

This experience, however, is well worth the expense and discomfort attending it for it fairly demonstrated that a man has no rights which a woman respects in a departmental store, and therefore hereafter he cannot be expected to make Christmas presents. The only unfortunate coincidence in connection with it is that it has established a fact that the women of this city, for brazen effrontery selfishness, and bad manners, are simply matchless and without a peer in any other of the cities of the world.

It would be well for the Committee of Fifteen, after their philanthropic reform of the slums, to extend their movement to the higher classes and reform some of these women until they understand the common amenities due to the public, and especially in department stores.

New York, Dec. 21, 1900. H.

Royal Bank of Canada.

The Montreal Gazette of December 29, contained the following:

"The Royal Bank of Canada," the name which is so soon to succeed that of the Merchants' Bank of Halifax, will take its place in the financial world on the morning of Wednesday, the second of January next. The name which has been selected by the directors and ratified by the parliament of Canada, is one quite in keeping with the importance of the institution which has made such rapid progress in the race for financial pre-eminence. But it is the name of the institution only that is changed, for the identity of the bank remains the same as when those solid Nova Scotia business men secured its charter thirty-one years ago. On the 2nd of January, 1901, the customers of the bank in question will find that all traces of the old name, honored in Canadian banking circles though it may have been, have disappeared, and on the stationery, in the windows, in the ledgers, and on the crisp new notes will appear the more national title of "The Royal Bank of Canada." The new notes of the "The Royal" will be of the usual denominations of $5, $10, $20, $50 and $100, and their design is of the most artistic character. The artist and the printer have succeeded in producing a note for the Royal Bank of Canada that renders the successful issue of spurious notes by photography quite impossible. The green and yellow colors, so common on old bills, and so easily reproduced by clever photography, have been discarded, and replaced by colors so sensitive and delicate in their nature that the best attempt at counterfeiting will certainly divulge the fraud. The notes which the Royal Bank of Canada will put in circulation on the second day of the new year resemble a French or Brazilian bill, rather than any bank paper yet issued in this country. The charter of "The Royal" was secured in 1869, the first directors being William Cunard, James B. Duffus, T. C. Kinnear, Thos. E. Kenny, Michael Dwyer and E. Smith. Mr. Kinnear was the first president, and being succeeded on the 25th of June, 1870, by Mr. Thos. E. Kenny, the last named gentleman, has been president ever since.

The present board of directors consists of Thos. E. Kenny, president; Thos. Ritchie, vice-president; Hon. David Mackeen, Wiley Smith and H. G. Bauld, with two seats vacant, caused by the death of Mr. Michael Dwyer, of the well known firm of John Tobin & Co., and Hon. H. H. Fuller, M.L.C., also of the Nova Scotia capital. The beginning of the bank was comparatively small, but it grew up with the province in which it was located, and having overstepped the boundaries of that little, but wealthy province, "The Royal," with its present paid up capital of $2,000,000, surplus of $1,700,000, and its 41 branches now stands abreast of the leading institutions of old Canada. In 1887, the bank opened a branch in Montreal under the managership of Mr. E. L. Pease, who, after a most successful career, became joint general manager early in 1899, and on the 1st of January, 1900, was appointed general manager of the entire bank.

The banking fraternity also speak in the most eulogistic terms of the Royal's new local manager, Mr. C. S. Hoare, who brings to the bank all that valuable experience gained during his seventeen or eighteen years successful managership of the Imperial Bank at Winnipeg. Mr. in the prime of life, is an able and in the prime of live, and is an able and prudent banker, and those who know, declare that he will be pre-eminently the right man in the right place.

The following figures will show the rapid growth of the bank:

	Dec. 31, 1870.	Dec. 31, 1880.	Dec. 31, 1890.	Dec. 31 1899.
Cap.	300,000	900,00	1,100,00	1,985,070
Rest	20,000	180,000	375,000	1,700,000
Dep	288,251	1,232,362	3,277,605	11,323,599
Loans	460,553	2,086,655	4,462,703	11,873,486
Cir	93,920	479,199	996,192	1,853,960

As stated above, the capital has now reached $2,000,000. The dividend is 7 per cent. per annum, and the last sale of stock was at 180.

