The Colonist Printing & Publishing Company, Limited Liability. No. 27 Broad Street. Victoria. B.C. A. G. SARGISON. Managing Director

## THE DAILY COLOMST

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dom and United States.		

### TAXING OF RAILWAYS.

At times we complain about taxation in British Columbia. There was, as ou. readers know, a good deal of opposition to the increase of the rate on railways to \$100 per mile when the Assessment Act of 1903 was passed.

In this connection it may stated that some time ago a Provincial Railway Taxation Commission was appointed by the Ontario Government, consisting of H. J. Pettypiece, ex-M. P. P., Judge Bell of Chatham and Prof. Shortt of Queen's University. Kingston, to inquire into the taxation of railways. Their report was laid on the table in the Ontario Legislature the other day. It is a somewhat lengthy docu ment giving in detail the results of inquiries, which enabled the commissioners to reach their conclusion, into the systems of railway taxation in Michigan, Indiana. Illinois. Wisconsin Minnesota Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Great Britain, the Canadian Provinces, and the views of railway officials themselves on the subject.

The report favors the change from a rate based on so many dollars per mile to a basis of 3 per cent. upon gross earn-Province. The appointment of a Provincial Board of Taxation, whose mem-

graph, express and sleeping-car compauies, as well as electric railways, should also be taxed upon gross receipts, with rates adjusted to their ability to pay.

In Ontario the taxation problem is somewhat complicated by the existence of municipalities, each of which can and commission suggests to apportion equit-

that a Provincial Board of Taxation should be established, composed of, say, three persons, with a permanent clerical staff. The board would not be permanently employed, but would direct the work of assessment upon systematic efforts of enquiry as to the taxable assets

## PRESENT WAR SITUATION.

Since Kuropatkin surrendered the command of the Russian army in Manchuria to General Linevitch, there has been an almost total dearth of war news from the East. There are only two facts about which the public is informed. One is that the Russian army under Linevitch has gone north of the area from Logie, nevertheless, there are inciin Manchuria in which an army could dents which illuminate, as side lights, the subsist on the country itself. At the present time fuel and food must be transported to the army over a railway that is already overtaxed. It is impossible to obtain supplies through any State Historical Society, outlining the other source, except Vladivostok, and proposition he has formulated for the that port is in need to accumulate stores collection of State reminiscences for prein order to prepare for a resistance servation and future reference. There

vantages are in favor of the Japanese admiral. The Russian vessels are reported to be very foul after their long royage; and Togo, after his long rest and careful preparations, with a greater familiarity of the waters assuming equality in generalship ought to win. The respective strength of the two fleets are as follows:

Armored cruisers .....
Protected cruisers .....
Unprotected cruisers .... Coast defence ships .... 3 2
Porpedo craft ...... 15 93
Russia has four battleships which are

ew, but in armored cruisers the Japan-

While both sides are steadily persistent in their military operations, over-tures for peace are under way—part of SFMI-WFFKIY COLOMST tures for peace are under way-part or the ponderous game of diplomacy. Russia is face to face with a greater problem of warfare than that of mere prowloans, which are really in favor as an Prescott. will be the more disastrous.

In addition to her financial difficulties there is the terrible state of disquietude after all results must depend upon the which exists in Russia among her people, and this, perhaps, is as serious a phase of to sacrifice time for the reward which the situation as any. There is also the serious problem involved in transporting the vast number of troops required to the seat of war and of keeping up supplies. It is stated that the proposition of double tracking the trans-Siberian railway has been abandoned for the reason that construction would demoralize existing traffic, and upon that traffic the soldiers of Manchuria depend absolutely, not only for reinforcements, but for their lives as well.

In any event, much depends upon the issue of the naval engagement now in progress or about to take place. A decisive victory for Japan would undoubtedly settle the war at once, as it would be an act of insanity for the Russian Government to continue. Even grantings, which the commission think would ing a victory for the Russians and the be reasonable, but which appears to be consequent protraction of hostilities, the steep as compared with imposts in this end, which cannot be far distant, entirely depends upon the supply of money. Both nations, from sheer exhaustion of bers would be required to give only part the treasury, must come to terms, the of their time to the work, with a per- nature of which will be determined by manent secretary and office staff, is sugmost strongly when that time comes.

