a it first came up at a meeting in
ria the various members referred to
bjections. The executive committee
then making representations to the
nment. It was learned that the
ncial mineralogist was spreading the
t that these recommendations were
r-cock. The executive committee
d upon the Premier and sought an
view with the provincial mineral-
as the only expert adviser of the
nment. They plainly made known
they wished to ascertain Mr. Rob-
t's attitude on the recommendations.
of the instances given at that time
this reference to Aspen Grove, as
by Mr. Collis. It was pointed out
a sweeping statement as to a dis-
or a few claims examined bore great

In the early days of Rossland, had
Robertson examined Columbia and
many mountains only he would have
mmed the camp.

erring to the fact that later in the
he held out that Nicola district
a good field for prospectors, Mr.
pointed out that his references to
was in sight did not warrant this
ment being held out. He went in-
matter as it came up, time after
at the meetings of the executive.
the Poplar creek matter came up
rovincial mineralogist was com-
d for his attitude there in not boom-
and in consequence the resolution
somewhat modified. He had been
by a prospector that the districts
ed the appearance of the provincial
alogist.

E. House said that he was sorry
his discussion had been brought on.
he introduced the resolution be-
he executive committee it was not
sonal attack. It was not the pro-
l mineralogist who was attacked,
e methods followed. There was
dissatisfaction with the reports.
wanted the mineralogist to be per-
to take a different course. Let
llow Mr. Carlyle's example. Read-
amples from the report of the pro-
mineralogist, he specified that in-
was done. Mr. Robertson had
the executive if it wanted him to
lies. The committee said no, tell
th. Immigration agents did not
the disadvantages of a country.
s should be made which would in-
en to come into the country and
n examination. He had found the
rial mineralogist a gentleman.
vanted reforms in the system.
h Curtis thought the association
have the courage to do right. The
of mines was organized to pro-
he mining industry in British
bia. It was to help the prospector
e mine owner, and should induce
to come in. He would like to
f one dollar had been brought into
ntry by the bureau of mines. He
to know if a single prospector
en enabled the better to find his
l. In the report of Mr. Coleman
taric, the prospector was given
instructions as to where the min-
ould be found in a formation.
has been no such information
n British Columbia unless it might
Cariboo, and in the latter, he be-
t would be found that any in-
o given was more from the
instructions given by Mr. Hob-
n from the work of the miner-

When Atlin was covered the
s objected to the report. The
logist never went into a district
de a careful study geologically
f he could not cover all the pro-
e provincial mineralogist should
roughly the district he did ex-
If he did there would be a cry
e scientific mineralogists. But
as no outcry for the mineralogist
The presence of "ifs" and "buts"
reports always worked against
Too little time was spent in the
n Rossland camp they needed a
examination of the ground.
uld be done in the winter, as
ere miles of underground work.
red to the way in which the
bureau of mines was worked.
xperts were sent into new fields
facts published broadcast to the
Why did the bureau of mines not
te the smelting conditions? No
nt to the provincial bureau of
r information. They must have
e so that there would be a de-
r mineralogists. There were
oung men graduating from the
of mines who would gladly
such examination parties. The
ent should be told what was
Mr. Robertson had a vast
of expert information. A new
must be adopted. The bureau of
ust be reorganized and the staff
l. The report should come out
The government statistician,
well, should gather the statistics
should be taken off the mineral-

erefore suggested that Col. Prior,
Kirby, E. Dewdney and K. Mar-
ld form a committee to suggest

plans for a reorganization of the bureau of mines.

Col. Prior in coming, as Premier of the province, before the convention last year, and offering the funds of the province for the committee in settling the strike at Fernie, was doing a great work. The province owed a great debt of gratitude to Col. Prior for that action.

Mr. Lamb moved as follows:

That the report be not adopted, but that, in the opinion of this convention, the bureau of mines is not as efficient as it might, with no further expenditure, be made, and that the government be asked to consider and institute such improvements in the bureau as the association recommends, and that a committee be appointed by this convention to prepare the said recommendations and report this afternoon to the convention.

