SITUATION AT SAN FRANCISCO

Proceedings at Conference of Authorities Which Was Held Yesterday.

MILITARY AND CIVIC STATUS

A Question Raised as to Which Party Should Control the City.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., April 26.—Gov. Pardee visited San Francisco today, when he attended a conference between General Greely, Mayor Schmitz, Dr. Devine, of the Red Cross, and members of the citizens' committee of fifty who are advising the mayor. Gov. Pardee brought up the question of the request of Mayor Schmitz and his committee for the withdrawal of the national guard from the city. The governor spoke highly in favor of the national guard, and referred to the splendid service its members had done in the war with Spain.

He stated that he considered the request as a reflection upon a well organized and highly efficient body of men. The governor said that he was

Very Indignant

over the attitude taken against the guard and the charges preferred against them. In fact, he was so warm over the matter that he thought it best not to make any further remark.

Mayor Schmitz immediately replied that he and his committee had not made any charges against the guard. On the contrary, he had thanked the governor for their services. If charges had been made they were made by outside people. The object in making the request for the withdrawal of the troops was to concentrate the control of the city in the federal troops and prevent misunderstanding and confliction of orders.

Major General Greely stated that so far as he knew there was no conflict of authority, and that as United States army officer he could not assume charge of the state militia. The mayor was

The Head of the City,

and every request by him had been followed, and he would continue to recognize the authority of the mayor in giving direction for the safety of the people. The civil authorities were superior to the military, and the mayor is the only head he will recognize.

The state troops have not yet been withdrawn, and the meeting adjourned without any announcement that they would be.

There was a long discussion over the advisability of starting a number of the electric

Street Railway Systems.

The committee did not yet feel that all danger of fire from this source was past, and the mayor finally appointed a committee to investigate and report on this matter.

In opening the discussion concerning the street railways, Chairman Rudolph Spreckels stated that he believed that it would be comparatively safe to operate some of the electric lines. All house wires had been entirely disconnected.

Engineer Hunt added that the repairing of the wires had been thorough, and that the danger of fire through their medium had been reduced to the minimum, that when the cars were started there would be a careful system of inspection along the routes, and that no cars would be operated for the present after 7 o'clock in the evening.

Manager Mullaly, of the United railroads believed transportation could be given to the people of the city without any serious risk.

Captain Payson, of the water committee, spoke of

The Water Phase

of the situation. He said that a number of the city's most important reservoirs had been either entirely destroyed or very badly damaged, and the water pipes were in no condition to meet the demands put upon them. There was no storage of water for fire purposes, and consequently no adequate means of protection against fire, if it should break out at the time.

Herman Schussler, the Spring Valley Water company's chief engineer, discussed the water situation at considerable length, and expressed the opinion that it would be unwise for the present to experiment with the electric lines. He compared the unburned region of the city to a lot of kindling wood standing on end, and said that "since we have saved that much of the city we should do nothing which might endanger it now."

Schussler described the manner in which the city's

System of Reservoirs

had been practically destroyed, and told how the few million gallons of water that are now coming to the city were procured only after the greatest effort. He stated that the pipes from Crystal Lakes, seventeen miles in length, were intact except for some 3,000 feet, and everything possible was being done to repair this quickly. A large amount of lumber would be needed, and the Southern Pacific had agreed to rush a supply for this special purpose. When this pipe line is repaired it will fill a thirty-three million gallon reservoir in the Mission district. Garrett McEnerney spoke strongly in favor of the quick resumption of business in the city. Some means of transportation must be afforded to working men before their actual services would be of the greatest value. He said also that there was a great unrest in the city due to the inability of the people to find their relatives and friends, and they could not do this unless they had some better means of getting about in their search. Col. Heur spoke briefly along the same lines as Chief Engineer Schussler. The veteran army engineer did not believe that it would be safe at the present moment to start the electric car service. It was asked at this point whether the

Use of Electric Power

was absolutely essential. A member of the committee suggested that horse-power might be sufficient under the present conditions. Manager Mullally said that they had no horse cars that would work on the present grade, and further, that they had not the necessary horses.