## THE STUDY OF LOCAL HISTORY.

The study of local history is some thing usually confined to a few enthusiastic persons who devote themselves in their leisure moments to historical redoes impose taxation on railways within its own limits. The report of the der that there should be suc-

little printed circular from Prof. Meany, Secretary of the Washington University

the best biographies or historical sketches a life membership, worth \$25, and for manchuria, to more than double what it it. This was almost immediately offset by a declaration on the part of the Japanese Government that it intended to place in the field an army of a million men. With all the advantages as now exist in its favor such a force could hardly be other than successful.

The other fact to which we have reference is the expected encounter between the fleets of Admirals Togo and Rojest vensky. Regarding the whereabouts of these fleets there is little definite information, but that a battle has been or is in progress at the present time may be probable. At all events an early encounter seems inevitable. We can only speculate upon the result. Nearly all the ad-

up of Indian legends is suggested, and in this connection is a caution as to the care to be exercised. As is well known, Indians are given to romancing and it is

ess on land and sea. Financially she is balm, in readable and tangible form, the in a position of desperation. Japan has history of the Coast, a great work such had no difficulty in floating her war as has been inherited from Parkman or

investment. France, her only friend, A similar work has been suggested has refused to advance more money to for British Columbia and to some extent Russia except on condition of peace be- has been carried out, but as yet nothing declared. In the event of Russia be- ing very systematic or extensive has ing unsuccessful, it is stated that the been undertaken. Some time ago a his-Government will issue paper money, but, torical society was established in town, in the end, the result of such a policy but its existence was brief. The Nat-

at all is another matter of dispute. A great diversity of opinion has been expressed on the subject. All literature, it is held, must be as universal as the tongue in which it is expressed. Learning is not local. Mathematics and medicine have no special habitat. There is a distinctive literature in all languages, reflecting the atmosphere of certain localities, idiomatic and dialectic. The history of a country, or a county, or a parish is in a sense distinctive and local. But all are but local expressions of a human experience that is common and world wide. Each country has its own historiographers, fictionists and mimickhistoriographers, fictionists and mimickers, just the same as every country has its artists who specialize its own phases; but just as each picture is an expression of one art, so every book that is redoient of the soil but represents a mood of one literature. In the narrow sense of the term Canada has a literature or is oue literature. In the narrow sense of the term, Canada has a literature, or is beginning to have, in the same way that Ireland and Scotland and Australia and the United States have literatures. In the wider sense she has not, apart from the literature which is English. In considering what Canada has done towards English literature we must divide the field into two classes—what is distinctively Canadian and what is universal, or what is specific and concrete and what is abstract. Under the latter, we include treatises on great subjects, which der that there should be such that is specific and concrete and what I ably a certain amount of the proceeds from the 3 per cent. tax to the municipalities and retain the balance for the Province. The situation is, however, further complicated from the fact that certain railroads operate in more than one province. For instance, in Ontario, in addition to a number of branch lines and independent auxiliaries, the Graud Trunk and the Canadian Pacific Railways are through lines. There is also the Michigan Central, which simply passes through the Province from one State to another. It would be necessary, therefore, to ascertain as accurately as possible the volume of receipts between terminals in Ontario, a somewhat difficult proposition.

As to the most efficient method for administering a Provincial system of corporate taxation, whatever basis of taxation might be adopted, there is, the commissioners say, an almost unanimous conviction, alike in the United States and Great Britain, and also in Canada, that a Provincial Board of Taxation though the excelving a provincial Board of Taxation the surroundings of varieties in forest Britain, there are in every parish, reference are in every parish, or difference of the surroundings, which include the biographic entire that there should be faddists. In Great Britain, there are in every parish, or district, or village one or two are clused restrict, or village one or two are the surroundings, which include the biographic specific and concrete and which is absoluted in Great Britain, there are in every parish, or difference of the surroundings, which include the biographic on the surroundings, which include the biographic on the surroundings, which include the biographic on the surroundings, which include the biographic of the sori with the attent, was understance, and the surroundings, which include the biographic on the sur

duced in almost photographic outline the lives and conditions of living of our ancestors. As an instance of the extent to which these investigations are carried, we have before us the first of two volumes entitled "Logie: A Parish History."