Col. Prior said that as there was no member of the government present and as having been minister of mines he might give some information. He said he agreed with what Mr. Hobson had said. Without money the department of mines could not give the benefits needed. Mr. Robertson was the right man. The minister was responsible. It was the system which was wrong. When he took office he found Mr. Robertson doing office work. He had a deputy minister appointed to take this office work off his shoulders and allow Mr. Robertson to go into the field. There should be half a dozen mineralogists in the province. He thought that the mineralogist should report only upon the mineral and geological formations and not report upon the mines. (Applause). It was nearly impossible to get monthly bulletins issued. There were those who opposed it also as the returns were so small compared with Australia and other countries. He had personally been highly pleased when an association like this was formed of expert men from whom information could be obtained. Any member of a government would be a fool who would not appreciate the benefit to be derived from this association. The resolution should be altered. Let it come as a suggestion, and not as forcing anything upon the government.

C. F. Jackson did not think that the bureau of mines was necessary to boom the industry. There was plenty of money back of it for that purpose. The mining industry was in a better condition now than it was some years ago. He did not know whether it was because of the more conservative policy of the bureau of mines or not. They should be very careful in the action. He did not approve of a suggestion to suppress a truth in connection with reports. (Applause.)

Mr. Howse said that he did not suggest that Mr. Robertson should make any statements which were not true. All they wanted Mr. Robertson to eliminate was his suggestions of doubt.

Mr. Lamb withdrew his amendment.

The following resolution was introduced by Mr. Kirby:

Resolved, That the government of British Columbia respectfully be requested to consider the question of improving the efficiency of the bureau of mines and bringing it into closer touch with the mining industry, and particularly to so improve the nature of its operations and its reports as to assist the mining industry by scientific and geological information, and to avoid anything which may be misconstrued as affecting the commercial prospects and claims of mining districts.

Mr. Hobson, supported Mr. Kirby's resolution. He explained that the original resolution as put before the convention from the executive committee was a compromise. As first introduced into the executive he had opposed it as it was a personal attack. With the personal elements eliminated he had supported it. He preferred this resolution of Mr. Kirby's, however.

The resolution of Mr. Kirby was carried, and substituted for the original one referring to the mining bureau's work.

Before dismissing, His Honor the Lieut.-Governor said that he had read the reports of the convention, and was much interested. He had been struck by the introduction of the points between the West and the East of the Dominion. The rich mines of British Columbia and the manufactures of the East had come up. He thought they should be wide enough in their sympathies to recognize the needs of the East. This had been manifested by the association, and sympathy was shown for the needs of the East. He hoped that the proceedings would be read by all in the East. He would close by hoping that Providence would bless their work.

Three cheers and a tiger were given for His Honor, and the meeting adjourned until 2.30 this afternoon.

WRESTLING TOURNEY.

Match Between Chief Two Feathers and D. A. McMillan—Another Contest at an Early Date.

It is probable that Victorians will soon have the opportunity to witness one of the most interesting wrestling tournaments that has ever been brought off in British Columbia. The challenge from D. A. MacMillan, has been accepted on behalf of Chief Two Feathers, and it is altogether likely that the contest will take place here.

Another match is promised between J. O'Neill and five local men.

As will be remembered, Mr. O'Neill agreed to throw any five men in an hour, and has put up a forfeit which he will lose if he fails to carry out the contract. Four sailors and a civilian are willing to meet O'Neill under these conditions, and the contest will take place as a preliminary to the first mentioned struggle.

On Thursday Mr. O'Neill called at the Times office and deposited $25 to cover the forfeit put up by Mr. McMillan. He also signed an agreement on behalf of Chief Two Feathers to meet McMillan and throw him three times in one hour, for a $500 purse, $250 a side. Two Feathers, he said, was ready to wrestle at any time, and at any place suitable to McMillan.

Continuing, he said that he would prefer to have the match take place in Victoria. His contest with the five local men could then take place on the same evening, and the entertainment would be one of exceptional interest.

Mr. O'Neill expresses confidence in the ability of Two Feathers to throw his opponent. He does not, however, underestimate the prowess of McMillan, but acknowledges him to be a first class man, strong, quick and thoroughly acquainted with all the intricacies of wrestling.

Two Feathers stands 6 feet 4½ inches in his stocking feet and weighs 220 pounds. Up to the present he had not met with any decisive defeat. From Victoria he will go East, and is under contract to meet Sharkey at Minneapolis towards the end of next month.

