Dominion News Notes

Provisional Contract Signed for a Steamship Line to New Zealand.

Quebec Liberals Admit Claims of B. C. to Cabinet Representation.

Evidence Taken by Commission in Matter of York County Loan Company.

OTTAWA, Dec. 29.—The department of trade and commerce concluded a contract today with R. A. Alley, representing Bucknal Bros., steamship owners, for a direct line of steamships between Victoria, Vancouver and three ports in New Zealand. The contractors are to give not less than six trips each way per annum. They will receive an annual subsidy from the Dominion government of £10,000, which is granted on condition that the New Zealand government pay a like amount.

A. W. Donly, Canadian agent in Mexico, in his last report to the department of trade, condemns in most unsparing language the shipment of Canadian apples which has been sent to Mexico. He says the centre of the barrels contained scrub stock. Naturally one wonders how this shipment escaped the eagle eyes of the inspectors.

Judging from replies received by the secretary of the Canadian Forestry association the convention called by Premier Laurier for January 10th promises to be a great success.

Candidate in Distress.

Mr. Hunt, Liberal candidate in Compton, is in distress and wants his leader's assistance. Sir Wilfrid therefore left for Compton this afternoon. Among those who were sworn in today as privy councilors: John Edward Ellis, Richard Knight Caston, Thomas Shaw, Edmund Robertson, Thomas Hart, Sir Walter Foster and Henry Labouchere.

Little Left of Pass of Melfort

Many of Lost Crew Fever Stricken—Bark May Have Been Shorthanded.

Salvor at Scene of Wreck—Light for Amphitrite Point Now on Way.

LAST night Mr. Bullen, of the B. C. Salvage Co., owners of the wrecking steamer Salvor, sent to the scene of the wreck of the British bark Pass of Melfort, receive da telegram from Capt. Harris of the Salvor, dated Ucluelet, stating that the steamer arrived this morning and would bring back to Victoria what bodies remained unburied. The Salvor is expected to reach Esquimalt tonight or tomorrow morning, bringing some of the victims of the wreck for interment here. Capt. Harris did not report the finding of other bodies or wreckage.

Little now remains of the Pass of Melfort. As far as can be learned here the disaster involved the loss of at least thirty-five lives. There were thirty-five men—master, mates, seamen and apprentices, who numbered five—signed on the vessel's articles at Port Blakely when she left that port for Ancon with lumber. Unless some deserted at Ancon, which is unlikely, or were left behind ill with fever at the Isthmus, which is more likely, 35 souls were swept to death when the bark drove on to the rocks near Amphitrite point on Tuesday night.

Patroling the Beach

The score or more white settlers at Ucluelet, aided by the Indians in the two villages on Ucluelet arm, have formed patrols and are engaged in scouring the rocky coastline seeking the corpses of other victims of the disaster. Yesterday no report of further bodies being found reached Victoria, and Capt. Gaudin, agent of marine, received no messages from the scene of the wreck.

It is thought that some of the dead seamen were sick at the time of the disaster. Capt. Niven, master of the steamer Wyneric, now loading at Tacoma, was at Ancon when the Pass of Melfort was there, and he said:

"Capt Scougal, of the vessel, shifted from the wharf out to several small islands, where he completed ballasting, while I took his berth. For weeks the Melfort remained at the islands unable to get away on account of the low fevers infecting the men, and when the vessel sailed two weeks before I did, which was November 20, Capt. Scougal was compelled to send some of his sickest men ashore. The malignancy of this malaria can hardly be exaggerated.

"On the way up all my men were at one time sick and I had to put in and remain for a week at Acapulco. Many times I had but one man attending to the nine fires beneath my boilers, and I myself had to take watch. Fifteen of my men are now in hospitals of Tacoma. I believe Capt. Scougal had the same misfortune, and God help the vessel that, with a sick crew, gets into such a storm as we have had for the past few days on a rough coast.

Strange Fatality Pursued Captain

The pity of it is that Capt. Scougal, who was a bright, active man of 55, had recently married a young wife, whom he left behind in England. Strange fatality has pursued him. He quit the sea some years ago and for the past three years has been in business in the south of England. The captain of the Pass of Melfort, John Houston died about a year ago and her first officer was promoted to be captain. He went to the dogs drinking, and the owners, knowing Capt. Scougal's ability, induced him to come to this coast and take the ship for at least one voyage.

