Happy Season. spring a pair of wrens well-shaded grounds that tleman's residence on the I, writes a Seranten (Pa.)
of the New York Trib to search for a summer f the owner of the place g on the veranda at the cheerful little birds when he studied their move s forenoon. They flew ices of the house for sev-surveyed every nook and oked secluded, and then shade tree and compared ne time the birds had a and gentle tones, their ng to the young man that nd a place that exactly e down in for the close of the consultahunting for a nestingshort time the male ran seemed to suit him. large wooden gate posts er-box in the shape of a t had a peaked roof, a

side to take them out tight, and it stood in arge maple. for nice summer qua ry, the male wren found box through the slot. less than a minute, and , joined his wife on a w yards away, and told zy spot he had disco appeared to be all of the pleasant news her had brought her, and lew at once and entered

t side for the mail-ca tters into, and a little

et to an open field. It t that Mrs. Wren was as the box as her mate t time they both sailed carrying a short piece the bill. These they ottom of the box, and the industrious little noon, when the young the box and found tha rried in a good handnicely arranged ther for their nest. By ds had get the rough pretty well under wa they nearly finished it. ng man told his mother rens had done, she said ds must be permitted the box, as well as pro were raising a family day morning anothe was rigged up on the and the lady of the the letter-carrier that ested him not to drop nto the box where the up their abode.

she placed food that the she talked to them and at they were welcome. the wrens got to be so confiding that the ar the woman or her e sparrows undertook to t birds in the box, but got his gun and pepm until those that vere glad to go. fter the finishing touch the nest the female

When she began to ted housewife opene and stroked her, names as she caile she was sitting among the shruband sang merrily, very intelligent and male house-cat that benily came near catching ress caught her up, car-ox, showed her the fenest, pointing out to male on the fence and od talking to," telling rmed the birds or the hard with her. Puss was said, for not once offer to approach the fore then she had often fence and across the didn't dare to spring warning har mistres

arrier poked three let-slot one day and nearly sitting wren, but she nd in a few days she test full of little ones. time the old cat gave ttens, and at last ac wren family and the retting along finely and ed by their friends, the

Valuable Snake. a well-known farmer ty, W. Va., has a queer ge black snake, eight long. The snake has of the farm for twelve ered by Mr. Oxley aluable possessions. irn summer and winter idefatigable extermin ce, and other vermi Oxley. "Jim," as the s perfectly tame and rs to his name as amily dog or cat. He petted by the family ly appreciate acts o s his coat at regular months, and every s been kept by Mr.

man, while under the k, knocked off his grea r. imagining that b broat with a carving

Marie .

From THE DAILY COLONIST, De

The customs returns for the present year show a material increase during every month upon the revenue of the same months of last year. The last three months demon-strate an augmentation of revenue of over

During the month just closed 2,464 books were issued to borrowers at the Victoria Free Library, 1,182 ladies and 1,282 gentlemen. The highest number issued during the month, 182, is the highest day's issue yet reached. The average for the day was 192. Ninety-eight new cards were taken out, 45 by ladies and 53 by gentlemen.

Broke Jail.

Sergt. Langley of the Provincial police, received a telegram from Cowichan, yesterday afternoon, conveying the information that two men, confined in the lock-up there, had made their escape, and asking for assistance to secure their capture. A provincial officer will go up this morning to Cowichan. The names of the escaped men, or what they were held for, was not ascer-

IN THE DOCK

Northern Sanagglers.

In connection with the information furing increase of smuggling from Alaska into northern British Columbia. It is understood that several noted smugglers are sken operating in the quarter referred to, carrying the "goods" from Wrangel to Tongas Island, where the old dismantled fort is situated. It is an easy matter to ship from Tongas Island into British territory, and the many Indians to be found along the mation pittere, general provingers of the many Indians to be found along the mation pittere, goods are seen approving the dark the presence of a preventative officer and annual visit from the Government steamer would break up the samug-poling.

A sharp p.

A sharp p.

Bow, and thus pinned her, have the distort the distort the distort the distort the divers being sent down, the work was done. The Lorne and Pilot were the nade in the house are inhabited to be floating easistance, a strong, united pull the roward compartments were filled with water, but the full extent of the damage will not be known until the hull is inspected in dock. After getting up ateam in her engines the Costa Rica proceeded to Bequimal, assisted by the Lorne, and entered dock of 6 p. m. It was 2.30 when she bade farewell to the rocks, and it was plast in time, as there was a heavy ocean ment steamer would break up the smug-plasted the steamer's destruction had she remained in her dangerous position another day.

The Young Me

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

The total output of the New V. C. Co's, mines for November amounted to 43,000 tons, valued at \$172,000.

| The content of the special meeting of the common of the body of trade, held yeartedy morning to take up to draw of trade, held yeartedy morning to take up to deferred business relative to the follower absent at impection... 1 0 of trade, held yeartedy morning to take up to the deferred business relative to the pollower absent at impection... 2 0 of trade, held yeartedy morning to take up to the deferred business relative to the pollower and the conduct throughout manifesting that they were sent to bring down several of them, and they were seen to bring down several of the trade to bring down several of the trade to bring down several of the trade they were sent to bring down several of the trade to t

LUCAL AND PROVINCIAL.