The Woman's Auxiliary

Active Preparations Going Forward For the Children's and Maternity Wards.

Encouraging Reports From the Secretary--Some of the Hospital's Needs.

The regular meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary Society Royal Jubilee hospital took place on Tuesday at the Driard hotel. Those present were the president, first vice-president, twelve members of the society and the secretary-treasurer.

The minutes of the last meeting, together with those of the special meeting held by the executive and ball committee were read, and after some amendments adopted. The report of the secretary was then called for and read as follows:

Madame President and Ladies:—I beg to lay before you to-day a statement of the receipts and expenditure, together with receipted bills for the same, in connection with the annual ball given by this society. After expenses are paid, there will be a balance at your disposal amounting to $650.45, which, I trust, will meet with your approval.

Thanks are due to many members of the Woman's Auxiliary and their friends, and also to the Daughters of Pity, for their exertions in selling tickets, and also to those ladies—twenty-five in number—who volunteered their services in the supper room; also to the ladies' reception committee and to the stewards for their assistance and support during the evening. The supper was bountifully supplied and extremely well cared for by Mesdames Gordon, Leiser, Stadthagen and Dalby, Mrs. A. J. Smith, the president, assisting the ladies in every department with her enduring interest and affection.

Further contributions towards the commissariat are gratefully acknowledged from Mrs. Henry Clay, Mrs. M. R. Smith, the London Bakery, Messrs. Thorpe and Morley, Cold Storage, Messrs. Erskine & Wall, S. J. Pitts, Stewart & Co., Rithet & Co., Stemler & Earle, Leiser & Co., Saunders Co., Fell & Co., Hudson Bay Co., Turner, Beeton & Co., Pither & Leiser, Hiram Walker, Rogers, and to the New England Bakery for cooking poultry; also to Mrs. Macaulay for the loan of a quantity of drapery, to Messrs. Weller for carpets, mirrors, etc., to Mr. Sehl for furniture, to Messrs. Fletcher for the loan, for both nights, of a beautiful Gerhard Heintzman piano, to Ah Sing for voluntary superintendence in the kitchen, and to the press, both Times and Colonist, for their kindly notices.

A great deal of help was tendered during the decorations by various ladies, and, our special thanks are due to H. M. Navy for the loan of numerous flags and ensigns, and for the labor in draping them, which was most artistically managed by Mr. Vincer and the band of bluejackets under his direction.

Before closing the ball report, I beg to give a message from Admiral and Mrs. Beaumont to this society expressing their great regret at not being present at the ball, and their sustained interest in the Royal Jubilee hospital and the work of the Woman's Auxiliary therein.

With regard to your directions as to the purchasing of the hospital furniture recomended at the last meeting, I beg to say that I received the various catalogues, and corresponded with the firms to which we applied, with the result that I found we could purchase the dressing wagons most satisfactorily from Messrs. Chandler & Massey, Toronto, who have allowed 15 per cent. discount on the order.

The chair to be provided out of the money forwarded by the lawyers' baseball team is on the way, and the indoor ambulance procured through the effort of Miss Leiser is daily expected.

Miss Grady acknowledges with thanks 4 doz. towels and 18 night shirts, 3 doz. cups and saucers, 3 doz. peppers and salts, 3 doz. table napkins, 1 doz. roller towels and 20 doz. small bowels, received up to date. Her present needs are as follows: Three screens, 3 doz. small creams and sugar basins, 4 doz. tumblers, and 12 pair of blankets.

The cutting out and distributing committee will meet for two more Fridays with Mrs. Gordon. All volunteers are gladly welcomed for this work. Applications for sewing may be made to Mrs. Gordon, or to the secretary Woman's Auxiliary, Royal Jubilee hospital.

Thanks are due to Mrs. A. J. Smith, to Mrs. Lawrence Goodacre, and to Mrs. Russell (of the Jubilee nurseries) for valuable donations of plants and flower stands, both for the corridors and garden.

