ue Steamer

tructed by Domin-
nment for B.C.
Service.

et of Lumber Car-
ound to Che-
mainus.

e steamer is to be com-
mmissioned to protect the
g and other interests of
bia in connection with the
ira. An appropriation of
ted by the federal govern-
e supplementary estimates
lown in the Ottawa house
ght for this purpose. The
utter will, it is hoped, be
in no other port of the
there greater, if as great,
cilities as in the port of
Victoria yards are noted
oast for their work, and it
he construction of the new
be done most beneficially
to the government.
dition to the revenue ser-
province will be much wel-
itish Columbians, for it is
fact that a patrol steamer
a necessity. During the
Hecate straits and other
ritish Columbia have been
oachers, whose holds have
n British Columbia waters.
ere have been cases where
he coast have been ravaged
the way settlers have had
plundered by pirates, who
in small sloops. A number
d by the provincial police
e. The presence of a rev-
would protect the coast resi-
these pirates. Then, too,
uld it see that the fisheries
ere not infracted, and other-
the coast line, but the cus-
ould be better enforced, for
well known for some time
from the Sound have called
along the coast and landed
and others, and likewise
customs laws. The case of
about a year or so ago, in
ways at Bella Coola, was
most flagrant cases of such
the law.
ra, engaged as she is in the
endering and visiting, of aid
n, of surveying, etc., has not
o give much attention to the
as would fall to the lot of
She is now on a trip to
n cannery points to look after
ts of the fishery people, but
make that cruise her light-
t and other routine has had

steamer could attend to poach-
oast pirates, smugglers and
ters of the shipping, customs
laws along the coast, and also
any shipwrecked crews that
thrown upon the West Coast
re in British Columbia waters
winter gales.
propriation made for the con-
of the revenue steamer is the
ong-continued representation of
ements of the province. It has
ested for a considerable time,
sponse was heretofore made to
is. Among the foremost in
for the procuration of the ad-
evenue craft was Capt. Wal-
he Quadra, who has again and
ed the needs for such a craft.

ENTY ON THE WAY.

eet of Lumber Carriers Coming
o Chemainus to Load.

dustry of the Island lumber
tinues to grow, and now there
fleet bound from different ports
e earth to load lumber cargoes
As many as twenty vessels are
route to Chemainus, and more
g secured. The vessels now
be en route have a total ton-
over 25,000 and a carrying capa-
any million feet. The big fleet
llows: Lyman D. Foster, 692
m Kehei about May 13; J. B.
Hawaiian Isles, 2,027 tons,
nta Rosalia about May 7; Re-
,237 tons, from Newcastle, via
, about April 7; Hesper, 602
m Honolulu about June 3; J. B.
,407 tons, from Newcastle, via
u, about April 12; Arethusa,
ns, from Altona, via Montevideo,
he arrived in distress May 13;
Tegetthoff, 893 tons, from Mol-
bout May 1; St. James, 1,453
om New York May 12, via San
co; Rufus E. Woods, 1,332 tons,
-day for St. Michael with coal,
return to Chemainus; Marion
, 1,511 tons, from Newcastle
via Honolulu; Bolands, 1,270
om Sydney, via Honolulu; Har-
716 tons, from Kariuk; St.
1,476 tons, from New York
24, via San Francisco; Corona,
s, from Honolulu May 21; Crown
972 tons, at Montevideo in dis-
March 21; Elwell, 1,356 tons,
Honolulu May 29; Low Wood,
tons, from Acapulco June 2;
e, 2,049 tons, from Yokohama
and Paul Rickmers, 2,817 tons,
iego.

