Clearings Compared—The total clearings of the Victoria clearing house for the month just closed amounted to \$2,-\$74,943—probably the largest total for the month in the city's history. The figures for March of last year were \$2,-416,835. In 1903 they were \$2,187,806; in 1902, \$1,830,139; and in 1901, \$2,-242,541

Fruit Growers.—A special meeting of the British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association will be held at the City hall on Friday next for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to the fostering of the industry. A meeting of the Victoria branch of the organization was held yesterday afternoon, preparatory to the general meeting on Friday.

rriage

Vheel

ade of signs.

any ine or

0000

.65 🗘 .30 8

.25 Q .25 8

.50

OCO

pack-

Rushing Gorge Line.—So rapid has been the progress in constructing the branch line of the British Columbia Electric railway to the Gorge that it is expected that the undertaking will be completed and the road in operation before the end of April. Since the work was started over one hundred men have been employed, and it is the intention of the company to push the job forward with all possible expedition in order that the line may be ready for the increased summer tourist. ready for the increased summer tourist travel expected this season

Nanaimo Jail Abolished—The estimates now under consideration by the iocal legislature confirm the report current for some time past that the abolition of the Nanaimo jail, with its necessary staff and maintenance bills, had been decided upon in the interest of further provincial economy. It is expected that the contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another provincial economy. It is expected that the contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail. Another contemplated action will give larger population to the Victoria jail another contemplated action will give larger population to t

e. Douglas and Fisguard streets, loss March 8, false alarm; March 7, roof m; March 19, fire in Anderson's ci-store, Davis hotel block, loss \$250; tch 22, sparks from chimney, Douglas Cormorant streets; March 24, over-ted chicken brooder, Montreal and thee streets, loss \$5; March 30, over-

Given an Agency—Arthur E. Haynes, who has been with Mr. E. Crow Baker for the past eighteen years, has been appointed agent for Victoria of the Royal Insurance Co. of Liverpool, of which Messrs. Robert Ward & Co., Ltd., are the general agents for British Columbia. His office will be as heretofore at room 13, Bank of Commerce building.

An Old Parliamentarian.-Mr. George McCormick, who is at present in the city, in company with other representatives of the lumber industry in the

The Arnald Stove—Mr. John Colbert of this city has completed arrangements with W. G. Arnald, the inventor, for the manufacture of the Arnald patent stove, a description of which appeared in these columns some weeks ago. The new stove, it is claimed, is a great fuel saver, and more sanitary than any other. Mr. Arnald, who is an eccentric and picturesque old time prospector, has been visiting Victoria for several weeks past. His invention is fully protected by both Canadian and United States patents.

More Autos Coming—Messrs. Hutchison Bros., local agents for the Olds motor works at Detroit, Mich., expect to receive in a few days a fine Oldsmobile light tonneau car. They have booked orders for several cars of this type and are only awaiting the arrival of this sample car before ordering shipments from the East. Hutchison Bros., who are now located in the building on Broughton street formerly used as the home of metallurgical works, have an establishment splendidly fitted up with most modern machinery for repair work of all kinds, and especially adapted for the treatment of automobile work.

Great Northern Plans for British Columbia.

one hundred miles on the eastern end, where the surveys are nearly ready, will ud sewer, and one forwarder in the be built during 1905, and the whole road to New Westminster bridge will be finished within three years. An amalgamation of the Hill interests, including the Port Guichon-Sidney connection with Victoria, may then be expected.

The customs receipts of the Dominion for the nine months ending with March were \$30,916,179; compared with \$30,163,285 for the same time last year, an increase of \$752,916. The receipts for the month of March were \$3,694,161, an increase of \$134,909 over March, 1904.

A delegation from Prince Edward Island, which waited on the government today, asked for the construction of a tunnel between the island and mainland. The delegation is pressing for a ten million dollar tunnel scheme and got an offer from M. J. Haney, contractor, to build the tunnel for that amount.

APRIL 4.

We wanted to be a second of the control o And the second of the control of o

mility and unsultable"; and E. Bessel, and the second of the extension of the second of the e

that is to say, by the middle of the coming summer, and they will amount to nearly 450,000 men of all arms. Besides these there are 85,000 men of inferior discipline, but not bad quality, and partially armed with modern weapons, only awaiting to be properly trained and officered like their better drilled comrades.