The head officials of the Royal are Edson L. Pease, general manager; W. B. Torrance, secretary and superintendent of branches, with Messrs. W. F. Brock, of Halifax, and D. M. Stewart, of Montreal, as inspectors.

THE MISSING SHIPS.

Sighting of Bark Passing Up Causes Speculation Regarding the Overdue Fleet.

A bark in ballast was reported passing up the Straits yesterday afternoon from Otter Point, and speculation at once began as to whether she will prove to be the long overdue bark Castle Rock, which was chartered at Hongkong to come to the Royal Roads for orders. The Castle Rock left Hongkong 74 days ago, and since then several destructive typhoons have been doing business in the waters through which her course lay; so when time passed and she failed to arrive, owners and charterers became anxious, and then the speculators began to bet against her chances of ever reaching port. They are now paying 15 per cent. re-insurance on her.

The charter of the Castle Rock was quite a new departure. She will be the first vessel to load a full cargo of ore from this province for the United Kingdom, if fortune has favored her. The ore to be shipped to the British smelters by the Castle Rock is mostly copper ore.

The Castle Rock is not the only long overdue ship for which underwriters are anxious, for there are no less than three ships bound from the Orient to Portland on which re-insurance is being quoted. The Rathdown is now so long overdue from Yokohama to the Oregon port that she has practically been given up as lost; the Bertha is 76 days out from Wei Hai Wei, and is re-insured at 30 per cent.; while the Otta Gildermesieter is 54 days out from Yokohama, and 15 per cent. is being paid on her.

The Next Census.

From Ottawa Citizen.

Preparations may now be said to be under way for the taking of the decennial census of the Dominion in April next. The Seybold building on Sparks and O'Connor streets will be fitted up for a census bureau. The census of 1891 was managed by Mr. George Johnson, Dominion statistican. The census taking of next year will be under the control of Mr. Archibald Blue, who was appointed for the position some months ago.

It costs over half a million dollars and takes about three years to complete a census. That of 1881 was five years in course of completion. The last census was finished up in three years at a total cost of $570,000. The census bureau was in the Langevin block; but owing to the subsequent transfer to that building of the interior department, all available room is now occupied so that outside quarters had to be procured.

One hundred and fifty clerks were employed in the census branch to do the census of 1891. These, however, were but the headquarters staff of a census army of 6,000 persons, made up of census chief officers, commissioners and enumerators.

The organization and management of this army had to be thorough and systematic. A staff of 14 census officers was appointed by the government consisting of gentlemen thoroughly acquainted with their districts. They met in Ottawa and when they had mastered the intricacies of the census business went out to their respective districts—four each to Ontario and Quebec and one to each of the other provinces. Their duty was to instruct the census commissioners. This second body of officials numbered 241, and by them the enumerators, 4,366 in all were afterwards drilled in the task of census taking. The enumerators were schooled regularly until census day came, and on the morning of the 5th of April each enumerator set forth with a portfolio containing the eight schedules under his arm and a manual of specimen schedules in his pocket, for the "solemn inquest of the nation," as Mr. Johnson termed it. From the schedules returned to the census bureau the reckoning of population by provinces, electoral divisions, cities and towns, by sexes, nationalities, religions, etc., as well as the tale of industrial and agricultural resources was made. Counting machines driven by electricity were then first used in this work in Canada.

The largest census district in the Dominion in 1891 was the New Westminster district of British Columbia, its area being over 200,000 square miles. The largest census district in Ontario was Algoma, with an area of 143,500 square miles. The district of Chicoutimi and Saguenay came next in size, with an area of nearly 119,000 square miles.

Enumerators in districts like these had no sinecure. They had to travel in small parties by canoe, on horseback or on foot as the case might be, taking grub and camping outfit along. They encountered all the perils of travel in the wilderness. No lives were lost, but one enumerator missing his way had to kill and eat his horse, for food.

In another instance an enumerator and his party of assistants taking the census of a district inhabited by Indians forgot to bring a flag with them. With their traditional regard for importance attached to the British flag in conferences between white men and the tribes, the Indians refused to recognize the enumerator. He had to send back for a flag. When that came they willingly answered all his questions.