"Give us the cars and we can get the horses," said E. H. Harriman, tersely. T. Carey Friedlander, a member of the lighting committee, said that its members were dealing with the property of the city's citizens, or what remained of it; and that they did not feel justified in permitting the electric cars to start operations until they were absolutely sure that there was no danger.

The situation having been pretty thoroughly thrashed out by the mayor at this point and instructed the committee to finally consider the matter and submit a report to the general committee. Chairman James D. Phelan made a statement for the finance committee. He said the plan for the

Handling of the Relief Fund,

as outlined in President Roosevelt's proclamation of the day before, was perfectly satisfactory to the finance committee. He stated that the efforts being made were to centralize the control of the fund in the hands of one body. Gov. Pardee then turned over to him control of such contributions as had been sent directly to the governor, and Gen. Funston also formally surrendered the $35,000 remaining unused of the $50,000 contributed by the Guggenheim interests. This fund was wired directly to Gen. Funston, with directions to use it according to his own best judgment, and the general explained to the committee the manner in which he had used it.

These expenditures were approved by the committee. Thus control of the entire relief fund is now in the hands of the finance committee of the relief, and Red Cross funds. The Rev. Dr. Baker of Oakland was made a member of the finance committee to represent Gov. Pardee.

Gen. Greeley announced at noon today that the army had taken over the full and absolute control of

The Relief Stations.

for the distribution of food. Distribution will be under a system devised by Dr. Devine, the special agent of the Red Cross society sent here by President Roosevelt. Gen Greeley said that reports had come to him from several of the relief districts that there were many abuses under the present system such as waste and "repeating" by which persons hoarded provisions in their houses. He said that under the new system of distribution these abuses would not occur.

Gen. Greely incidentally explained the relative position of himself and Gen. Funston. He said that he had divested himself as far as possible of all departmental duties which would continue to remain in the hands of Gen. Funston, and would devote himself to the sanitation of the city. The matter of the policy of the army in its unusual relations with the city and other special questions.

Col. George Torney who is directly in command of

The Sanitation Problem

announced that the situation was encouraging. Every precaution had been taken in the city parks where tens of thousands of people were finding temporary shelter. The control of the city parks had been transferred to the city board of health and Col. Torney stated that the daily reports of Dr. James W. Ward, the health board president, were very favorable. If a suggestion made by Col. Torney is adopted a camp for the Chinese refugees of the city will be established on the golf links of the Presidio and controlled by the army. Col. Torney said the Chinese, confident of the ability of the federal government to give them the fullest protection, had expressed their willingness to camp there. The final disposition of these people could then be made as the city saw fit.

The Question of a Special Session of the state legislature caused some debate. Garrett McEnerney, representing the lawyers of San Francisco asked Gov. Pardee to state definitely at the earliest possible moment whether a special session would be called. He said that certain legislation was absolutely necessary, and that a great deal of uncertainty and uneasiness would be felt until some definite announcement is made by the governor. James D. Phelan added that the bankers of San Francisco were also anxious that a special session of the legislature should be convened.

Gov. Pardee said that it was his present intention to have a special session, but he had not entirely made up his mind in the matter and did not propose to take any hasty action. He said that the Sacramento bar association had passed resolutions declaring that a special session was not necessary and while he did not propose to be unduly influenced by any resolutions, he was still going to give the matter the most thorough consideration before he took the final step. He added that

Before the Legislature Is Called

there should be some definite assurance that legislation most necessary would be enacted. Mayor Schmitz closed the discussion by making a formal call upon the governor for a special session of the legislature. Garrett McEnerney told the governor that there was some uncertainty among the lawyers and bankers as to whether the chief executive was formally declaring a legal holiday day by day. The governor assured him that he was taking all the necessary action and further that he would give some days' notice before discontinuing the discontinuation of holidays so that the lawyers and bankers and merchants might feel certain that they would not fail in any of their legal and business obligations.

The New San Francisco.

A grand scheme has been devised for the building of the new San Francisco, a city of magnificent buildings, terraces, boulevards, green parks and play grounds and gardens. City Engineer Thomas P. Woodward, who is working his plans into shape, faces a stupendous task. Personal holdings, will not be confiscated but everything taken by the municipality will be regularly paid for. One prominent feature of Mr. Woodward's comprehensive scheme is the widening of Van Ness avenue into a magnificent boulevard. To this end, he purposes the acquisition by the city through condemnation proceedings of all that choice residence property the full length of Van Ness avenue.