THE FRASER FLOODS.

gers by the Rithet Tell of the
gh Water On the Big River.

ner R. P. Rithet arrived yester-
ternoon from the Fraser, with a
eneral cargo of produce and many
gers, including a number of gen-
who reported that the upper
and the Columbia and Thompson
in flood and the water was few
below the mark reached in 1896.
here been much snow last winter
fortunately there was not—the
on the Fraser would have been
erious than any for seasons past.
ason of warm rains and hot weath-
ted ice, they said, which had been
mountains since 1894, and the
soon began to rise. On the C.
the line between Revelstoke and
head is submerged and the Koote-
ke steamers are running right to
stoke. On the upper Columbia,
where the C. P. R. line crosses,
ater is but three inches below the
reached four years ago. On the
Fraser, Nicomen seems to have
worse. Much of the crops are
erged. Chilliwack and the Sumas
have as yet not suffered much. At
Westminster the river is thick with
ood, trees and debris.

Telling Needs Of Slocan

Prominent Mining Men Here to Interview the Government.

Want Wagon Road on Lemon Creek—Operations In Slocan.

Col. Percy Dickinson, of Slocan, and J. M. Williams, of Nelson, two influential mine owners, are at the Driard. They are in the city for the purpose of impressing upon the government the necessity of paying attention to the needs and requirements of Slocan generally, but more particularly to point out how important it is to the mining interests in the section affected that a wagon road be constructed on Lemon creek.

To a Colonist reporter who chatted with the gentlemen at the Driard yesterday, they said there was a feeling generally throughout the country of confidence in the new government. The people were sick and tired of politics and wanted a rest. The eight-hour law had worked great injury to the mining interests, and the country would feel the effects of the same for a long time. Hope is expressed that the legislation of the approaching session will have the effect of removing from the political arena the troublesome dispute between mine owner and mine laborer.

The companies at the head of which are Messrs. Dickinson and Williams are among the few who did not close down their mines owing to the operation of the eight-hour law; but its evil effects in the country generally was quite apparent to them, nevertheless.

Col. Dickinson and his associates are among the largest operators in the mines of the Slocan, having expended in cash during the past 15 months no less a sum than $250,000. The group of mines which they operate consists of the Slocan, Ruth, Kilo, Smuggler and Noonday. The Smuggler adjoins the Molly Gibson mine, and the Noonday is located at Silverton, adjoining the Galena Farm. Mr. Williams is at the head of the Chapleau Consolidated Gold Mining Company.

These enterprising mining men, at their own expense—so urgent was the necessity for better transportation facilities—constructed a trail on Lemon creek nine miles in length, building in doing so no less than five bridges. Now they ask that the government shall make it into a wagon road; and the request is considered a modest one, when it is remembered that Slocan contributes more to provincial revenue than any other section of the Kootenays. From the whole of the district last year the sum collected was $98,000, and of this amount $64,000 was contributed by Slocan alone.

The interviews which Messrs. Dickinson and Williams have had with the government have been most satisfactory; and when they return home to-morrow they will do so convinced that their mission has not been in vain.

He Quit Laughing.—There is among the expressmen on lower Yates street a young man with a squeaky voice and an unpronounceable name, but it is seldom pronounced, for he is known better as Abe; and there is another who lingered too long in the sun, and has in consequence a coffee-colored complexion. On Wednesday afternoon the latter had a laugh at the former's expense which came to a sudden ending. Abe's horse was startled at something and ran away, hauling the wagon along behind it up Yates street. The dark hued man laughed long and loud as the thin man with the thin voice ran after his horse, and was engaged in that pastime when his own horse was scared, and started off along Langley street. The first runaway was caught near Broad street and the other near Bastion street.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

Richard Fielding, a rancher, was drowned while attempting to swim across the Nanaimo river on Wednesday night. He was 30 years of age and leaves a widow and three children.

The Dutch second chamber has approved the conventions of the peace conference relating to the application of the Geneva convention to naval warfare, and relating to the laws and usages of war on land.

The Canadian Patriotic Fund to June 28 is $306,388.81.

Seven students from Argentina have arrived in Canada to attend the Guelph Agricultural College.

Gordon Reddy, Jr., of the Bowie Lumber Co., and Robert L. Askew, of the same firm, were attacked yesterday in New Orleans by George, Duncan and Leon Garrig and C. J. Besson. Askew was shot through the body, dying a few hours later, and Reddy, shot in the small of the back, is in a critical condition. Several spectators had narrow escapes from the bullets, and a negro bystander was slightly wounded.