Census taking is an old institution in Canada. The first official census of New France, as it was then called, was taken in 1665, a little more than half a century after Champlain laid the foundation of Quebec. The population of the country was found to be 3,215 souls. The most populous place was Montreal. It had 625 inhabitants. In Quebec there were 547. Soldiers, of whom there were about 1,200 in the country at the time, were not counted in. During the remainder of the 17th century eight censuses of New France were taken, and twelve in the 18th century. In 1824 a census was taken of Upper Canada, and every year after for 19 years; also two censuses of Quebec. Then came a census of Lower Canada in 1844 and of Upper Canada in 1848. In 1851 there was a census of Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the latter provinces having had a separate census many years previously. In 1861 all the provinces were taken but British Columbia. In 1870-71 all were enumerated.

The census of 1881 and that of 1891 were taken on the 5th of April, the date fixed for census taking throughout the British empire. It is probable that Canada's census of 1901 will be an imperial census also, although it is not the best time of year for getting about the country.

The first census taken in the United States was in 1790, when the population was found to be 3,929,214. At that date the population of what is now the Dominion of Canada was 220,000.

Provincial Appointments

Notices Which Were Given in Yesterday's issue of the Gazette.

Rebate to Be Allowed on Shingles Exported from the Province.

Thursday's issue of the British Columbia Gazette contains notices of the following appointments:

John Gerhard Tiarks, of Victoria, to be a justice of the peace for the counties of Victoria, Nanaimo, Vancouver, New Westminster, Yale, Cariboo and Kootenay.

Andrew Lindsay Smith, of Alberni, acting government agent, to be government agent for the Alberni electoral district.

Robert Elliott, M. D., of Peterborough, to be resident physician at the said place.

Myles Ariel Beale, of Fort Steele, to be a notary public for and within the province.

Robert Francis Mills, Joseph John and Julius Brethour, of North Saanich, to be fence viewers for and within the district of North Saanich.

John E. Griffith, S. M., of Golden, to be district registrar of the Golden registry of the supreme court.

The time for the final completion of the assessment rolls for Cowichan, Nanaimo and Comox districts has been extended from January 15 to January 31.

A registry of the supreme court has been established at the town of Golden.

The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council has approved of a rule of court to the effect that notices of trial and motions given for the sitting of the Supreme Court at Nelson on February 4 shall be good for the sitting on February 6.

In regard to the rebate on exported timber, notice is given that the intimation of December 3 is rescinded, and that under the authority of an order-in-council of the 8th instant, the payment of a rebate upon all timber exported beyond the limits of the province was allowed to and was discontinued from and after the 31st of December, 1900. The order of the 8th instant further provides for the payment of a rebate on shingles exported.

The Electric Dispatch Messenger Co.; Imperial Lumber Co.; Kereneos Copper Mines; Skidegate Oil & Trading Co.; and True Blue Copper Mines, have been incorporated.

The Premier Gold Mining Co. has been registered as an extra-provincial company; and the British Columbia Enterprise, Limited, has been licensed as an extra-provincial company.

Messrs. McPhillips & Williams give notice that they will apply at the next session of the legislature for a private bill to incorporate a company to build a railway from the coal mines at Michell; thence by way of Michell creek and the most feasible and practicable route east or west of Elk river and Upper Kootenay river in a southerly direction to the international boundary, or to a point at or near the international boundary; also with power to build, equip, maintain and operate a line or lines of railway, of standard gauge, from Michell creek northerly along the valley of the Elk river, and from thence to a point on the main line of the Canadian Pacific railway; also from a point on the proposed line of railway, thence northeasterly by the North Kootenay Pass to Alberta, to connect with the Crow's Nest Pass railway or the British Columbia Southern railway.

Local Lodges Install Officers

Interesting Session of Victoria Lodge K. of P. Last Evening.

Banquet Follows Installation Ceremonies--Other Lodge Meetings.