GET INSTANT RELIEF FROM PILES.—This most irritating disease relieved in ten minutes by using Dr. Agnew's Ointment, and a cure in from three to six nights. Thousands testify of its goodness. Good for Eczema, Salt Rheum, and all skin diseases. If you are without faith, one application will convince. 35 cents. Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—127.

WEEKLY WEATHER SYNOPSIS.

Victoria Meteorological Office,
17th to 23rd February, 1904.

The weather during this week has been unusually overcast and rainy along the Coast, on the Mainland there has been an abnormal amount of cold weather, and between the ranges in Northern British Columbia a large amount of snow. Frost occurred on the Lower Mainland upon six out of the seven days, and the large quantities of ice in the Fraser has prevented the boats from getting up the river. Though the winds have not been heavy in this vicinity, except for a few hours on the 22nd, several severe storms have occurred on the coasts of Oregon and Washington. The heaviest wind velocity reported was 76 miles an hour at Cape Flattery during the afternoon of the 22nd. At the same time thunderstorms occurred on the Sound, and heavy wind, rain and sleet squalls were reported on the Straits of Fuca and Georgia.

The weather has been quite cold in Cariboo and Kootenay, though upon no day did the temperature fall below zero. On the other hand in the Territories and Manitoba the temperature has been below zero throughout the week and light snow occurred upon several days. The lowest temperature recorded was 36 below zero at Prince Albert. In the Yukon steady cold weather has prevailed, the average daily highest temperature was only 21 below zero and the average daily lowest was 31 below zero.

Victoria—Sunshine recorded was 6 hours; rainfall, 1.12 inch; highest temperature, 49.3 on 21st; and lowest, 34.2 on 20th.

New Westminster—Rain and melted snow, 1.92 inches; highest temperature, 44 on the 18th; and lowest, 32 on 20th, 21st and 22nd.

Kamloops—Snow, 5.4 inches; highest temperature, 42 on 18th; and lowest, 12 on 17th and 22nd.

Barkerville—Snow, 13.00 inches; highest temperature, 32 on 17th and 18th; lowest, 2 on 20th and 22rd.

Dawson—Snow, .2 inch; highest temperature, 10 below on 22nd; lowest, 44 below on 20th.

Local News.

GLEANINGS OF CITY AND PROVINCIAL NEWS IN A CONDENSED FORM.

—The allied Press Association of Indiana will come west on a tour next summer. W. J. White, superintendent of immigration agencies at Ottawa, has completed arrangements.

—The attention of section commanders of the Fifth Regiment is called to the fact that all entries for the competitions between sections for the prize presented by the O. C. regiment must be handed in to the adjutant by Monday, the 29th inst.

—An "At Home" was held on Tuesday at the Odd Fellows' hall under the auspices of the Sisters of Rebecca, I. O. O. F. There was a large attendance. An excellent programme, consisting of musical selections, recitations, etc., was rendered, after which refreshments were distributed. A pleasant time was spent by all present.

—The city council held a special session Wednesday. The principal business was the appointment of two representatives of the council on the executive board of agricultural association. Ald. Fell and H. B. Thomson, of Messrs. Turner, Beeton & Co., were named. Now that the personnel of the executive has been completed, work preparatory to the forthcoming exhibition will be proceeded with.

—Awaiting orders to leave for home and take his position in the army which the Makado will put in the field against Russia, is Capt. Wada, who lives in this city. This officer belongs to the Japanese cavalry. Capt. Wada is an athletic looking fellow, with a quick intellect. He expects that probably before the middle of next month he may be called upon to leave for his home.

—A great deal of interest is being manifested in the second annual postmen's concert which will be given in the Victoria theatre on Monday evening next. The features of the programme have been already published, and there is no doubt that as far as this essential is concerned the success of the entertainment is assured. The concert will be in aid of the emergency fund. Seats may be secured at Waitt & Co.'s store, Government street. Tickets may be obtained from any of the postmen.

—F. W. Peters, assistant traffic manager of the C. P. R. railway, is paying Victoria one of his periodical tours of inspection. He arrived from Vancouver on the R.M.S. Empress of China Tuesday night, and after looking over the company's business here will leave for Seattle to inspect the work there being done. He will return to Winnipeg by way of the Kootenay country. Mr. Peters is accompanied by B. W. Greer, the Vancouver freight agent.

