Meetings Are Full of Interest

Second Day's Proceedings at Session of National Council of Women.

Addresses by Lady Taylor and Miss Perrin—At the Theatre.

Lady Taylor, president of the National Council of Women, presided at the session yesterday morning in the school room of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church. Interesting addresses were delivered by the presiding officer and Miss Edith C. Perrin, president of the local branch of the organization.

In the afternoon there was an excursion by boat and steam launch up the Arm to the Gorge. On the return trip the party landed at the residence of the Premier, Burleith, where the members were entertained by Mrs. James Dunsmuir, who had invited some of her friends to meet the members of the council.

In the evening a successful public meeting was held at the Victoria theatre, presided over by His Worship Mayor Hayward, and interesting addresses were delivered by Miss Fitz Gibbon and Mr. Leonard Tait.

MISS PERRIN'S ADDRESS.

At the morning session, after silent prayer, Miss Perrin, as president of the Local Council, welcomed the officers and delegates of the National Council in the following words:

To the President, Officers and Visiting Delegates of the National Council of Women of Canada:

It is my privilege this morning, as president of the local council, on behalf of the women of this place, to welcome the officers and delegates of the National Council of the Women of Canada to the capital city of our province, while doing my power adequately to accomplish so great an undertaking. For many years we have had the wish and desire to receive in Victoria this important representative body of women workers, and we fully appreciate the effort it must have cost the executive of the national council to organize and undertake so long a journey, but we trust that any fatigue or inconvenience that may have been felt, may in some degree have been lessened by the grandeur and beauty of the scenery, by the welcome received at the different places on the way and the assurance that the work of the council has been already considerably helped and strengthened.

We are indeed glad to see here representatives from all parts of the Dominion and we take it as a high compliment and the clearest proof that the true idea of union prevails in the work of the national council, that while annual meetings have been held on a grand scale in older and larger cities the council attaches sufficient importance to the smaller centres of work and is willing at no small expense and trouble to visit the extreme limits of its work and thereby give a stimulus and encouragement impossible in any other way.

It is a happy coincidence that the meeting of the national council should be held in our "Queen City," in this year of imperial union, when we have been so specially brought together as a Dominion and as an Empire; when Canada has given willingly of her best for the mother country; when there has been a union of heart and hand in a time of common danger; and when, I believe, every local council in some way or other has had its share in assisting to send help to our soldiers in South Africa.

We cannot help sincerely regretting the absence of our beloved advisory president, whose presence in past years must have been an inspiring power, and who, since the commencement of the work has been its centre and its guide. But we feel that the council is to-day under the leadership of one who has the welfare of the work at heart; and that no better successor could have been found than Lady Taylor, whom we especially welcome here to-day. She is no stranger to us; she has honored our own local council with a visit before now, and we are all cognizant of her faithful work done in Winnipeg in the interests of the council. While we to-day, tender our welcome to one and all of our guests we cannot help especially greeting an old friend in the person of Miss Teresa Wilson. Since the year 1894, when she was present to help us start this local council in Victoria, we have known of her good work and untiring energy in the interests of the council both in this Dominion and in the wider sphere of the International Congress, which held its splendid meetings in London last year; and we are glad to see her once more amongst us and to know that she now belongs to the National Council of Canada. For ourselves, and here I think I may speak for all the councils in British Columbia as well as for our own, we are here as learners; our opportunities for meeting and hearing speakers and workers from other parts are so very few; our works are small and limited (not therefore necessarily easier) and we often long to be more in touch with the ever increasing tide of woman's work, to get a larger view, a higher standard, a wider grasp of what is being done—but this can only be by learning more of the world outside ourselves, by the enthusiasm that comes from numbers, by just such opportunities as are now afforded us by this meeting. And we are thankful for this gathering of women, who have it before them to discuss some of the complex problems that confront us on every side in individual, home and national life. We look forward with pleasure to the papers that are to be read; and we can only hope that at the end of the week we may one and all feel re-invigorated, and that the effects of this gathering may be seen in a higher ideal, a larger enthusiasm, a truer consecration, for then and then only

Life is—to wake, not sleep.
Rise, and not rest, but press
From earth's level, where blindly creep
Things perfected, more or less,
To the heaven's height, far and steen,
Where amid what strife and storms
May wait the adventurous quest,
Power is Love.

—R. R. REVERIE.

Miss Murray, representing the far-off city of St. John, N. B., was appropriately deputed to reply to the address, which she did in well-chosen words.

Miss Wilson read a cablegram from Lady Aberdeen in reply to the one sent her from Vernon by the delegates, thanking her for the hospitality they had received at the Coldstream ranch. The telegram was as follows:

"Delighted about Coldstream. Heartiest greetings.

"ISHBEL."

After roll-call, letters of apology for absence were read from the Countess of Minto, Mrs. Boomer and Mrs. John McDougall, of Montreal.

THE GOVERNOR'S INVITATION.

