From the DAILY COLONIST, September 27.

THE CITY.

PORT TOWNSEND reports the arrival of still another schooner load of Chinese from British Columbia, and notwithstanding the vigilence of the customs officials the business is said to be becoming more profitable than ever.

MR. HENRY COOK, of this city, bagged an unuaily large black bear, weight 250 pounds, on the Leach river trail last Sunday. The animal was accompanied by her cub and made a gallant fight, advancing under fire, though suffering from three bullet wounds, and only falling dead a few feet from the hunter, whose companion fled in alarm.

A MORMON agent named S. J. Klien has paid Victoria a flying visit, having come here from Seattle, which city he will pass through again on his way home to Salt Lake City. He is said to have visited Seattle because he had heard that Canadian Government immigration agents were meeting with success there, and he aimed at securing a share of the immigrants.

THOUGH ignorance of the law excuses no one, ignorance of fire arms enabled Samuel Booth to escape punishment for what is a serious offence—purchasing a rifle belonging to the militia of Canada. Booth keeps a second-hand store on Johnson street and secured the weapon—a long Snider—for $1 from a young member of the brigade who has since left the city. He testified when arraigned in the Police court that he had no idea that it was Government property he was buying and was discharged with a caution to be more careful in future.

CARMANAH sustains its reputation as a place for sport. In a leisure hour yesterday morning, the telegraph operator there killed a fine deer. In the afternoon he found time to go bear hunting, and a lusty fellow weighing 350 pounds soon fell a victim to his trusty rifle. But a panther in search of winter stores passed the ranch of the operator whilst he was away on the chase, and had slaughtered five fat pigs off which the panther was proceeding to make a feast when the operator returned, about 5 o'clock, and numbered with the slain this poacher upon his preserves.

HOP pickers in the fields south of the border have this year found it next to impossible to make more than actual living expenses, the growers demanding much more careful picking without increasing the recompense. It is thought that the result of this will be to drive the white pickers out of the business altogether. Near North Yakimo, a few days ago, the pickers went on strike for $1 50 a box, instead of the $1 25 allowed. Chinese were soon found to take their places, but the whites drove them off the fields, and the aid of the law has been invoked by the growers.

THE Alberni gold discoveries, says Geo. A. Huff, the merchant of that place, who is now in Victoria, have made the people jubilant, and there are already between thirty and forty prospectors at work. The recently published assays by the Government analyst bear out those made independently by Malcolm Ethridge, a prospector, and this circumstance adds to the value of the testimony as to the remarkable richness of the find. When Mr. Huff left Alberni on Monday, Hon. Col. Baker, minister of mines, and Mr. Carmichael, the analyst, had just started out to make an inspection of the places from which the rich samples came.

COLUMBIA ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER No. 120 Grand Registry of Scotland held their annual Convocation last evening. The officers for the ensuing year are: 1st Principal Z., B. S. Oddy; 2nd Principal H., Dr. W. H. Richardson; 3rd Principal J., E. Langley; Scribe E., R. H. Swinerton; Scribe N., J. L. Stamford; Treasurer, C. E. Renouf; 1st Sojourner, C. D. Mason; 2nd Sojourner, H. Flett; 3rd Sojourner, R. E. Brett; Director of Ceremonies, Dr. G. L. Milne; Tyler, T. Cuniff. In the evening the newly elected officers were installed by B. Williams, assisted by A. Stewart and A. McKeown. After disposing of business, the members assembled at a banquet.

HATTIE HASTINGS, the young lady whose arrest for opium smuggling created something of a sensation a few weeks ago, has disappeared from Port Angeles for parts unknown, and is not expected to return for trial. Her absence, it is said, will prevent embarrassing revelations as to the gang for whom her smuggling operations were carried on. She had a good standing socially in Port Angeles, where she lived with her father, who is now 72 years old, and had some real estate to help pay for which a good part of the profits realized from her dangerous associations is said to have been used. Her father was once Mayor of the town of Mendota, in Illinois.