Respectfully submitted,

B. M. HASELL, Sec.-Treas.

The report of the visiting committee is as follows:

Madame President and Ladies:—In the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Leigh, who was appointed to visit the hospital with me, I visited alone on Oct. 25th, kindly conducted by Miss Gordon. I found everything looking extremely well, the patients bright and comfortable and expressing themselves well pleased with their treatment.

Respectfully submitted.

ELIZA MACHIN.

These reports being received and adopted, the question as to the best method of expending the fund in hand was next discussed.

The president explained that the ball fund was always devoted to some special object in the progressive work of the hospital, and the committee on the ball, which comprised the executive committee and others, made a strong recommendation that the doctor's cottage, now nearly complete, should be supplied with the necessary fittings and fixtures, while the proceeds of the children's night be devoted, as usual, to the children's ward.

Mrs. Rocke-Robertson asked for particulars and requirements, and in reply the secretary said she was glad of the opportunity to explain the question, as, were this not perfectly understood, there might be a risk of misconception. The pressing needs at the hospital, coming in regular sequence, are as follows: Further accommodation for a larger staff of nurses, a children's ward and a maternity ward. To meet the first need, without which extra wards cannot be undertaken, it was decided to build a doctor's residence, giving up the rooms now occupied by the doctor in the hospital to the extra staff. This has been achieved by the aid of the Woman's Auxiliary in the sum of $500 by contributions from private friends in the sum of $510, and by public subscription through Mr. C. Holland and Mr. B. Gordon. The cottage, now nearly complete, will need certain fixtures and furnishings before it is habitable, and, if the ladies again come to the rescue, it will be a graceful and valuable service to the directors and to the hospital. The secretary begged the ladies, however, to provide only such articles as were necessary to its permanent equipment, so that there should be nothing of a personal nature to the doctor in their gift to the hospital, and also that the purchases should be made by a committee of this society appointed for the purpose.

The fund necessary for the children's ward was nearly completed, and it was hoped that work would commence on this at an early date. The ladies were already contemplating an effort on a large scale to fulfil the last present need, namely, a maternity ward.

After the secretary had spoken, it was proposed, and unanimously adopted, that a sum, not exceeding $500, should be expended in the manner recommended by the committee, and many kind words were spoken as to the pleasure the ladies would feel in the undertaking.

The subject of Christmas work was next taken up, Mrs. Hasell stating that the Daughters of Pity were already busy working for the Christmas tree, which, it is hoped, may be held at the hospital a day or two before Christmas. It is one of the chief pleasures in the year's work to make the Christmas season bright with loving attentions for those whom sickness deprives of the usual enjoyments, and also to bring Christmas joy to those whose duties often prevent them from finding it outside the routine of their daily round.

It was decided that these matters being attended to, another general meeting was not necessary until January. Tuesday proving an inconvenient day for many members, it was further decided that, with the new year, the regular meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary Society should be held on the first Wednesday in the month at the Driard hotel.

A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and Lady Joly de Lotbiniere, to Col. and Mrs. Grant and the officers of the garrison, to the captain and officers of H.M. Navy, to Col. Gregory and the officers of the Fifth Regiment, and to His Worship the Mayor and Mrs. Hayward for their patronage and presence on the occasion of the annual ball.

The meeting then adjourned.

CORONER'S INQUEST CALLED.

Child of Members of Elder Brooks's Congregation Died Yesterday—Doctor Thinks Diphtheria.

Sanitary Inspector Wilson last evening quarantined the residence of W. W. Maltby, on the corner of Cameron and Pembroke streets, as the doctors believe that the death of his son, Oliver Claude Maltby, which occurred at noon yesterday, was caused by diphtheria. Red cards have also been posted on the houses adjoining, and another residence in the vicinity, where other cases of diphtheria have been detected.