"I believe the owners came near selling the vessel while she was at Panama. Capt. Scougal received orders to cease taking on ballast, and he was expecting to be notified of her transfer when orders came to continue ballasting. He was a kindly, good man, well liked by his crew and made friends readily. Before his temporary retirement he was master of several of the vessel's of the Pass line."

L. Benjamin, a Tacoma storekeeper supplied clothing to members of the crew of the vessel, and he took the names of the men in his books. H. Wormell, D. G. Petrie, F. G. Riches, E. Wejonen and R. G. Sharpe are the names of the Melfort's apprentices at entered in Mr. Benjamin's book. It is believed that all of these boys were on the vessel when she foundered and it is thought to be the body of one of these which was washed ashore. In addition to Captain Scougall's name, the local storekeeper also has entered Second Mate H. Meyer, Sailmaker G. Nelson, A. Grant, carpenter; J. Seater, boatswain, and Rusete, colored, cook.

Cabin Lights Plainly Visible

Officers of the steamer Chas. Nelson, which put back to Seattle from Cape Flattery on Christmas night believe they sighted the wrecked bark then at the entrance to the straits. The second mate of the Nelson was on watch at the time, and as the Nelson passed the vessel to the starboard while going off shore the captain and second mate discussed the matter as to the identity of the bark. The Nelson passed across the bow of the bark, so close that the cabin lights were plainly visible. At that time the bark was well off and somewhat below Cape Flattery. The vessel sighted was not in distress at the time and appeared to be close-hauled awaiting a chance to get into the strait or tow.

A light to be placed on Amphitrite Point, the scene of the wreck, is now on the way from England and will be established on arrival. When Mr. Fraser, superintendent of lights for the department of marine and fisheries, was visiting the island coast last summer, it was decided that a light should be placed on Amphitrite Point and another on Ragged Island, near Sechart, in Barkley Sound. The lights, which are of the order of that placed at Brotchie Ledge before the electrical apparatus was installed, will burn for 31 days without attention, and will be visible for a distance of about eight miles.

Yesterday the board of trade passed a resolution asking that arrangement be made with the Pacific Whaling Company for the use of the steam whaler Orion as a life-saving vessel when necessary, and that the whaling station at Sechart be connected by wire with the government telegraph line which runs from Victoria to Clayoquot via Ucluelet and other west coast points. Although but twelve miles or thereabouts from the scene of the disaster to the Pass of Melfort, the men at the whaling station would know nothing of it, unless canoes went from Ucluelet with the news.

Charts, Lights and Stations Inadequate

In discussing the disaster yesterday the Seattle Post-Intelligencer says: "According to Capt. E. Cantrillion, a well known skipper of this city, one of the chief causes for the lost vessels is the lack of adequate charts of this coast and the lack of lights and life saving stations. 'What is needed,' said the captain, 'is a number of life saving stations along this coast from Beale Point north. Vessels coming in from the great circle make for the entrance of the straits at about a southeast course. This brings them to within about 40 or 50 miles of the Vancouver Island shore. This is hardly room enough for a sailing vessel in a heavy gale. If she happens to fall off a point or two, the first thing she knows the heavy swells set her to the beach. Once on a lee shore and there is no hope for the ship and but little for the crew unless there is a life saving station close. The only chance a vessel has is to run for the narrow Barkley Sound. But there is only one chance in ten thousand for them. The waters are dotted with rocks, and the charts are inaccurate. Several vessels have ended in this manner. But they are very few.

"'Life-saving stations and lighthouses should be established all along that coast. It is the only way that the terrible loss of life and the destruction of vessels can be prevented.'"

The same paper says: "One thing that may have been added somewhat to the chances against the ill-fated bark in her effort to keep off the rocks of the Vancouver Island shore, according to local shipping men, was the fact that she must have been very foul. They claim that the vessel was foul when on the Sound the previous trip, and since then she had made a trip to Ancan, not having been cleaned previous to the voyage. The condition would have made handling of the vessel difficult, and may have turned the scale at a critical time."

GOLD-PLATINUM ORE.

Valuable Mineral Discovered in Place on Bear Creek Property.