"FREDERICK SCHINDLER," who came to his death, it is supposed, by suicide, in this city last week, is reported from Astoria to have been W. R. Shideler of that town, where he arrived in February, 1892, with his wife and family, and organized several watch clubs. A few months later he became prominently identified with the "political reform" movement and with what was known as the Citizens' party, and also was made president of the Blue Jay Club, a Democratic organization. He was the principal figure in the city election campaign one year ago, and next attained the position of business manager of the Evening Budget. In March last he disappeared, leaving his wife and family destitute. He was traced to South Bend, but there his tracks were lost.

A LONG TELEPHONE LINE.

Everett Connected With Spokane—The Second Longest in the World.

Telephone connection between Spokane and Everett, by way of Portland, and the principal cities of the Sound has been established. Manager C. B. Hopkins postponed his trip to the World's Fair on account of the work involved in opening the line, and is bending every energy toward making it on the day specified. The line will be the second longest telephone connection in the world, its only rival being the 900 mile line between New York and Chicago. There still remains to be completed about nine miles of line just east of Troutdale. It is in heavy timber and rock, but progress is being made at the rate of over a mile a day.

Three companies are interested in the combined long line, the Sunset between Everett and Portland, the Oregon from Portland to John Day's, and the Inland from the latter place to Spokane. The managers of the companies are now pow-wowing about rates. Talk will not be so cheap as on ordinary occasions. The maximum tariff will probably be in the neighborhood of $4.50 for a five-minute conversation, with an intermediate rate of $2 50 or so for Portland. There is talk, however, of a $1 commercial rate for one minute to Portland. That will compete with the telegraphic rate for a message and answer, and permit of considerable business being done by a man who does not waste time in rhetorical effusion.

A COLD STORAGE MEETING,

At Which Other Pressing Necessities of Victoria Are Pointed Out.

Why the City Does Not Progress Faster—Cost of the New Scheme.

A meeting called to promote the interests of a cold storage warehouse in this city was held at the Driard Monday eve., M Strouss in the chair, and J. H. Brownlee, by request, acting as secretary. There were also present, A. Begg, G. McL. Brown, H. E. Connon, R. Cunningham, Geo. L. Courtney, A. Dunsmuir, A. C. Flumerfelt, N. Gowan, R. H. Hall, M.P.P., T. B. Hall, D. R. Ker, C. A. Lombard, G. Leiser, H. C. Macaulay, Jas. Mitchell, Chas. Rattray, L. Redon, W. Templeman, B. Van Volkenburg and others. The chairman having recapitulated the advantages of cold storage, as explained recently to the Board of Trade, gave some figures he had obtained as the result of a visit made to similar institutions in Tacoma and Seattle. The outlay required would be: For machinery, including two machines for the direct expansion process, for 50 car loads capacity, $16,000; seven compartments, required for different temperatures, $15,000; ice plant, $5,000; site, $10,000. To make the company strong he proposed a capital of $65,000, in $100 shares. He thought that if Victoria was to have a cold storage warehouse it should be provided by local rather than foreign capital. He thought that if Victoria was to go ahead, and not be outstripped by other places in the Province, it was a necessity that this addition to the city's equipments should be made.

Alex. Dunsmuir wished to point out, if it were in order at this meeting called for a special purpose, that there were other things more urgently needed than cold storage to make Victoria what it ought to be. The city was in urgent need of good sewerage, good water and good streets. A gentleman from another country who called to see him the other day, said he had not seen such disgraceful streets in any city in the world, an assertion which was probably about correct. Victoria had a debt of only $800,000, and could well afford to borrow the money to make these absolutely necessary improvements. Vancouver's debt was now $2,000,000, and he commended the enterprise which had led that city to borrow money to make improvements to that extent. He would like to see a meeting called to find out why this city is not progressing better—to see what is being done by the present Mayor and Council, and perhaps to provide for a better Council. Victoria ought to be made a healthy, pleasant and attractive resort, and he would like to see the people go to work to build it up as such. That was a scheme he would heartily go in for. Then the whole Province should look for population, especially farming population, so that the people could grow at home those articles which it was proposed to import and keep in cold storage. If, however, other persons in the city were going to subscribe to carry out this project, he would assist it to some extent.

D. R. Ker commended the enterprise and hoped that local capital would be found to carry it out.

B. Van Volkenburg told his experience of Nature's cold storage, in the Cariboo country, for eighteen years, and said that meat kept from December to March, without losing in quality.

