CASTRO'S WORK NEARLY UNDONE

United States to Resume Diplomatic Relations With Venezuela

SETTLEMENT WITH FRANCE

Special Envoy Paul to Negotiate With Other European Countries

Washington, Jan. 19.—W. W. Russell, the former United States minister to Venezuela, is in readiness to proceed to that country when information has been received from Special Commissioner Buchanan that he has signed a protocol for the settlement of the dispute between the two countries. Diplomatic relations, therefore, according to the programme, are to be resumed promptly and are to be coincidental with the agreement to adjust the claims pending on some basis.

Senor Paul's Mission

Paris, Jan. 19.—The negotiations between Jose De J. Paul, the Venezuelan special commissioner, the French government and the French cable company, looking to a settlement of outstanding disputes, are upon the eve of successful conclusion, and Senor Paul left here this afternoon for Holland, where he will treat with the government of the Netherlands to compose the difficulties of that country with Venezuela. Later Senor Paul will go to England, Germany and Italy.

The service of the French Cable Company between La Guayra and Caracas will be resumed immediately under the direction of M. Brun, the former manager of the company at Caracas. M .Brun was expelled from Venezuela by President Castro, and is now at Martinique. The resumption of direct cable communications is expected to facilitate future negotiations between the Venezuelan government and France, Holland and other powers.

M. Paul will leave Paris with the assurance that the regular diplomatic relations with France may be resumed as soon as the final settlement with the cable company has been completed. The Venezuelan envoy has abtained three months in which to complete the adjustment of the cable differences.

CHINA'S NEW YEAR

(From Thursday's Daily)

To the accompaniment of the noise of exploding fire crackers and a gentle fall of snow which, while it may not be a part of the mise en scene of a Chinese New Year, nevertheless put the white population who visited Chinatown last night more in touch with the spirit of the celebration, China's New Year was issued in at midnight. The celebration, from the standpoint of a disturbance of the peace, was more or less of a failure, though doubtless, before the event has been properly concluded, the other ceremonies incident to the occasion will have put the evil spirits of wind and water to flight and for the year to come peace will reign among the Chinese residents of Victoria.

In but a few places was the time honored destruction of fire crackers undertaken. Many of the buildings in Chinatown were gaily bedecked with immense paper lanterns gaudily painted in bizarre designs and the clubs and stores were brightly lighted. Everywhere were signs of increasing cleanliness such as that portion of the city has not witnessed for a year and from the pleased expression on the faces of the majority of the Celestials the New Year is being properly observed with all the accompaniments of good cheer and fellowship.

The recent death of the emperor is said to have resulted in a considerable diminution of enthusiasm, many of the local Chinese complying with the strict edict published in China relative to the observance of the mourning rites.

NAVIGATION IS BEING RESUMED ON FRASER

The Chinook winds are clearing the Fraser river channel and navigation, which was considerably delayed by the freezing up of the river during the cold snap, is being resumed. Capt. J. W. Troup, of the C. P. R., has been advised by Mr. Goulet, local agent at New Westminster that the river is now clear for navigation and the Trader is resuming her trips. The steamer Beaver is being prepared for use at the earliest opportunity and will make a dash for upriver points as soon as the channel is sufficiently clear to ensure a reasonable chance of success.

The steamer Newington which has been used as an ice breaker during the freeze-up has been doing good work in keeping the channel open. The Newington is forcing a channel through to the Fraser river mills today and is well above Liverpool cutting a broad channel. There she will free the jam of logs which now are in a dangerous position and liable to be lost when the ice commences running.

The Fyer, one of the tugs owned by Gilley Bros., is endeavoring today to emulate the deeds of the Newington and with much ado is bucking the ice at the entrance to the North arm. Being only lightly sheathed, she is, however, unable to put her full weight into the work, and progress is necessarily slow. The intention is to cut a channel to Dawe's drydock, where the Robert Dunsmuir, another of the company's fleet, has been undergoing repairs and overhauling, and now only awaits release to go into commission again. The scow intended for use in ice-breaking is progressing slowly, and from all appearances will not be available until after the work has been done by the Newington.