They are quarto volumes containing about 350 pages each, printed on heavy paper and well illustrated. They contain all that is known of the past of the little parish of Logie, which lies under the shadow of Stirling Castle, and includes as its chief point of interest the historic bridge of Allan. The records are carried back as far as 1210 and the story is made continuous from that time. Every incident of note which could be gathered from parish records is given. It will be of interest, of course, only to those who have lived in or near the parish or to those whose forbears hailed from Logie, nevertheless, there are incidents which illuminate, as side lights, the history of Scotland.

Apropos of this we are in receipt of a little printed circular from Prof. Meany, Secretary of the Washington University.

## FRANK OLIVER'S APPOINTMENT. Of all the recent acts of the Dominio

Government the appointment of Frauk Oliver as Minister of the Interior is the most significant. Under ordinary circum-stances he would have been the last man servation and future reference. There greater, possibly, than that made by the Port Arthur garrison. In such circumstances, one can scarcely conceive of the difficulties to be overcome in reinforcing an army, the losses of which during the past month have been so enormous. In regard to the northern situation it is not possible to arrive at any definite idea. What little news is allowed to filter through is largely speculative.

It was announced by the Russian Government that immediate preparations were being made for the mobilization of a second army to be sent to the relief of Linevitch, which would bring up the total, under arms on the Russian side in

ings, boats, vehicles, furniture, weapons or monuments.

Wherever it is possible, the gathering doubt that there were ugly issues of

office to face. Then again there was Thos. Greenway for many years Premier of Manitoba, an able and practical man, though not brilliant. As a staunch Liberal, as a man who stood as the champion of Mani-

wery possible for a young and ardent interviewer to be grossly deceived. To be successful in this respect it is necessary to become more or less intimate with the Indians themselves and to verify the legends supplied to submit them to other Indians.

Another very acceptable form of work is that of securing old diaries or other family documents, old pictures, and relics of historic value.

It is the intention of the society to the successible for the Liberals of the Northwest, he had ten claims to one as against Mr. Oliver. When Mr. Sifton resigned, it was generally conceded that Walter Scott, of Regina, would succeed him. He is a young man of more than average ability and though not so long in politics his course has been consistent while that of Mr. Oliver has been eccentric and wobbling. In addition to that he would have been practically the unanimous choice of the Liberals of the Northwest. Why

It is the intention of the society to continue this work systematically until the field has been thoroughly exploited and to place in the archives of the society the fruits of such work in a systematized form, properly classified and indexed. From this accumulation of reminiscences it will be possible for the historian of the future to select the materials for a book that will forever embals, in readable and tangible form, the history of the Coast, a great work such as has been inherited from Parkman or Prescott.

A similar work has been suggested tion, if returned, rather than to any dividual claims for preferment.

side, whereas in the rest of Canada his policy would have swept the country. As it is, Sir Wilfrid Laurier has neither conclliated one side nor satisfied the other. The modifications of the appointment of a Board of Harisfied the other. The modifications of the Autonomy Bill, as at present before the House, still contain a vicious principle of interference with the rights of the Provinces to deal with their schools subject to the restrictions of the Act of Confederation, a principle which is objectionable to the great majority of the people of Canada. On the other hand, they do not go nearly far emough to suit the views of the Quebec hierarchy, in whose opinion they fall short of the British North America Act itself in protecting the interests of the minority. The separate schools therein provided for are to them a mere shadow of their wishes. This is clearly evident from a sermon preached by Mgr. Clouthier, Bishop of Three Rivers. evident from a sermon preached by Mgr. Clouthier, Bishop of Three Rivers, From the following extract our readers can form their own conclusions:

can form their own conclusions:

The original bill was very far from assuring the Catholic children that Christian teaching to which they are entitled. The amended bill now before the House gives, it is true, separate schools, but the teaching will be almost neutral in practice. The teaching, as a matter of fact, can only be done in English, and the half-hour of catechism after school is only a decoy, and can in no way satisfy the proper formation of Catholic children. The Confederation Act certainly assures us more than that, or Catholics would never have consented to form a party to it. We may ask, in fact, what will become of the Confederation should such a measure become lay?

in fact, what will become of the Confederation should such a measure become law?

