na's Empress Dowager Dead

ces Received By Victoria Members of Chinese Reform Society.

ressives Are Jubilant at Re val of Celestial Empire's Tyrant.

ongst the members of the Chinese n Society of Victoria there is quiet rejoicing at the news of eath of the old Empress Dowager of the celestial empire. The unted demise took place in Pekin two weeks ago, and advices re- from the Orient lately confirm mor to that effect which has been culation, and which was found ible until yesterday to substanti-

ppears, from the private corres- ce received by members of the n party here, that the stuffing of old lady was quite in accordance er sweet reputation as "a bonny ;" she deceased like a wildcat as partaken of strychnined meat, er attendants sought an amus- less laden with cobalt and azure, e remarks of the lady were simply table. So say the private reports, ly from prejudiced persons, but ain fact remains, that she stood path of all progress in China ept alive the insane hatred for reigner and made it impossible for lightened men who stood ready ars to put China on the same which has placed Japan high up st the powers of the world, is

obsequies took place without the solemnities accorded to the dants of the Lord of Heaven. were hushed and hurried, and at f night, according to a veracious han, a member of the progressives city. Another of the reformers as asked whether the dead Em- ad gone to heaven, laughed scorn- nd, pointing to the floor, said e had gone to join her husband, d.

hinted that many of the local e who have identified themselves the work of reform in their native y may return to China to continue bors there. One of the things expected with great certainty is a ion, in which all the progressives empire will unite under some and perhaps form a new govern- with a view to giving China the conditions, such as greater per- liberty, more modern education, organization of the finances and litary and naval forces, and in the adoption of Western civili- n a modified form. The reforms sanguine that all this and much an be accomplished. They say ey have the leaders waiting ready m to begin the work so soon as r arrives.

Chinaman said that he was of lion that within seven years would have an army of ten mil- en, armed and equipped on after the European standard. gs of the local branch of the Reform Society are being held ry evening, and steps are aken to communicate with all the s of the society in America with to concerted action as soon as

STRUCTION POSTPONED.

, Crimea, Feb. 23.—The build- a railroad along a southern of the Crimea with state funds en postponed on account of the

ARGED WITH MURDER.

tford, Ont., Feb. 23.—The grand as brought a true bill against Kennedy charged with the mur- little Irene Cole in September

and tigers have little endurance, ept alive the insane hatred for reigner and made it impossible for lightened men who stood ready ars to put China on the same which has placed Japan high up st the powers of the world, is

Mikado's favorite ballad just now,

want Togo tomorrow, d I want Togo today."

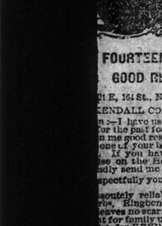
DICT OF CHICAGO RE INVESTIGATION

ill Found Against the Pro etor and Manager of Theatre.

o, Feb. 20.—The special grand mmoned to investigate the Iro- eatre fire and the charges made persons directly connected with ity of December 30th, com- s labors tonight by voting in s against five men and no bills four others. The formal report ry will not be made public until esday.

who were indicted are Will J. art owner of the Iroquois thea- omas Noonen, business manager eare, and James E. Cummins, rpenter, all of whom are with manslaughter; George city building commissioner, rd Laughlin, city building in- charged with culpable omission duty in office.

lls" were voted against Mayor Fire Marshal Musham. Fire- illiam H. Sellers and William n, operator of the flood light, fire to the asbestos curtain. h the indictments were voted not be formally drawn and to Judge Chytraus until Twes- rnoon, when the report of the be formulated.



FOURTEEN YEARS WITH GOOD RESULTS.

21 E. 16 St., New York, Sept. 8, 1903.

KENDALL CO.,

Gen.—I have used your Spavin Cure on for the past fourteen years and it has m me good results in every particular. one of your books that I have found . If you have any later edition or se on the horse and his Diseases," ndly send me one.

Respectfully yours, B. F. PRISBLE.

ecently sells the remedy for Spavins, ves, Ringbones, etc., Removes the eaves no scar. Price $1.25 for 6 bottles, at for family use it has no equal. Ask e for KENDALL'S SPAVIN CURE, ake on the Horse," the book free, or

KENDALL CO., ENOSBURG FALLS, VT.

Returns to The Attack

Seattle Daily Times Renews Its Assaults on Victoria Steamers.

Amusing Absurdities Dished Up For Special Seattle Consumption.

Seattle Daily Times on Friday evening published another article on the Victoria-Sound service, and it is even sillier than the first, which the Colonist quoted. The arguments set forth and the incorrect statements made show that these articles are the work of someone who is either seriously misinformed or is deliberately perverting the facts. The second of the Seattle Times' attacks on the British boat is as follows:

During the past twenty-four hours it has developed that the business men of Victoria have concluded to make it unpleasant for any American steamship company operating boats between Seattle and Victoria, believing that tourists are induced to remain in Seattle, Tacoma and other Sound ports, and that the city across the Straits is discriminated against.