G. Leiser suggested that the chairman and secretary should be appointed a deputation to wait upon the business people and have the capital subscribed.

Jas. Mitchell thought it ought to be made plain that the consumers as well as the business people were to derive some benefit.

R. Cunningham told of the satisfactory experience he had had at his salmon cannery with a small refrigerating plant brought from San Francisco last year. This had been the means of saving a great quantity of fish which otherwise would have spoiled before it could have been canned. He found it paid very well indeed.

A. C. Flumerfelt said one chief reason why Victoria should take action immediately is that the C.P.R. are about to inaugurate cold storage stations all along their line; and the Australian trade by the new steamers would be largely of a nature which would make such storage a necessity if this city wished to participate in it. He thought there was a great deal in what Mr. Dunsmuir had said as to the necessity of population. One of the obstacles to settlement here being the excessive cost of living, he would favor any scheme which would reduce that cost. He was assured by Mr. McKilligan that if local people did not take this matter up British capitalists, whom he represented, would do so later on.

R. H. Hall, M.P.P., said he knew that it would be a great advantage to the people of the Upper Country if they could sell their fat cattle in Victoria in the fall for winter consumption. If foreign capital would take up the matter he did not think anyone should object.

G. McL. Brown said if the merchants of Victoria decided to put up a storage warehouse, the C. P. R. would be glad to do whatever they could for them in the way of distributing their literature, or otherwise.

M. Young, as a hotel and restaurant proprietor, gave evidence as to how the city suffered for want of storage facilities, having to pay exorbitant prices or to go altogether without many commodities.

The chairman said he thought he ought to get at the meeting the seven shareholders necessary for the incorporation of a company. He wished if somebody would move a resolution endorsing the establishment of the Victoria Automatic Refrigerator Co.

R. Erskine spoke in support of the proposition.

Wm. Templeman suggested that the chairman should not press the resolution (which no one showed a disposition to move), but that the meeting should be adjourned and a deputation wait on the men of means as suggested.

A motion to this effect was put and carried unanimously. The chairman and secretary declined to act as the deputation, Mr. Struss saying that he had already been round, and between fifty and sixty persons had promised to come to the meeting, but for some reason the greater number were absent.

The meeting then adjourned *sine die*.

OPERATIONS on the new school buildings and sewers were resumed yesterday morning, the bricklayers yielding to the force of circumstances and going to work under the supervision of the protested inspectors. The men say they gave in out of consideration for the contractors, who, if they had not done so, would have been compelled to secure other help to complete the works within the prescribed time.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, September 28.

THE CITY.

TAILORS' unions in the East are taking steps to assist those of this Province in their resistance to the recent reduction in wages.

A CIRCULAR has been issued by the C.P.R. giving the names of the principal importers of Sydney, New South Wales, for the information of Canadian merchants wishing to do business with Australia.

THE Sons of England have received word from Supreme Grand Secretary Carter stating that his visit here, owing to press of business, must necessarily be short and he will be obliged to leave Victoria on Tuesday morning.

SHINGLES, according to the West Coast Lumberman, are common currency in the interior of Washington, butchers and grocerymen taking their pay in this curious coin almost as commonly as the tradesmen of Indiana received coon skins about forty years ago.

FOR the first time, the committee of the Orphans' Home will, on Saturday afternoon, hold a meeting in the new orphanage, which is now sufficiently advanced for that purpose, and is making satisfactory progress towards completion.

MRS. BRIGADIER MARGETTS, from Winnipeg, assisted by Captain Massacar, formerly in charge of the Victoria corps, will conduct special meetings in the Salvation Army barracks, on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. The meetings are open to all.

THE North Saanich Game Protection Society announces that it will vigorously prosecute all persons found hunting or in search of game on property owned by the members. This will have the effect of stopping a good many amateur sportsmen from going out.

TENDERS are called for the several branches of work in connection with the superstructure of the new Parliament Buildings, intending contractors having until November 30 to put in their figures. The particulars appear in the advertising columns of to-day's issue.