There was a large gathering of Knights Thursday in K. of P. hall, the occasion being the installing of the newly elected officers for the ensuing term. Castle Hall was crowded and several visiting brethren were present from various parts of the province. The officers are as below: C. C., E. W. Hall; V. C., E. W. Bradley; Prelate, A. Eugirk; M. of A., A. Von Hagen; K. of R. & S., E. P. Nathan; M. of F., J. J. Randolph; M. of E., J. Y. Pearce; I. G., W. P. Allen; P. G., W. S. Stamer; M. of W., J. Hilton. Deputy Grand Chancellor, E. E. Leason, was the officiating officer, assisted by Bros E. Dickenson, G. V. C., W. D. Kinnaird, G. Prelate; E. Godfrey, G. K. of R. & S., W. P. Humphrey, G. M. of E.; J. J. Randolph, G. M. of A.; W. S Sutton, G. I. G.; J. W. Walkley, G. O. G., who conducted the ceremony in a most creditable manner. A handsome jewel, suitably engraved, was presented to the retiring C. C., Bro. J. Hilton, who has been one of the ablest presiding officers known in the history Pythianism of the domain, who replied in his usual eloquent manner. The presentation was performed by D. G. C., E. E. Leason, who paid high tribute to the past services of the official. After the interesting ceremonies of installation was finished, the brethren retired to the spacious banquet hall, where the tables were abundantly supplied with all the delicacies of the season, and ample justice was done. The following was the toast list: "The Queen," "The Grand Lodge of B. C.," responded to by D. G. C., A. E. Leason; "Sister Lodges," which was responded to by Bro. A. Godfrey of Kamloops, who paid many compliments to Victoria Lodge. A song was rendered by P. C., J. Hilton, in his usual good form. A recitation was given by Bro E. P. Nathan, entitled "The Watery Bay," which caused considerable Laughter. In response to an encore he gave "My Brother Iky." The next toast given was "Visiting Brothers," and brought a number to their feet in response. The inner man being satisfied the meeting was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem, in the early hours of the morning.

The lodge is in a very flourishing condition, both financially and numerically. Two applications were received for membership and several candidates advanced to the rank of Knighthood. At the next meeting there will be work in the page and esquire rank.

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Court Northern Light A. O. F., held their half yearly meeting on Wednesday evening, with the largest attendance on record. The D. C. R., Bro. T. C. Smith, assisted by the district court officers, S. A. Bantley, F. E. Watson, T. Nelson, and Past Chief Rangers H. Maynard, A. Gower, J. Mansell, J. W. Wagg and District Deputy A. Godfrey of Kamloops, installed the following officers of the Court for the ensuing term: P. C., R., J. G. Hilton; C. R., E. H. Henley; S. C. R., J. Bolden; Treas. W P Smith; Sec. W. F. Fullerton; S. W., J. W. Young; J. W. J. Parkes; J. B., A. C McDonald; J. B., E. Bourgeois; Trustee. T. C. Smith; Auditor, W. J. Harris. Three applications for membership were received, and two candidates initiated, and one clearance card accepted, making a total membership of the Court of 243 members. In order to increase the membership to 300 during the next three months a handsome gold Foresters' Jewel will be presented to the members securing the largest number of applications. The next union social in the form of a whist competition will take place at Court Vancouver meeting on the 21st and at Court Northern Light meeting on the 23rd when a social dance will be held. On the same ocasion a testimonial will be presented by the court to Bro. J. H. P. Anderton on his arrival from South Africa.

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J. E. Church, P. M. W., installed the following officers of Victoria Lodge A. O. U. W., at the last meeting: P. M. W., John Smith; M. W., Wm. Armstrong; F., W. S. Phillips; O., T. P. McConnell; R., Robt. Dunn; F., F. Davey; Rec., R. T. Williams; G., George Madigan; I. W., M. C. Winn; O. W., D Banfield

MUSICAL CULTURE.

Collamarini, the Italian Prima Donna, Speaks on the Art in America.

Collamarini, the Italian prima donna contralto of Col. Thompson's Boston Lyric Opera Company, who appears in "Carmen" and "Mignon" in this city on Thursday and Friday next, is celebrated for her touching interpretations of all the lyric heroines of the Italian operas, was kind enough recently to talk with one of the representatives of the press about the condition of art in the United States. No one is better fitted to speak on this subject than Collamarini, who has sung most successfully season after season on the other side of the ocean.

"What do I think of the musical conditions in the United States?" said she. "The American musical public knows well how to appreciate and criticize good music, for the reason that their taste has been cultivated and refined by hearing all the finest singers in the world. Aside from the fact that it is difficult to achieve success in the United States vocally, it is especially so for Italian artists to impersonate Italian characters, as we are measured by the standard of the first productions of Italian opera in America, in which Patti, Schalci, Calve and Melba took part.