The following letter was then read and His Honor's kind invitation warmly accepted:

Victoria, July 24, 1900.

Dear Miss Perrin,—I had the honor of being present at the meeting when Lady Aberdeen laid the foundation of the National Council of Women of Canada at Quebec in February, 1894. Since then I have followed the work of the council with much interest, and am glad to see it gaining ground year by year, as its generous purpose becomes better understood.

I do not know how to express practically my sympathy with the work of the council, but if you could persuade the ladies to accept a cup of tea on Wednesday at Government House, after their afternoon session, I should look upon their acceptance of my invitation as a proof that they give us men credit for appreciating their efforts to benefit mankind, for ought we not to feel as much interested in their success as they do themselves?

Believe me, dear Miss Perrin, yours sincerely,

HENRI JOLY DE LOTBINIERE.

A letter was next read from Hon. David Mills, minister of justice, announcing that the changes in the Vagrancy Act recommended by the council had been made, and that henceforth no aged person, not convicted of any other crime but that of poverty, could be committed to jail.

LADY TAYLOR'S ADDRESS

Lady Taylor then addressed the meeting. She said:

We are met for the seventh annual meeting under new and untried circumstances.

For the first time in our history we are without the gracious presence and guiding hand of our beloved founder and leader, and we shall miss the wise counsel, sound judgment and strong personality on which we have hitherto relied.

It is only now when we are separated from her that we begin to realize all that Lady Aberdeen has been to this council, and understand in some small measure what her presence amongst us for the short period of five years has been to the women of Canada.

Though the representative of our beloved Sovereign, knowing the span of time which was to be the limit of her residence amongst us, she condescended to make herself one with the women of Canada, interested herself in our varied condition of life and gave herself unsparingly to whatever she thought would bring comfort and well-being to any. Truly she had a lofty conception of the responsibilities of her high position, and earnestly strove to fulfil her own high ideal.

Though she is separated from us we have not lost her. We still may claim her help, her advice and influence, and sometimes we hope to have the pleasure of seeing her amongst us, but nevertheless we must make earnest with the fact that we are taking up and carrying on the work she has so nobly begun.

She has left this as a legacy to Canadian women. Let us accept it with enthusiasm, and strive with devoted perseverance to redeem the pledge given her last October that the cause so dear to her heart should not suffer till she came again.

This seventh year of our history has been a short one of only nine months—nine months fraught with great issues to the Empire, nine months of bitter war and bloodshed, in which Canada has been honored to bear a share, giving freely of her best that she may prove herself a not unworthy member of the great family Empire to which she belongs.

The call has come to our sons to serve and suffer and to us to serve and sympathise. The National Council of Women is so in touch with the national life, embracing as it does all ranks of women workers from ocean to ocean, that many opportunities of service have come to us in helping forward some of the great movements of the year.

Though the council has declared itself emphatically on the side of peace and arbitration, when these can be obtained with honor, yet as peace with honor was not possible to England, the council has followed the movements of the war with keenest interest and sympathy, and has shown itself ever ready to spend and be spent in the cause of patriotism and humanity.

At the last annual meeting a committee was appointed to promote the securing of aid for the Transvaal contingents. This committee has not been called upon to meet, but many of our local councils have done excellent service, providing and sending off large quantities of comforts for the men on the field as well as hospital supplies, and I trust that the various councils will in their reports tell us more fully what they have done in this connection.

Though the national council took no part in this they were not indifferent, but as soon as a way was seen in which they could help, offered the aid of the council organization to the Red Cross council to establish branches of that society throughout Canada. This offer was accepted by the Red Cross council, and authority given to form committees in places where such did not already exist.

There was scarcely a local council which did not respond in some measure, and many of the councils threw themselves into the work with great ardor, organizing Red Cross committees in their own towns and also in towns in their locality and province, fostering the cause till a great wave of enthusiasm for the movement spread over Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Though the Canadian Red Cross council had for over three years been authorized it was still a small body, having in January last only four or six branches. It now numbers over fifty branches, which marvellous growth is in large measure due to the National Council of Women.

The eloquent appeal made to the council last October by Mrs. FitzGibbon for the Doukhobor women, so lately come to our shores, must still be fresh in the memory of all who had the pleasure of listening to it, and the outcome of this appeal is in part known to all the councils.

The report which will be presented by the convener of the committee will be found very gratifying, showing as it does that the object with which the work was begun is likely to be attained.

A loan of $763.50 has been made by the different local councils to establish sewing industries in the Doukhobor colonies. Materials have been purchased and prepared and sent out to be sewed, and the complete articles returned show that the attainments of the Doukhobor women in the art of sewing have not been overstated.

They excel in fine linen drawn work and embroideries, which, with the fostering care of the councils, will soon be known and sought after.

Besides the loan made by councils, a gift of 50 spinning wheels, 13 handlooms, 88 box stoves and large quantities of goods was made. Several hundreds of dollars also have been forwarded through the convener.