THE charge of breaking a padlock on a gate, on which William Steinberg appeared in the Provincial Police court yesterday afternoon, was dismissed, as the court had no jurisdiction to deal with the matter. The complaint arose out of a dispute as to the right to use a road through property owned by the defendant's grandmother.

DIVORCES obtained in the United States are frequently made to do duty by persons who have been married in Canada and are still residing here, but in a case which recently came up in Toronto Mr. Justice Macdougall very strongly expressed his opinion that such divorces could not be accepted in the Canadian courts as binding in the Dominion.

FISHERY exhibit awards at the World's Fair show a large number to have been earned by Canada. Diplomas and medals have been obtained by British Columbia exhibitors as follows:—Turner, Beeton & Co., Inverness cannery, Skeena river, canned salmon; T. N. Ladner, Ladner's, fish guano; Alert Bay Canning Co., canned salmon; Robert Ward & Co., Ltd., canned salmon.

LOYAL Dauntless Lodge, No. 177 C.O.O.F., held its regular fortnightly meeting on Tuesday evening, when the following officers for the ensuing term were elected: L. Dunbrack, N.G.; A. Lucas, V.G.; W. Thompson, sec.; J. Pierce, treas.; J. McGilvray, warden; T. Cowler, conductor; J. Tagg, lecture master and Messrs. T. Cummings, A. Lucas and J. Tagg, trustees.

HIS father's watch has been sent to the managers of the orphan's home, to be presented to the little son of Thos. Hodgson when the child who is now seven years of age is old enough to take care of this memento. It will be remembered that Hodgson died recently in the Jubilee hospital, of consumption, and before his death his boy had been taken care of at the orphanage, greatly to the dying man's relief.

JOHN FRANCIS, the seaman on the British ship Rathdown who was committed on a charge of assault on the man Wilson now charged with murder, came up for speedy trial yesterday afternoon before Mr. Justice Drake. The case was adjourned for one week on the application of W. H. Langley, who appeared for the Crown, on the ground that the witnesses were at present in Vancouver, but would be down here next week to attend the assizes.

THE summonses for the grand and petit juries for the special assize which is to be held on October 5 have now been issued, and Deputy Sheriff Siddall is busy serving them. The names of the grand jurors selected are as follows: Messrs. A. W. More, D. R. Ker, Chris. Spencer, John Pelletier, F. R. Elworthy, A. J. McLellan, M. Young, Jos. Hutcheson, John Teague, George Walker, J. Eareman, Maxwell Muir, C. A. Holland, J. E. Crane, R. A. Bayne, Jos. Phillips, L. B. Hamlin and Fred. Pemberton.

AT the next meeting of the B. C. Board of Trade the question of tariff revision will be brought up and discussed, and in all probability some arrangement will be made to have the views of the Board laid in proper shape before the Minister of Finance, Hon. George E. Foster, when he comes here next month. According to the programme Hon. Mr. Foster and Hon. Mr. Angers, minister of agriculture, will be here about the end of October, and they will probably hold several meetings in the Province. Local Conservatives are also talking about getting up some sort of a reception, and will probably take degnite action in this direction before very long. In connection with the question of tariff revision it may be stated that in anticipation of the visit of the Minister of Finance the Winnipeg Board of Trade has already taken the matter up, and will have ready a list of what they consider "grievances."

SUNFLOWERS are to achieve a new popularity, according to Prof. Robertson, of the Dominion Experimental Farms, and the capacity of this Province for the production of this aesthetic plant will no doubt form the subject of grave reports ere long. There have been experiments made as the result of which, according to the Professor, "it is not exaggerating facts to say that their cultivation will become of almost as much importance in Canada as barley has ever been. They are wholesome food for cattle; and the finer product of the flowers can be made into an excellent oil, which is already displacing the olive and other oils for table salads in England and other countries. There are ten acres of the flowers at the farm here. The heads alone are to be placed in the silocs, together with the Indian corn and horse beans, making an ensilage known as Robertson's ensilage for the sake of distinction, which is considered to be unsurpassed for feeding cattle. The mixture was only experimented upon last year, and this summer fully 150 farmers in Canada are laying in a supply of it for the winter."

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

Comments of the Ottawa Press on the Recent Lacrosse Match.