It was for that reason that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company was forced by Victoria citizens to place the steamship Princess Beatrice on the same schedule of the vessels operated by the Puget Sound Navigation Company. They pointed out to the officers of the company that if any opposition boat was on the run excursion travel to Victoria would be encouraged by the local agents of the company and Victoria would be advertised as one of the most popular pleasure resorts on the Coast.

By reaching such a conclusion the business minds of the British Columbia city have made a great mistake. Since the American vessels have been on the Victoria run special rates have been offered during the summer months, and the officers of the Puget Sound Navigation Company long ago made arrangements with the transcontinental lines whereby tickets are sold throughout the Eastern cities direct to Victoria. Connections are made in Seattle with the boats of that company and in June, July, August or September they have the opportunity to leave morning or evening.

During the past two years the company has also arranged with the Southern Pacific Railway Company for the sale of tickets from points in California to Victoria direct. The travel from the Golden Gate to British Columbia is exceedingly heavy in the summer and tourists are given an advantage of half-fare rates.

Local steamship officers assert that many pleasure seekers reaching Seattle are desirous of making the trip to Victoria and other British Columbia cities because they like the idea of leaving the United States. They consider they are taking a trip abroad on a small scale.

Since the American steamship companies have had vessels on the Victoria run the rate between Seattle has been much lower than the established fare on the Canadian boats between Victoria and Vancouver. The fare to Victoria is $2 one way and each Saturday and Sunday during the summer months one fare for the round trip is offered to induce tourist travel to British Columbia.

For years the fare on the British boats running out of Victoria to Vancouver has been $2.50 for passage one way. It is asserted that there has never been any deviation from the established price. The distance between Victoria and Vancouver is much shorter than the route traveled by the American vessels.

American vessels offer the tourists more advantages than the British bottoms, for the reason that stops are made at Port Townsend and often Port Angeles is included in the day's run. There is more encouragement for tourists to make the trip when several stops are included than if it is sail directly across the Straits.

It is out of the question for the Puget Sound Navigation Company to change the present schedule of the Whatcom on account of government mail contracts. The people of Victoria are clamoring for a night and day boat, and it is now understood that the officials of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company will be requested to place the Princess Beatrice on a night schedule out of Seattle, giving the neighbors across the way a Seattle boat each morning.

The present schedule of the Whatcom greatly benefits United States army officials who desire to visit Port Townsend and make an inspection of the adjacent forts, returning the same day. The Victoria boat could not carry passengers between two American ports. The local Merchants' Association has joined sides with Seattle's shipping interests and the outcome will be watched with interest.

THEIR AREA AND POPULATION.

Russia Has Three Times as Many People as Japan.

The area of the Russian Empire, including Manchuria, is 9,020,000 square miles, so that it comes next to the British Empire in extent among the great powers. The population is 135,000,000, including Manchuria. The revenue is £207,000,000, and the expenditure the same.

There are large reserve funds in the treasury, on paper, at all events, totaling about £50,000,000, while a sum of £92,000,000 is kept in gold in the state bank. The treasure of the church, which is said to be worth a £100,000,000, or even more, could be utilized in any great national emergency.

The area of Japan is 160,000 square miles, including Formosa, or one third larger than the area of the United Kingdom, standing 45,000,000 in 1900, and is increasing at the rate of 500,000 annually. Her revenue and expenditure are each £27,300,000 and she has reserve funds for war totaling about £10,000,000, or rather more, available only in a great national emergency.

REPAIRING DAMAGES.

London, Feb. 23.—The damaged portions of the British steamer Lake Michigan, which collided with the British bark Matterhorn on Friday last, and was beached near Dungeness, have been located and some of the holds are now dry.

KISHINEFF MASSACRE.

Kishineff, Russia, Feb. 23.—At the resumption today of the trial of prisoners connected with the massacre here, Kurbas and Rotar, accused of murdering Abraham Kogan, were acquitted, but the former was condemned to a year's imprisonment for participating in the riots. The damage suits were dismissed.

FIRE AT GLACE BAY.

Glace Bay, C. B., Feb. 23.—Fire, followed by an explosion, destroyed the large warehouse owned by A. D. Thompson & Co., this morning; loss, $8,000. Chief Leaman of the fire department was badly injured by falling walls.

DIFFICULTIES OF NEW U. S. CONSULS

Lately Opened Ports In Czar's Control and May Refuse Exequaturs.