—A special effort will be made to secure a first class mineral exhibit for the annual fall fair. The display will be more comprehensive than usual, as specimens will be secured from all mining districts of the province. The Rossland Miner says: "An exhibit of minerals from the Rossland camp and district is wanted for the Victoria exhibition next summer. D. C. Hills, formerly of Rossland, has returned to the city from Victoria, where he has spent the winter, and while here will interest himself in the matter of arranging for such an exhibit."

—A cabinet has been received by the department of agriculture containing a collection of one hundred varieties of economic seeds from the seed laboratory of the department of agriculture, Ottawa. The collection embraces seeds of most of the grasses, clovers and weeds, so that any seed can be identified by comparison. It, therefore, cannot fail to be of the greatest utility to farmers and others who wish to be informed on the subject of seeds. It is intended to be used in connection with lectures at farmers' institute meetings, but is to be seen at any time on application to the deputy minister of agriculture.

—Provincial Deputy Mrs. Spofford, of the Ladies of the Maccabees, has just completed the organization of a third hive in this city, which will be known as the Queen Alexandra Hive, No. 11. The following officers were installed on Monday afternoon last at the Alexandra Royal College of Music: Lady commander, Mrs. D. R. Harris; lady lieutenant commander, Mrs. F. W. Vincent; lady record keeper, Miss Birdie Cooke; lady finance keeper, Mrs. J. K. Lawson; lady chaplain, Mrs. D. C. Christopher; lady mistress-at-arms, Mrs. A. B. Reid; lady sergeant, Mrs. (Dr.) Foot; lady sentinel, Mrs. R. Campbell. The new hive will meet at the Alexandra College on the second Monday of each month at 8 o'clock, and the fourth Monday at 3 o'clock.

—Ald. Fell has taken the initiative in providing an improvement, the desirability of which has frequently been commented upon. He has given notice of motion requiring that the council committee for the Home for the Aged and Infirm be instructed and authorized to secure an option on a suitable site for a new home, and to obtain a preliminary sketch and estimate of the cost. The motion refers to the increasing number of graves on the ground immediately surrounding the institution and describes the state of affairs existing there as a constant cruel shock to the feelings of the inmates, offensive to good taste and a reflection on civic government.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

—The total clearings of the Victoria clearing house for the week ending February 23rd, were $658,502.

—The case of the sailor Hoffman, charged with unnatural offences on the high seas, was dismissed in the provincial police court Tuesday. There was no confirmatory evidence against him. There were two charges. One was thrown out and the other withdrawn.

—The funeral of the late Chester D. Andrews took place yesterday afternoon from W. J. Hanna's undertaking parlors. The services were conducted by Rev. E. G. Miller, and the pallbearers were Messrs. T. Gilligan, A. Campbell, A. Lipsky, F. Merrill, M. L. Jewell and J. M. Stewart. There was a large attendance of friends.

—In the police court Wednesday the magistrate sentenced a Chinaman to one month's imprisonment with hard labor for the theft of some cordwood from Painter's wood yard. The culprit was caught in the small hours of the morning by Constable Abbott with a couple of pieces in his possession and promptly gathered in.

—Bullock Webster, acting superintendent of the provincial police, yesterday conducted an inquiry into certain charges of unfair treatment made by Gustav Kircheimer, one of the prisoners of the provincial jail, against Warden John. The ill treatment complained of was principally based on orders given compelling the prisoner to work on the chain gang. Mr. Webster investigated the whole matter and will send in his report to the attorney-general's department.

—Rev. Dr. Campbell last evening united in marriage Mr. John Andrew Graham, of New Brunswick, and Miss Margaret Jane McAfee, of Victoria. The ceremony was performed in the First Presbyterian church in the presence of the friends of the principals. The bridegroom was supported by Mr. Andrew McAfee, a brother of the bride, and Miss L. McAfee acted as bridesmaid. After the wedding supper the newly united couple left for the Sound, where they will spend their honeymoon, after which they will make their home in this city.

—In Chambers this morning a couple of cases were heard. In McDonald and others against Johnson and others, G. Morphy, for plaintiffs, and F. B. Gregory for defendants, application was made to set aside a judgment. The application was granted upon the defendants giving security to the amount of filed liens, not already entered. In Morgan vs. British-Yukon Navigation Company, J. M. Bradburn for plaintiffs, and R. Cassidy for defendants, an order was made for an affidavit to be made by the secretary of the company within 28 days.