Yachtsmen Invited to Seattle—Rugby Practice To-Day—The Australian Cricketers.

OTTAWA, Sept. 27.—The spectators who visited the Exhibition grounds yesterday to see the Capitals and Victorias play say they were badly sold by the Capitals. W. H. Cullin, captain of the Victorias, has a letter in to-day's Citizen, in which he expresses the extreme disappointment experienced by his team at not being permitted to meet the Capitals yesterday. He says the team were disheartened by the fact that they had to compete against a combination. He hopes the Capitals will visit Victoria next season, when they will be treated fairly.

The Free Press looks on the match through Ottawa spectacles and says: "The appearance of the combination was the occasion for a mighty big kick by the Victorias. They insisted on playing the Capitals or not at all, and before being induced to go on with the match nearly an hour's time was lost. The men from British Columbia went out with blood in their eyes, and evidently imagined they could win against any other twelve in the world, not even Capitals barred."

The Journal to-night puts the matter very fairly. It says: "Serious disappointment met the 4,000 people on the exhibition grounds yesterday, so far as the lacrosse match was concerned. The disappointment was unmistakable from the first. At 3:30 everyone was waiting. The Victorias came out first and received hearty cheers. A stalwart, fine looking set of men they were physically, equals of any team that has played lacrosse here this season, except possibly of the Capitals themselves. Then a red shirt arrived on the field. In a moment a great roar of applause started on the grand stand, but suddenly the roar seemed to get short-winded. More red shirts came out, but they were brighter red shirts and smaller red shirts than the Ottawa public are accustomed to when it goes to senior lacrosse matches. The roar lost breath completely. Red shirts continued to come out, but they came out amid silence. In about two seconds the Ottawa public had caught on to the fact that the Capital club, fearing a defeat because all its best team were not available, was dodging the issue by pitting against Victoria a team largely composed conspicuously of juniors. Only four of the Capitals' seniors—Devine, Hugh Carson, Ketchum and Turner—went on the field; the balance were members of the Stars, the Capitals' juniors. Captain Cullin, of the Victorias, had protested in vain, and but that he was pledged to the Central Exhibition Association he would have taken his men from the field. After playing creditably against all the other best teams of the country the Victorias felt that it was a shabby business to put juniors against them. The Capitals excuse was that they should not be expected to risk their credit when their team were so badly used up from last Saturday's match that they only turned out four men. Others of the team were out between games and tobied the ball around the field."

All the members of the team who return to Victoria went West to-night, and will rendezvous at Winnipeg on October 3 and proceed West the same day. Eckardt, Ketchum, Frost, Tite, Belfrey and Burnes remain East for a few weeks.

YACHTING.

INVITATION TO SEATTLE.

Commodore Foot, of the Victoria Yacht Club, has received a pressing invitation from Capt. Hatfield of the Seattle Yacht Club for the attendance of all the local crafts at the grand opening of their new club house at the Queen City of the Sound, on October 4th. The letter speaks very highly of the treatment which the Seattle club received in Victoria a short time ago, and says there are a number of fine medals ready for the winners of the coming races.

RAINY LAKE.

First Discovery of Gold on the Minnesota Side.

Charles A. Moore, well known in mining circles, passed through Winnipeg the other day en route to St. Paul and Duluth. Mr. Moore has just returned from Rainy lake, where he has started a gang of miners to work on his recently discovered auriferous lodes in Itasca county, Minn., a few miles northeast of St. Francis. So far twelve gold bearing reefs have been located by Mr. Moore and his associates. Specimens shown were rich in free gold, and would indicate that the new finds are among the richest ever made in Rainy river district. The strike of these reefs is identical with those being developed on the Lake of the Woods, and are probably outcrops or continuations of them, the specimens resembling quartz from the Sultana, Ophir, Gold Hill, Rajah, Pine Portage, George Heenan and other Lake of the Woods rivers. This is the first discovery of gold on the Minnesota side, which has been looked upon as exclusively an iron country. The country is easy of access during the summer by way of Rat Portage and Rainy river by steamboat, and in winter by sleigh.

THE ARION CLUB CONCERT.

The Second Season Opened Under Auspice Promising Unqualified Success.