I cannot speak too highly of Mrs. FitzGibbon's enthusiasm and resourcefulness, and I commend this report, when placed in your hands, to your very careful study.

The great work of preparing a hand book of Canadian women's work and organizations for the Paris exposition has been successfully completed to the satisfaction of the Dominion government, who entrusted it to us.

I need not enlarge here on the labor involved, further than to say that it has been great, that it has been carefully and unselfishly performed, and that as a council we owe a debt of gratitude to Mrs. Drummond and the ladies associated with her for the compilation of this very useful book, and to our secretary, Miss Wilson, for editing it.

That we have a secretary equal to a work of this kind is cause for congratulation, and shows how well and wisely we made choice of that officer.

In the reports of local councils to be presented you will find that very general interest in all council work has been maintained, that many of the standing committees are still actively pursuing the objects for which they were formed, while others, though they may have no marked progress to report, are still standing to attention, watchful of the interests committed to them, and ready to act if occasion should arise, or call be made upon them.

There seems to be in many quarters a mistaken idea of the council and its province. A little thought would show that the council should not be expected to be always before the public, that its most important work must be done quietly through affiliated societies in suggesting lines of thought and securing unanimity and harmony of action.

It is a chain linking together the women workers in all parts of the Dominion, and its highest usefulness must be found in keeping, all in touch one with another, in lessening selfish localization and helping us each to consider the other and to extend to others the sympathy and support we gratefully receive for ourselves.

You will be asked to give consideration to the place and work of the International Council of Women, an executive meeting of which has been held in Paris in June.

As one of the Federated National Societies we must seek to understand the aims and scope of this vast organization which is likely soon to encircle the world, and find our place in its activities, that we may not through ignorance or want of appreciation cause any discord in the harmony which is essential to its life.

This great society which seeks to link together the women of all countries for mutual benefit can only be held by mutual trust and confidence.

While we stand firmly for what we believe to be right and true, and are careful of our own and our country's interest, we must be large hearted and considerate of the interests and feelings of other nations. Here, as in our own National Council, and even to a much greater degree, we are called upon to keep our motto ever before us, that no self-seeking or love of place and power may mar or endanger the beautiful structure we have to raise.

As you are aware, we have since last annual meeting had the great gratification of receiving the acceptance by Her Excellency the Countess of Minto of the position of honorary president of the National Council, and the assurance of her sympathy and hearty co-operation. We attended the last executive meeting in Ottawa, following the business with great interest, and her kindness in writing to Her Majesty, through the Princess Louise, on behalf of the Doukhobor women is, I am sure, highly appreciated by every member of the council.

This being a National Council, embracing women of all ranks, of many nationalities and religious beliefs, it is right and fitting that we should have associated with us, as our honorary president, the representative of our beloved Sovereign, and I trust that we shall at all times accord to her the love and devotion which is her due.

Allow me before closing to offer a word of personal thanks to the officers and members of the National Council for their great and uniform kindness to myself and unwavering loyalty and devotion to the council.

I accepted the office of president with many misgivings, and knowing only too well my lack of qualification, feeling, too, that to those in the East, with whom I was more intimately associated, I was a stranger, yet I have met on all hands the greatest kindness and forebearance, while our beloved and honored advisory president has done much to inspire me with hope and courage. I feared for a time that owing to ill-health I should be obliged to retire, but in compliance with the wishes of many members of the council have allowed my nomination to stand.

I shall hope to discuss with you in executive meeting the prospects for the coming year and will now ask that we proceed to the business before us with humble and earnest purpose, seeking only in all our deliberations that peace and purity and truth may be advanced to the upbuilding and establishment of our national life, in righteousness.

At the conclusion of the address a bouquet of pink carnations was presented to Lady Taylor by Miss Perrin on behalf of the Victoria council.

Short reports were next presented by the provincial vice-presidents, showing the work which had been accomplished by the councils in the various provinces of the Dominion. These were followed by the reports of the standing committees, and the meeting adjourned at 1 p. m.

AT THE THEATRE.

The mass meeting in the theatre last evening drew a very large audience; and the addresses delivered by Miss Fitz Gibbon, of Toronto, and Mr. Leonard Tait, of Victoria, were of a most instructive and entertaining character. The services of prominent amateurs were enlisted, and the evening's enjoyment was made notable. Finn's band was present, the leader giving its services gratis for the occasion, and interspersed the speeches with delightful selections.

Mayor Hayward, who presided, opened by expressing regret that the programme which had been arranged could not be carried out, some of those who intended to contribute being apparently detained. He felt great pleasure at the privilege of presiding over such a meeting. Victoria desired to welcome the Council of Women and to do them honor. They embraced in their labors the best class of work, which had for its object the uplifting of fallen humanity. Much good would come of their visit to Victoria. He commended particularly the broad scope of their work—every sect being included in the one common platform for the uplifting of the human race. (Applause.) It was pleasant to know that ladies' work now was generally approved of. It was recognized that the ladies were an important factor in all kinds of public work. Women may hold their own meetings now, free from the charge that home life was placed in jeopardy. (Applause.)