—A fire at Landsberg's Indian bazaar on Johnson street last night about 10 o'clock occupied the attention of the fire department for a short time. It was burning in the upper story and was making considerable headway when the firemen arrived. The blaze was due to a defective chimney inside the wainscotting which Mr. Landsberg had made when he took over the premises. It is also used by a neighboring firm, and it is expected that the fire originated in this way. Mr. Landsberg said he ha no fire on his premises. The damaged amounted to a hundred dollars.

—The Metropolitan Epworth League school social, held last evening, was a great success. There was a large crowd and a good time was spent by those present. After the school exercises were gone through, a very interesting programme was rendered. Those taking part were Mesdames Knott, McCallum, Foxall and Charlton; Misses Foxall, Wier, and and E. Jones, Pearl and Lettie Mathews, and Messrs. Willie Foxall, Sammy Knott and Arthur Charlton. Refreshments were served and a pleasant evening brought to a close by the singing of "God Save the King."

—Workmen yesterday began tracklaying from North Park street to the property recently acquired by the city, from which gravel will be excavated for filling in the James Bay flats. The distance is about eight hundred feet, and it is expected everything will be ready for the operation of dump cars in the course of a few days. Four of these will be used. Two carloads at a time, consisting of ten cubic yards or fifteen tons, will be deposited on the flats along the line of Government street. From eight to ten thousand yards will be conveyed in this manner, the object being to complete the permanent roadway as soon as possible. The other roadway, the proposed Douglas street extension, has been constructed from Belleville as far as Weiler's property. Here it must stop, however, until the arbitration proceedings involved are held.

—The annual meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association will be held next week, when important business will be considered. A strong effort will be made to clear up the indebtedness of the association, which amounts to several hundred dollars. When this has been paid off the attention of the directors will be devoted to improvements in the gymnasium and rooms. The Y. M. C. A. is now considered to be on a firm financial basis. The first year's work has been most successful. An expense amounting to about $1,500 was entailed in securing and equipping the rooms. This expenditure will not be necessary during the ensuing year, and it is hoped it will not be long before there is a surplus in the treasury. Some of the most sanguine of the directors are looking forward to having a Y. M. C. A. building erected in the course of a year or two.

—"I'll have a first call baseball team this year," said Frank Newman, who is well known here as the manager of the Manuel Lopez nine, which played several games last season with the Victoria team. Mr. Newman is now the representative of the Pacific Coast Sportsman and is in the city securing data for an article on yachting. He says that the international meet, which takes place here next summer, will be one of the most representative ever held on the coast. It is expected over thirty yachts will compete. He estimates that there will be eleven from Seattle, four from Tacoma, two from Olympia, four from Bellingham Bay, one from Everett, and seven from Vancouver. Mr. Newman says Johnson Bros., of Seattle, are constructing a speedy 44-footer, which will also participate in the races. Referring to baseball, he says that he has already organized his team for the ensuing season, and that it will again be known as the "Manuel Lopez" nine.

—At the assembly hall of the High school building Wednesday, an excellent entertainment was given by the pupils of the junior and intermediate divisions of the Girls' Central school. There was a large attendance of parents and friends, and all spent a thoroughly enjoyable time. This is only one of a series of entertainments to be given by the Girls' school.

—The annual meeting of the subscribers to the Protestant Orphanage will be held in the committee room of the city hall next Monday afternoon, commencing at 4 o'clock. The business will be the reports of the various officers, election of management committee for the ensuing year, and other matters concerning the welfare of the institution

—A meeting of the Provincial Board of Horticulture was held in the agricultural department of the parliament buildings Thursday, when the recent amendments to the Horticultural Board Act were considered. These amendments apply to the licensing of nursery stock dealers in the province, and how best to obtain the licenses was the principal matter before the meeting this morning.

—Two games of the shuffle tournament in connection with the Y. M. C. A. were played Wednesday. E. Middleton and E. B. Jones beat Watkins and Loveridge by a score of 21-4, 20-4, and J. Middleton and C. Haskin defeated Gillis and Roseamp by 20-18, 20-6. A series of games will be played on Friday evening between teams representing the Centennial school and Y. M. C. A.

—A very enjoyable social was held at the Spring Ridge Baptist Sunday school-room on Monday evening. Besides music and refreshments, there were several novelties in the way of amusements, including a conundrum competition, and a search for hearts (paper ones), prizes being awarded to those discovering the largest number. The entertainment was under the direction of Mrs. Pineo and Mrs. McNaughton.