Yesterday afternoon the father of the child called at the city clerk's office and asked for information regarding graves at the cemetery. He also asked if a physician's certificate was necessary before a burial permit could be obtained. Mr. Dowdeer replied in the affirmative, and the parent left. Subsequently Mayor Hayward cautioned the city clerk against granting a burial permit in this case, as he understood the child had not been under the attendance of a qualified physician.

The parents are members of the Zionite congregation here, and, in accordance with the teachings of their faith, did not summon medical assistance when the child became ill. Elder Brooks and various members of the congregation, it is understood, prayed fervently for the recovery of the child, who gradually became worse and died yesterday noon.

Later in the day a lad, Mr. Maltby's son, called at Dr. Ernest Hall's office and asked him to call at his parents' residence to see what was the matter. In reply to questions from the doctor the youngster would answer nothing, but repeated his requests for Dr. Hall to go to the residence. The latter did so, and after looking at the child and questioning the parents he became convinced that it had died of diphtheria. He was unable to examine its throat, as rigor mortis had set in. The parents then asked him if he would give a certificate regarding the cause of death, but Dr. Hall refused to do so. He then notified the coroner.

An inquest is being held this afternoon, the following gentlemen acting as jurors: S. Sea, jr., Geo. Shade, F. W. Shade, J. M. Hughes, J. J. Randolph and P. Bernhardt. The witnesses to be examined are Eugene Brooks, Zionite elder; W. W. Maltby, the child's father, and Dr. Ernest Hall.

CANCER SUFFERERS SHRINK FROM CHLOROFORM AND CUTTING

No Further Need For Dangerous and Painful Operations Since the Introduction of the New Constitutional Treatment.

People naturally dread the surgeon's knife, the chloroform and the operating table. More especially is this so in the case of those suffering from cancer, as the most skilled surgeon will tell his patient that he can promise no hope of a permanent cure by operation, and that the disease is as likely as not to return within a year. The new method of treating cancer by a constitutional remedy, taken internally, has been so wonderfully successful that within the last few years it has practically surpassed all other forms of treating this disease. The principle on which it is based is this, that cancer is a virulent poison in the blood, and removing the lump or growth simply does not get at the cause of the trouble. The new remedy, when taken into the system, goes directly to the root of the disease, searches out the cancer poison, neutralizes and destroys it and builds up the weakened organism. It is a pleasant preparation to take and will not upset the stomach of the most delicate. Messrs. Stott & Jury, Bowmanville, Ont., on receipt of 2 stamps, will be pleased to send further information about this remedy to any one desiring it.

TO-DAY'S FIRES.

Two Calls on the Brigade During the Day.

The cold weather is always dreaded by the firemen, and their fears were realized this morning and afternoon when alarm after alarm was turned in, fortunately with no disastrous results.

The first fire was at a two story frame building on Fort street, owned by P. R. Brown, and occupied by Mrs. Horne. The occupant of the building has been ill for some years, and was in bed in the room where the fire originated. A piece of coal from the grate fell on the floor and set fire to the window curtains and window blind. In a short time the ceiling was on fire and the firemen arrived just in time to save the woman and extinguish the blaze. While a number of the firemen were working in the upper rooms four of the men carried the sick woman to an adjoining room. The loss by fire will not amount to $25.

On the return of the firemen to their halls a second alarm was received for a fire at the residence of C. E. Redfern on the corner of St. John and Belleville streets. A spark ignited the shingles on the roof and caused a loss estimated at $150. The pressure of water was so low that a second alarm was turned in from box 7 for the chemical engine from headquarters. The two fires occurred during the prevalence of a high wind and were promptly extinguished.

Dishonest Non-Com.

Acting Quartermaster Sergeant Harris Proves Recreant to His Trust.

He and Two Accomplices Stole Stores and Fled to Seattle.