If the city engineer has his way and is given the support of the public, there will be no narrow and clogging streets in these sections of the city, laid bare by the fire. Streets in the heart of the business district which have been proved entirely inadequate for the rush and confusion of a big metropolis

Will Be Widened

by slicing from the private holdings on either side, again through process of the courts.

Market street will be left as it is, so will Third and other streets that were repaired by the city authorities, shortly before the earthquake, but in the commission and wholesale sections will be radically altered, both in width and course.

Before another month is passed, Market street will be lined with temporary structures. The Claus Spreckles building, the DeYoung building, the Shreve building, the St. Francis hotel, the Merchants Exchange and many more of the first class structures can be put into shape at comparatively little expense.

With these as a nucleus, there is no reason why the retail and wholesale districts of the city should not be re-established in their former locations, before a year is past. Plenty of outside capital is assured and many property owners living abroad have cabled their agents here to begin at once the reconstruction of the buildings destroyed.

Panic Narrowly Averted.

A panic was narrowly averted on the ferry boat Piedmont today as the vessel was making a trip to this city. Thousands of refugees had crowded both decks of the steamer until standing room was at a premium. At a point opposite Goat Island, the paddle wheel struck an abandoned scow with a resounding crash.

The news threw the passengers into a state of alarm, many of them ran to the opposite side of the boat which listed heavily to starboard. The cry went up that the boat was capsizing and a mad rush was made for the life preservers. They were torn from the cases and quickly donned. The officers were unable to cope with the throng and it was not until the vessel had been safely docked that order was restored.

Manager Stockett, of the Western Fuel company has received advices from San Francisco to the effect that the company's offices were destroyed, but the bunkers were unharmed. A steamer will probably arrive here tomorrow to relieve the coal congestion.

NOTES FROM COWICHAN.

Sympathy With San Francisco Sufferers—A Prospecting Trip.

Duncan, April 25.—A meeting was held in the Agricultural hall last night to pass resolutions of sympathy and help to the unfortunate people of California. Mr. J. N. Evans, M.P.P., was voted into the chair, and Mr. Norcross secretary. The Rev. Mr. Leakey read a prayer, and the chairman, in feeling words, introduced a resolution of sympathy from the Cowichan people to the citizens of California in the great calamity which has befallen them.

Rev. Mr. Leakey seconded this resolution, which was carried unanimously, and the secretary was instructed to forward it to the Governor of California. The Reeve, Mr. H. Davie, moved a resolution that the district be canvassed for subscriptions. After much discusion the resolution was amended and finally read thus: "That a committee be appointed to appeal to the residents of this district through our local paper for the purpose of raising funds for the relief of the San Francisco sufferers, and that all monies so raised be forwarded to Mr. Hanam, manager of the Bank of British North America, Duncan, who has kindly consented to act as treasurer."

This resolution was carried unanimously, and the meeting ended with the National Anthem. A subscription list was liberally started there and then.

Messrs. C. H. Dickie, A. Wood, and Mr. Harry Smith, poprietors of the 'Cowichan Leader,' have gone on a prospecting trip to the mountains.

A HEROIC TRIO CHECK THE FLAMES

With Guncotton Cut Wide Swath at Beautiful Van Ness Avenue.

San Francisco, April 25.—Three heroes saved San Francisco—what is left of it. They were the dynamite squad that threw back the fire at Van Ness avenue.

When the city seemed doomed, Admiral McCalla sent a trio of his most trusted men from Mare Island with orders to check the conflagration at any cost of life or property.

With them they brought a ton and a half of gun cotton.

Captain MacBride was in charge f the squad. Chief Gunner Adamson placed the charges and the third gunner set them off. The thunderous detonations to which the terrified city listened all that dreadful Friday night meant the salvation of 300,000 lives.

A million dollars' worth of property, noble residences and worthless shacks, were blown to drifting dust, but that destruction broke the fire and sent the raging flames back over their own charred path.