It has been a matter of common information among miners and others that platinum had been found in place in the Princeton district and had also been obtained in considerable quantities by placer miners on Granite creek and on the river bars, says the Similkameen Star. In their ignorance of what it was many golddiggers in this section in the early days allowed the "white gold," as it was sometimes termed, to be dumped with tailings. But the increased demand for platinum for electrical and scientific purposes has made it more precious than gold, hence miners and prospectors are now always on the alert for it.

The recent discovery of platinum on the mineral properties of Messrs. Law & Armstrong, Bear creek, causes no surprise to those acquainted with that and the Granite creek sections. Those two sections are essentially gold platinum in formation. From the earliest days of mining prospectors have all been impressed with the pronounced indications in these parts of hidden mineral treasure. So little development has been made, however, owing to the difficulties of transportation, that actual proof was lacking, except as in the mining property above referred to and one or two others, that bodies of high grade gold-platinum ore existed.

Assays of ore from Copper and Kennedy mountains, made by Baker & Sons, Newark, N. J., return platinum in considerable values and its diffusion among the black sand with which the rivers and creeks abound in this district is well known among mining men. Some day this black sand, which is chiefly magnetic iron, will be made to produce the platinum is supposed to be dislodged by process of natural disintegration will be the ambition of many prospectors. At present the world's supply of platinum is drawn from the Ural mountains in Russia.

NEW RELIANCE MILL.

Plant on Hendryx Principle Makes a Satisfactory Start.

Nelson, Dec. 28.—The Reliance mine, on which property was installed during the fall a mill on the Hendryx principle, is now getting into shape. The mill has been running continuously for the last 14 days, treating 40 tons of ore daily with excellent results. At the end of the run the output will be increased to 50 tons, which is the present capacity of the plant.

There was a public meeting here tonight of the progressive party and of the citizens generally, advocating the election of their candidate, J. Malone, as the coming mayor. The progressives claim that Ald. Malone, who was closely identified with ex-Mayor John Houston, M. P. P., is alone the man who can be trusted to push to completion the power plant of the municipality. Candidate Malone said he was prepared to camp on the ground and fire anybody caught who sought to delay the proceedings.

Collapse of Revolution

Utter Hopelessness of the Attempt Now Grows More Apparent.

Not a Single Military Organization Said to Have Joined Revolutionists.

Hoped That Elections for the Douma Will Now Proceed.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 29.—The suppression of the insurrection at Moscow and the certainty that similar uprisings elsewhere will be crushed, mark the collapse of the first attempt of the "Reds" to overthrow the government arms, and the administering of a defeat from which it is not believed in government circles that the revolutionaries can quickly recover. Now that the smoke of battle is clearing away the utter hopelessness of the conflict seems to be apparent. The populace held aloof and not a single military unit joined the revolutionaries. Even the general strike crumbled under their feet by their challenging and precipitating a conflict before the proletariat organizations were prepared. The government secured a comparatively easy victory, and it is believed in high official circles that the organizations have been so demoralized and disrupted by the blow and the arrest of their most able leaders that it will be impossible for them to attempt the coup planned for the

Anniversary of "Bloody Sunday"

Undoubtedly the revolutionaries again will have recourse to acts of terror, which they will perpetrate at the most unexpected moments. The country has quieted down, and the cabinet now hopes that the elections to the douma are assured and that the government can devote its time to the suppression of the revolt in the Baltic provinces and more especially to the solution of the agrarian question. It means cannot be found to in some measure satisfy the land hunger of the peasants before the rising the universal opinion is that the peasants everywhere will rise. The landed proprietors seem to be convinced of this to such an extent that the landlords in the neighborhood of Minsk are calling their tenants together and are voluntarily arranging the distribution of a portion of their private holdings upon terms set.

Berlichiff, Southwest Russia, Dec. 29.—Martial law has been proclaimed here.

Divinsk, West Russia, Dec. 29.—A strike was declared here today. Martial law has been proclaimed. By the accidental explosion of a bomb at a meeting of workmen last night, eight persons were killed and 28 were wounded.