Some New Westminster people have started harvesting the ice crop. Since the ice was thick enough to warrant cutting, the ice harvest has been in progress opposite the Monk & Co.'s wharf, until the Newington passed through leaving open water beyond for half the width of the river. Over thirty tons of clear ice is now safely stored for summer use.

Thaw's Case Withdrawn.

White Plains, N.Y., Jan. 19.—At the request of Thaw's counsel, Justice Tompkins rescinded the order for a trial on the question of Thaw's insanity, and proceedings were withdrawn.

No Trace of Davids

Just nine days ago last evening the last was seen of Andrew Davids, the well known waterfront character known for years as "Speak Easy Dave." Since 11.30 o'clock on the evening of Monday the 11th, when he left the Light House saloon to go aboard the launch Elwood, owned by Frederick Smith, proprietor of the saloon, by whom he was employed as watchman on the boat, not a trace of the missing man has been found. The search in the vicinity of the wharves near the E. & N. bridge, where the Elwood is tied up, has been daily prosecuted but without result. If, as is supposed, Davids was drowned it is expected that the body will come to the surface about now.

NEW ROUTE REPORTED FOR C. N. RAILWAY

By Way of Yellow Head Pass and Thompson and Fraser Rivers

Vancouver, Jan. 19.—Vancouver will be the Pacific coast terminus of the Canadian Northern railway. Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann have filed a route map with the Railway Commission at Ottawa. This map fully indicates that they have abandoned the idea of constructing a main line in an easterly and westerly direction through the central portion of British Columbia, from the Yellow Head Pass at the summit of the Rockies to Bella Coola, with a branch line running north and south from a point on the main line to this city. Instead they will build a main line running direct in a southwesterly direction from the Yellow Head Pass to tidewater on Burrard Inlet. The route, according to the map filed, is by a system of waterways almost a hundred miles long to the North Thompson river, and thence down that river to its junction with the South Thompson river at Kamloops. Thence the line will follow the main Thompson river, taking the opposite bank to that occupied by the Canadian Pacific Railway, to its confluence with the Fraser river at Lytton. From this last mentioned point the road will parallel the Canadian Pacific on the same side of the Fraser for a considerable distance before proceeding to Vancouver, via the Lillooet and Chilcotin country.

At the recent public hearing before the Railway Commission it transpired that the proposed railroad will be built under a charter secured from the Dominion parliament last session for a subsidiary company known as the Edmonton, Yukon and Pacific Railway Company. Although decision was reserved by the railway board, it is understood that the route will be approved, as no objections were made by the legal representatives of the Canadian Pacific and the Grand Trunk Pacific railways in attendance at the hearing. The applicants on that occasion were represented by Donald D. Mann, Wm. Moore, secretary of the Edmonton, Yukon and Pacific Railway, and Gerald Ruel, legal adviser. The interests of the Canadian Pacific and the Grand Trunk Pacific railways were looked after respectively by E. W. Beatty and Darcy Tate.

The Railway Commission has not yet granted a decision in regard to a prior application of the Canadian Northern Railway for the approval of its route between Edmonton and the Yellow Head Pass. The Grand Trunk Pacific interposed objections, maintaining that the surveys of the Canadian Northern road had not been sufficiently advanced, although it was conceded that preliminary lines had been run up to the summit of the Rockies.

AGAIN IN THE TOILS

Francis Berry Held in Jail for Passing Worthless Cheques

With a record of several terms served in the penitentiary because of his penchant for passing worthless cheques, Francis Berry, a man of education and culture and one who, in years gone by, occupied responsible positions, is once more in the toils on a charge akin to those which had before earned for him the prison stripes. Berry is accused of having passed two worthless cheques, one on S. A. Stoddart, the Johnson street jeweller, from whom he purchased a cheap watch tendering a cheque upon the Imperial bank for $11.25 and receiving the change, and the other on the Saunders Grocery Company, Ltd., from which concern a small quantity of groceries was purchased and a cheque on the Canadian Bank of Commerce for $10 tendered. The cheque was accepted by the firm and the change handed to Berry. On presentation at the bank both cheques proved to be worthless, the accused having no funds in either institution.