Blow Up Spreckels' Residence.

The whole east side of Van Ness avenue, from Golden Gate to Greenwich, was dynamited a block deep, though most of the structures stood untouched by spark or cinder. Not one charge failed. Not one building stood upon its foundation.

Van Ness avenue is flat as the earth on the east side. Every pound of guncotton did its work.

From Golden Gate avenue north the fire crossed the wide street in but one place. That was the Claus Spreckels' place, on the corner of California street. There the flames were writhing up the walls before the dynamiters could reach it.

Yet they made their way to the foundations, carrying their explosives despite the furnace-like heat.

The charge had to be placed so swiftly and the fuse lighted in such a hurry that the explosion was not quite successful from the trained viewpoint of the gunners.

But though the walls still stood, it was only an empty victory for the fire, as bare brick and smoking ruins are poor food for flames.

Captain MacBride's dynamiting squad realized that a stand was hopeless except on Van Ness avenue. They could have forced their explosives farther in the burning section, but not a pound of guncotton could be or was wasted. The ruined block that met the wide thoroughfare formed a trench through the clustered structures that the conflagration, wild as it was, could not leap.

Engines pumping brine through Fort Mason from the bay, completed the little work that the guncotton had left, but for three days the haggard-eyed firemen guarded the flickering ruins.

The desolate waste straight through the heart of the city is a mute witness to the most heroic and effective work of the whole calamity.

Three men did this, and when their work was over and what stood of the city rested quietly for the first time, they departed as modestly as they had come. They were ordered to save San Francisco, and they obeyed orders.

Captain MacBride and his two gunners made history on that dreadful night.

DISCUSSING HOW TO SPEND THE MONEY

Authorities at San Francisco Puzzled How to Use Great Relief Fund.

SUPPLIES ARE STILL POURING IN

Conditions in Hospitals Much Improved---Less Number of Patients.

San Francisco, April 26.—What to do with the immense amount of money that has been contributed to the relief of San Francisco's homeless was the question that received earnest consideration by all those now engaged in this all important work. So many inquiries had come to the heads of the various departments, civil and military, all asking how and by whom the money so generously contributed would be expended, that the Associated Press was asked to communicate to the country at large the plan for disbursing these funds and the assurance that every dollar would be put to the use for which it was intended. While the complete details of disbursing and accounting for the immense sum of money already contributed have not been formulated, they have been thoroughly discussed in committee and may be briefly stated as follows: All expenditures will be authorized by the finance committee of the Citizens Relief and Red Cross funds. The members of this committee are representative bankers, business men and jurists of San Francisco, and Dr. Devine of the

National Red Cross Society.

This committee will audit all accounts and make a detailed report to the war department where a final audit and statement will be made.

At noon today the distribution of food to the city of San Francisco was formally turned over to the United States army, which will act under the system already described. Under this system, many of the abuses that have prevailed in the giving out of supplies by the various local and outside relief organizations, each of which has acted independently of all others, wil be discontinued and the direction of the stations will be centralized in the depot of the quartermaster of the United States army, at this post, Major Devol. The impression, which seems to have prevailed in New York, Washington and other eastern cities, that there was friction over the matter of concentrating and distributing Red Cross supplies, was corrected today by Dr. Edward T. Devine, general agent of the Red Cross society, who notified the proper persons in these cities that absolute harmony prevailed and that the work was being carried on to the entire

Satisfaction of Everybody.

He felt that it was but just, to all those cities in the East, and elsewhere that have contributed so liberally to the relief fund, to be kept posted as to what disposition is being made of their supplies. He wished it to be known that the Red Cross work had been carried out in a most satisfactory manner and that the transfer of all its supplies now on hand will be made without the slightest confusion. Dr. Devine expressed the opinion that the perishable goods and more supplies of a substantial character should be sent here. Owing to the lack of transportation facilities during the first few days of the excitement following the fires, large quantities of fruits and other perishable goods were unfit for use when they arrived here.