—A meeting of the Victoria Fruit Growers' Association will be held today in the rooms of the department of agriculture to discuss the business of the coming year. Reports will be received from the various committees appointed at the last general meeting to investigate the different methods of conducting the fruit growing industry, and these papers, it is expected, will pave the way for very profitable discussion.

—There arrived from Australia on the R. M. S. Miowera a few days ago the owner of a sheep ranch, who has come to Canada to see what openings there are for the manufacture of woollen garments. He has visited the Northwest, where he believes a big market can be found, and he has come to the conclusion that woollen products can be manufactured cheaper on this coast through importing the neccessary raw material from Australia for them than the Ontario goods can be sold.

—An exhibition of the fire extinguishing qualities of "Kilfyre," an Eastern preparation for putting out fires, for which R. W. Clark is the agent for British Columbia, was given by Chief Watson Wednesday afternoon. Large packing cases filled with kindling and excelsior and saturated with coal oil were ignited and the chief showed how effective Kilfyre was as an extinguisher. For small blazes it is invaluable. H. J. Knott has taken up the agency for Victoria. Messrs. Spencer & Co., and the Board of Trade have given orders for a supply of the extinguishers.

—Armament-Sergeant C. W. W. Hooper and Mrs. Hooper arrived on Sunday evening from England to take up their residence in this city. The branch of the service to which the sergeant belongs has in charge all repairs in connection with the big guns. It is in reality a corps of expert machinists and renders very necessary and very efficient service, and the sergeant expects to be here five years. Changes are made less frequently in this branch of the service than in others. With Sergeant Hooper there arrived two corporals and five privates of the Ordnance Corps, which has charge of artillery stores and their issuing.

Lever's Y-Z (Wise Head) Disinfectant Soap Powder is a boon to any home. It disinfects and cleans at the same time.

—Wednesday the newly installed officers of Post No. 1, Native Sons, were installed by Past Chief Factor Dr. J. D. Helmcken; Chief Factor, W. H. Langley; chief factor, Thos. Watson; first vice-factor, George T. Fox; second vice-factor, S. Sea, jr.; secretary-treasurer, E. J. Johnston; recording secretary, A. E. Haynes; treasurer, J. McTavish; inside sentinel, E. Hiscocks; outside sentinel, E. Smithurst. Supper was served at the close of the ceremony and was accorded ample justice by the sixty members in attendance. An adjournment was taken to the lodge room, where the proceedings partook of the nature of a social gathering.

A TWO MINUTE CRAMP CURE

That isn't equalled the world over is Nerviline, the greatest relief for cramps and stomach pains ever discovered. Nerviline acts promptly and is very pleasant to take. "I think Nerviline is the finest remedy in the world for colic and cramps," writes W. B. Wilton, of Toledo. "When I take Nerviline I know it's going to relieve quickly and for that reason I am never without it. I have found Nerviline good for sick headache and stomach troubles and recommend it for strength and sureness." Excellent for inward use—good to rub on. Price 25c.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box.

Results from common soaps: eczema, coarse hands, ragged clothes, shrunken flannels.

SUNLIGHT SOAP REDUCES EXPENSE

Ask for the Octagon Bar 237

ANGLO-FRENCH TREATY PENDING

COMPLETE ACCORD PRACTICALLY ASSURED

Questions in Dispute With Regard to Egypt, Morocco and Newfoundland Being Adjusted.

London, Feb. 25.—Premier Balfour had sufficiently recovered his health to come from Brighton to this city to-day to preside at a cabinet meeting. Prior to the meeting, the French ambassador, M. Cambon, called at the foreign office and had an hour's talk with Foreign Secretary Lansdowne.

The ambassador returned here from Paris last night, and apart from an exchange of views in regard to the most recent developments of the war, on which subject more than two cabinets are keeping in the closest touch with each other, there is good reason to believe that a settlement of all matters in dispute between France and Great Britain is on the eve of being arranged. Such questions as Egypt, Morocco, Newfoundland, etc., have been fully discussed by the two government for some months, and the differences are being gradually eliminated, until practically nothing remains but an early signature of a treaty removing all the outstanding obstacles to a complete accord between the two powers.