Paris, Feb. 20.—The Temps semi-officially this afternoon quoted a high Russian authority as follows: "Although the United States wishes to send a consul to Dalny, it is certain that the Russian government alone can judge whether it is desirable to issue an exequatur to that official. It is necessary to remember that, while Manchuria belongs to China, Russia holds Port Arthur and Dalny under a lease from the Chinese government. The war was commenced by Japan, which practically has established a state of siege at these points. What is more, it happens that the laws of war should be extended to those points, and the authorities should refuse to grant an exequatur to a foreign consul? If it pleases the United States to ask Chinese exequaturs for consuls at Mukden and Antung, it is their right to do so. But the actual situation confers upon us certain rights. Manchuria being the theatre of war, occupied by us and recognized by the United States and other powers as outside the Chinese zone of neutrality, it is for our military authorities to judge the question of receiving these consuls, even if China grants them exequaturs. I do not know the decision of Viceroy Alexieff, but they say the military authorities are free to take action if they wish."

ASSISTANCE FOR THE CZAR.

Poltava, Russia, Feb. 23.—The provincial assembly has voted $125,000 to strengthen the Russian navy, $12,500 for the Red Cross movement and $12,500 for the families of Russian soldiers and sailors who fall in battle.

ALLIANCE IS NOT VIEWED FAVORABLY

Influential French Interests Opposed to Treaty With Russia.

Paris, Feb. 20.—The permanency of the Franco-Russia alliance is still the subject of fierce public discussion. The only noteworthy declarations favoring the denunciation of the alliance was that of the Socialist leader, M. Jaures. This has led to the practical repudiation of M. Jaures by the Socialist groups in parliament. The effect of the discussion has been to show that influential elements, while not believing the alliance to be favorable at present to French interests, do not consider the time propitious for the slightest wavering in loyalty for Russia.

FROM CASSIAR DISTRICT.

Resident of Telegraph Creek Talks of Local Developments.

Mr. F. A. Matheson, manager of the Hudson's Bay Company's posts at Telegraph Creek and Dease Lake, Cassiar, arrived in the city on Sunday night. In conversation with a Colonist reporter yesterday, Mr. Matheson stated that quite a large number of people were coming into that northern portion of the province, particularly around Dease Lake, and that he, as well as they, had every faith in the mines of that portion of the country turning out to be a good paying proposition.

At present the facilities for getting freight into the Dease Lake country are not very good, and the settlers are anxiously looking forward to the railway which it is proposed to build from Nasogo Gulch into Telegraph Creek, with branches into Atlin and the Liard country.

The Hudson's Bay Company have removed their plant from Glenora, and have erected substantial buildings at Telegraph Creek, where they are doing a thriving business. The Hamfield Boy had a small hydraulic plant working all last season on Thibert Creek, and met with most successful results. The Roselle Creek Hydraulic Company are bringing in thirty tons of machinery and expect to start work next spring. Large coal beds staked were found last fall on the Tahl Tuo river by some Atlin miners. There were also several coal claims staked on the Tongeea river. The past winter has differed very much from others parts, the weather being particularly mild. Mr. Matheson stated that as soon as they got a railway and people got a chance to develop the country, he expected to see some prosperous camps in that part of the country. Mr. Matheson has a thorough knowledge of the country, having acted as manager for his company in Elmore, Teslin Lake, Telegraph and Dease Lake.

BANKS REOPENING.

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 23.—The banks in this city resumed business today in all their branches for the first time since the fire. Part of the militia guard was removed from the fire district today, where 400 men remain on duty. The dynamiting of walls has also been stopped, all dangerous walls having been razed.

LOSS ON RUSSIAN SECURITIES.

Berlin, Feb. 23.—Fritz Meyer, a banker, says the Engelsblatt, left Berlin in consequence of liabilities, amounting to $500,000 incurred on account of loss due to the depreciation of Russian securities.

To Oppose Smith.—Friends of Captain Clive Phillips-Wolley are urging that gentleman to contest the constituency represented by Ralph Smith, M. P., at the approaching federal elections. It is understood that Mr. Phillips-Wolley has intimated the possibility of his acquiescing in their wishes. That he would be a very strong candidate is admitted on all sides—the strongest, perhaps, which could possibly be nominated.

Second Day of The Convention

Resolutions of Sympathy on Death of Capt. Thompson and N. P. Shaw.

Yesterday Was a Busy Day and a Lot of Work Was Done.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

The second day's morning session of the Provincial Mining Association was called to order yesterday at 10:15 o'clock. The report of the committee on credentials was received and the suggestion that the Vancouver delegation should be seated was adopted.

The following was the report of members attending, which includes those represented by proxy:

Atlin—J. H. Brownlee, John Fountain, Chas. Jones and J. Lipscombe.

Ashcroft—J. Lehman.

Bullion—W. N. Bissett, W. W. Bissett, J. B. Hobson, G. J. Hoffmeister and W. H. Wiesler.

Clinton—Thos. Barton.

Nelson—H. E. Croasdaile, E. Jacobs, L. R. Larsen, G. W. McBride, J. G. Nelson, W. B. Poole and T. G. Proctor.

Nicola—Aspen Grove, A. E. Howse and J. E. Bate. Coalter, J. W. Collis.

Quesnelle Lake—J. Moore.