Only two days ago the local police were asked by the Nanaimo authorities to locate Berry, he having pursued the same game in that town. Berry was arrested yesterday morning on the Esquimalt road by Detective O'Leary and will be arraigned this morning on a charge of obtaining money under false pretences.

NEW DEPARTURE IN LIBEL SUIT

U. S. Government Appears Openly as Complainant Against the World

CHANGE IN PROCEEDINGS

Presence of Secret Service Men Gives Rise to Many Conjectures

New York, Jan. 19.—The veil over the mystery which for the past few days has enveloped the secret examination before the federal grand jury here of newspaper men and others believed to have knowledge regarding the publication of alleged libellous matter concerning the purchase by the United States of the Panama canal company, would seem to have been lifted tonight by the issuances of a subpoena, in which for the first time the names of both the complainant and defendant are made public.

This indictment, made out against "John Doe," was served upon Wm. J. Demsey, head of the mailing department of the New York World, and commanded his presence before the federal grand jury to testifiy in the matter of the U.S. against the Press Publishing company, which company publishes the World. It is generally believed that the action of the federal authorities in thus coming in the open as the complainant against the World will result in the abandonment of the proceedings begun against J. Angus Shaw, Secretary of the Press Publishing company, and in other employees of the World, having the subpoenaes served upon them quashed, on the ground that the omission of the names of the complainant and defendant rendered them invalid, and the issue of new subpoenaes naming the complainant and the accused.

Argument on the validity of the orginial subpoenas was to have been heard by Judge Ward in the United States circuit court this afternoon, but was adjourned by mutual consent. Although the witness examined today was an employee of a news association, he was said to have furnished the data upon which the alleged libelous articles subsequently published by the World were based.

The presence outside the grand jury room of two secret service men from Washington, with a mass of documents and a number of account books, gave rise to all sorts of rumors, one of which had to do with the possible bringing by the government of an action for criminal conspiracy. Mr. Engleman was closely questioned by Mr. Stimson and a special deputy attorney general from Washington, but what disclosures were made was not made public. The examination of Mr. Engleman had not been completed when the grand jury adjourned for the day.

BILLS AFFECTING THE JAPANESE

President Writes in Condemnation of Proposed Laws in California

EFFECTS OF AGREEMENT

Assemblyman Johnson Says He Will Persist With His Measures

Washington, Jan. 19.—That President Roosevelt feels sufficiently concerned about the proposed anti-Japanese legislation in California to write an important letter to Governor Gillette, of that state, was admitted at the White House today. The letter was mailed from the White House three or four days ago, and will be received by the governor in a day or two. The president strongly feels that the objection to Japanese immigration to the United States is fast being settled by the agreement in existence between the United States and Japan, under the terms of which the president points out that 2,000 more Japanese have left America in the last six months than have come in. The president is convinced that Japan is sincere in her intentions to greatly reduce the number of her citizens in the United States and territories both by prohibiting their coming here and by advising their departure when their employment and business interests will permit. Because this decrease of Japanese in the country is clearly going on, as the figures show, the president considers it seriously unwise to attempt discriminating against these people. He has no power except his own moral influence to stop this legislation, and he will not attempt to exert any other influence.

The President's Letter.

President Roosevelt's letter to Governor Gillette, dated January 16, follows:

"My Dear Governor,—I am greatly concerned over the anti-Japanese bills which are apparently going through or are on their way through the Californian legislature. They are in every sense most unfortunate. At last we have in first class working order the arrangements which, with such difficulty we succeeded in getting through two years ago. The Japanese government are obviously acting in entire good faith. During the six months ending October 31 last, the total number of Japanese who have come to the United States has been 2,074, and the total number who have left has been 3,281. In other words, the whole object desired by those who wish to prevent the incoming of Japanese laborers has been achieved.