These conditions have been changed in the last few days, however, and today more than 300 teams were placed at the disposal of Dr. Devine and his army of assistants. The

Reports from the Large Hospitals

at the Presidio and at Golden Gate park today showed that the number of patients is less than yesterday. At the general hospital in the Presidio, there were 550 patients today, which is 200 less than yesterday. The decrease is probably due to the fact that the privilege of free transportation over the railroads to any part of the state expired at noon today and many of the patients who were suffering from minor injures and complaints left the hospital in time to take advantage of the generosity of the railroads.

A statement by Dr. James Wood, president of the board of health, made to the Associated Press, today, showed that there are now 30 hospitals in use though most of the structures stood untouched by spark or cinder. Not one charge failed. Not one building stood upon its foundation.

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OTTAWA FEARS FOR SAFETY OF VICTORIA

Free Press Says City Is Too Near That Terrible Volcano Mount Rainier.

With the usual lack of knowledge of the West which is seemingly common in the East, the Ottawa Free Press tells its readers that Victoria and Vancouver are in danger of destruction by the volcanic eruptions at Mount Rainier or Tacoma (readers may choose the Seattle or Tacoma name). The erudite editor of the Ottawa Free Press writes in the editorial columns of that paper on April 20th:

"The cause of the earthquake has not yet been decided. For years, however, the mountains of the Pacific coast have been described as volcanic in their nature, but little attention was paid to these statements until convulsions like those of the past few weeks in which Mount Rainier, the famous peak of Washington Territory, began to show signs of joining in the

Inner Earth Insurrection

which Vesuvius has led, and brought out realities. Mount Shasta in Northern California is also an old volcano which tourists visit while going through the mountainous district. If it proves true that the prospectors on the slopes of Mount Rainier were warranted in retreating because of signs of volcanic activity it may prove that an area of disturbance is opening up after a number of centuries. Mount Ranier, being in plain view from Vancouver and Victoria, the safety of these two Canadian cities might, in that event, be endangered."

The hardy annual of the hard-working "news" purveyors of Seattle and Tacoma regarding the mountain whose name is a bone of contention between the two cities, also occasioned an editorial note in the San Francisco Chronicle of April 18th, the

Morning of the Disaster,

and the last issue of the paper for some time to come. This note read:

"The periodical yarn about Mount Rainier, being in plain view from Vanevidence. Enterprising Washington begrudges effete Italy her monopoly of spectacular volcanoes, and is trying to persuade the outside world that she is in the same line of show business. There may be some doubt about Rainier rivaling Vesuvius, but there is none whatever that Washington is a safer place for a big volcano to erupt than populous Naples."

As to Mount "Tacoma."

The Tacoma chamber of commerce has started on the track of the lie which was given such credence in the east that an Ottawa paper began to worry for the Canadian Pacific seaboard, and the following telegram was sent to New York:

"Tacoma, April 24.

"Melville E. Stone, General Manager Associated Press:

"The widely published report that Mount Tacoma has been in eruption and the statements of Professor Henry J. Cox, in charge of the United States weather bureau at Chicago, and Prof. W. J. Holland ,of the Carnegie Institute of Pittsburg, to the effect that the recent activity of Mount Tacoma, near Tacoma, Washington, may have had something to do with the recent earthquake in San Francisco, call for an emphatic denial through the Associated Press.

"Mount Tacoma is an extinct volcano covered with snow and ice for fully 7000 feet from its summit, in many places hundreds of feet thick, which was undoubtedly an active volcano some millions of years ago. It has been as dead as an Egyptian mummy for thousands of years, if geological investigations and the conclusions of scientists are reliable. The only thing that a human being has ever beheld in the least resembling an eruption are clouds of snow, driven at times by the wind in such gusts as to make credulous people believe that they have seen a tiny stream of steam issuing from the location of the crater. The reports which have been given circulation are utterly without foundation and absolutely ridiculous.

"L. W. PRATT,

"Secretary Tacoma Chamber of Commerce."

COCOS ISLAND ATTRACTS TREASURE SEEKERS STILL

Admiral Palliser, Who Made Two Searches, Foretells Failure for Latest Adventurers.