"As is well known, for a long time after this first Italian operatic venture no Italian opera could be financially supported, and the German and French operas of the Abbey, Schoeffel and Damrosch company were in sole possession. Finally, in 1895, Maurice Grau succeeded in reviving Italian opera, and with such success that since then it has been an indispensable factor in American musical life.

"People often say an engagement in America ruins the voice. I find this assertion absolutely unfounded. One need only to have learned to sing properly and live simply. That so many voices lose their brilliancy so early is due only to insufficient preparation. Instead of singing first Weber, Lortzing and Mozart, singers begin with hard Italian roles, without having learned to sing properly. Is it any wonder that in a few years the voice is broken?"

NAVAL RESERVE.

From Montreal Gazette.

From time to time the Gazette has said a word, more or less timely, as to Canada's duty in relation to the Imperial navy. Sometimes the question has come up in connection with the discussion in the old land of national defence in a more comprehensive sense than that which was implied by the original volunteer movement. It must be at least twenty-five years since Sir John C. R. Colomb broached the subject of colonial defence and colonial contributions to the defence of the Empire at large. He had taken the matter into serious consideration long before Mr. Spenser Wilkinson undertook to rouse public opinion. It was in 1879 that he published his pamphlet on "The Defence of Great Britain and Greater Britain," the very title of which may be said to have marked an epoch. Since then there have been striking changes in public opinion, but in so far as the leading statesmen of Great Britain have come to look at things from Sir John Colomb's standpoint, the change has been gradual and costly. Had his ideas of the true significance and value of the colonies and the folly of trying to separate their interests from those of the Motherland been entertained by those in power twenty years ago, the saving of thousands of precious lives and of money enough to abolish the poverty of which Lord Salisbury has been speaking so sadly, might have been effected. But the future is hidden from us all, and the lessons that nations, as well as individuals, have to learn are bitter and dear in proportion to the period during which they have been wantonly neglected. To defend the integrity of the Empire at whatever cost, but at the same time with the least outlay compatible with effectiveness is a duty which no statesman, whether Imperial or colonial, any longer dreams of disregarding. On the contrary, there is a strong desire both in the home lands and in the girdle of Greater Britain to maintain unimpaired the happy fraternity of loyalty and co-operation of which this dying year has afforder such signal evidence, and to combine the efforts of the whole Empire for its protection at every point of approach.

Attention has of late been concentrated on the value of Australia's and Canada's land frces, foot and mounted, as auxiliaries to the regular army in warfare. But the complement of such auxiliaries, the fitness of whom has been acknowledged with such fervor of gratitude, is some quota, however small, that would represent the colonies' contingent, in ships and men, to the naval strength of the Empire. It may be recalled that some time ago Capt. William Wood, 8th Royal Rifles, Canadian Militia, published, under the auspices of the Toronto branch of the Navy League, a paper (orginally read before the Literary and Historical Society), entitled: "The British Command of the Sea, and What It Means to Canada." In an introductory note, Capt. Wood defines Imperial defence as the insurance on the stability of the whole Empire, of which each part had its proportionate share of burden and control. As he points out, the subject is one of vast range, and we cannot pretend to follow him through all his details. It may not be out of place, however, to consider the proposals by which he would solve the problem of Canada's obligations in this matter of naval defence. To some extent he goes over ground which has already been occupied. But there is also much in the enforcement of his argument that is new and important.