"More Japanese are leaving the country than are coming in, and by present indications in a very few years the number of Japanese here will be no greater than the number of Americans in Japan. Thus the movement is normal in one case, as in the other, which is just what we desire. There is therefore no shadow of excuse for an action which will simply produce great irritation, and may result in upsetting the present agreement and throwing open the whole situation again.

"These agitators have themselves to blame if trouble comes from what they do—if there is a fresh influx of Japanese. They hamper the national government in what it has now so efficiently accomplished, the agreement by peaceful means, and through the friendly initiative of the Japanese government, to keep Japanese immigration out of the United States save as Americans themselves visit Japan. Is it not possible to get the legislature to realize the unwisdom from the standpoint of the country at large and above all from the standpoint of California, of what is being done?

"Sincerely yours, Theodore Roosevelt."

Mr. Johnson Will Persist.

Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 19.—While the governor declines to express an opinion on the merits of the Drew bill, prohibiting aliens holding land in California, it is said on good authority that he will veto the measure if it comes to him for signature. Speaker Stanton also believes that the Drew bill is on dangerous ground. President Roosevelt's message to the governor was not unexpected, but Governor Gillette did not answer until yesterday. He consulted with Lieut.-Governor Porter and leaders in both branches before telegraphing the president that the bills will be held up until further information could reach here from Washington.

Grove L. Jonnson, author of the three anti-Japanese bills that will be bitterly opposed by the federal government, declares he will pay no attention to the president's request for delay.

He said today: "It will be remembered that two years ago during the controversy over Japanese school questions in San Francisco, the president sent a frantic message to the governor requesting the killing of the bill which provided for the segregation of Japanese with Mongolians.

"I consented at the time, to see if the federal authorities would remedy matters. They have not. The people have not. The people of California are still afflicted.

"I, for one, shall not give up the fight, no matter how many messages the president sends. As a member of the legislature, I am going to do all in my power to enact these laws giving the people the relief they have the right to expect."

One of Johnson's bills, prohibiting aliens being directors in corporations, has been favorably reported upon and made a special order of business for tomorrow. The others, providing for the segregation of all Japanese and preventing Japanese from attending the public schools for white children, are before the assembly committee on municipal corporations, and a day for hearing arguments for and against them will be set this week.

Japan Watches.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Although denials were made at the State Department and the Japanese embassy that any formal protest had been made to the United States government against the proposed anti-Japanese legislation in California, yet it is realized that the question is causing considerable conversation both in this country and in Japan, as is evidenced by despatch sent by President Roosevelt to Governor Gillette, of California on the subject, and the editorials in Japanese newspapers. The Japanese embassy is watching the progress of the legislation in California with great interest.

Governor's Statement.

Sacramento, Jan. 19.—According to a statement made tonight, by Governor Gillette, there will be no legislation against the Japanese at this session of the legislature. The governor authorized the following: "Conferring with the leading members of the branch of the legislature I am convinced that no legislation directed against the Japanese will be enacted. I am satisfied that the people of California, and particularly the members of our legislature, appreciate the efforts being made by the federal government and the representatives of Japan to stop the emigration to this country of Japanese laborers, skilled and unskilled. There can be no doubt that the government of Japan is acting in a very good faith in its endeavor to prevent its people emigration to our country. In my judgment it would be a serious mistake while they are so doing to enact any laws directed against the Japanese people. This question is one in which the federal government is particularly interested, and its wishes should be carefully considered, and will be, I am sure, by the people of this state.

FOOTBALL TIES

Results of Replayed Matches in First Round For English Cup

London, Jan. 20.—The following are today's results of the replayed football ties for the first round in the English cup. Chelsea 1, Hall 0; Westham 1, Queen's Park Rangers 0; Woolwich Arsenal 2, Croydon Common 0; Southampton 0, Bristol 2; Leicester Fosse 3, Watford 1; Derby County 4, Northampton 2; Leeds 3, Oldham Athletic 0; Stockport 2, Grimsby 0; Reading 1, Norwich 1; Exeter 2, Wrexham 1.