Heretofore the Chinese forces have been notably poor, and the present scheme will work a vast change. When the war between Japan and Russia began, recognizing that Chinese territory
might be invaded by the belligerents,
General Ma Yu-kwan, a Chinese offiecr whose station is at Tung-chow,
south of Pekin, with a force, on paper,
as 10,200, was sent to the frontier. This
force numbers 7,400 of cavalry and artillery for the most part. There are
eight squadrons of cavalry, nominally
2,000, actually 1,200, six companies—
not batteries—of artillery, comprising
49 guns and, nominally, 1,200 men,
actually 840, with fourteen battalions
of infantry. This force was divided between the Great Wall and the borders
near Mukden. This force is partially
armed with modern weapons. Part of
the infantry has Mannlichers, but the
battalions are mainly armed with the the war between Japan and Russia be the infantry has Mannlichers, but the battalions are mainly armed with the Mauser of 1882 pattern; the cavalry carry Mannlicher carbines. The artillery have one 87-milimetre, sixteen 75-milimetre and thirty-two 57-milimetre field guns of Krupp's 1886 model. In addition there are minor divisions in Jehol, outside the Great Wall. It is recognized, though, that these forces are in need of rearmament and they are included in the scheme now being promulgated at Pekin. promulgated at Pekin.

SIGNS OF FAME.

Dr. Osler has had a cocktall named after him, and a cheap brand of cigars bearing his name may be expected along in the natural course of events. The worthy doctor is rapidly approaching the chloroform age, yet here are fame and achievement which completely set at naught his theory that a man accomplishes little after he is 40.

LONGEST STRIKE OF ALL.

Philadelphia Ledger.

There is a strike still running in Germany which has lasted for thirty-five years. It has other remarkable features, as the strikers are members of parliament, though a very small one. They are the deputles to the diet of the principality of Ratzeburg, and they are striking against the reactionary constitution imposed by the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz in 1863. Since that year the members of the diet have steadfastly refused to meet, atthough frequently called upon to do sa.

Mr. George Beattle, Carr's Brook, Colchester Co., N. S., writes: "Last spring I
was very much run down, felt tired ali
the time, and did not seem to have life
or energy enough to do my work. Three
boxes of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food did me
a world of good, and made work a pleasure
to me. I have not had occasion to use any
medicine since, and have recommended Dr.
Chase's Nerve Food to all my friends."

Monkey Brand Scap cleans kitchen uten-tile, steel, iron and tinware, knives and

phatic way remove the suggestion that there was an eye to business in their migration. In fact the idea seems to be that as a result of the New Yorkers' visit renewed vigor may be lent to the mining industry at Britannia and incidentally to the smelter on Vancouver Island.

CHARTS AND COMPASSES.

We extract the following from "Suggestions to Managing Agents and Masters," published by the North of England Protection & Indemnity Association.

Courts of inquiry continually bear wit ness that inferior and inaccurately adjusted compasses are a frequent source of disaster.

masters.

A rather timely article on compass adjustment recently appeared in Eastern marine papers written by Ensign Creighton Churchill of the United States navy, wherein he not only demonstrates that a large proportion of strandings are due to compass errors, but that there are men engaged in adjusting compasses who are totally incompetent.

For our own part we hold that compasses

NEW MANAGER. June Primrose Takes Place of Capt. J. B. Libby at Head of P. S. T. B. Co.

New York, March 31.—Alfred G. Vanderbilt in a powerful auto today led a bicycle policeman a hot chase for thirtee. In blocks on Madison avenue, and would have escaped if his auto had not stuck in the mud. He was arrested and released on \$200 bail, which was given by a man riding with him.

national Courtesies and U. S. Navy.

Horse Show and Motor Parade — Aquatic Tug-of-War—Life

There is a strike of longshoremen on at Seattle as a result of the refusal of McCabe and Hamilton, steredores, to pay 55 cents an hour to men loading barley in the British steamer Ocean Monarch. The firm of McCabe and Hamilton, which has the contract for loading the vessel, has issued the statement that hereafter only 40 cents an hour, the scale for mixed or general cargoes, will be paid. William L. McCabe declares that his firm has been paying more than other local stevedores for this class of work, but the longshoremen contradict his statement, and say that the cut down is an attempt to lock out union men.

STILL A FAILURE.

There is a strike of longshoremen on at Seattle as a result of the refusal of McCabe and Hamilton, which has the contract for loading barley in the Grand Trunk Railway, instead of the Grand Trunk Railway, instead of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, was building a branch from Winnipeg to Port Arthur to connect, via the lakes, with the Canada Atlantic at Parry Sound. Mr. Lugrin writes to correct us, and, of course, by a branch from Winnipeg to Port Arthur was meant a branch making connections between the two points in question. The distinction is good enough to cavil at, but is wholly immaterial to the argument. The Grand Trunk, through its creature, The Grand Trunk, through its creature, will gestions to Managing Agents and Masters, while the proper of the control of Indemnity Association. The distinction is found to courts of inquity continually bear with mess that inferior and inaccurately at mess and compasses are a frequent source of the first time in her career. Surveyors should look well after charts a few pality tons of cargo more than the ability of the career of the mode of the first time in her career was already and compasses as they do after a few pality tons of cargo more than the ability of the career of the ca

Line Primrose Takes Place of Capt. J.

B. Libby at Head of R. S. T. B. Co.

For our own part we hold that compasse and pasterns adjustment and rating of chromometers about only be permitted by those duty qualified and illecased by government.