London, April 25.—Admiral Palliser, formerly in command of the British squadron at Esquimalt, announces that he will have nothing to do with the new treasure-hunting expedition to Cocos island, which it is reported is being fitted out in America. The admiral, who accompanied Earl Fitzwilliams on his expedition, in the Veronique, probably knows more about the location of this famous treasure than any other living man, and he does not hesitate to announce that this searching party is doomed to failure from the onset.

Admiral Palliser is explaining the situation said: "In the first place, the chart possessed by the party is undoubtedly false. It is only one of many which were sold to treasure-seekers some years ago. Then when the island is reached—and that will be in the rainy season,—it is almost certain that the treasure-seekers will not be allowed to work, for a syndicate, of which it is reported Harold Grey, Mr. Montmorency and Captain Kennedy are the principals holds a concession from the Costa Rica government for exploiting the whole island, and until it gives this up, no one else can work there. This syndicate has been working the island for the last two years without success."

"It was mainly on account of the existence of this concession that Earl Fitzwilliams' expedition failed. The earl's party found it impossible to interfere with the syndicate, and could only work by its consent in certain parts of the island. There is absolutely no diubt that two great treasure hoards are hidden on the island. One, a pirate treasure, is valued at between $30,000,000 and $60,000,000, and the other, known as Keating's treasure, is said to be worth $15,000,000. The former consisted of masses of gold and silver ornaments and Scotch ingots. They were originally seized by the Spanish in Mexico and Peru, and were being carried away in Spanish galleons when a notorious pirate, Captain Don Pedro Bonita, attacked and captured the vessels and concealed their freight in a secret cave in Cocos island."

"Keating's treasure was obtained in much the same way. The Spaniards, who were being driven out of Peru, collected all of their valuables in Lima and placed them for safety on the British steamer Mary Dier. The captain and crew being overcome at the sight of so much gold and silver, murdered those in charge and sailed to Cocos island where they also hid their vast treasures. Retribution followed swiftly, however, for a Spanish warship went in pursuit, and finding them at the island, executed seventeen of the crew. The Spaniards never found the treasure, and the captain of the Mary Dier, escaping to Canada, handed over the secret of the hiding place before his death to Captain Keating, of Nova Scotia, Keating twice visited the island, and on each occasion returned home with $10,000 worth of gold. This treasure was also seen by a man who was afterwards killed in the Chilean war."

"The search for these two treasures has now been going on for between seventy and eighty years, and the only hope for their recovery is the work of an expedition fitted out with all of the necessary appliances and men, such as Lord Fitzwilliam's expedition, and guided by those who have some actual knowledge of the hiding places."

GAZETTE NOTICES.

The Provincial Gazette issued yesterday contains a notice from the Canadian Gazette relative to the duty for entry of seal skins on the Falkland Islands. This consists of a communication from Lord Elgia to Earl Grey. It is set forth that arising out of the correspondence dating previous to 1904, that the governor of the colony of the Falkland islands gives notice that the duty on sealskins entering the island for transhipment or export has been reduced from ten shillings a skin to one shilling.

Notice is given that J. R. Saunders, of Esquimalt, and Leonard Tait, of Victoria, have been appointed J. P's.

Jas. McKen, of Barkerville, has been appointed government agent in succession to Mr. Bowron, resigned.

The following companies have been incorporated: Perfection Cement Block company, with a capital of $15,000; Okanagan Nursery company, capitalized at $50,000; Canada Western Oil company, with a capital stock of $500,000; the North American Land & Lumber company, with a capital of $500,000; Dominion Biscuit company, capitalized at $100,000; Vancouver Automobile & Cycle company, with a capital stock of $50,000.

The following extra provincial companies have been given licenses to carry on business in the province:

Hollands Gold-Copper Mining company, of Spokane, with W. C. Lyall, of Princeton, as attorney for the province.

Canadian Fire Insurance company, of Winnipeg, with C. H. Macauley, of Vancouver, as attorney for the province.

The Reward Gold & Silver Mining company, of Watertown, South Dakota, with John Morton, of Ferguson, as attorney for British Columbia.

OFFER JOSS FOOD IN SILENT PRAYER

Chinese Display Their Faith in Image of Heaven and Fear of the Devil.