The officers and men of "A" Company, 3rd R.C.R., now in barracks at Hospital Point, are congratulating themselves in being freed from the presence of Acting Quartermaster-Sergeant Harris and a couple of accomplices, who are now in Seattle, fugitives from justice. At the same time the circumstances surrounding their departure are to be regretted inasmuch as a considerable quantity of stores as well as clothing belonging to some of the men were stolen by the dishonest non-com. and his equally guilty accessories.

Harris was enlisted by Lieut. Akroyd and was highly recommended to Col. McKay, for whom he acted as orderly clerk for a time. Subsequently he was deputed to the office of acting quartermaster-sergeant, and in that capacity he had charge over the stores and a quantity of clothing handed to his care by newly-enlisted men. These positions of trust were given him on the strength of the high recommendations made regarding his integrity and upright character, and his past record which has culminated in his disgraceful flight shows how mistaken in their man were those who trusted him, and to what depth of hypocrisy Harris was in the habit of stooping.

As acting quartermaster-sergeant he was in possession of duplicate keys of the store rooms, and his opportunities for filching were consequently too great for a man of his disposition to withstand. For some time past his city life has been of the most dissolute nature, and a short while ago he was guilty of a rather serious offense, drunkenness on duty. He was then deposed from the office of acting quartermaster-sergeant, and placed as duty sergeant as punishment, the case being really one for a courtmartial to deal with. Since then Harris has been surly and uncompromising, and his move of Monday last was the climax.

The report that the quantity of stores stolen by Harris will amount to several hundreds of dollars is deemed somewhat exaggerated. The exact amount has not yet been ascertained, as an inventory is being taken of the stores for that purpose. Harris left the city first and he was followed shortly afterwards by Ptes. Delehanty and Gordon, who are equally guilty. In fact when the stores were being examined a letter was found written by Harris from Seattle to Delehanty, giving him directions how and what to steal, and also how to successfully decamp with their plunder. This letter had evidently dropped from Delehanty's pocket, and, of course, entirely connects him with the crime. Blankets, boots, underclothing and several suits of clothes, all of excellent material, were taken.

Yesterday Col. McKay interviewed the attorney-general regarding the advisability of extraditing the men and bringing them to trial. It is understood that the attorney-general is desirous of instituting proceedings, but the initiative must come from the D. O. C., and as yet it is not definitely known whether an effort will be made to bring the men back or not.

The three men, particularly Harris, were the black sheep of the company, which has established so excellent a reputation for good behavior and morality in the city, and while it is to be regretted that they succeeded in making their escape with the clothing and other stores belonging to comrades, the officers and men of the company consider that they are well rid of their presence.

Some time ago, while Harris was acting as orderly clerk, Col. McKay missed $73, but there was no direct proof that the man had taken it, so no charge was made.

NAVAL LIEUTENANT DEAD.

New York, Nov. 20.—Lieut. Francis Joy Haesler, United States Navy, died at the Naval hospital here to-day of typhoid fever. Lieut. Haesler was eminent as an electrician, and was an expert in the application of compressed air in mechanics. In the battle of Santiago, which resulted in the destruction of Cevera's fleet, Lieut. Haesler was in charge of the starboard turret of the battleship Texas, and earned high praise for the manner in which his guns were served.

Are free from all crude and irritating matter. Concentratedmedicine only. Carter's Little Liver Pills. Very small; very easy to take; no pain; no griping; no purging. Try them.

Phaeton in Readiness

The Ship Has Received Orders to Stand Prepared to Follow Pheasant South.

Latter Set Sail For Panama This Morning--Her Mission There.

Supplementary orders to those dispatching H. M. S. Pheasant to Panama this morning have been received by H. M. S. Phaeton instructing the officers of that ship to hold her in readiness to follow her sister cruiser South on a similar mission. Capt. Fleet, of the Phaeton, since Admiral Beaumont's departure for Australia, is the officer in charge of this station, and the orders which have just been received are taken to mean that the revolution, which has broken out at Panama and which is menacing British interests there, is assuming a somewhat alarming form. The exact nature of the trouble has not been made known to the officers of the fleet, all the information they have on the matter being contained in the short and explicit instructions they have been given.