Foreign Revolutionaries Participated

It seems established that some members of the fighting organizations of the German and other foreign socialists have come to Russia to instruct the revolutionists in the use of arms, the art of constructing barricades and the manufacture of arms. Although it is only a question of time when the flames of open revolt will be extinguished, the Moscow revolutionists have made good use of their instructions to start elsewhere. For the first time the provinces east of Moscow, in the heart of Russia, are affected. At Zlatoust, a town of about 17,000 inhabitants in the government of Oofa (in the Ural mountains) where a large government arms factory is situated, the workmen seem to be in complete possession.

Generally speaking St. Petersburg is the quietest place in the empire. Nevertheless is already clear that the revolutionists are not strong enough at present to secure permanent success anywhere. It remains to be seen, however, whether the government can turn the victory to account before the revolutionary element gather themselves together for another and perhaps successful blow.

The stolid indifference of the middle class people continues to be the most hopeless feature of the situation.

Gossip of the Terminal City

Mr. Joseph Martin Declines to Be Classed as a Plutocrat.

Sparrows Short-Circuit High Potential Wires of Power Company.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Dec. 29.—Joseph Martin, K. C., was assessed for $100,000 income from his law business. He swore before the revising judges today that he was not making that much and had the assessment cut down. Mr. Martin did not state his income, and the assessor sized it up as the sum mentioned.

The power plant of the British Columbia Electric Company has been out of business several times lately for very brief intervals and the cause could not be ascertained. It now transpires that some small sparrows built their

Nests in High Potential Wires

of the anchor towers at Barnet. The small birds, each time they came into contact with the wire, short-circuited the system, and the little birds were reduced to a smudge on the wire. Several of these smudges were found, indicating the death of a sparrow.

The Nanaimo Lumber Company, which purchased the Haslam mill and timber limits several weeks ago, have just completed a deal by which less than half the limits were sold at such a price that the remaining limits and the mill stand the company at about $25,000. The sum was $37,500 in cash. The limits sold lie at Vancouver bay and Powell lake, on the mainland. The purchasers were Michigan men.

UNFORTUNATE SAN DOMINGO.

Another Revolution Headed by the Levanting President.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 28.—Mr. Joubert, the Santo Domingan minister here, called upon Secretary Root at the state department today. He had a short cablegram from Senor Tejera, the minister of foreign affairs, announcing that General Caseseres, the vice president, who was at Puerta Plata when Morales fled from the capital, was expected to arrive at San Domingo city tomorrow, and would be inducted into the presidential office.

Mr. Joubert doubted very much whether Morales intended to start another revolution. In the minister's opinion the modus vivendi under which Dominican customs revenues are now being collected by the Americans will not be affected by Morales' retirement, for the dominant party is the cabinet still stands strongly committed to the existing arrangements.

Morales' Movements

Cape Haytien, Dec. 28.—The greatest part of northern Santo Domingo is said to be in favor of General Morales. It is understood here that Morales left the capital in order to join his partizans in the north and General Rodriguez the governor of Monte Cristi, with his followers of that vicinity, have gone to meet General Morales. General Rodriguez forces are said to number thousands. It is claimed here that the report that Morales intends to establish a new capital at Monte Cristi is accurate and that he will use that place as a base from which he will endeavor to suppress the uprising of the Caceres party. Censorship of all messages has been established at Monte Cristi. Important news from Santo Domingo is expected momentarily.

REVELSTOKE CAVE.

Eminent Engineer Says There Is Nothing Like It on the Continent.

A Winnipeg despatch says. W. S. Ayres, the eminent mining and consulting engineer, has just returned from the Revelstoke caves where he made an inspection and survey for the Dominion government. These caves were discovered last spring by Charles Deutschman and bid fair to become the greatest wonder and attraction on the continent. Mr. Ayres surveyed 3,225 feet, many of the channels being absolutely unknown before. So far but little is known of the extent to which the caves penetrate into the mountain, as no one so far has been able to reach the end of any of the channels. For years these caves were unheard of despite the fact they were within a few yards of the main line of the Canadian Pacific railway. Upon his return Mr. Ayres stated that the caves were exceedingly grand, there being nothing like them on the continent. These caves have a very marked formation, being constructed of marble by the force of the action of water. Already preparations are being made for the building of a large hotel at the mouth of the cave to accommodate tourists, and other arrangements are being made to attract the interests of the traveling pubilc. It is probable that an admission will be charged to the cave and other methods adopted to make them one of the features of the Canadian northwest. In the spring efforts will be made to thoroughly explore the eaves in every way.