PROTECTION FOR LUMBER INDUSTRY.

To the Editor:—The poor, down-trodden (?) lumber manufacturers of British Columbia are urging the Dominion government to place a duty on their products, and the reason they assign for this proposition is because the settlers and farmers of the Northwest are looking around for and getting something cheaper than the British Columbia magnate offers them. At this juncture it is quite interesting to note that the C. P. R., by reason of the increased taxation imposed on them by the British Columbia government, do not intend to reduce freight rates. The lumbermen of this province have no one to blame but themselves for the conditions which exist as to the price of lumber in the Northwest to-day. Before coming to this province I lived in Eastern Canada. The climate here being more genial was one of the inducements that led me to make the change. Further than this I was attracted by the fact that this province was one of great forest wealth. If I could believe the literature that was sent out by the C. P. R. and the provincial authorities this country was prolific in immense pine and fir trees, and possessed the largest shingle mill in the world. And while I noticed I would have to pay pretty stiff prices for land, and labor was high, supposed the material for my house could be obtained at a reasonable figure. Therefore I came to the Okanagan valley in the winter of 1903, purchased a lot and started to build. Here are the prices that confronted me: $15 a thousand for common rough boards, some of them with knot holes that I could put my fist through; siding that would hardly go together, called first class, $25 a thousand; shingles $3.50, when I could get as good a shingle in the east for $2. Quite naturally I asked the cause of these high prices, and I was informed that a combine had been formed at the coast. In the Territories the prices were higher still, and the people were revolting at the excessive prices demanded for building material, and preferred to live in sod houses rather than submit to the iron hand of the combine. Feeling was so intense that the Tory party at their convention, held at Moose Jaw on March 26th, 1903, adopted the following plank in their platform: "That combinations of capital, by whatever name they are called, must obey the law and submit to legal restraint if they become pernicious, dangerous to the public safety or tyrannical, or if they attempt to use their power to crush our lawful competition, as has been the case in respect to the lumber business in the Territories, and the law should be so amended as to place in the hands of the people the means of readily and effectually dealing with such combinations." This resolution was directed especially at the British Columbia lumbermen.

The great prairie lands of Canada are treeless. Nature so lavish in fertility of soil has denied it forest wealth. British Columbia has timber and timber lands in abundance, and of excellent quality too, and the manufacturer does not require a cent of duty to protect him, but can make good money if he will only supply the Territories at reasonable rates, and he is also in a position to shut out all competition from any source. It is to be hoped that the Dominion government will not make any change in the tariff whereby these gentlemen will be enabled to form combines and advance the prices of lumber to the detriment of the people who are coming, not only to the Territories, but to British Columbia as well.

H. ATKINSON.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Good Showing Will Be Made By Y. M. C. A. for Past Year.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Y. M. C. A. will be held on Wednesday evening. Five new members to fill the vacancies on the board of management, created by the retirement of those who have served out their term of office, will be appointed, and among other business of the meeting will be the reading of the annual reports. The financial statement, which will be read, will show a deficit of $456.40, which it is hoped to wipe out early in the new year of the society's career.

Although a deficit is shown, however, the figures are encouraging, for during the year $1,308 was expended on furnishings, etc. Total receipts of the year were $3,739.03, made up as follows: Sustaining members' fees, $999.85; ordinary members' fees, $737.45; special donations, $066.85; entertainments, excursion, etc., $575.35; collections, $108.90; sundries, $140.69; debentures, $110.00.

By way of expenditure there were outlays, in addition to that on furniture, fixtures, etc., $482.67 for lighting and heating; $1,088.35 for salaries, and $381.03 for printing, literature, and for sundry expenses. There is cash on hand amounting to $78.

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COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS — VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Artistic, quaint, graceful and old-time shapes, showing along with a number of useful, pleasing forms on quite modern lines, at the following prices:

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TOILET SETS, 10 PIECES.

Neat printed designs, choice of two good shapes, new patterns in Canton, Pink and Blue, at..... $3.00 Set.

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Enamelled and Gilt, pretty patterns. Tall-shaped ewer on foot, gold edge and traced embossments with stipled effects, at..... $7.00 Set.

TOILET SETS, 12 PIECES

High-class decorations in floral and conventional designs, tastefully wrought in rich blues and greens and Crown Derby Patterns, also some delicate stipling in dainty pinks and blues relieved with gold on the very latest shapes at..... $12.50 Set

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And search and you will not be able to find a place where your interests are considered as we consider them. The thought we give to our business is all expended for your benefit.