The amendment which hands over to the new provinces the absolute control of their schools is not acceptable to Catholics. We must have federal legislation that will guarantee to the minority the right to have schools of their own choosing, both as regards religion and language. The object which a certain number of people have in view of establishing so-called national schools tends to stamp with the same imprint every citizen of this country. Now, this fusion of races, as far as the French-Canadians are concerned, is a dream, a Utopla, for it would mean the renouncing of their providential mission. Our duty for the moment is to live alongside our English fellow-citizens, respecting their rights, but forcing them, as the occasion may require, to respect ours. It is, therefore, the imperious duty of all Catholies to work courageously to obtain confessional schools for the two new provinces, and not to yield till we have full and ample justice.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

What's in a name? That is a question the aldermen are asking themselves with reference to the proposed changes in street nomenclature. Why sacrifice "Belcher" for "Bockland"? Why oblivionize "Bellot street" in "Burdette avenue"? Why is "Kane"—after the wandering artist—to be consigned to the limbo of "Broughton"? Why is the romantic and hallowed "Birdeage walk" to be obliterated by the substitution of the prosaic and commercial "Government street"? Why should history and poesy which, as the oldest and most picturesque city in the Province, form part of its many charms, be eliminated from the civic signboards? Sentiment is the best part of a nation's capital. Take sentiment, tradition and the picturesque away from our corporate assets, and you leave dead, cold-blooded commercial dross, in which are no living seeds of inspiration or enthusiasm. What's in a name? Not much to the mind of steely

reason; but more great deeds have been done on account of the sentiment which a name inspires than for all the wealth the world ever had. So in small things as in-great, in municipal matters as in national affairs, let us preserve what is pleasant of memory in the past. We plead for the historic names, monuments to brave men.

never was so great a demand for good horses of all grades as there is at the present time. It does not make so much difference what the breed is so long as they are sound, in good fettle, and adapted for some special or general service.

The establishment of remount sta-

tions in Canada would naturally in-crease the demand for horses of a cer-tain class, and this is a matter of im-portance to British Columbia, inas-LETTERS TO THE EDITOR. much as many parts of the interior are well adapted for horse-raising. Of course, to take advantage of the mar-ket thus opened, attention would have to be paid to the improvement of the

A similar work has been suggested to for British Columbia and to some extent that the country of the street of the country of the street of the country of t that even clever statesmen like Sir Wilfrid Laurier do not always take to heart the obvious lessons of history, even the history of their own times. In 1896 he captured the Province of Quebec in defiance of the hierarchy, who went to the length of imposing the support of Conservative candidates as a religious duty. His success proved that the rank and file of the French-Canadian, though Catholic in all their instincts, are not led by the clergy. They gave their allegiance to Sir Wilfrid because he was a Frenchman and not because he was a Frenchman and not because he was a Catholic.

The same would have been true in 1905 had it been necessary for Sir Wilfrid Laurier to go again to the country with a policy of non-interference of Provincial rights in the matter of separate schools, and whatever would have been the demands of the clergy or the threats of Mgr. Sharretti, it is not probable that the school question would have altered the complexion of half a dozen constituencies at the outside, whereas in the rest of Canada his policy would have swept the country.

As it is, Sir Wilfrid Laurier has

clusion that a Board of Harbor Commissioners would not best serve shipping interests of Victoria, and as a consequence, at the meeting of the Board of Trade held yesterday afternoon, a motion was passed rescinding the original resolution in favor of such appointment. The motion was the cause of vigorous discussion.

The motion was the cause of vigorous discussion.

While, on the face of it, the Board placed itself in a somewhat inconsistent position, the reasons for the change of mind seem to be sound. Briefly stated, they are about as follows:

It was proposed to give the Board of Harbor Commissioners jurisdiction in respect to steamboat inspection. This would bring the Harbor Commissioners into conflict with the Dominion Board of Iuspection.

of Inspection.

Five men appointed as Harbor Commissioners would necessarily have less fluence in making recomme

the Dominion Government than the whole Board of Trade.