Mr. Herbert Kent was called upon for a song, and complied by singing "Rat-a-Tat-Tat-Tat-Too" in his usual pleasing style, winning abundant applause.

Mr. Leonard Tait then delivered a most able and instructive address, taking for his subject "The Flag." He told the story of the British and Canadian flags. Children took naturally to flags, and there were numerous references to them in the olden times. Many of the emblems of those days—the eagles—showed the advance of the various nations. Then the waving of the flag—that was the most significant action. The lowering of the flag meant submission—the raising of it defiance.

Patriotism was the noblest of human emotions. Amplifying this point, he evoked loud applause in his recital of stirring deeds. It might be asked, Where was the Briton's land? It was wherever the British flag flew. Touching on the word "Jack," Mr. Tait explained how it came to be applied to the British flag. The British flag stood for the triune God, and its heraldry of colors was deeply significant. St. George's Cross came to be adopted by the English people as their ensign at the time of the conflict between St. George and the Dragon. The sturdy Saxons under Edward I. then and there laid the foundation for the British navy. He mentioned the splendid naval achievements of the olden days, and told of Drake and how he had singed the Spanish monarch's beard until the naval glory of Spain dimmed; then of the Spanish Armada and of its destruction, and how Spain's naval strength dwindled and diminished from that day. Other soul-stirring tales of Britain's prowess on sea and land were told, the speaker moving his audience to the greatest enthusiasm.

Under the Red Cross flag Cartier laid the foundation of the Canadian Dominion. Going into English history, the speaker told the story of how Cromwell crushed the rival fleet which was springing up at Holland. He next told of the Scottish "Jack"—the elder of its rivals. Scotland, too, had her great naval leaders, but the Scottish Jack never led a fleet to distant seas. The Irish cross was next dealt with. It was not adopted as the national ensign until the close of the 17th century. The Union Jack of to-day was a symbol of parliamentary union—a union of peoples—those of England, Ireland and Scotland. Great portions of the Empire—including our own island of Vancouver—was incorporated under the Union Jack. For almost two centuries the Irish were not represented on that flag. Was it not strange? He mentioned the names of the Irish heroes, cheers being given when the name of Lord Roberts was mentioned. On the conclusion of his very interesting address, the speaker was very loudly applauded.

Miss Gertrude Loewen next added to the evening's enjoyment by rendering a vocal selection in her usual charming manner.

Mr. Tait, at the request of the chairman, pursued further his very interesting address, describing one by one the flags of the Empire. The proper Canadian flag had only the coat of arms of the four provinces—no other devices being authorized. He then told of the successes of Canadians in repelling foreign invasions—having put down no less than three rebellions. What had women to do with patriotism? They also suffer who only Watch and Wait. (Applause.) He told the story of the heroines who had brought fame imperishable to womanhood in their work in defence of the Empire. In conclusion he alluded to the value of patriotism, quoting the familiar lines commencing "It's only a small bit of bunting," evoking tremendous applause.

Albert T. Goward was next called upon and sang most charmingly a selection, "Happy with Winging Feet," from Sir Arthur Sullivan's "Ivanhoe."

Miss Fitz Gibbon, of Toronto, next addressed the meeting and completely captivated the large audience by her charmingly frank manner. The Canadians knew so little of their own country. Other histories were learned, but that of Canada was neglected. Why should women take any interest in Canada and Canadian history? Because of all the histories she knew of, none should give greater credit to women's labors than that of Canada; and the speaker recited historical instances of women's achievements in shaping the destinies of Canada. Her stories of the early days were deeply interesting and listened to with profound attention.

In every period of Canadian history there was a woman on its pages. She represented the Women's Historical Society, and they had found among Canadians an intense desire to learn more of Canadian history. The histories had always been made dry, but this should not be the case. What had Canada done during the last 50 years? Look at the record for the answer; and the speaker told it, or at least some of the leading events, holding her audience with rapt attention. Canada had held her own with the other nations of the world. (Applause.) She had done what no other nation had done—retained responsible government without separation from the mother country. But why was Canadian history of the greatest interest to the British Empire? The speaker cited ample proof. British Columbia, in consenting to become part of Canada, had struck the last blow which made it possible to give Britain an Imperial highway to the Orient. (Applause.) She told of the great achievement in building the Canadian Pacific railway. British Columbia had lain for a long time sheltered beneath the great mountains, but she would surely achieve a noble destiny. They had heard of the flags of Britain, but she could have, had she time, told of no less noble deed than those related which had occurred under the flag of Canada. She closed with a magnificent peroration of the place of women in the noble achievements of mankind, moving her hearers to tears by her pathetic allusion to the loss of the women's and the nation's heroes in the war in South Africa. The colonies were all imperialists; and the work of the Women's Council had suggested much that would do away with the various provincialisms which affected disastrously the British Empire.