GRAND FORKS AHEAD.

Ald. Frank Hutton Supported by Labor Union for Mayor.

Grand Forks, Dec. 26.—At a meeting of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, just held here, the following officers for the coming year have been elected: Worthy president, H. B. Cannon; worthy vice-president, James Riddell; chaplain, Martin Dufour; secretary, Leo. Mader; conductor, Peter Pare; inside guardian; John Gilmore, outside guardian, Alex. McIntosh. In addition to the above officers a strong ticket of trustees will be elected. The official installation will take place on January 2.

At a meeting of the local labor union, just held here, a resolution was passed strongly supporting Ald. Frank Hutton will be cast for him. Ald. Hutton for the office of mayor at the approaching civic election. This action of the union means that some 300 labor votes will be cast in favor of Mr. Hutton, who will likely contest Mayor Hammer's re-election, is a foreman at the Granby smelter and has been an alderman here for the past year, with high position he has filled in a satisfactory manner. He is strongly opposed to the recent obnoxious license by-law.

Thomas Newman has just closed a deal for a seven-thirty-sixth interest in those two well-known properties on Bonanza mountain, the Blue Boy and the Fairview, both of which rank among the high-grade properties of the North Fork.

Alex. Lucas, chief provincial assessor for this district, has just held a court of revision here. There were only three appeals from the assessment.

The recent appointment of P. H. Burnham as district freight and passenger agent for the Great Northern railway, with headquarters at Grand Forks, is considered a most important factor in the establishing of Grand Forks as a railway distributing point.

RACE TROUBLE IN A COLLEGE.

Charge by Negro Students Causes President to Quit.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The trustees of Howard university today accepted the resignation of President John Gordon, to take effect at the end of the present school year in May, 1906, and granted him a leave of absence from January 1, 1906, until the school year expires. Dean Frederick D. Fairfield of the collegiate department of the university was named as acting president of the university and will assume his new duties at once.

Dr. Gordon offered his resignation after a demonstration made against him by the students in the university several weeks ago. Most of the students in Howard university are negroes and some of them charged that Dr. Gordon did not show proper respect for their race.

BOYCOTT IS SPREADING.

Shanghai Agent of American Firm Says It Has Reached 17 Provinces.

San Francisco, Dec. 29.—According to latest reports received here from the Orient the boycott in China has become so serious that a number of American houses have closed their doors until the conditions change. There arrived here yesterday from the Orient on the steamer Coptic R. Van Sant, who represented a local firm at Shanghai. Mr. Van Sant, in speaking of the boycott, said:

"The situation in China is very serious and there is absolutely nothing in the story that the feeling against American goods has lessened. It has now extended to seventeen provinces, and in Canton and Hankow the situatio is just as bad as in Shanghai. The Americans are not doing 20 per cent. of the business they formerly did and at Hongkong the Chinese were purchasing Australian flour at a much higher price than that quoted by the Americans."

DOCTOR ASKS CLEMENCY.

Alienist Pleads for Life of Condemned New York Lawyer.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 29.—Governor Higgins announced that he received a letter from Dr. Allen McLean Hamilton of New York city, in which the well-known alienist asked for executive clemency for Albert T. Patrick, the New York lawyer, who is now in Sing Sing waiting execution for the alleged murder of Wm. Marsh Rice, the millionaire.

NORDICA'S COOL BRAVERY.

Great Singer Wins an Ovation for Prompt Action on Stage.

New York, Dec. 29.—Mme. Lillian Nordica won the enthusiastic plaudits of a large matinee audience at the Metropolitan opera house today, when she cooly stamped out a blaze on the stage near the footlights, caused by fire dropping from a torch carried by a chorus woman in Gotterdammerung.

The incident occurred during the fire scene of the last act of the opera. The burning oil spilled from one of the chorus torches and set fire to the stage carpeting. The audience became uneasy and several persons started for the door. Mme. Nordica was singing at the time, and her attention was first attracted to the fire by the sudden movement of persons in the orchestra chairs, who quickly comprehended the situation. The singer walked over to the blaze, and without interrupting her song, stamped out the fire. When the act ended, Mme. Nordica was given an ovation.