FRENCH PRUNES, 80-90s ..... 5c. lb.
FRENCH PRUNES, 50-60s ..... 8c. lb.
FRENCH PRUNES, 30-40s ..... 12½c. lb.

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The Only Independent Grocers

..FISH 4 LENT..

EASTERN CODFISH, per lb. ..... 10c.
BLOCKS CODFISH, 2 lbs. each ..... 20c.
BLACK COD, 2 lbs. for ..... 25c.
LABRADOR HERRING, 2 lbs. for ..... 25c.
MACKEREL, each ..... 25c.
SALT OOLICHANS, 3 lbs. for ..... 25c.
SALMON BELLIES, per lb. ..... 10c.
FRESH FINNAN HADDIES, per lb. ..... 15c.
KIPPERED HERRINGS, 2 lbs. for ..... 25c.
SMOKED SALMON, per lb. ..... 15c.

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'Phone 88. 42 Government Street

PREFERENCE HAS BEEN GRANTED NEW ZEALAND

Similar Treatment Has Been Offered to South Africa, But Not Yet Accepted.

Ottawa, Feb. 24.—Canada has extended the trade preference of 33⅓ per cent. to New Zealand. Preference is now given to Great Britain and Ireland, the British West Indies, which includes British Guiana, Bermuda and New Zealand, and has been offered to South Africa, but not yet accepted.

Price of Bread Raised.

The price of bread went up one cent here yesterday. A large loaf, which cost ten cents, is now eleven cents. One of the most prominent bakers in town told your correspondent that another cent would be added next week.

—The action of the Greenwood school board against A. B. McNeill, of this city, was dismissed the other day. It appears that Mr. McNeill applied for and secured an appointment to the school at Greenwood. In the meantime, however, he was appointed to the teaching staff of South Park school and wired to Greenwood to this effect. The school board of that place began suit for damages against him, and the matter was dealt with the other day. The action was dismissed on the ground that the secretary of the board had no authority to enter into a contract with Mr. McNeill without the authority of the trustees. Messrs. Higgins & Elliott acted as counsel for the defendant.

Mortgage Sale

Under and by virtue of the powers contained in a certain Indenture of Mortgage bearing date the 28th day of June, 1894, and duly registered at the Land Registry Office, Victoria, in Charge Book Volume 13, folio 97, No. 16,385B, tenders will be received at the office of the undersigned, Bastion Square, Victoria, B. C., until noon of the 11th day of March, 1904, for the purchase of the following property, viz: The east 70 acres of section 7 and the east 40 acres of section 8, range V, and the west half of section 8, range VI, Quamichan district, British Columbia, containing 160 acres, excepting thereout that portion, being the southeast corner of section 7, range V., conveyed to one Walter Foord, registered in the Land Registry Office, Victoria, in Absolute Fees Book, volume 14, folio 93, No. 13,972E.

The mortgagee does not bind himself to accept the highest or any tender.

Dated 11th February, 1904.

PELL & GREGORY,
Solicitors for Mortgagee.

BORN.

M'MILLAN—At Phoenix, on Feb. 18th, the wife of W. J. McMillan, of a daughter.

COCKLE—At Kaslo, on Feb. 12th, the wife of R. A. Cockle, of a son.

M'ANN—At Kaslo, on Feb. 12th, the wife of C. W. McAnn, of a daughter.

HOGG—At Kaslo, on Feb. 14th, the wife of F. B. Hogg, of a son.

COLE—At 20 Princess avenue, Victoria, on Feb. 20th, the wife of H. T. Cole, of a son.

MARRIED.

CAMPBELL-RICHARDS—At Phoenix, on Feb. 15th, by Rev. E. C. W. MacColl, John N. Campbell and Miss Edith Florence Richards.

BARNARD-KNIGHT—At Ducks, B. C., on Feb. 20th, by Rev. T. O. Miller, B. A., Fred. O. Barnard and Miss Maude Knight.

DIED.

BASSETT—At Vancouver, on Feb. 23rd, Mary Bassett, aged 54 years.

BLACKWOOD—At Vancouver, on Feb. 23rd, Donald M. Blackwood, aged 58 years.