In the concluding portion of her address Miss Fitz Gibbon told many exceedingly touching stories of noble deeds in Canadian history—fit subjects for the brush of the artist. She resumed her seat amidst tremendous applause.

Miss Hartnagle was then called upon for a vocal solo. She chose as her selection "The Carnival," by J. L. Malloy, singing with an incomparable sweetness, which evoked a demand for an encore. Graciously responding, Miss Hartnagle sang "The Heart Sighs Ever to Be Free," from the opera, "Black Mantles."

Lady Taylor rose in the box in which she and her party were seated, and expressed, on behalf of the Women's Council, the great appreciation the visitors felt at the kindness which they had received at the hands of the gentleman who presided over the meeting, His Worship Mayor Hayward. They had received many kindnesses at his hands during their sojourn in the beautiful city of Victoria, and she felt it only proper that public acknowledgment should be made of that fact.

His Worship briefly expressed his appreciation of these kind and unanticipated expressions, and the meeting closed with the singing of the national anthem.

TO-DAY'S PROGRAMME.

Following is the programme for to-day:

Council meeting, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; consideration of resolutions.

Sectional conferences, 2:15 to 3:45; Women's Art Association.

Lunch will be provided by the ladies of the Presbyterian churches of the city.

Tea at Government House at 5 p.m.

A prayer meeting under the auspices of the Y. W. C. A. will be held at the rooms, 32 Rae street, at 9:30 this morning, lasting twenty minutes, so as to allow time to get to the St. Andrew's rooms. All delegates to the National Council of Women are cordially invited.

A very pretty souvenir programme of the proceedings has been presented to the visitors by the Mayor and Council and the Local Council of Women. It is printed on heavy book paper and contains a charming selection of photogravures of scenes in and about Victoria.

IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS.

At to-day's session the following resolutions will receive consideration:

That the constitution be amended so as to include the following as section 2 of article III.: "The first president of the council shall be advisory president for life, with a vote on the executive." (This was accepted by the council as notice of motion in October, 1899.)

That a section be added to article IV. of the constitution providing that conveners of standing committees be ex-officio members of executive.

That a small committee be appointed to go carefully over the standing orders and make such slight verbal alterations and changes in the grouping as will tend to uniformity and clearness.

That the words "pending commitment to the asylum" be inserted between the words "insane" and "than the jail."

That the following clause be added: "And also the need for a separate hospital for the sole treatment of acute cases of mania soon likely to recover.

That the National Council recommend local councils to work for the promotion of public libraries in places where they do not already exist.

That the National Council recommend local councils to inquire into the women's exchanges and to see whether it is not desirable to promote them where possible.

That the National Council recommend local councils to consider the advisability of promoting women's exchanges for the encouragement of home industries and the assistance of home workers.

That the National Council recommend local councils to inquire into the working of women's exchanges and to consider the advisability of promoting them where possible.

That teachers' provincial certificates be recognized throughout the Dominion.

Whereas, it is a notorious fact that children of tender age are growing up without proper instruction; and.

Whereas, this Council of Women recognizes that the mothers of only well-to-do families and those able to keep servants are able to devote their entire time to the supervision of their children; and.

Whereas, this Council of Women recognizes that these children should be under proper supervision and teaching until they arrive at the proper age which admits them to the public school; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that this Council of Women declare themselves in favor of the addition of public kindergartens to the public school system, and pledge themselves to do all in their power to accomplish this purpose.

TO MURDER MINISTER.

Plot Discovered in Paris to Assassinate Members of Legation.

Paris, July 24.—It has just leaked out that a plot existed at the end of June to assassinate the Chinese minister here and Yu Keng, also a member of the legation. The secretary of the legation, Major Parma, an Italian, in an interview to-day admitted that a report in circulation to that effect was true.

SWEETNESS OF SUGAR.

The Property Due to the Peculiar Combination of Its Parts.

From the London Lancet.

With all the enormous advances made in our knowledge of the constitution of matter, both physically and chemically, we are not yet able to supply the complete answer to such a simple question as, "Why is sugar sweet?" The chemistry of sugar gives perhaps a bare hint in the way of explanation, but sweetness is undoubtedly a condition where constitution or constructive rather than percentage composition is responsible for a specific physical property. Smell is a related subject, and at present we cannot tell what determines the characteristic smell of many familiar substances. The chemical composition of turpentine or oil of roses is identical with that of a good orange or lemon, and we cannot say that the percentage and kinds of elements in these bodies are the same; but no one would maintain for a moment that turpentine or oil of cloves is as pleasant as the oil of roses. We are dealing here with a question which most probably relates to the arrangement of the atoms in the molecule. Doubtless a difference in the relative position of atoms determines a great difference in physical character. In other words, the elementary materials are the same, but they are placed, so to speak, in such a way in different bodies having the same composition as to present manifold shapes. A given structure, for example, may contain a certain number of bricks and present an ugly exterior, but the same number of bricks may be contained in another structure which may present an artistic and pleasing appearance.