IN HONOR OF KAISER

German Residents to Celebrate Wilhelm's Birthday

The birthday of Wilhelm Zweiter, the talented and versatile Emperor of Germany, will be loyally and patriotically celebrated by the German residents of this city in the Driard, upon Wednesday evening next, the 27th, instant. The banquet, which will be served upon an elaborate scale, will commence at 9 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by the German-Consul, Mr. Carl Leowenberg. The specially invited guests include His honor the Lieut.-Governor, the Hon. Richard McBride, the U.S. Consul and the editors of the city press.

His Worship Mayor Hall will be present, and while the songs will be given in robust and stentorian German the speeches will be delivered in English. A splendid portrait of the Kaiser will have the most prominent place in the banquetting hall. The hallowed drinking customs of the Fatherland will be observed with due and unrelenting vigor, and Commers Abend will be a special feature of this portion of the festivities, while in further commemoration of time-honored custom at home, each guest will have his name and address carefully affived to his back to ensure his safe arrival at his home or at his lodgings—coelum ruat! Fully eighty guest are expected to be present upon this most auspicious occasion.

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PLATINUM ORE FOUND IN HOPE DISTRICT

Development of Claims Expected to Show Remarkable Values

Vancouver, Jan. 19.—William M. Williams, familiarly known among the miners as "Black Billy," one of the pioneer gold-seekers of British Columbia, claims to have discovered lode veins of platinum ore and gold-bearing fissure veins of quartz rock in his property in the Teague group of claims some thirty miles south of Hope, which when developed will startle the world.

The mineral claims which were discovered by "Captain" William Teague, for twenty-eight years government agent at Yale, and his partner Williams, are situated on Ladner creek, about a mile up-stream from the Hope-Nicola trail, and about half a mile from the railway survey line from the Similkameen to the city of Vancouver. Ladner creek flows in an easterly direction through the claims and empties into the Soquahalla, a river about a mile distant from the Teague group, the junction being effected at an elevation of about one thousand feet above sea level.

The geological formation of these claims is of the paleozoic period, and the rock deposit is of carboniferous slate, of which there is said to be only some eight miles of surface rock in British Columbia.

When Teague and Williams first went into this district in 1906, they panned for gold in the alluvial gravels of Ladner creek, and out of seven sample pans of gravel colors of gold were obtained in every one. A short time ago the two men struck a fissure vein which they report upon as follows:

"The vein is a true fissure four feet in width, and well defined, with a strike to the southeast and northwest and a dip of 60 degrees south, and can be distinctly seen cropping out at the surface a distance of two hundred feet or more when the veins at both ends of the strike are lost to view in the stream, to which it runs, roughly, parallel."

The men say that they have excavated to a very small depth on the vein, but that the little work which they have done points to enormous surface values, not to speak of what awaits discovery when the vein is more fully developed.

"The two walls of the fissure," declares Mr. Teague, 'are perfect. The footwall is of slate, and the hanging wall is fringed with about twelve inches of elvan porphyry lying between the vein matter and the end of the slate formation, which seems to demonstrate the permanency of the high grade gold and silver ores."

Mr. Williams says that some time ago he came upon a platinum strike along the shore of the part of Ladner creek which runs through his property. He says that there was an outcrop as big as a man's head, and exhibited a small piece of slate, which he said was shown by an assay made at Victoria to carry $53 worth of platinum.

There are a lot of other good things which Mr. Williams claims to have discovered in the Teague group of mines, but he was unwilling to discuss these, merely remarking "that there'd be something doing before the year was out."

"Billy" Williams has been in British Columbia since 1868. He came here from the diggings in Australia.

WILFULLY BLIND.