The first concert of the second season of the Arion club, given last evening, was a pronounced success in point both of musical merit and finished execution. The selections, though taken from the leading masters, were musical to the general ear, and tuneful to all. A limited number of invitations were issued, so that the attendance was mainly composed of musical people in sympathy with the objects of the organization. All the active members were present on the platform, so that the full vocal strength of the club was apparent, and it may be truthfully stated that this has much improved since last season. There was an evidence in each number of hard, careful practice, and conscientious training. Of course a deal of the credit for this belongs to the able conductor, Mr. Greig, but it is a case of a capable workman with first-class tools and the best of materials with which to turn out good work. Possibly there is room for improvement in the tenors, or an opening for a couple of first-class tenors, but time will remedy that. The first and second basses are also powerful, well-trained voices; but the chorus blends well as a whole, and gives an effect of musical unison often not attained by choirs who have been singing together for years.

There were fifteen numbers on last evening's programme, including two vocal solos by Miss Warren, and a violin solo by Mr. Ernest Wolff. Miss Warren's singing was much appreciated. She has good method, the result of superior preparation, and adapts it to a voice of considerable sweetness and richness. Possibly her rendition of "Il Bacio," though in Italian, was the better of the two, although she received a cordial recall for each of her numbers. Mr. Ernest Wolff was also warmly applauded and encored for a masterly interpretation of a selection from De Beriot, "Scene de Ballet." Among the many pretty numbers by the club was one by Sullivan, "The Long Day Closes," which was beautifully rendered. It is full of sweetness and touching sympathy, which were effectively brought out in the execution. The closing piece was the "Soldiers' Chorus" from Faust, with the rendition of which there is little fault to be found, the ringing vigor and musical force with which it was given covering any niceties in the matter of choral faults. On the whole, the friends who responded to the club's invitation spent an evening pleasant, both musically and intellectually.

SHAKESPEARE AND BACON.

Henry Irving's Views as to the Identity of the Immortal Dramatist.

Mr. Henry Irving, the great English actor, who was lately in British Columbia, is no friend of Ignatius Donnelly's laborious argument that Bacon wrote the plays almost universally attributed to the immortal Shakespeare.

"It seems to me," he says, "that the apex of the indicrous was touched when Mr. Ignatius Donnelly wrote his stupendous work to prove that Bacon wove into Shakespeare's plays a narrative in cipher full of historical incidents which never happened. After this there is really nothing else for the Baconian party to achieve, and they ought to weep like Alexander because there remain no other worlds to conquer."

Then Mr. Irving makes a suggestion.

"Why not argue that the total lack of imagination, of the poetic faculty and of the sense of humor revealed in Bacon's works is proof of his purpose to prevent any identification of his genius with Shakespeare's? This would be quite as convincing as the famous cipher."

"What about the theory of composite authorship?"

"A weak and waddling compromise, that seems to have no other foundation than the idea that while the brilliant nobles of Elizabeth's court contributed the scholarship, Shakespeare threw in the poetry. Imagine a committee of classical experts with Bacon in the chair meeting to discuss a rough draft of 'The Tempest' or 'King Lear,' and sending it around to Blackfriars for Shakespeare to tone up with the addition of a little blank verse!

"No," and Mr. Irving, like a skeptic, smiled, "the testimony of competent witnesses is simple and conclusive. No one in his day ventured to suggest that Shakespeare was trading on another's brains, and only when the Baconians can show that Ben. Johnson was either a fool or a knave, or that the whole world of players and playwrights are fools or knaves, will they receive serious attention."

Mr. Irving's favorite Shakespearian characters are "King Lear," "Iago," "Hamlet," and "Richard III," and these will be frequently presented during the American tour to terminate in New York on March 17, 1894. After that date it is quite possible that a Canadian circuit may be played, Vancouver and Victoria being included in the cities honored. For the Dominion tour, if it becomes a reality, Mr. Irving may add to his company's repertoire the new play "King Arthur"—a drama in blank verse which he has recently accepted from Conyn Cummings. It deals with the legendary portion of English history, when Launcelot and Guinevere lived and loved. Mr. Irving will take the title part, Miss Terry that of Guinevere.

MIRTH AND MELODY.