The Phaeton's orders are that she should be prepared to proceed to sea in 48 hours after the message was received. Whether she will go or not is of course a matter dependent on the character of the information furnished the admiralty by the British consul at Panama. By leaving in a day or so she would overtake the Pheasant and would arrive at the scene of trouble several days before the latter, being a much faster vessel. The ships are not expected to take an active part in the hostilities going on, but will simply stand by to see that British interests are not threatened.

The departure of the Pheasant, Capt. Smith, this morning was a most interesting event. The ship has served four commissions, or about twelve years, on this coast, and was looked upon as almost a fixture on this station. She had especially become familiar with the sealers of this city. Year after year she was identified with the British patrol in Behring Sea, and during the many seasons served in this work she overhauled the major number of the local schooner fleet.

She weighed anchor promptly at 9.30 o'clock this morning to the strains of the band aboard H. M. S. Warspite. Cheer after cheer went up from the sailors on all the ships as the little vessel steamed away. Her trip, it is expected, will occupy about 21 days. Of the general company who have been in command of the ship there was one who will be missing when the vessel reached home, he being Lieut. Reginald D. Scott, who, it will be remembered, was accidentally shot by the sentry on guard at the navy yard some months ago. He was buried subsequently in the naval cemetery at Esquimalt.

Great amusement was expressed by the officers at Esquimalt over the statement in the morning paper that the Colombian government was to be called to account by the Pheasant for the impression of the Taboga, a British ship, for the transportation, according to the Colonist, of the "Venezuelan army." The fact that Venezuela is on the Caribbean Sea, and Colombia and Panama on the Pacific ocean, and that the governments are as distinct as those of Germany and Italy, was not considered as material or as affecting the congruity of the story. Needless to say the Taboga feature of the story is news to the officers, and is manifestly an enterprising evolution from the dispatch of the Times last night, in which it was stated that a claim for damages had been entered for the seizure of that vessel. To back that claim by the presence of a warship before it was even refused might have been the custom in the Elizabethan age, but would certainly not be in harmony with the rules of modern diplomacy.

CHARGE AGAINST ALVORD.

New York, Nov. 20.—Cornelius L. Alvord, formerly note teller in the First National Bank, who is accused of embezzleing $700,000 from that institution, was held to-day to await the action of the grand jury. It is understood that Alvord would be indicted immediately, and that his case will be put on the calender for the term beginning the second Wednesday in December.

THE NERVES RULE THE BODY.

Feeble Nerves Are Aroused to New Vigor and Life by the Use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food (Pills).

The movements, the functions and the very life of each and every organ of the body are under the direct control of that great organism—the nervous system.

Whether weakened and exhausted by overwork, worry or disease, the effect is always to produce derangements of the most serious order, and the result is usually paralysis, locomotor ataxia, prostration, epilepsy or insanity.

When nervous, irritable, sleepless and despondent, revitalize the wasted nerve cells by using Dr. Chase's Nerve Food (pills). Don't wait for neuralic pains and nervous headache and dyspepsia to drive you to the use of the great nerve restorative.

The longer you delay treatment the more distant will be your recovery. Nervous diseases never wear away, but gradually get worse. Dr. Chase's Nerve Food (pills) is the only preparation which is certain to cure you, and it is certain because it contains in condensed form the very elements of nature which go to form new nerve tissue. It cures by building up the system. 50 cents a box, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY.