Sugar is not the only substance known to us possessing sweetness, but it is the only known naturally occurring substance which possesses this characteristic. Therefore it is not uncommonly thought that when a substance is sweet it must contain sugar. Such a notion, of course, is quite erroneous. Glycerine is sweet, but contains no sugar; saccharine is 500 times sweeter than cane sugar and is a definite chemical substance without a trace of sugar in its composition. It is probable, however, that some analogy exists between the structure of these bodies—that is to say, in the relative position of the atoms—which determines the common property, though in varying degree, of being sweet. It is, at any rate, remarkable that according to the respective formulae assigned to these bodies by chemists, starting with the body which contains the least number of carbon atoms—namely, glycerine which contains three atoms—the rest of the substances possessing sweetning power contain exact multiples of this number. Thus grape sugar contains six atoms of carbon, cane sugar twelve atoms of carbon, milk sugar also twelve atoms, malt sugar twelve atoms again, while that intensely sweet substance saccharine contains six atoms of carbon in its main group. Possibly this fact is related to the physical characteristic of sweetness. It is an interesting matter, this question of the relative positions of the atoms deciding physical characters, for two different substances may coincide exactly in composition, one of which is quite harmless, while the other is a powerful poison.

Warning Thistle Growers.—The city police are just now occupying their spare time issuing notifications to the property owners regarding the provisions of the Thistle Act, the civic and provincial authorities uniting in a more than usually vigorous effort this year to destroy the noxious weed.

LAST CHANCE FIRE.

Suspicion that It and Sandon Calamity Were Work of Incendiaries.

Shortly before four o'clock Friday morning the southwest corner of the Last Chance ore house was seen to be on fire by some of the inmates of the manager's residence close by, and in a few minutes the entire structure was a mass of flames and in ashes in a short time, says the Sandon Mining Record. One of the men had been over the premises an hour before and nothing unusual was noticed in any quarter. As there had been no fire on the premises for several days before, it is readily surmised that the destruction is the work of an incendiary. In addition to the ore house, the lower terminal of the tram, the machinery, a quantity of ore and a lot of lumber are destroyed and much damage has been done to the cable. The immediate loss may run up to $25,000, to say nothing of that arising through the stoppage of mining and shipping. Incidents like this strengthen the suspicions of those who lean to the belief that the fire in the opera house, that destroyed the whole town, originated in the same way. It certainly is not too much to ask that the provincial government set the best detectives they can secure at work on this affair and furnish for the future a watch force that will give the people a degree of security in the vicinity.

The Nome Bubble Burst

Returned Miners Say District Is Greatest Fake in Mining History.

The Tundra a Joke—The Most Lawless Camp on Earth.

Lawrence Sinclair, Caspar Kossuth and George W. Hazen, the two former of Dawson and the latter of Portland, have returned from Nome by the Yukon route, and in an interview given by them they paint a gloomy view of the goldfields—so-called.

Mr. Kossuth says he reached Nome from Dawson on June 19. A blinding snow storm was then raging. The place, he says, was and is enough of a frost without any assistance from nature. The city, as Mr. Kossuth describes it, is all contained in one long street, wherein live some 18,000 to 20,000 people. There is another tract of land supposed to be a street, but as it is a swamp where a mosquito would mire, it is little used. Great quantities of goods of all descriptions are piled high on the beach. Included are tons and tons of machinery and gold machines of all kinds.

Regarding the mines, Mr. Kossuth stated that for a distance of about 85 miles—from Topkuk to 10 miles above Nome—the ground had been worked over thoroughly. The creeks are very small and narrow, and owing to the great size of the claims staked, no room was left for more stakers.

Lawrence Sinclair, who left Nome on July 4, said Nome is the most lawless camp in the world. He was in the Cripple Creek stampede, and with all the wild lawlessness of that place there never was anything to equal the unabashed deviltry of all kinds running loose in Nome. If you land on the beach with your baggage and take your eyes off it for five minutes, you need never expect to see it again.

There may be gold at Nome, he said, but he did not see a color that did not come from down the river or on the up steamers. The laws, too, are the most poorly enforced he ever saw.

Certainly the beach was long ago worked out, he said. He panned 30 pans on what was said to be the best claim on the beach. In one pan there may have been as much as two cents. The owner said his average was $3 per day.

One young man who came from the Coast to rock the beach and had spent all his money to get there, blew his brains out, and in a note he left said he had done so because he could not get living expenses out of the mine.

Ernest Dechenes, who left Nome on July 3 and came up on the steamer Sarah to Dawson, said: "At Nome during three days about the end of June there were five shooting scrapes and five men buried as a result. Many people have been drowned in crossing the mouth of the Yukon without going to St. Michael. Many bodies have been washed on the beach, and there are others that never will be found. One steamer picked up three boats well out in Berhing sea. Their occupants had been washed out by wind and tide from the Yukon, and were in despair when picked up. The bodies of seven men and two women were picked up close together.