None are so blind, says the old proverb, as those who will not see, and we may also say that none are so ignorant as those that will not learn. The Montreal Witness and the Ottawa Free Press are very excellent papers, Upon matters which do not run counter to their prejudices, they are exceptionally well-informed, and it is a pleasure to read what they have to say; but let the subject be one which affects in some way their particular idiosyncracies and their good judgment straightway goes into retirement. The Montreal paper's special line of prejudice may be called religious; the Ottawa paper's is frankly political. The excellent Witness has managed to convince itself that Oriental immigration is a good thing, because thereby the heathen, who "in his blindness bows down to wood and stone," is brought into contact with Christianity. It looks upon the yellow and brown men from Asia as altogether lovely beings, who could not do wrong if they would, and would not if they could, and the Canadian, who knows what Oriental immigration means to the people of this country as well as to the immigrant themselves, and therefore tries to prevent it, is, to our contemporary, an exceedingly wicked person. An article in the Witness of December 21st, the arrival of which has been somewhat belated, after quoting from the Colonist in regard to the Sikhs, and interspersing comment with just sufficient sarcasm to pervert its meaning, says:

So it appears that the Governor of Honduras might have spared himself a journey to the Sikhs of Canada; that there were no assaults upon Orientals in Vancouver, for which the Canadian Government had to make stiff compensation; and that the journey of Mr. Lemieux to Japan must have been the result of misconception or chimera. How cheering it all is! We had really thought the British Columbians, or some of them, regarded them as unfit to live in the country and wanted to get rid of them.

Now all the Colonist was speaking of in the article from which the quotations were made, was the claim that the Sikhs were badly treated in British Columbia; therefore the above quotation hardly applies. However it is quite true that "the Governor of Honduras might have spared himself a journey to the Sikhs in Canada." The result of Governor Swayne's mission simply confirmed what the Colonist said, namely that the Sikhs, who are here, are doing as well as could be expected and are not being ill-treated. The people of British Columbia are not a lot of cold-blooded barbarians, as the Witness has on more than one occasion endeavored to make it appear. They saw that some one was busily engaged in dumping Hindus upon the shores of Canada, and they successfully tried to prevent it. If that influx had not been stopped, there is no telling what the consequences might have been. There has rarely been better work done for Empire than that which stopped Hindu immigration into Canada.

Not even to oblige our contemporary will we reopen the discussion of Japanese immigration and the Lemieux agreement, but we would like to ask what the closing sentence in the quotation means. Who are the "them" referred to in the last word? The article from which the extract is taken refers to the Sikhs. If that is what it means, we can assure the Witness that the majority of the people of British Columbia do not regard Sikhs as desirable colonists. The comparatively few, who are here, cut very little figure one way or the other, but we certainly do not want any more of them.

The Ottawa Free Press says:

The Victoria Colonist takes umbrage at a statement in Collier's Weekly which wrote of the Hindus in that province "freezing to death on the charity of a British Columbia winter." It asserts that the Hindus are doing pretty well and that "the proportion of unemployed Hindus in British Columbia is no greater than the proportion of unemployed white unskilled laborers in any city on the American continent." If this be so, what has been the cause of all the fuss about the presence of the Hindus in British Columbia? They are British subjects and have a right to seek a livelihood anywhere in the Empire. It is only when they become a public charge that their presence becomes a public problem.

Who is making any fuss? If our Ottawa contemporary would brush the political cobwebs out of its eyes it would see that the course taken by the people of British Columbia in this matter has, on the whole been eminently sane, and has produced excellent results. They made it evident that British Columbia is no place for a large Hindu population. The fact that in a community, where there is a scarcity of white labor to perform menial tasks, a limited number of the better class of Hindu workingmen can secure employment proves nothing at all, except that fact itself.

In the opinion of the Sunday Observer, of London, Eng. Canada is determined to keep the door open for the Mother Country. To quote from recent article: "Ottawa will respond to any overture from her great neighbor upon condition that Imperial interest shall not be penalized. This is the strongest national statesmanship, and the true destiny of Canada is to be that great link between the Empire and the United States, not to cause another more disastrous separation between America and the rest of the British race." There will be no disposition on the part of Canadians to dispute the sentiments above expressed.

ACTUAL LAYING OF RAILS HAS BEGUN

Construction of Extension to E. & N. Railroad is Well Underway

The actual laying of rails on the E. & N. railway extension from the present northern terminus at Wellington to Alberni has commenced. It was initiated several weeks ago and will be continued for about two and a half miles on the east coast. A large gang of workmen is employed and it is expected that the line will be completed for the distance mentioned in the course of a few weeks.