A child, described by his companions as a strong, sturdy little chap, full of animal life and spirits, died yesterday after an illness of a day or two. We have not heard any doctor assert that his life could have been saved if the means which science and experience have placed at the disposal of men in these latter days had been taken advantage of by the parents of the boy. But the probability is that it could. Skilful physicians effect cures nowadays which a few years ago would have been considered as approaching very closely to the marvellous. The general public will excuse them, therefore, if they exhibit considerable impatience when a case such as that mentioned above is brought to their attention. If men and women who have arrived at years of discretion deliberately make up their minds when they are afflicted with disease that there is really nothing the matter with them; that the illness which makes them weary of all earthly things and the pain which racks their frame are works of the imagination and that they who place their trust in the Lord shall never be confounded by disease—if these grown-up people refuse to avail themselves of the human agencies which are at the disposal of everyone for the prevention or eradication of diseases which as likely as not are the result of their own disregard of the laws of nature, we do not know that it is not just as well that they should be permitted to bear all the suffering and evil consequences which usually descend upon those who lack common sense. But when we consider the helpless children entrusted to these fanatical men and women, with the moral obligation imposed upon all parents to nurture them and set them out upon the journey of life mentally and physically fit to do their part in the battle which confronts all, then we are met by a serious phase of the religious belief of a not altogether insignificant part of the community. This is a matter which has been troubling other parts of the world, and we do not know that the wise men of the East are any nearer a solution of the problem than we are.

THEY DO FEEL BAD.

The Conservatives of Ontario are so mad that they are inclined to smash something. The old spirit has taken possession of them, and as there are no parliament buildings that can be conveniently burned and they have no excuse for insulting the Governor-General, they have fallen back upon their old expedient of agitating for annexation. In justice it must be said that this only applies to the more virulent among them; the men who would rather see confederation smashed into its original fragments than be without a government job. The unmistakable satisfaction of the people and press of Great Britain because of the fact that the Laurier government had been sustained is probably responsible to a great extent for the ill-tempered attitude of the Ontario stalwarts, but the papers of the United States which affect to perceive in such outbursts the beginning of a movement which will end with the annexation of Canada to that country do not inquire closely into the causes of the alleged dissatisfaction of part of the population of this country with present conditions. It is enough for them to be informed by their correspondents that a movement has been inaugurated with the object of bringing Ontario into the Union. The editors may be depended upon to make as much as possible out of such a startling announcement. These patriots allege that they have a majority in Ontario and that there is no hope of their ever regaining power with a solid Liberal Quebec arrayed against them. They entirely ignore the fact that the government is supported by a majority of the English-speaking members. They also forget that if Ontario were fairly distributed the government would have a majority from there to. Thanks to the activity of the Tory senators, the gerrymander is still in force. At the time of its introduction Mr. Blake, then the leader of the Liberal party, pointed out that as a result of this "hiving of the Grits," as Sir John Macdonald called it, the following constituencies would all be lost to the Liberals: North Lanark, South Lanark, Lincoln, Brockville, South Wentworth, North Ontario, Muskoka, East York, South Norfolk, North Perth, South Perth, North Middlesex, West Middlesex, Centre Wellington, North Wellington, North Bruce, South Grey, Bothwell and East Elgin. Mr. Blake's predictions proved to be substantially correct. An eastern exchange points out that if the original conformation of the constituencies had been allowed to continue instead of there being in the next House 38 Liberals and 51 Conservatives from Ontario there would in all probability be 45 Liberals and 35 Conservatives. Perhaps it is just as well that things are as they are, for we are afraid the Tories would have lost heart entirely if another contingent of forty had been added to the majority of the government. They would not even have had energy enough left to agitate for annexation then. However, it will do no harm for the independent voters to know that the minority in the new House would have been even smaller if our Conservative friends had faced the country on a fair distribution of the seats. As it is possible that there are some people who do not yet understand the contrivance by which the "Grits were hived," we shall cite the county of Bruce as a sample. It is divided into three ridings, North, West and East. Ordinarily all three of these divisions would return Liberal members to the House by good majorities, but it has been cut up so artistically that in the West the voters elected a Liberal by a majority of about 700, while in the other two constituencies the brace of Conservatives were elected by a majority of 29 between them. Thus we see that a sufficient number of Liberals were detached from two divisions and added to a constituency already strongly against the Conservatives to make them fairly sure of two seats in a county in which in a fair fight they would not secure one. That is minority representation with a vengeance. The whole of the province was gone over and grouped in that fashion, and it is easy to see that it was no very difficult matter by such dexterous manipulation to change the political complexion of fifteen or twenty seats out of a total of ninety-two.