Rossland—B. Duke, A. C. Gelt, J. James, K. Martin, A. McMillan, A. Pendray, M. E. Purcell, T. H. Reed, D. Thomas, D. R. Thomas, G. Tippett, H. Seaman and F. R. Blockerger.

Soda Creek—W. Adams.

Stanley—M. Bailey and J. D. Peebles.

Trail—N. Bimns and D. Moore.

Vancouver—A. B. Clabbon, J. Findlay, C. F. Jackson, H. T. Lockyer, R. P. McLennan, T. J. Smith, G. Hilliard, J. McAdam, F. Richards and George Walkem.

Victoria—A. F. Gwinn, J. R. Beckwith, C. H. Lugrin, J. W. Bolden, A. E. MacEachren, J. C. Mapleton, R. Machin, H. C. Newton, A. A. Sparks, A. R. Sheet, A. J. Morley, J. Paterson, D. W. Higgins, Dr. T. J. Jones, Hon. E. Dewdney, F. I. Clarke, H. B. Thompson, F. Higgins, H. C. Bellingham, H. J. Scott.

Barkerville—John Hopp.

Salt Spring—Clive Phillipps-Wolley.

A short discussion ensued about proxies.

The president explained that he had sent out a notice on the 26th of last October, which, if read, would have prevented the error made by the Vancouver association as to the standing of their members. He then read his report, as follows:

Gentlemen,—The policy of the association has been to endeavor to aid the government to promote the mining industry, and we recognize it to be our duty to provide them with all data at our disposal, and all information within our reach for the attainment of the best possible conditions for the promotion, encouragement and highest development of the mining industry in the province, and to assist hon. members with all data of the House by transmitting to them copies of the resolutions passed by the last convention, as amplified by your committee; and we have been at the service of the government whenever they chose to call upon us.

Our first work, as outlined by the convention, was to do all that we could to ameliorate the industrial conditions which existed at the time we last met in this room; and the first committee appointed by you for that purpose did their work on those lines in the settlement of the Fernie strike during the entire month of March last.

The report of that committee has been laid before you, on page 602 of the Proceedings of the last Convention, to which I beg to refer you.

As to the amount of remedial legislation we have been able to accomplish, it is only necessary to remind you that no government since we became an association has been in a really favorable enough position to do very much in the way of thorough and complete investigation of our suggestions; but we have reason to hope that relief may be obtained at no very distant date.

Two recommendations made at the last convention, however, were put into effect by the late government, viz:

1. The sale of Crown granted mineral claims for delinquent taxes (which was then about to take place) when the lands would have been sold without the right of redemption, was postponed and the law was so altered as to provide time (eight months) for unfortunate owners to redeem what they had temporarily lost; and

2. The grouping of the same class of claims for the purpose of work, whereby a man can now spend sixteen hundred dollars upon one claim and do some telling work, to represent eight claims, instead of spending $200 on each of the eight claims and accomplishing nothing, or practically nothing.

The executive of our association attempted to secure another reform, viz.: The residing of the power given to attorneys-in-fact, acting for the numerous foreign companies in this country, to sell and issue stock and transfer property. We regret to say that, although the Companies' Act was amended in other respects, this reform was not carried out.

During the past year we have held four meetings of the executive; one meeting was held in Victoria, one at Vancouver, one at Rossland and one at Kamloops, each of which meetings occupied the members for periods of from three to eight days.

We sent to each local organization particulars of the meetings which we proposed to hold, together with a list of the subjects which we proposed to take up, and asked for expressions of opinion.

At the Victoria meeting we waited upon the government of the day, and as a result we got the amendments before referred to. Other reforms might have been taken up, but the members of that government were called to other duties in other spheres of life.

You will notice that we have replied to the government with suggestions for recovering the depleted provincial treasury and to compensate them for the loss of revenue which might ensue if they modified the two per cent. tax. These you will find on page 6 of the Recommendations, article 19.

The two per cent. tax has been proved to be a brake on the wheels of the mining industry, and as such it is our duty to do what we can for the persons who provide the cash for the development of our mines, and change the form of taxation which has caused such friction.

The department at Ottawa wrote to me to aid them in the collection of specimens, and on your behalf I at once took the matter up and obtained for them a magnificent series of samples weighing many tons, of the finest ores ever put on exhibition, each sample weighing about 400 pounds. These were, of course, silver-lead ores.

The clerical work of the association has recently been carried on by Mr. A. M. Jones, who consented to act until the convention, but owing to certain conditions occurring, he was compelled to resign it, and it will, therefore, be the duty of your new executive to fill the position with an able, industrious young man of good, hard-working habits.

The treasurer, Mr. Mortimer Lamb, has consented to act as our "honorary" treasurer, and will present to you his statement of account, which has been duly audited.

As to our critics, we can only say that when such criticisms are honestly made, and in the true interest of the province, we are always glad to hear them, but when made in any other spirit we simply regard them as ordinary mosquitoes of life and pass them by, as we can not, in passing through a malarious atmosphere, avoid them.