ACCUSES FELLOW PASSENGER.

Son of British Member of Parliament Loses Much Jewelry.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 29.—Byron R. White of London, Eng., who says he is the son of Thomas R. White, a member of parliament, reported to the police that he had been robbed of jewelry valued at $5,000 in a Wabash train somewhere between Detroit and Kansas City last night. He expressed the belief that he was robbed by a fellow-passenger who left the train at St. Louis.

A MINNEAPOLIS FIRE.

One Person Burned to Death and Three Others Injured.

Minneapolis, Dec. 29.—One person is dead, three were seriously burned and fifteen injured or overcome by smoke in a fire in the Higgins tenements on Minnehaha avenue today. Twenty-seven families fled, shivering and half-smothered, into the streets, with the temperature 10 degrees above zero. They lost everything they possessed and were made homeless. The fire resulted from the explosion of an oil stove in the apartments of Mrs. Buckliff, who was burned to death. Mrs. Foley, Stephen Lewis and A. V. Lewis were seriously burned in rescuing persons from the building.

British Leaders On Rostrum

Premier and Ex-Premier Address Large Meeting in the Campaign.

Fiscal Reform and Home Rule for Ireland the Battle Cries.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the premier, and Arthur J. Balfour, the former premier, respective leaders of the two great parties now drawn up in battle array, addressed the United Kingdom, addressed large audiences tonight. The premier spoke at Dunfermline, Scotland, making fiscal reform his battle cry. In answering a question, he said he did not favor a separate independent legislature for Ireland, but intimated that the country should have a legislature subordinate to the imperial parliament.

Mr. Balfour spoke to a sympathetic audience at Queen's Hall, London. He asked, "Will you have fiscal reform or home rule, for this is the true issue of the campaign.' Sir Henry said that the Liberals would

Fight Protection and Fiscal Reform

during the campaign as they did while in opposition, while the former premier said that fiscal reform would be the first great question with which the Unionist party would have to deal if returned to power, and it was a question in which the welfare of the whole country is bound up.

Mr. Balfour plainly indicated that the whole attack of Unionists throughout the present campaign would be centered on the assumed intention of the Liberals to give Ireland control of its own affairs through an executive responsible directly to an Irish elective body. This Mr. Balfour said would inevitably lead to separation, which he admitted would be preferable to the continued parliamentary turmoil consequent on half-way measures. Discussing the fiscal question, Mr. Balfour said the Unionists had done nothing because they

Wanted the mandate of The Electorate before initiating a change of the policy which had been supported by the sanction of fifty years. He half-heartedly defended the education bill, which will be one of the most powerful weapons of the Liberals, saying it did not in any sense reach his ideal, but it was the best that could be done. Sir Henry devoted his entire speech to an attack on the fiscal propositions of the Unionists, and said it was the duty of the Liberals to bury any party supporting Joseph Chamberlain.

Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary, speaking to his constituents, at Belford, Northumberland, today, said that the carrying out of Mr. Chamberlain's policy would mean the ruin of the national prosperity. He assured his audience, Liberals had no intention of granting Home Rule, but that they hoped to do much for Ireland. With regard to Chinese labor, he said that the stoppage to the importation of Chinese would be followed by the establishment of a responsible government in the Transvaal which would put the colony on an equal footing with other South African Colonies.

CHESS TOURNAMENT.

New York, Dec. 29.—Two games drawn and a win by H. N. Sweet, of Brown, over E. H. Miller, of Pennsylvania, were the results of the play today in the third round of the triangular chess tournament. Pennsylvania still holds the lead tonight by a narrow margin over Brown, with Cornell third. The score stands, games won: Pennsylvania, 3½; Brown, 3; Cornell, 2½.

CHARLES YERKES DEAD.

New York, Dec. 29.—Charles T. Yerkes, the noted railway financier of Chicago and London, died today in his apartments at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel where he had been ill for more than six weeks. Mr. Yerkes suffered from a complication of diseases growing out of a severe cold which he contracted in London early in the fall.

Pacific Coast Happenings

Mother and Her Daughter Meet Death In Their Burning Home.

Cyanide of Potassium Ends the Life Story of Portland Family.

Seattle Man Visits San Francisco and Commits Suicide.