San Francisco, April 26th.—With unwavering faith in the image of Heaven, twenty Chinese gathered in one desolate spot of the ruins of Chinatown this morning and worshipped in full compliance with the rites of their religion. In the ashes of their temple they knelt and silently offered their prayers.

Prostrate in the smouldering wreckage before them was the charred trunk of the graven image that once held the altar in the temple of Shale Tai. The fumes of fresh incense and sacred punks curled skyward, all the dainties obtainable under the circumstances were spread in propitiatory offering to the devil that no offense to him might bring a recurrence of the disaster.

No detail was overlooked by the faithful Chinese, who pleaded for mercy in behalf of the 35,000 of their countrymen made homeless by the holocaust.

The ruins of the Joss house were soon found, and a little digging uncovered the partly burned Joss. At first sight of the blackened wooden image the Chinese dropped to their knees. They remained silent for a moment and then arose, the priests chanting to the fallen Joss, while the others spread out the offerings of food that had been brought.

For an hour the Chinese remained in worship and then, when they had completed their appeal to the spirit of the burned Joss, they cautiously backed from the sacred wreckage of the temple and after one final prayer, muttered in unison, returned to the thousands of destitute Chinese in the cities across the bay. The feast for the devil was left beside the Joss.

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

(Full Court, at Vancouver.)
(Before the Chief Justice and Justices Irving and Duff.)

The case of Rich vs. Hanbury was concluded on Tuesday afternoon. Their Lordships reserved decision.

Re Bank of Hamilton Assessment

This was an appeal by the Bank of Hamilton against assessment levied upon it by the Provincial government. Mr. I. G. McPhillips, K.C., appeared for the the bank, and Deputy Attorney General Maclean for the Provincial Government. Decision was reserved.

Kondo, Kaniye and Ikezoya vs. C.P.R.

This was an appeal against a decision of Mr. Justice Morrison in October last ordering the liberation of three Japanese whose deportation to Japan had been previously ordered by the local Dominion medical authorities, on the ground that they were afflicted with trachoma. The three Japanese arrived in the city last September by the steamer Athenian and after an examination by Drs. Brydone-Jack and R. E. McKechnie were ordered to be deported, and were in the meantime imprisoned in the detention shed. They appealed to Mr. Justice Morrison and after hearing the evidence of Drs. Carroll and McAlpine, who said that they were no longer afflicted with trachoma, he ordered their release. Mr. E. P. Davis, appearing for the C. P. R. yesterday argued that the decision of the Dominion medical officers was final and not subject to reversal by Courts of law. Mr. D. G. Macdonell, appearing for the Japanese argued that the matter had been very carefully gone into before and Mr. Justice Morrison had given his decision after due deliberation. Their Lordships reserved their decision.

Mitchell vs. Sinclair

This was a case about a promisory note, which originated in the Yukon. The appeal was from a decision of Judge Henderson allowing the defendant to add third parties additional against the payment of money into Court. Mr. H. D. Hulme appeared for Mitchell and Mr. G. A. Jenns for Sinclair. Their Lordships allowed the appeal, but it leaves the plaintiffs free to sign judgment.

Richards vs. Woods.

This is a rather complicated case arising out of the recent sale of the Strand Hotel by Mr. J. E. Woods. Woods first purchased the hotel from Richards under a mortgage, and when the hotel was sold by Mr. Woods to Mr. Shaw, Richards secured from Mr. Justice Morrison an attaching order or garnishee for $6,225 for certain licensing privileges which were alleged to have gone with the hotel Mr. E. P. Davis, K.C., represents the appellant Woods, and Mr. J. E. Bird appeared for the plaintiff respondent Richards. Mr. Davis appealed on the ground that an order could not attach under the statute unless the amount garnisheed had been first ascertained according to the requirements of the law Decision was reserved.

When the Court meets this morning "In re Bisette" will be the first case taken up and it will be followed by Youdall vs. Toronto Lumber Company.

PROBING A BIG SCANDAL

Opposition Determined to Get to Bottom of Atlantic Trading Co's Contract.

BRISK DEBATE IN COMMONS

Liberals Hold a Caucus on the Lord's Day Bill Which Is Endangered.