It is explained that the reason why the railroad which, ultimately, will give Victoria direct communication with Alberni, cannot be continued any farther at present is that, north of Wellington, there is a rock cut which will take some time to level and properly grade. The object in view in beginning the work of putting the steel in place earlier than was originally proposed, it is understood, is to enable the contractors to prosecute the task of cutting a way through the rock at the point indicated expeditiously. The acquisition of transportation facilities will enable them to go ahead without cessation in the completion of what is believed to be one of the heaviest jobs in connection with the clearing and grading of the right-of-way between Wellington and the West coast.

Whether the work of laying rails and putting the line in shape for operation will be continued through to French creek, the point to which the grading of the route is under contract, immediately the aforementioned rock is removed is a matter of conjecture. Officials are of the opinion that that will be the policy pursued and they point out as an argument substantiating their belief that the C.P.R. is anxious that as much progress be made this year as is practicable. It is thought that the survey west of French creek will be complete by February at the outside and that the grading contracts will be let, without delay, so that it is inferred that, should the rail laying be continued as far as possible without interruption from this date forth, the ground west of French creek will be prepared by the time the workmen reach there. At any rate, the company's action in starting the operations at this early date is taken as an indication that they propose making as much haste as is consistent with thoroughness in establishing at Alberni of a West Coast terminus.

A London correspondent cabled the other day that the Bishop of Moosonee had advised the Home Government to purchase a tract of land in his diocese, whereon to place the unemployed. Lord Strathcona told him he had been trying to convince the Government of the value of the idea for a septennium. It is apparent that Lord Strathcona is still hard at work attempting to solve some of the most knotty problems engaging the attention of Imperial statesmen. But what is a "septennium?"

In a manner altogether out of proportion to its importance, the press of eastern Canada "handled" the news announcement of the slight shock of earthquake here a few days ago. The Montreal Star, as soon as it got wind of the affair, hurried a reporter off to interview a professor of McGill University. This gentleman had not very much of interest to say, but we will quote a couple of paragraphs: "Out on the coast there you have the huge range of the Rockies, one of the greatest ranges in the world, and the pressure with which they rest on the surface of the earth is enormous. Supposing the slightest shrinkage has occurred under the crust of the earth in a district where such mountains stand, then this enormous pressure simply breaks up the hollow crust and you have an earthquake. 'As for the reports that the earth moved several inches at Seattle,' continued the professor, 'I find it extremely difficult to give credence to any such statement. It is more than likely that it results from unscientific observation. The instruments which scientists now have at their disposal for measuring the extent of earthquakes and tremors show that the usual amount of vertical movement is only about two millimetres, or about one-twelfth of an inch.'"

A. Warburton Pike was a passenger by the steamer Princes Victoria.

Births, Marriages, Deaths

BORN.

FLETCHER—On January 14, to the wife of J. H. Fletcher, a daughter.

SHAW—In this city on the 17th inst., the wife of E. Brunswick Shaw, of a son.

BAKER—On January, 18, at 139 St. Lawrence street, Victoria, the wife of W. T. Baker, of a daughter.

STRATFORD—At Cumberland, B.C., on January 10th, 1909, the wife of Arthur C. C. Stratford, of Union Bay, B.C., of a son.

MACDONALD—At 614 Bay street, Victoria, the wife of Harry H. Macdonald of a daughter.

DIED.

TATE—In this city on the 14th inst., at the family residence, 526 Langford street, Annie Amelia, wife of Robert Tate; a native of Redding, Eng., aged 70 years.

CONLIN—At Vancouver, on Thursday, January 14, Mrs. Ellen Conlin, born in Limerick, Ireland, aged 75 years.

NORIE—At Kelowna, B. C., on the 14th inst., Evelyna Louise, elder daughter of the late Commander A. D. Norie, R. N. j16

TRONSON—In this city on the 15th inst., at Royal Jubilee hospital, Edward John Tronson, (late of Vernon, B. C.,) a native of County Waterford, Ireland Aged 67 years.