Hugh Madden, another arrival, says the fuel famine worked great hardship. Whenever anyone was fortunate enough to have a little fire, there were a lot of people waiting, frying-pan in hand, for a chance to warm up something to eat. He saw as many as thirty people waiting. Water sold at three pails for a quarter, and meals at a dollar.

George W. Hazen, of Portland, says it is the greatest fake in the history of the Pacific Slope. The beach is a tundra, the tundra a joke, creeks limited, shallow and not phenomenal, and the town a bubble. It cannot support more than 3,000. There were 1,500 without a place to sleep. The health of the town was in a deplorable condition. There were 30 cases of smallpox to his knowledge—many said more—and much typhoid and pneumonia. A pest-house had been built at the back of the tundra. The funerals averaged three a day.

SOUTH AFRICAN REBELS.

Estimate That Ten Thousand of Them Joined the Boers.

London, July 24.—A blue book has been issued containing the official correspondence with reference to the treatment of rebels in South Africa. It contains an interesting note by Sir Alfred Milner, British high commissioner, estimating the number of colonists who joined the Boers at 10,000 Mr. Chamberlain, secretaryof state for the colonies, lays down the rule that said there should be no vindictiveness in the treatment of rebels, but that justice to the loyalists is the obligation of duty and honor.

Ministers, Lawyers, Teachers, and others whose occupation gives but little exercise, should use Carter's Little Liver Pills for torpid liver and biliousness. One is a dose. Try them.

Carrington Is Heard From

Fought the Boers on St Louis River and Thrashed Them.

The Cape Parliament Refuses as Yet to Repeal Martial Law.

London, July 25.—A new element has entered into the South African campaign with the receipt of news that General Carrington, with his Rhodesian force, has had his first fight, attacking the Boers and carrying their position on the St. Louis river on Monday after a sharp engagement. General Carrington lost four killed and 19 wounded.

Capetown, July 24.—In the Cape assembly to-day the government indignantly refused to accept a motion in favor of the repeal of martial law in Cape Colony made by Mr. John Xavier Merriman, former colonial treasurer

Mr. Rose Innes generally expressed the readiness of the government to repeal the law whenever repeal should become practicable, but said that the time had not yet arrived.

The house cheered the government's decision.

SIR WALTER HILLIER.

Political Adviser to British Commander in Chief on the Way to China.

Montreal, July 24.—Sir Walter Hillier of London, England, who was recently appointed political adviser to the British military authorities in China by Her Majesty's government left for Vancouver by the Imperial Limited yesterday. He was accompanied by his private secretary, C. A. Meanes. Sir Walter, after his arrival at Hongkong, will proceed at once to join the commander-in-chief of the British forces in China.

"I have been appointed political adviser to the commander-in-chief," he said in the course of an interview. "I know the country thoroughly and speak the language, having spent many years of my life there. I was also consul for twelve years at Pekin, and I was the first Oriental secretary to the embassy. I have been connected with the diplomatic service for upwards of thirty years, sixteen of which were spent in the Celestial Empire."

When the question as to the probable fate of the ministers and foreigners at Pekin, he said:

Conger's message is the most hopeful news that has been received from the Chinese capital in a month. It may be all right, but Chinese are foxy beggars, and I would not trust information received solely through Chinese sources."

Speaking of the attempt to relieve the foreigners at Pekin, Sir Walter said that the difficulty of travel in China was one of the great problems against which foreigners would have to contend. The road from Tien Tsin to Pekin was well nigh impassable. The Pei-ho river was navigable only a short distance, and military equipments could not be taken over the roads with any advantage. On making an advance to Pekin, he said, the first step necessary would be to clear Tien Tsin of the Chinese and protect the base of the allies. This would be necessary before any advance could be made.

"The Chinese," he continued, "have surprised and puzzled me. Even knowing them as well as I do, I never expected that they should make such a decided stand."

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Leaves Winnipeg This Morning For Victoria.

Winnipeg, July 24.—Lord and Lady Minto attended an afternoon concert at the theatre to-day, at which an address was presented to His Excellency by the Scottish societies of the city. This evening the Governor-General and Lady Minto held a reception in the legislative chambers, which was largely attended. They depart for Victoria early to-morrow morning.

COMMISSION ADJOURNED.

Nobody Ready Yet With Charges of Corruption.

Toronto, July 24.—The first meeting of the royal electoral commission was called for this morning at Osgoode hall, but Chancellor Boyd received a telegram announcing that counsel was not ready, and the meeting was postponed indefinitely. It is stated that no complaints have been received as yet by counsel regarding corrupt practices.

BELLE ISLE STRIKE.

The Newfoundland Coal Mine Troubles Ended.

St. John's, Nfld., July 24.—The Belle Isle coal mine strike was ended this morning. The men practically gained what they demanded.