The Dominion Government would use the Board of Harbor Commissioners as a buffer between itself and the Board of Trade, and there would be constant friction between the trade of the state of the st on between the two bodies. There were no complaints being made as to the lack of harbor facilities, which

as to the lack of harbor facilities, which were adequate in every sense for present requirements.

The objection raised to the course of action adopted was to the effect that the Board having made a unanimous request to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries for the appointment of a Board of Harbor Commissioners it should stand by it. Otherwise it would stand in an unfavorable light at Ottawa as not knowing its own mind for long.

The obvious answer to that was made that, if, upon more mature consideration that, if, upon more mature consideration being had, it was discovered that the



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Might it not be justifiable, in the cir

reason; but more great deeds have been done on account of the sentiment which a name inspires than for all the wealth the world ever had. So in small things as in great, in municipal matters as in national affairs, let us preserve what is pleasant of memory in the past. We plead for the historic names, monuments to brave men.

THE DEMAND FGR HORSES.

The Toronto Mail and Empire says that a great impetus will be given to horse-raising in Canada should cavalry remount stations be established here on account of Major-General Benson's visit. The Honorable the Imperial Minister of Agriculture is alive to the importance of the matter and is willing to do what he properly can should the Dominion authorities fail to move in the matter.

Despite the introduction of steam and electric modes of transportation,

Might it not be justifiable, in the cir-

in the matter.

Despite the introduction of steam and electric modes of transportation, of the bicycle and the automobile, there cumstances, to refer to Mgr. Sbarretti's proposal to the Manitoba Government re separate schools as a papal "bull"? Now is the time for the Council to get to work and pave Johnson street. Let them take advantage of the fine weather and spread the expenditure as much as possible over the dry season.

FOR SALE—Heavy draught horse for sale.
Apply at B. C. Soap Works.

FOR SALE—Eggs from hens guarante-d to lay not less than 200 eggs each per year; White, Brown, Black Leghorns, White, Buff, Barred Rocks, \$1.00 per setting. Mrs. Bdith Stewart, Chemainus. All prize birds, or bred from such. pag

ADARE POULTRY FARM—Wm. Baylis, Ross Bay, Fadrafield Road, Victoria, B. C. Choice eggs for setting, from pure bred and vigorous stock. Barred Plymouth Rocks, from first prize birds; S. C. Black Minorcan; S. C. Brown Leghorns; Toulouse geese; Pekin ducks. All eggs tested before shipping and warranted from choice matings. Orders taken at Brown & Cooper's, Government street, or by post card to P. O. Box 580, Victoria, B. C.

1,300 lbs., can be seen at corner of Fourth street and Topaz avenue. ap12

FOR SALE—Gentle driving mare. Apply

EGGS FOR SETTING-It is stated by all

who have seen my Barred Rocks they are the finest flock they have seen in these parts—price 50c. per dozen. John C. Mollet, South Salt Spring P. O., B. C. apli

ting, from prize-winners Victoria pount show. Apply J. H. Hughes, Maywo P. O., or Speed Bros., Fort street. FOR SALE-An extra good family cow:

EGGS FOR HATCHING-Plymouth Barred Rocks, \$1.50 set 13; \$8 per 100. Apply "Goepel," P. O. Victoria. mr29

SILVER GREY DORKINGS—Cocks, \$5; hens, \$3; 15 eggs, \$2; 100 eggs, \$10—all prizes Nanaimo, all Victoria, bar third pullet. D. W. Mainguy, Chemainus, B.C. mr12 FO SALE—Horse, buggy and harness. Apply P. O. Box 180. ap16

FOR SALE—Good talking parrot. Apply 135 Pandora street. ap16

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\$5.00 PER DAY—Selling "Auto-Spray."
Best compressed air hand sprayer made.
Absolute necessity for every farm and garden. Secure territory immediately.
Write for articulars and sample machine. Cavers Bros., Galt, Ont. 19

WANTED-Gentlemen or ladies-\$800 per year and expenses; permanent position; experience unnecessary. M. A. O'Keefe, 157 Bay street, Toronto. ap13

NOTICE is hereby given that thirty days after date I intend to apply to the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to cut and carry away tim-ber off the following described tract of

land:
Commencing at a post marked 15 on
N. W. corner post on south side of Toby
Inlet, about 5 miles east of Snout Point,
thence east 80 chains, thence south 80
chains, thence west 80 chains, thence north
to place of commencement; containing 640