OTTAWA, April 26.—The debate on the North Atlantic Trading Company's contract occupied the house all the day. Crawford and Gunn took up the afternoon, then McLean, (Lunenburg) spoke for two hours in defence of the contract with the Trading Company and then Fowler, of Kings, took the floor and made matters lively for an hour. He defended Foster from the attacks made upon him by Duncan Ross and Burtea. He charged the prime minister with being responsible for lowering the tone of the debate in the house. If he had held up his hand he could have stopped the slander and vilifications. Instead of that he sat placid in his place and encouraged it and then openly congratulated men who resorted to it. Why was this? Because Sir Wilfrid Laurier was drunk with the insolence of power. He was so flattered with the adulation of his followers and the serville press that he could not bear to hear the truth. To McLean's contention that there must be give and take in a contract of this kind Fowler evoked great Conservative cheering by remarking "Yes, all give on the part of the government all take on the part of the company." Where, he asked, was Sifton? Let the government produce him within ten days and the opposition would consent to the debate standing over until he could be in the house. This was a matter which needed Sifton and the opposition was determined to probe it to the bottom (cheers and laughter). The debate was adjourned until Tuesday.

Lord's Day Bill.

All committees were cancelled this morning. The Liberals had a lengthy Caucus. Considerable discussion occurring on matters which had recently been before the house. The primary object of the gathering was to discuss the Lord's Day Bill which, although promoted by the Lord's Day Alliance, has been fathered by the government and introduced as a ministerial measure. It is realized that the bill can not pass in its present shape. The Quebec members especially are up in arms against it. The measure will either be withdrawn or else be so emasculated that the Alliance will not be able to recognize it. It was decided to have another caucus when the special committee gets through with the bill. A majority of the caucus agreed to support the bill, to abolish the statutory pensions to ex ministers, substituting therefore the English custom of requiring a personal application. The indemnity question was left an open one, but judging from the tone of the meeting it will remain at the present figure. Mr. Campbell presided.

The Relief Fund.

Hon. Mr. Fielding presented to the house a communication from Sir Mortimer Durand at Washington regarding the proposed vote of a hundred thousand dollars for the relief of the San Francisco sufferers as follows: "United State's government requests me to convey to the Canadian government an expression of the deepest gratitude for the munificent contribution which the Canadian government have proffered for the relief of the distressed citizens of San Francisco. They feel sure that the Canadian government will understand that they appreciate it no less highly because of the conclusion which the government of the United States has reached that outside help will be unnecessary."

In consequence of this Mr. Fielding said the house would be asked to complete the vote and simply let it stand so that if the United States should change their view the money would be available.

A despatch from Herschell Island via Fort MacPherson dated March 10th, says the crews of the five American whalers there are on short rations and it will be necessary to send relief soon.

It is reported that W. F. Tye, late chief engineer of the C. P. R., will be appointed chairman of the new harbor commission at Montreal.

Invitation to Canada.

Hon. Frederick Borden had a bad quarter of an hour mollifying the Quebec members, who complained of too great expenditure upon the militia service.

The senate today unanimously approved of a resolution to invite their majesties to visit Canada. The resolution was moved by Senator Scott and seconded by Senator Lougheed, the new leader of the opposition. Senator Lougheed remarked that the king had evinced the greatest interest in Canada, and had appreciated its value as a part of the empire. He was sorry he could not say so much for the king's advisers. They had treated this part of the empire with a good deal of indifference. Not a British premier had ever visited Canada, not a cabinet minister had come to Canada while holding office. There had never been any concerted effort on the part of the British government to develop this part of the empire. They had never attempted in any way to divert to Canada British immigrants and British capital which was flowing to the states and which had been a great agency in the building up that country. If British statesmen had done something to turn the tide of men and money to Canada, the Dominion would today be a far more powerful factor in the empire.

Senator Macdonald, of British Col-

International Clericus.—His lordship, Bishop Perrin, addressed the International Clericus, being held at Seattle yesterday morning; Rev. Canon Beanlands, of Victoria, read a paper on Dearmer's "Parson's Handbook,' and Rev. R. Connell, of Cedar Hill, read a paper on "The History of the Church Mission Society." A public reception was held last night at Trinity church, Seattle.