

NEED NOW FOR ANOTHER CLUB

Additional Quarters for Business Men in Victoria Said to Be Necessary

side of the growth and progress of a city than pressure on club accommodation. It is at such resorts that the need of accommodation is most felt, and the presence of such people in communities in large numbers shows clearly that there is much business to be done.

This is preliminary to the announcement that plans are afoot for the formation of a new club much on the lines of the Pacific club. Appropriately the latter institution, it is to be hoped, will be able to give the new club that already its accommodation is overtaxed, notwithstanding the fact that only recently it occupied spacious quarters as large many as the new club. The next few years would be met by the business of the apartments at the Pemberton block.

But the membership is now a very active body, and it is said that the committee of management is seriously considering the wisdom of limiting the membership to 450 and establishing a waiting list. Only recently the membership fee of the Pacific club was advanced from \$50 to \$100, and still the applications for admittance are pouring in.

This has led to the move for the establishment of another club, and the arrangements to this end are said to be well under way. A further announcement on the matter will be made at an early date.

CHINESE INQUIRY.

Commission Holds Sitting at Nanaimo and Then Proceeds to Vancouver.

Nanaimo, Feb. 15.—The royal commission into the alleged smuggling of Chinese into Canada sat here yesterday, Mr. Justice Murphy presiding.

B. H. Smith, the local collector of customs, examined an effort to smuggle across the part by Mr. McCrossin representing the government, to induce Mr. Smith to acknowledge that it was quite possible, if not easy, to smuggle stowaways and Chinese into the country as was done on the Bay.

Mr. Smith, however, denied this, and while he acknowledged that he was more or less handicapped by having only two assistants and no watchmen

In the course of his statement regarding the management of China

affairs at Union Bay, Cumberland
admitted and Nanton, who was
at the two points, that he
smiles to the faces of the audience. In
illustrating the zeal with which one
of his officers had discharged his duty
he stated that at last night a Chinaman
had committed suicide by throwing
himself overboard from a steamer
which was loading coal at Nanton,
whereupon his energetic officer, who
he stated that at last night he had
of \$500 upon the boat. This same
suer of moribund subjects had allowed
a Chinaman who was seriously ill
to enter the hospital here. In the course
of a short time, however, he was
away, and this hard-headed depart-
mental officer forthwith placed \$500
on the deceased, which was probably
the most he could more than ever be
worth living.

Several other witnesses were examined, but nothing of an important nature
resulted from their evidence. The coroner
then adjourned the case until the 15th inst.,
and counsel leaving to-day on the
steamer Joan for Vancouver will
further sittings will be held.

TWO LOSE LIVES.

Fire in Boarding House at Montreal.

Fatal Results.

Montreal, Feb. 15.—An over-heated
stove in a boarding house at 100

results. The blaze took place in a living house kept by Joseph Phillips, with one of his boarders, Michael Mahon, aged 48, lost their lives. Quinlan, who fortunately had not fully dressed, managed to escape.

He awoke to find the house in flames, and he beat his way to the door, and the fire he thought that Quintan made a hurried escape through one of the windows on the second story and raised an alarm. Quintan's escape was due to quick action, for the brigade arrived the fire was quickly extinguished. Gropping their way through the darkness, the firemen found the bodies of Phillips and McMahon, and the body of Mrs. Phillips, who was unconscious on the dining room floor. The house was taken to the hospital, where her condition is considered serious.

POSTPONES SPEECH.

Ottawa, Feb. 15.—Owing to the illness of his eldest son, who is suffering from typhoid fever, Ralph Smith was unable to speak on the reciprocity agreement before the M. C. M. A. last night. Today was expected. He will continue to be expected to debate later on. His daughter spoke in his place.

THE POPE INDISPOSED.

Rome, Feb. 15.—Alarm was given here to-day by the announcement that the Pope was indisposed, and that influenza. All audiences have been cancelled. The Pope's temperature reached 105 to-day. His physicians admit alarm but say they hope to prevent further danger.

During January the weather conditions in this vicinity, according to reports made by the meteorological service of Canada, were as follows: An abnormal month in most districts. Precipitation rather excessive, with a few snow storms, especially on the northern coast, sunshine, 100 hours; mean proportion 12, average 10. Wind, 7,300 miles, 1,400 hours. Average, two gales; heavy rain, 10 days; heavy rain slightly above average; heavy freezing on the 20th.