TILLAMOOK, Ore., Dec. 29.—Mrs. Pembree, wife of A. Pembree, and daughter, Ora, 17 years of age, were burned to death this morning at Sand lake, where the family lived. The house caught fire from an uncertain cause at 3 o'clock and the occupants managed to get out. Later Mrs. Pembree and her daughter, wishing to recover their effects, returned to the building. It was while on this venturesome trip that the roof fell in upon them and they were burned to death.

Redding, Cal., Dec. 29.—Fire this morning destroyed the general merchandise store of Chenoweth and Moore, and the candy store of William Kesler. The blaze started in the rear of the building occupied by both, which is owned by Mrs. Anna O'Neill.

Saloonkeeper's Suicide

Portland, Dec. 29.—The body of Kasper Van Dran, until recently a saloon keeper in this city was found in a room in a down town hotel today. He had committed suicide by swallowing cyanide of potassium. Van Dran left a note in which he blamed a former rival saloonkeeper, Joe Young, for his troubles. An unusual story is attached to the two men and the family involving the attempt of Young to kill Kasper Van Dran and the death, later, of Mrs. Van Dran from cyanide poisoning, administered by some persons unknown to the authorities. Last summer Van Dran was shot and seriously injured by Young for alleged interference in the domestic life of the Youngs. It was while Young was out of jail under bond for shooting Van Dran that Mrs. Van Dran was poisoned by drinking ginger ale which had been liberally treated with cyanide. Latter Young was tried for shooting Van Dran, convicted and sentenced to ten year's imprisonment in the penitentiary.

Seattle Man's Death

San Francisco, Dec. 29.—"This letter makes me desperate." Leaving no hint or reason why he should end his life, beyond these words scrawled in pencil on the back of an empty envelope, John August Miller, a young man who came here from Seattle, but whose home is in Providence, Pa., went into the nave of the ferry building this afternoon and fired a bullet through his brain, dying instantly. Not a cent of money was found in his pockets nor in his room at the Hotel Terminus. In the room was a valuable hearskin overcoat and a violin. Miller went to the Hotel Terminus on December 24. He had very little baggage. Some entries in his book indicate that he came here from Seattle, but it is not known how long he had been in San Francisco.

OBJECTS TO MORPHIA RULES.

British Minister Complains of Order Forbidding Importation.

The imperial Chinese superintendent of southern trade is in receipt of a communication from the Waiwupu, informing him that the board had received a letter from the British minister complaining against the action of the maritime customs at Shanghai in forbidding the importation of morphia without a special permit, says the South China Daily Journal. The British minister pointed out that, according to the commercial treaty the importation of that alkaloid was not to be forbidden until all the foreign powers had given their unanimous consent and he therefore demanded that the Chinese customs remove the prohibition.

To the reply of the board that the prohibition of the unrestricted importation of the pernicious drug was a charitable act, an act which the different powers were glad to support, and which the American government had signified its willingness to uphold, the British minister replied that whether it was an act of charity or not the treaty made no mention of it, but did state that no restraint was to be imposed till all the powers had given their unanimous consent, and he, therefore, insisted on the strict observance of the treaty. Under the circumstances the board is compelled to notify his excellency to instruct the customs houses under him to withdraw the notification forbidding the import of morphia.

It is hardly necessary for us to comment on the action of the British minister in this matter, who, taking advantage of the letter of the article in the commercial treaty, and placing obstruction in the way of the Chinese authorities, who endeavored in their heathen way to stop the unrestricted importation, forces, as it were, morphia, the most harmful of narcotic alkaloids and the most injurious in its effects, on the Chinese people.

MUST NOT MOLEST CHILD.

Divorced Wife of R. F. Clancy Is Restrained.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer of yesterday says: An order was signed by Judge Frater yesterday commanding the plaintiff in the divorce case of Lillian M. Clancy vs. Robert F. Clancy, who secured a divorce in his court October 28, 1904, from molesting the minor child of herself and the plaintiff and from collecting the $12 monthly alimony awarded, pending hearing of the defendant's petition praying for these things.