Your committee, having considered that it was advisable to incorporate this institution, hereby recommend that this be done, and will present to you a resolution thereon. We feel that this will consolidate the institution and preserve it and its useful work to posterity. We shall then be a responsible body with corporate powers and shall be able to deal with others, and they will be able to deal with us, as under our present status they could and will not.

In addition to other results, us that will be presented to you in pamphlet form, I may perhaps be permitted to add the following, viz.:

A resolution to amend section 2 of article 4, by adding a subsection (a) providing for the formation of a "general branch," which can be joined by persons who are not residents of any town where an association is in existence, as in many small camps, to admit mining men and others whose duties compel them to travel; this branch to be managed from the head office.

The necessity for such a branch has been felt during this year last past; and, subject to your approval, one is ready to be formed at once.

In conclusion, I would suggest that you thoroughly discuss the question of proxies.

Your executive have considered the question, but prefer that it should take a wider range of discussion, so that the whole of the province may be represented in the reasonings adduced in support of, and in opposition to, the proposal. It is a matter upon which there is a great deal of feeling in the far-distant regions, where the expense of traveling—without considering the time involved therein—is very considerable indeed; for it will be clear to you that at the lowest possible estimate it costs at least $100 for each delegate, or $10,000 per 100 delegates—which number we have in our midst today.

All of which is respectfully submitted on behalf of the executive committee.

(Signed) JOHN KEEN,
President.

The report of the first vice president, Mr. J. B. Hobson, was as follows:

A year has passed, and we meet again in general conference for mutual consultation and suggestion, that we may the better aid in the development of the mining industry upon which the future prosperity of our province in a great measure depends.

We are here once more to urge upon the government and legislature with enthusiastic energy and co-operative determination the necessity for adopting the remedial legislation asked for by the Provincial Mining Association to relieve the mining industry of many of the unjust and heavy burdens imposed upon it under the existing laws and regulations and to encourage the more rapid development of our great mineral and placer mining resources of our province.

The work of the association on behalf of remedial legislation shows clearly the fact that the chief work of this association is an educational one, and it demonstrates that when public recognition is accorded to the validity of our position on mining questions success becomes attainable. Persistence and organization, with a good cause, make an invincible combination, and no association could have a nobler cause than ours. We stand for the rapid development of our vast mineral resources; for the converting of our province into the greatest gold, silver, copper, lead and coal mining country in the world.

No department of government could have a higher purpose than this, and that the Provincial Mining Association will intime prove of inestimable value to the upbuilding of the province there can be no doubt.

The future of this association depends upon the co-operative enthusiasm of its members. Working together as to all propositions affecting our mutual interests, the power of this association will be invincible so long as we ask for that which is right.

I am confident that by united effort we shall succeed, and that the mining association cannot fail to have a beneficent influence on the mining industry, and will be an important factor in hastening the development of the vast mineral resources of the province.

Mr. Higgins, as second vice president, said there remained very little for him to say. He was not out for re-election and thanks to the sterling service of the president his duties had been very light.

A discussion on the reports followed, and they were eventually adopted as read.

The following committee on resolutions was appointed by the chair: A. McMillan, Rossland; T. J. Smith, Vancouver; J. Lehman, Ashcroft; A. C. Galt, Rossland, and A. B. Claborn, Vancouver.

Mr. Galt then moved the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Provincial Mining Association of British Columbia, in general convention assembled, desires to record its deep sorrow at the untimely loss of Capt. Livingston Thompson, one of the most useful and highly valued members of the association, who met his death at the wreck of the Clallam, while with characteristic courage and energy endeavoring to keep the ship afloat.

And be it further resolved, That this association extends to the bereaved widow of the late Capt. Livingston Thompson its deepest sympathy in the irreparable loss she has sustained.

And be it further resolved, That the resolution be spread upon the minutes of this association, and that a copy thereof be transmitted by the secretary to Mrs. Livingston Thompson.

In speaking to the resolution, Mr. Galt paid a very touching tribute to the deceased, and said what a useful member he had always been in the association.

Capt. Clive Phillips-Wolley, as seconder of the resolution, said he had classed the deceased as one of his most intimate friends and his undaunted bravery was the one bright spot in that awful disaster.

On motion of Messrs. Lamb and J. B. Hobson a similar resolution of sympathy was passed in connection with the death of N. P. Shaw.

Mr. Hobson asked if an invitation had been sent to the members of the government to attend the sessions of the convention, and on being informed that none had been, moved that it be now done and that the invitation be sent over by special messenger. This was on motion altered to read members of the legislature, and adopted. The invitation included the provincial mineralogist.

Mr. Martin, Rossland, moved, seconded by Mr. Duke, Rossland, that proxies be not allowed at this convention.

Mr. Higgins followed with an amendment, seconded by Mr. Croasdaile that they be and are allowed.

An animated discussion followed, showing that there was a large diversity of opinion on this subject.