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Stole Amalgam—L. been arrested at Junes stealing \$600 worth or the Treadwell mines. torting was found at

Tyee's March Busine month of March the T for ten days only, dur tons of Tyee ore were t return (after deducting fining charges) of \$33,0 cave-in at the mine. cave-in at the mine, be restricted for the

Pulp People Coming-ists in terested in the Po er and Pulp Co. are exp business connected with Many people of Victori in this proposition, and to proceed as soon as n to proceed as soon as

The Finnish Colony— representing the province has gone to Malcolm is into some questions in the Kalevan Kansa Colo the Kalevan Kansa Coloi Palmer is accompanied of Vancouver, the solicit mish colony. The disput two sections in the colon ed into by Mr. Palmer.

The Mayor Returnin nard, who has been at (eral weeks appearing bef committee in connection aiming at the acquireme N. railway by the C. P. home in about a week's despatches of yesterday in bill has been finally dispolieving counsel on both ther attendance. Beside nard there were present a Victoria R. T. Elliott, Higgins & Elliott, and J. R. Dunsmuir & Sons.

The Colonist Contest-chief topics of discussion of the school children at of the school children at Colonist's subscription-ge the prizes being free tr Portland exposition, with included, for the period That there will be a lar contestants for the prize demonstrated by the fact of ambitious boys and gir for subscription books. plaining the terms of the been distributed amongst dren and any further informay be sought can be of plication at the business Colonist.

The Linemen's Strike-members of the Electrical members of the Electrical ion, who quit the employ Telephone Co. the other of the fact that a non-union ployed, will hold a meet Hall this evening to disc tion. It is not improbable sult of this meeting some ing may develop. Membion declare that only one i union employee on whose union employee on whose strike occurred—is at pres on construction work for company. The statement the union men have remain they say, untrue. A dele-tended a meeting at V-night will submit his repor

Contradicted—The mana Pacific Wireless Telegraph little hurt over the circulat in the Sound and Victor, they have been having mu the transmission of busines system, and have had to messages. As a matter of messages. As a matter of they say, there has been no ing of messages than takes ordinary course of business telegraph office. The wire ing smoothly and handlin

share of local busin Ex-Nanaimoites Divorce Murray was on Saturday vorce at Seattle from Jame Judge Griffin, on the groun and desertion. The plaintiff soon after their marriage B. C., in 1890, she discove band writing letters to a yin England, in which he clawas unmarried, and that he to England to marry her. was unmarried, and that he to England to marry her. ant, who is in the county j on an assault and battery clocontest the divorce, but F his lawyer, was unwilling the fees. He secured for hever, the privilege of comand observing the operation worce mill as his case was a

Filling The Flats—Mess & Co., who have the contr C. P. R. for filling in 25,0 the hotel site, are making a with the huge task. About constantly employed haulin the Spring Ridge pits and the pany is delivering many c day. The material being is sition is pronounced by exp fine for the purpose, as it character as to pack very corporation is making arrangemence carrying out its commence carrying out its filling in 13,000 yards at a It is likely much of this I be taken from the newly-acd The Willows for the Old Me

# For Sprin Deh

YOU SHOULD RESTORE TO THE BLOOD BY Dr. Chas

Nerve F Habit is one of the stron of nature. It is like a rut in is easy to run, but which leads to misfortune and carry.

The habit of dosing with sarsaparillas in the sprin much to undermine the he present generation.

In the spring the blood system run down and the and enervated. What you tonic and restorative, sur Chase's News Food. tonic and restorative, suc Chase's Nerve Food.

If you have been a slave of dosing the system with silar weakening purgatives, y preciate Dr. Chase's Nerve Hacts on the principle of fo blood, building up the screating new nerve force.

It is something to strengthan weaken that you most spring, and Dr. Chase's N spring, and Dr. Chase's N supplies this need as no o cine was ever known to do By its use the action of becomes strong and regular ach is supplied with the energy which is necessary ful digestion, and every or body is enabled to carry or imposed on the control of the control imposed on it by nature.
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ture of Dr. A. W. Chase, the