A Rare Programme by Popular Entertainers—The Sailor's Rest Benefits.

To aid the Sailors' Rest at Esquimalt, to which the receipts are to be devoted, an audience which well filled the floor and galleries gathered at the Metropolitan Methodist school room last evening, and those present were well rewarded by a splendid entertainment. The chair was occupied by the Rev. S. Cleaver, pastor of the church. This was the programme:

Readings, "The Revenge" (Tennyson), and "King John and the Abbot of Canterbury"—Rev. W. P. George.

Song. "The Guiding Light" (Bingham)—W. Edgar Buck.

Reading, "The Northern Farmer" (Tennyson); recitation, "Horatius" (Macaulay)—Rev. W. P. George.

Song, "Doris" (De Koven)—Miss Sharp.

Readings, "The Old Woman of Berkely" (Southy); "The Yarn of the Nancy Bell" (Gilbert); "The Edifice Erected by John"—Rev. W. P. George.

Song, "They All Love Jack"—W. Edgar Buck.

Reading, "Sand and Sunshine"—Rev. W. P. George.

Song, "The Winter Lullaby" (De Koven)—Miss O'Neil.

Reading, "Curing a Cold" (Mark Twain)—Rev. W. P. George.

Song, "Golden Hours"—J. G. Brown.

Recitation, "The Last Hymns" (Farninghame)—Rev. W. P. George.

Of course encores were the order of the evening. As will be seen, Rev. Mr. George was a very liberal contributor, but the more the audience had of him the more they wanted. The ladies' contributions made a charming variation in the programme. The song "Golden Hours," by Mr. Brown, was to music composed by the bandmaster of the Warspite, and thus had a pecular local interest adding to the favor with which it was received. The new leader of the Metropolitan choir was at his happiest in the character song, "They All Love Jack," and at once found decided favor with those who did not already know him as a clever vocalist. On the whole the affair was a great success.

TALE BEARING.

Of all the disgusting characters that disturb communities, there are none to compare with the tale-bearer. Such members of society knowing themselves to be scant of commendable quality, try to win favor by reporting to us the unpleasant things said behind our backs. Carlyle once met such a friend in his own study, and promptly dismissed her by saying: "I always insist on my visitors who neglect to clean their shoes before entering my study to return to the door mat for that purpose, and before allowing you to present yourself to me in the future, I demand that you betake yourself to your home, and by the light of true womanly modesty cleanse your tongue." It is needless to say his modesty was never shocked by the brazen creature again. "A tale-bearer separateth chief friends."

TOM.

GOOD TIMES IN OKANAGAN.

Increasing Development of the Natural Resources—Hop Growing An Assured Success.

The Gold Mines Showing Very Rich Prospects, and Being Profitably Worked.

Ainsley Megraw, editor and publisher of the Vernon News, returned home this morning after spending a few days in Victoria. He states that in the Okanagan district, of which Vernon is virtually the capital, the crops, though not quite equal to those of former years, are still better than found in the older provinces, and as Mr. Megraw comes from Paisley, in the centre of the best grain producing district in Ontario, he is in a position to make an intelligent comparison. This year the Spallumcheen has been less fortunate than other parts of the district, but the Okanagan comes near its old average, and the Mission valley, in particular, has made a very good showing. This season has shown that hop growing is no longer of doubtful profit in the district. The hops on Lord Aberdeen's estate, both in the Coldstream and Mission valleys, are an excellent crop. The small supply grown last year and formerly was taken by the local brewery, but now that the hops are to be grown on a larger scale an outside market will have to be sought. On the Coldstream ranch alone half the crop had not been picked, and the amount paid to the Siwashes for picking had reached over a thousand dollars.

"The capacity of the Okanagan for wheat growing," continued Mr. Megraw, "is simply astonishing. With but one year's sowing crops have been gathered for three years in succession, the wheat shelled out during harvesting being the only seed required for the next year's crop, which would not be less than thirty bushels to the acre, against fifty for the first year. This curious state of affairs is accounted for by the amazing fertility of the land, and farmers knowing that nature will take care of their old wheat fields for them commonly take advantage of this good fortune and pay attention to new ground."