The debate was adjourned without taking a vote and directly afterwards the meeting adjourned for luncheon.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session was called to order at 2:20 by the president, who announced that the preliminary report of the committee on resolutions was ready.

The first resolution submitted was moved by H. E. Croasdaile and seconded by A. E. Howse.

"That a committee from this convention be appointed to wait upon the government and endeavor to secure from them some assurance of remedial legislation, as recommended by this association; and also to respectfully request the government to give to the executive of this association an opportunity from time to time to discuss with them the particulars of all intended legislation affecting the mining industry of this province."

In moving the adoption of the resolution Mr. Croasdaile paid the executive a high compliment and said it was very necessary to obtain the sympathy of the government if the association wished to accomplish anything. If the association could obtain the views of the government on many important matters it would very materially assist the association in arriving at conclusions which would be acceptable to the government. He thought that the amount paid to the government was not as much as it ought to be, viz., $85,000. The mining community was quite willing to be taxed providing it was done in a fair and equitable way.

After some further discussion the resolution carried unanimously.

On motion the president nominated the following committee to wait on the government: Hon. E. Dewdney, Victoria; Mr. Brown, Revelstoke; D. W. Moore, Trail, E. Jacobs, Nelson, and H. Seaman, Rossland.

It was then moved by J. W. Collis, seconded by A. E. Howse: "That whereas at a meeting of the executive of the Provincial Mining Association at Rossland a resolution was passed recommending the provincial government to formulate without delay a policy for the opening up and development of all coal lands.

"And whereas, the Nicola and Similkameen coal fields are so situated as to be of great value to the smelting industry of Southern British Columbia.

"And whereas, by the opening up of the aforesaid coal fields an alternative source of supply of coal and coke would be created.

"And whereas, lack of transportation facilities is the sole reason that the said coal areas cannot be utilized for the benefit of the province.

"Therefore be it resolved that this meeting of the association respectfully urge upon the Provincial and Dominion governments to aid the construction of a railroad which will assist in the development and utilization of the said coal lands."

This motion was carried unanimously.

The resolutions relating to the by-laws were then considered and many amendments were made.

In view of certain statements made by the Nelson delegates that the members of the executive committee did not receive proper notices of business to be transacted the president read the following letter and asked if any notice could be more complete.

Notice is hereby given that the executive will meet at Kamloops, B. C., on Monday, the 23rd inst., at 10 o'clock a. m., in conformity with the resolution passed at Rossland on the 26th August last.

The following business will come up, among other things, for consideration and action:

AGENDA.

1. To confirm minutes of the last meeting.

2. To consider a report from the president.

3. To consider the question of organizing a lecture tour on mining and the pictorial representation of placer mining in the quartz districts, and quartz mining in the placer districts, for the use of the local organizations in opening up their winter sessions.

(a.) To consider ways of organizing from the locals the delegates to be present at the next convention.

5. The report of the proceedings of the next convention and the question of advertising to promote the interests to be charged, the number to be issued and the suggestion that in future these be issued free of cost.

6. To consider several suggestions as to the amendment of our by-laws and prepare same to be dealt with by the convention.

7. To consider suggestions sent in by the Victoria Branch as to an exhibit of mining machinery during the holding of the next convention.

8. To consider a case of the clashing of placer miner's rights with those of quartz miners.

9. To consider recent decisions on the working of mining claims, and the best method of disseminating the information for the general benefit of our members.

10. To consider any other matter which may properly be brought up, or which may be sent to Kamloops direct to the executive.

The executive hope you will be able to attend this meeting of the committee as it will probably be the last one prior to the convention being held.

Should, however, any unforseen circumstances prevent your attendance, please notify the executive committee at Kamloops, B. C., and let them know your views on the subjects submitted for discussion.

JOHN KEEN, President.

The following resolution was then moved by H. Mortimer Lamb and seconded by H. E. Croasdaile:

"That this association hereby endorses the resolution recently adopted by the Associated Silver-Lead Mines of British Columbia, asking the Dominion government to employ a zinc specialist to examine and make a careful study of the zinc resources of the province as to ores suitable for spelter production and the best methods for their development and utilization together with recommendation of this association at its convention in February last.

Resolved that the executive of the Provincial Mining Association of British Columbia urge such government as may be in power after the pending Provincial elections to formulate without delay a policy for the opening up and development of all coal lands: And further resolved that this executive suggests that, with respect to coal lands in Southeast Kootenay (not affected by any valid existing legal claim or right of any person or company), the government retain the title to all such, and develop the coal measures therein contained by a system of leasing to actual operators; such leases to contain stringent conditions for proper equipment, development and continuous operation, and for the full protection of the British Columbia consumers of coal and coke as to supply and price. And further resolved that the policy above suggested be extended to all coal and petroleum lands of the province.