Defendant's petition alleges that, in spite of the fact that the court order prohibited both parties from marrying within six months, plaintiff immediately commenced to occupy the same house with one C. T. Parsons, and that she married Parsons December 23, 1904, at Victoria, B. C. He alleges, further, that, on November 2 1904, plaintiff gave the child to the defendant's mother and abandoned it. She, however, returned to the state recently, and now threatens, as petition alleges, to take the child away from him. On this showing the court issued the temporary order.

Wash greasy dishes, pots and pans with Lever's Dry Soap a powder. It will remove the grease with the greatest ease. 36

Another Day On the Sc

Principal of South Park on Witness Stand Gre Part of Yesterday

Closely Questioned by for Defending Parties Evidence Given.

(From Friday's Daily

On resuming the hearing of al commission on drawing les terday morning the first witn called was Trustee Mowat of board.

In reply to the examinatio Gregory, he had understood f Cameron that the pupils had ruling of any description; and over to the department with in mind, but he changed hi when he compared the books time drawing. The differenc apparent that it was not de essary to give the pupils a l

Cross-examined by Mr. E stated that the investigation for so that the public might tacts of the case. That was reason for publishing the rep school board the second time not think that the chairman board had ever told him that one time been in possession of davits. He thought he was one on the board that knew about them. He had exami drawings made by the schol than those in the examination sidered he had picked out a fai of ruled lines. It was quite that he had said "the other might be fooled the same as h

In reply to his honor, Mr that he was well satisfied drawing had been done by rule

Questioned by Mr. Eberts stated that it had been sugge the statement of young Muirhe be withheld because it was st he had used a ruler.

In answer to Mr. Elliott stated that he had heard fr person that Mr. Blair had m remark that there was a teach province, who had a certific had done free-hand drawing ruler.

School Board Examin

Mrs. Jenkins was the next On examination by Mr. Gre ness gave practically the same as the preceding witness.

In reply to Mr. Eberts, wit d that Miss Cameron had told no lines had been ruled with t tion of the datum line, which t ers understood to be permiss

In answer to Mr. Elliott, stated that she had told the that she believed them. This fore being at the department. no recollection of saying that been at the department befo to the school. She had seen t and asked them if they had ers, and one boy had said he had no reason to doubt the wo children until she saw the boo Cameron had not heard the he had used a ruler. She had se a dozen of the pupils.

B. Boggs, chairman of the school trustees, was then ca his evidence on examination similar to that of the other t

Cross-examined by Mr. El witness stated, that it was exp him that the time drawing done before the examiners. I explained that the work was c new set of models. He had asked to make a comparison the time drawing, and the b had compared the books since ing had been done and had a the conclusion that the pupils do the work. He was not a but considered that the time was very bad.

Mr. Elliott then asked wit he would do if a person wer and told him his child had use

Witness—Would ask the c had used a ruler, but if the of an expert witness was t showed that a ruler had bee would question the word of He had heard Mr. Eaton sa had never given any instruct first division of the South Pe

He was aware that the l contained in the report had tained by the city superinte knew that a portion of the been written before the trus over to the education depart had been told by Mr. Jay th Jay) had examined the books it would be better if they d over, which he understood to if they went over they would rulers had been used. He heard of the affidavits on 13th. Miss Cameron had a if he thought she would t principal of the school with t against her. Witness told her either resignation or exonera had told her that she could te fidavits on her own respons had understood that the affid in course of preparation at t the interview. He never to edge saw the affidavits. Mis had left some correspondence but he did not examine it He had never discussed the with Miss Cameron. He had Miss Cameron that she was in taking the affidavits.

To Mr. Gregory, witness s he never examined the pape Miss Cameron and did not k was in them. His honor w opinion that the scope of th sion did not include who ha davits or where they were

Mr. Elliot thought that th was of importance as it w that Miss Cameron was act advice of the trustees in tak fidavits.

Case for Trustees

To Mr. Gregory, witness Superintendent Eaton secu data in order to satisfy the the intention of exonerating dren.

This closed the case for t

In opening the case for eron, Mr. Elliott stated that intention to show that the ch honest one, and had been, t estly. He did not intend to value of the expert evidence the system is understood and the teachers and also intend in a number of the pupils. also show that as far had Miss Cameron had applied tions for the system of dr only received a circular. also show that lessons wer given at school, but some after and before school; an principal was always there. also put in, as evidence th several of the pupils, which done before witness within t weeks.

In reply to a remark from