Capt. Wood insists that the day is gone for ever when Canada, or any other part of Greater Britain, can think of standing alone. The royal navy is, he says, the corner stone of our defence by land as well as our only defence by sea. It has defended Canada again and again. We glory in it, extol the exploits of its heroes, speak of it as "ours." How can we make it truly ours? How can we give Canada a right to exult in its achievements as we exult in the deeds of courage and endurance of our soldiers in South Africa? Capt. Wood says that it is owing to the navy that we enjoy security, credit, and "a total annual movement of tonnage amounting to 50,000,000 by water, and 30,000,000 by rail." But we have still much to gain, he thinks, from a remodelled new Imperial navy, in which we should have the interest of a contributor. How is that contribution to be adjusted? Of the seaborne wealth of the Empire, Canada possesses about 4 per cent., but she could not pay that proportion of the Imperial oceanic war insurance. Nor could population be accepted as a basis, seeing that the United Kingdom is only about seven times as populous as Canada. Comparative revenue? That would make our share about a tenth of the Motherland, and our people would think it excessive for a "new country." At last, Capt. Wood suggests that if Canada were to begin by paying about a hundredth of the cost of the navy that protects the Empire, it might be considered as much as our present available resources would justify. Of course, it will not be by conjecture or suggestion that the proportion that will be deemed fair from each division of the Empire to the maritime defence of the whole of it will be ultimately settled. It may also take various forms—men-of-war, a grant of money, a training-ship on either ocean, an Imperial naval reserve, "localized among our sea-faring population," officered by (amongst others) "our yachtsmen." Altogether, Capt. Wood thinks 1,000 to the navy's peace strength, and 10,000to the localized I. R., would not be in excess (far otherwise) of our capabilities.

INSTALLING THE SPEAKER.

A French Description of the Ceremony in Imperial House.

From Le Matin (Paris.)

The House of Commons which offered us one day a pantomime, not without charm, gave us on the following one a representation not without interest.

In the first act, Mr. Gully appeared before us in court dress, and a small barrister's wig, over which Parisians would have gone into ecstasies; and instead of sitting in his big carved chair, took his place on a little one of black wood that Maple would describe in his catalogue as among the furniture suitable for a boy from nine to thirteen years old. On inquiring, it appeared that Mr. Gully was as yet only half a speaker, he might be called a speaker in course of formation; something was wanting, and that something the approbation of Her Gracious Majesty of his nomination. Consequently at ten minutes past twelve we saw the clerk of the House of Commons re-appear—and oh, wonder, we heard him speak! In a deep voice he came humbly to request the members present to accompany him to the Upper House. By fours they left the benches of the house and evaporated like gas. The first act was over.

In the second act, when the curtain drew up, the scene was the same, and the costumes were the same. Mr. Gully still wore his dear little wig, but he had left his small chair and was sitting in the big one. During the entr-acte much had been done, great events had been accomplished. It seems that having arrived at the bar of the House of Lords, the Lord Chancellor announced to Mr. Gully, in a moved voice, that the Queen had been pleased to approve of his nomination as speaker. These words said, Mr. Gully was a full-blown speaker, nothing more was wanting—he was complete.

And so, having returned to the House of Commons, he hastened to announce the fact to his colleagues, thanking them again for having been present at his installation, and taking in his hand a book with gilt edges, called by the English a Bible, he solemnly took the oath. After the sacred words which sent a tremor through all present, Mr. Gully kissed the Bible, signed a parchment, and went out. Ushers immediately brought many tables on which were many Bibles, many parchments, many inkstands, and many pens, put them down with care, made sure there was ink in the inkpots and withdrew. The stage remained empty for about five minutes, and some spectators grew impatient, when suddenly through the farthest door appeared Mr. Gully. Ah, my children, but what a Mr. Gully! Can you believe he had changed his disguise and was absolutely unrecognizable?—instead of his little grey wig, a splendid Louis XIII, one with waved curls falling on his shoulders; instead of his court dress, magnificent black robes with a train; instead of his toy cravat, wonderful bands. Seen in the distance, he might have been one of those dignified magistrates which frescoes of the Middle Ages love to show us. And then a sort of march past began; by fives the members advanced to the tables, touched the Bibles, kissed them, swore something between their teeth, signed parchments, bowed to the Speaker and went out.

The Young Grow Old Before Their Time.

When youth shows infirmity, when old age creeps in before its time, when the days that should be the best of manhood and womanhood are burdened with aches, pain and weakness, we know that the nervous system is wearing out and that there is imminent danger of nervous prostration, paralysis, locomotor ataxia or insanity.

How we admire the old in years—crowned with silvered hair, yet erect in stature, faculties retained with vigor necessary to the declining years—cheerful, bright, grand old age. How lamentable is youthful infirmity, middle-aged enfeeblement, parting of the ways too soon, told by restlessness, starting up violently during sleep, morning languor, tired, fagged, worn-out; trembling limbs, worried brain, mind aimless and depressed.

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