"VIVE KRUGER."

It would be almost too much to expect the volatile people of France to neglect any opportunity of venting their feelings of animosity against Great Britain. The acclamations with which Kruger was received at Marseilles, demonstrations which will probably be repeated wherever the ex-President appears in France, cannot be accepted as a French testimony of admiration for the Dutch character. It is not that the French have any regard for Oom Paul or that they sympathise more than other nations with the fallen republics. For reasons that no fellow can understand unless he goes back into history a great many years, the Gallic disposition takes delight in manifesting its disapprobation of the doings of Perfidious Albion. The arrival of Kruger provided an outlet as it were for the ventilation of these emotions. Hence the cry, "Vive Kruger." Neither the features nor the feelings of John Bull will be greatly ruffled by these manifestations. He will proceed on his course in the phlegmatic way which has so often aroused continental resentiment and keep on going until the ends which he has in view have been accomplished.

Kruger says "we" intend to keep on fighting until not a man nor a child among the Boers is left to lift a rifle. Then Leyds and the American delegates and all the other parasities assembled there joined in the French shouts which went up to Heaven in honor of these valiant men, who are willing to live in affluence in Europe and let their countrymen uphold a bad and a lost cause in the field. The grotesqueness of the situation was not apparent to the multitude. The fighting may perhaps be continued a little longer because of the encouragement the unthinking populace of France have given to the ex-President and his friends, who will no doubt magnify what has occurred manyfold and transmit an account of it to the deluded burghers. It is fairly safe to predict, however, that neither the Transvaal nor the Orange Free State will ever know Kruger and his friends any more. These gentlemen and patriots are too comfortably provided for to take any chances.

THE FERRY BY-LAW

The communication of Mr. S. J. Pitts is an important contribution to the epistolary part of the present ferry controversy. The testimony of the writer as to the disadvantages to which the merchants of this city are at present subject compared with their competitors on the Mainland fully bears out what had already been said on this phase of the subject by the Times. Mr. Pitts desires as a wholesale merchant to be freed from these disabilities, and as a large property owner he is under no anxiety as to the burdens which some timorous people are under apprehensions will be imposed upon real estate. "Are we not better situated for deep sea fisheries than Vancouver? But how can this industry be conducted profitably on the Island unless shipments can be forwarded direct on refrigerator cars? Again, what is the reason for the number of wholesale merchants in the provision and produce business locating in Vancouver and doing from there the bulk of the trade of Victoria and the whole of the province? Simply the fact that they have a great advantage by being able to receive carload lots of fruit, vegetables, butter, cheese, eggs, salt and smoked meats, which require protection from both heat and cold, together with prompt removal from refrigerator cars to proper storage, while the Victoria merchants' shipments would be subject to many days' delay during the removal from cars in Vancouver before being re-stored here." Here we have the reasons which have militated against the commercial progress of Victoria in the past, set forth in the succinctest possible manner, conditons which are becoming more actue with the passing years. Merchants who hope to do business in these days of push and bustle in competition with rivals not only in the West but in the East realise that they can only hold their own by meeting their rivals in a fair field. This we believe the majority of the business houses of Victoria think they have not at the present time, and for that reason it is fair to assume that they are anxious to see the by-law now before the people carried.

F. A. Bottom, druggist, Cookshire, Que., says: "For 20 years I suffered from Catarrh. My breath was very offensive even to myself. I tried everything which promised me a cure. In almost all instances I had to proclaim them no good at all. I was induced to try Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder. I got relief instantly after first application. It cured me and I am free from all the effects of it." Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.—12.