June Primrose has been selected to replace Captain J. B. Libby as manager of the Paget Sound Trubout Company. He had made the protection of rightness as a says an old navigator, and wife and precision.

A careful master will search for the like compass deviations by proper than like compass deviations and stations are staked:

1. Whether the vessel was supplied with proper and sufficient charts and sality at every investigation reliable to the company, with recompany of the restrict of the safet any latest the company with the company.

2. What number compasses hat the vessel was emplied with proper and sufficient charts and sality and the company.

3. Did the master ascertain the deviation of the state of the safet any latest the company of the part of the safet any latest the company with the company.

4. What number compasses hat the vessel was emplied with proper and sufficient charts and sality and the company.

4. What number compasses hat the vessel was emplied any the company of the part of the safet any latest the company with the company.

5. Did the master ascertain the deviation of the safet and the proper and sufficient charts and sality should be a safet any latest the company with the company with the company with the company of the part of the par

Victoria Day Suggestions

THE MILLIONAIRE AND THE MUD. Water Carnival a Feature-International Courtesies and

Saving Demonstration.

The committee having in hand the drafting of a programme for the forthcoming celebration of Victoria Day—which committee consists of Ald. Fell and Hall, Mr. H. D. Helmcken, K. C., Dr. Carter, Col. Hall, Dr. Garcsche, and Mr. Noah Shake-speare—is to hold a meeting at the city hall this evening. Doubtless whatever programme may then be discussed will be largely tentative, for suggestions from the public should be welcomed during another fortnight at least, if their adoption will guarantee an improvement of the attractive quality of the carnival Several interesting suggestions have already been put feward respecting special features likely to prove drawing cards and a little variation from the stereotyped proceedings which have, through familiarity, largely lost their charm for citizens and visitors. One of the proposals is that

A Water Carnival

slice of the carranged as an evening event

preferably on the latter of the two days
of the celebration, as a grand finale. In
other cities possessing manifestly inferior
facilities for carrying out such a feature
to advantage, such water carnivals have
been made spectacular affairs of much
beauty and great popularity—the city of
Nelson at its great celebration being as
notable example.

The castom is to have as many bouts as

notable example.

The custom is to have as many boats aspossible decorated with Oriental lanterns, bunting, bannerettes, etc., fantastic designs—in reality floats such as, when mounted en wagons, are the chief objects of interest in all twentieth century processions—being encouraged, and prizes being given for effective originality displayed in their arrangement. Such aquatic processions—the row boats towed by the power craft, and music licing the rule along the line—their multitude of lights making the spicy air of evening agion with firefly effects is at once a delight to the eye and a source of continuous and diverting surgarises.

The procession at a given signal moves

The procession at a given signal movesround the course allotted and past the reviewing stand, while music is provided inabundance, with facilities for dancing, and
usually a reception-barge. One the shore
at such point as will afford the best general view from the water, a pyretechnic
display is arranged (usually concluding the
evening's merriment), the mirrowing waters accentuating and doubling the picturesque effects.

Another suggestion of which mention
may be made is that it would be a very
pleasing evidence of the existing:

International Amity
for an invitation to be extended to the

celebration.

There can be no question but that the money spent on the Indian canoe races is money excellently applied. These races furnish the most picturesque and generally interesting and distinctive feature of the time-honored regatta year after year. There should be more of them, and their picturesqueness should be accentuated in every way possible—and fancy suggests a not inconsiderable number.

Then it would be a popular move to addito the programme of sports ans

Aquatic Tug-of-war

Launching the Lifeboat

require a very large volume for the purpose; and we should not be surportsed to see the literary efforts in this direction extended into a series of volumes before he has satisfactorily completed his task.

HOT-HEADED HAYTIENS.

Anti-Syrian Feeling Provocative of Port Au Prince.

Port Au Prince, Hayti, March 31.—
Some scenes of disorder today provoked by Haytien soldiers occurred in the markets, but were quickly suppressed by the police. The government has decided to maintain order, and has taken great precautions. All the troops are consigned to their barracks and it is believed that in spite of the excitement among the people against the Syrians that roll.

Launching the Lifeboat
—and the race to the scene of imaginary danger. As the boat nears, the victim of assumed mishap usually "lets go." and as he sinks from sight one of the savers takes the dive, brings the man to the surface, illustrating the handling of fractions or frightneed subjects in the water. The righting of the boat; the return to land; the stowing of the saving boat; and the operation of restoring the rescued, complete the programme.

It makes a novel, and instructive, and at the same time a most dramatic and fascinating feature of any water carnival. There is action in it from beginning to end, and it wouldn't the lads of what is left of the navy be in their glory in the part of the life-saving crew!

Still another possible feature—this time not aquatic—which must not be forgotten, the purpose of the properties of the savers takes the dute race to the scene of imaginary danger. As the boat nears, the victim of anger. As the b