In view of the embarrassed state of the finances of the province, and the objections which have been raised upon this ground towards measures for the relief of the mining industry, and the fact that all demands for such relief during the past two years have been met by a counter-demand on the part of the government then in power for a substitute whereby the revenues of the province would not suffer loss. Be it therefore resolved that this Association desires to re-assert that it has no wish that the mining industry be relieved at the expense of other industries, but, on the contrary, is now, and has always been, ready to pay its fair and equitable share of the taxation necessary for the economical and businesslike conduct of provincial affairs. In the opinion of this association, natural resources of the province, and not industry, should bear the chief burden of taxation. The enormous areas of valuable land now held under a taxation which is practically insignificant should be made to pay its proper share of the burden, and thus relieve industry. The association therefore respectfully recommends to the government the advisability of enquiring into and adopting the Australasian or some other equitable and uniform system of taxation on land, including mining lands, that will tend to increase the revenue, foster the settlement of the lands of the province, and encourage the development of its great mineral and other resources. In view of the vast areas of land held in this province it is believed that the revenues from such a system of taxation will more than meet the annual deficit of the province, and will enable it to materially relieve the mining industry.

That whereas the Water Clauses Consolidation Act, 1897 (R. S. B. C. 1897, p. 190) has been found to be ambiguous, defective, and unsuitable in many respects, and requires amendment speedily in the following particulars:

(a.) To remove the ambiguity created by the definition of "unrecorded water" in Section 2, when read in connection with Section 18:

(b.) To repeal Section 11, Sub-section 2 (b), when the applicant is the owner of a Crown granted mineral claim and the water is to be used to develop such claim:

(c.) To require applicants for water to advertise their application in some local newspaper in addition to posting the notices required by the Act:

(d.) To abolish the existing dual jurisdiction conferred upon gold commissioner and assistant land commissioner, and to vest the sole jurisdiction in the gold commissioner of each district:

(e.) To provide for payment of the cost of the successful party out of the disputed cases, by the unsuccessful party or parties:

(f.) A provision enabling the prospector, mineral or placer miner to secure the quantity of water required to operate the mineral or placer claim by simply recording the same, instead of being compelled to pay the high rates now charged for water privileges, which charges are entirely beyond his means; and he shall be entitled to hold said water free:

JOHN KEEN, President.

(g.) To amend the provisions of the act relating to power companies so as to remove several doubts which exist under the existing provisions of the act:

Be it therefore resolved by the executive committee of the Provincial Mining Association of British Columbia, that the said Water Clauses Consolidation Act, 1897, and amending acts require careful revision and amendment, and that the said act ought to be promptly amended in the particulars above set forth.

The convention then adjourned until 10 o'clock this morning.

"What is the difference between a honeymoon and a honeycomb?"

"A honeycomb is a collection of little cells; a honeymoon is one big cell.

TWENTY FIVE DEAD IN TRAIN WRECK

Two Freight Trains Collide Head On With Terrific Results.

Ogden, Utah, Feb. 20.—Twenty-five persons have been killed, fifteen others injured, several, it is believed, fatally, and a great amount of valuable property destroyed by an explosion of a carload of dynamite at Jackson, a telegraph station on the west end of the Great Ogden Lucerne cut of the Southern Pacific railway.

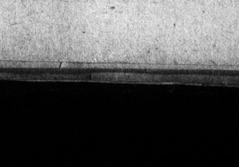
The explosion was caused by a collision between two freight trains, due, it is said, to the failure of the air brake apparatus to operate.

Eight of the dead and five of the injured are Americans, and the others are Greek laborers.

The two trains met head-on almost in front of the telegraph station. The explosion was terrific. Everything within a radius of half a mile was wrecked.

There is no state in the Union in which the influence of woman is greater than Massachusetts; and yet, strange to say, in no other state is the disproportion between the salaries paid male and female teachers, respectively, in the public schools so great as it is there. The average monthly pay of the men is $140.94 and that of the women $32.76.

France gives hospitality to 1,260,211 foreigners, of whom 1,200,000 are Europeans, while there are only 520,000 French people abroad and 218,000 of that number in Europe. There are 468,300 Belgians in France, while the Italians on French soil number 287,042, against 12,000 French in Italy. There are exactly 60,000 more Germans in France than French in Germany. There are further 77,000 Spaniards, 54,000 Swiss, and 68,000 Russians in France.



What The Earth Produces.

The earth has nourished us through unknown ages of human existence. Is it not true that the earth supplies us with everything that we really require for existence? Have you ever thought that it is probable that the earth supplies us with the means to keep our bodily vigor, our health, if we only knew it? The animals know by instinct what is good for them and will search until they find in some plant what they need for correcting indigestion or constipation, etc. Is it, therefore, not possible that there are roots and herbs supplied by nature which will cure the diseases that afflict human kind? That is why Dr. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y., has such faith in his "Medical Discovery." Years ago, when he was in general and active practice, he found that a combination of certain herbs and roots made into an alterative extract, without the use of alcohol, would always put the stomach into a healthy condition, nourish the tissues, feed the blood and nerves and put healthy tone into the whole system.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery restores the lost flesh by curing diseases of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition and enabling the perfect digestion and assimilation of food from which flesh and strength are made.