"I completed a two weeks' tour of the gold mining camps in the lower Okanagan just before coming to Victoria. The prospects are exceedingly good. At Camp Fairview, the only one accessible by wagon road, the Strathcyre Mining Company, have their quartz mill running steadily upon ore from the Brown Bear and Wild West mines, and it is generally understood that the returns are fully satisfactory. The gold bearing quartz in this district is in unlimited quantities, and it appears to get richer the further it is followed. Camp McKinney is by many considered to be as good as Camp Fairview, but it cannot be worked at present owing to the absence of roads to take in machinery. There are a great many camps in the Boundary Creek district, among which may be mentioned Attwood's, White's, the Greenwood, Skylark, Providence, Deadwood and Copper. From the Skylark and Providence ore is being shipped by pack trains to Grand Prairie and thence teamed to Marcus, where it is shipped by rail to Tacoma. The cost of transportation alone of this ore is said to reach between $60 and $70 per ton, which is ample evidence of its richness. At Grand Prairie, on Kettle river, there is an excellent farming district which will yet supply the mines of that locality, when they are worked to their full capacity.

"Owing to the absence of any but the local market, furnished by the mills at Enderby, for grain, only the small price of $13.50 per ton is realized by the farmers of the Mission valley, while probably more than twice that amount is paid for wheat grown at the coast, which has the advantage of larger markets."

CITY MARKETS.

Many of the local merchants have found last week's business not quite as brisk as usual. There have been several good-sized importations of fruit, which is in good demand. The salmon shipments have made business brisk in the distributing houses. The fresh fish market has of late been in a very weak condition, the supply being very poor. In dairy products prices are stiffening, but in grain and other field products there are no changes. The ruling retail quotations are as follows:

FLOUR—Portland roller per bbl	$ 5.75
Salem	5.75
Ogilvie's (Hungarian)	6.00
Lake of the Woods (Hungarian)	6.00
Premier	5.00
Three Star	5.75
Victoria	5.75
Lion	5.75
Royal	5.50
Wheat, per ton	35.00@40.00
Oats, per ton	33.00@35.00
Barley, per ton	32.00@35.00
Middlings, per ton	32.0@35.00
Bran, per ton	27.00@30.00
Ground Feed, per ton	30.00@35.00
Corn, whole	45.00
" cracked	50.00
Cornmeal, per 100 lbs.	3.00@3.25
Oatmeal, per 10 lbs	50
Rolled Oats, per lb	6
Potatoes, per lb	1
Cabbage, per lb	3 @3½
Cauliflowers, per doz	1.50
Green Peas, per lb	2½
Hay, baled, per ton	18@22.00
Straw, per bale	1.00
Onions, per lb	04
" Silver, per lb	04
Eggs, Island, per dozen	40
" Packed, per dozen	25
Butter, Island roll, (2 lbs)	60 @ 70
" Creamery, per 3 lbs.	1 00
Cheese, Canadian per lb., retail	20
Hams, American "	20 to 25
" Canadian "	20
Bacon, American, per lb	25
" Rolled "	18
" Long clear "	17
Shoulders, per lb	14
Lard " "	18@25
Golden Cottolene, per lb	20
Meats—Beef "	8@15
Sides "	8@10
Mutton, per lb	8@15
Pork, fresh "	10@15
Chickens, per pair	1.75@2.00
Turkey per lb	30
Geese per lb	25
Grouse, per brace	75@1.00
Venison, per lb	6@8
Fish—Salmon (Spring), per lb	10@12
" (Smoked), "	12@15
Halibut	10@12
Cod, per lb	8@10
Small fish	6@8
Smelts, per lb	10@12
Sturgeon	7@8
Fruits—Apples per lb	5
Oranges (Riverside) per doz	40@50
" (Australian) "	25@30
Lemons (California) per doz	35@40
" (Australian) "	25@30
Sicily, per doz	40@50
Bananas, per doz	25
Tomatoes, per lb	6
Peaches, per lb	8@10
Pears, per lb	6@8
Pine Apples, apiece	25@50
Plums, per lb	4@5
Watermelons	25@50
Grapes	5@10

F. Evans, Supreme court stenographer, is here, accompanied by Mrs. Evans, having come from the Assizes at Cariboo.