FROM NANAIMO.

Sympathy For Strikers—Prizes For Provincial Rifle Meet.

Nanaimo, July 24.—A public meeting was held last evening on behalf of the striking fishermen. There was not a very large attendance. The meeting was addressed by W. McLean, of Vancouver, who appealed to the miners for financial aid to carry on the strike, which, he claimed would end in victory for the strikers if they held out for two weeks longer. He said he would not leave the fishermen until the fight was won and was prepared to lay down his life for them, if necessary.

Mr. Samuel M. Robins, superintendent of the New Vancouver Coal Co., has donated $250 to be awarded in prizes at this year's prize shoot of the British Columbia Rifle Association. Lieut.-Governor Joly has subscribed $50 towards the same purpose.

GETS A DIPLOMA.

Prince of Wales Now a Fellow of College of Surgeons.

London, July 24.—The Prince of Wales is now a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons. The president of the college, Sir William MacCormack, headed a deputation that presented His Royal Highness with the diploma at Marlborough House to-day.

Opening of Women's C

Routine Taken Up at Y Session of Seventh Meeting.

The Recording Secret port—Mass Meeti Theatre To-nig

Yesterday was a prelimi the actual beginning of the nual meeting of the Nation Women of Canada, now Victoria. The morning w the transaction of nece business, reports being re various standing committee the better protection of children, custodial care of women, care of the aged p tion, press, raising of lon hobor women, aid for the T tingent, bureau of informa Canadian Women's Hand all showed that steady wo done, the question of the and circulation of pernicio in the Dominion especially attention of the committee.

The executive of the Nat met in the afternoon and their work in a thoroughly manner. Twenty-one loca sponded to the roll-call. secretary's report was read

The National Council of W ada has now completed its s existence which has not p means its least successful pe A deputation waited on H the Countess of Minto in De vite her to become honorary the council, to which she w pleased to consent. We hav still with us as advisory keenly interested in the wel of the council, but of each o nected with it. We have, n highly favored by having ha for this past year one who confidence and admiration of those who have worked with fortunate the council has b such a council and in doing e sible to retain her in that p

Since our last annual meet ton, nine months ago, one ganized society, the National ling Union, has been formed erated with us. We have council to report; but we hav that one may shortly be form in Ontario.

The national executive has times during the current y Hamilton, and directly after the ing, when Mr. Gilbert Parm a few words to us and ass sympathy with our work. farewell to the Countess of first president of the council a shadow over what was pleasant termination of a m helpful time.

The next executive was h on the 25th of January. A the plans of the standing raising a loan for the Dou were discussed and approve cided that the Kingston w tioning the Ontario governm the monument of Lord Syde ed when the Cathedral chur was burned down, be sent councils and nationally org for their signature and th was done, and the petit signatures attached was the lieutenant-governor in the result that the prov ment has voted the sum mo placed it in the hands of th of Kingston, which has for tee to attend to the erectio monument. Another point was discussed at this meetin which cannot but be recog ing more and more the ex national council. We wer through our president, by Society, and asked to assist of our organization, in the n triotic work of forming b Red Cross Society throughou ion. It was decided that w and we threw ourselves into energy. Instructions were local council, with literature and numerous letters from asking mayors of towns and interest themselves in the fo societies. Wherever a local now, there is, I believe, a Red Cross Society, and m cently formed have been istence by the efforts of so bers. The vice-president f been specially active in th of this work. At this sam were asked to approve of t a Canadian Household Co tion, as it was felt that the council would be a help ment to those interested i this important movement. A deputation of the co cluding several of the n waited on the Hon. G. S minister for Ontario, to the resolution drawn up nual meeting, re feeble-mi care of the aged poor. Information collected by th mitte on these two subjec terest and promised to carefully.

Our third executive was on the 15th of May, when representative gathering. our honorary president, h her presence during the and we had with us the p eral officers, Lady Laurier, provincial vice-presidents, representatives of local tionally organized societies business on hand was th for the annual meeting to teria, B. C., in July. A representative of Lady A letter from her, inviting stop and spend a day at Aberdeen's ranch, near meeting a petition was p Excellency for transmiss tesy, praying her to in Czarina on behalf of the and fathers of the Dukh resident in Canada.

We had the pleasure o table during the executiv umes of the "Internation Congress Transactions," Aberdeen, and presented National Council.

There was so much b that unfortunately but li spared for the considerati andum drawn up by the International Council; th ternational patrons, as president, and internatio subjects requiring attent appointed as her represe ternational executive held 25 Mrs. Dignam, of Tor be in Paris on that date also drew up a resoluti tain members of the co be in Paris throughout others whom the Nation hear of, as an informal National Council of Wom take part in any woman' on during the internationa Madame Dandurand, the commissioner, as convene of Canadian women's w this exhibition, has been of the council, both locali ing the past year, for local council have been of the sub-committees o have in some way bee the work, which we es be not only a memorial zeal of those who have