"I was all run down, very nervous, and suffered terribly from stomach trouble, which the doctors pronounced indigestion," writes Mrs. Wm. Morey, of Marshall, Mich. "I doctored for a year without permanent relief. Was advised by a friend to try Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and after the use of nine bottles I was cured. I can heartily recommend the 'Golden Medical Discovery' to any one suffering from stomach trouble. My husband was also greatly benefited by its use."

To gain knowledge of your own body—in sickness and health—send for the People's Common Sense Medical Adviser. A book of 1008 pages. Send 21 cents in stamps for paper-covered, or, 31 stamps for cloth-bound copy. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

The Fish Trap Rumor Revived

Reported Last Night That Dominion Government Had Granted Consent.

Vancouver and Westminster Is Said to Be No Longer Hostile.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

Last evening a well-defined rumor was going the rounds of the clubs and other places where men do congregate, to the effect that the Dominion government had at last consented to allow the erection of fish traps in the neighborhood of Victoria. One gentleman said that he had been told this was actually the case, as a man who had seen the important document had told him so.

Enquiry by telephone of Mr. Richard Hall, M. P. P., brought the response from that gentleman that he also had heard the rumor, but nothing of a definite or official character. He understood that within the last few days a very decided change had taken place in the sentiments of the people of Vancouver and New Westminster mainly concerned in this matter, and that the question of the erection of fish traps near Victoria, as being the spot where the most good could be done by those instruments, was now regarded with considerable favor.

Mr. Hall was of the opinion that something of a definite nature would be given out within a few days, and he had strong hopes that the great concession that would mean so much to Victoria, would be granted. Mr. George Riley, M. P., he said, was understood to be keeping himself in close touch with the federal authorities in this important matter.

As might have been expected, the circulation of the report referred to caused much satisfaction amongst the citizens of Victoria, who realize what a magnificent thing it will be for the city to have the traps erected somewhere in this vicinity. It is understood that very strong representations have been forwarded to Ottawa within the last few days pointing out the serious injustice under which Canadian canners labor on account of the want of fish traps.

The Colonist made every effort last evening to ascertain the whole truth about the matter, but was unable to do more than verify the fact that the rumor was abroad and that everybody was talking about it and what it would result in if correct.

CORRESPONDENTS GATHERE.

The Kobe Chronicle of January 27th, said of Japan and Russia ever come to blows the conflict is likely to be the best-reported event in the history of journalism. War correspondents are flocking thick and fast to the East. The majority of these generally are starting in Japan—preferably the capital—for a few days, but will soon be on their way to Korea and Manchuria, whither they have been preceded by a number of correspondents who have already visited those parts and returned to await events. A further batch of correspondents arrived in Yokohama by the Siberia on Monday, the list including Captain Lionel James and Mr. Fraser, both of the London Times, Mr. Percival Phillips of the Express, Mr. Sheldon Williams of the Sphere, Mr. Oscar K. Davis of the New York Herald, Mr. Frederick Palmer of Collier's Weekly, and Mr. Jack London for the Hearst papers. Mr. Burton, for Collier's Weekly, passed through Kobe yesterday for Korea, and, according to the Japan Advertiser, Mr. Richard Harding Davis, the American novelist, is also expected to work at the front in the interests of the same magazine.

KNOWS PORT ARTHUR WELL.

Skipper of Lyra Describes Famous Russian Stronghold, Also Dalny.

When the steamer Lyra was here the other day a Colonist reporter had a chat with Captain Williams of that vessel, and learned from him some interesting particulars of the condition existing at Port Arthur, Dalny and Vladivostock. Port Arthur harbor, said the captain, is not up to much, and it has required an enormous expenditure to put it into shape for its present shape for traffic. The Russians are sparing no expense to make it a really great shipping port, and no doubt in the course of years it will develop into something of the kind. It is defended by immensely strong fortifications, armed with the latest improved ordnance. The reason why the Japanese torpedo craft could work with such seeming impunity so close to such batteries, arose from the fact that the forts are perched upon high bluffs, and when the torpedo boats ran in under the shadow of the hills the guns above could not be depressed sufficiently to pay any pointed compliments to the little destructive vessels, which did their duty without molestation, until they had to run the gauntlet in retiring after the launching their deadly missiles.

Port Arthur roadstead is not a nice place for a ship to be when it comes on to blow real hard from "China cross the bay," as it is very much exposed to southwest winds. In Port Arthur are to be seen some splendid buildings, both business blocks and private residences, while on the streets can be noted the equipages of people of wealth and fashion. If it is a new town, it is certainly a progressive one, and its appearance speaks highly for the Russian pioneers of the Far East. It is, of course, the seat of the viceroy and his brilliant suite, and a very gay