A new loan of £237,650 has been authorized by the Victoria Parliament in Australia for railway improvement in that colony. As they are to invest extensively in some lines which are exported from this country the improvements to be made will be of interest to merchants and manufacturers trading with Australia. For improving tracks, curves, and grades £27,500 is to be used. Electric lighting additions at Melbourne will take £12,000; railway workshops at Newport, £2,000; railroad scales at various stations, £5,000; heavier rails on various lines, £62,000; substituting bridges for level crossings on eight lines, £42,600; Westinghouse air brakes, £15,000; for the improvement of light in cars, £6,000; new machinery and tools, £7,000; filtering plant for provisions and ice water, £1,100. No deviation is noticable in the continued demand for manufactured articles from Australia.

Despite manifold contradictions, it is common to hear people say that women posess no subtle wit.

"Mary," remarked Angeline, "I am sorry to see you using hair dye. Do you not know that hair dye affects the eyes?"

"Why, Angeline, dear, that's just what I am using it for."

Even if woman has no subtle wit, she has a great deal of intuition, and that is of itself a great benefit.—Omaha World-Herald.

Maud. We are going to spend the summer at the Hillside House, in the Maroon Mountains.

Irene. I was there a month or two last year. It's a pleasant place, but I don't like the table. They serve such weak coffee.

Maud. Yes, I know the coffee's weak, but the hammocks are strong.—Chicago Tribune.

LOCAL NEWS.

Not Dead.—A telegram has been received at New Westminster from George Williams, who was reported to have died in San Francisco. Mr. Williams is still very much alive.

Married Last Evening.—At the manse, last evening, the Rev. Dr. Campbell celebrated the marriage of Herbert Theodore Forshee, of Vancouver, and Mary McFarlane, of Victoria. They will make their home in this city.

Record Freight Haul.—A consignment of clothing from the W. E. Sandford Manufacturing Company, of Hamilton, reached Victoria in the short time of 13 days, over the C. P. R. This is believed to be the fastest haul of ordinary freight for a long distance on record.

The Sailors' Assault Case.—Mate Charles Winter and seamen Alex. Bol. W. H. Gower, Jan Smith and J. Holben, of the bark James Drummond, lying in Esquimalt, were charged with assaulting Thomas Chambers, a colored man. Mention of the fracas was made in yesterday's Colonist. Poor Chambers, who is badly used up, was unable to appear, so the case was remanded until Tuesday next.

Got Three Months.—Walter King, the variety actor, who stole a quantity of clothing from the Fit-Reform store on Government street, was sentenced to three months imprisonment in the police court yesterday by Magistrate Hall. King said he had been drinking and did not know what he was doing, but the magistrate did not consider this a sufficient excuse.

Teachers' Excursion.—A large party of the school teachers of Manitoba and their friends are to visit British Columbia on an excursion trip, leaving Winnipeg on July 1, 2, 3 and 11, returning to the Prairie City the latter part of August. They will extend their visit to Victoria, and are sure of a cordial welcome.

His Child Dead.—Engineer T. J. Arnall, of the steamer Tees, had a sad home coming yesterday. He found upon his arrival from the North that his infant daughter had died. The little one's death occurred on Wednesday. The funeral will take place at 2:15 this afternoon from the residence, No. 9 Humboldt street, and later at Christ Church cathedral.

Weekly Paper—"In Black and White," a new Victoria publication, will make its appearance on Saturday. It is being launched by Norman K. Luxton, who was the founder of Town Topics. The new paper will be issued weekly, and will, besides touching on all current topics, have a weekly review of sport, society, and musical and dramatic doings.

Awarded Damages.—The case of Bird et al v. Veith & Borland, which has occupied the Supreme court for the past seven days, and on a previous trial for five days at this same period of last year, was yesterday brought to a conclusion by the special jury returning a verdict for the plaintiffs for $3,700 damages and costs. Mr. Lindley Crease and A. D. Crease for the plaintiffs, and E. V. Bodwell, Q.C., H. D. Helmcken, Q. C., and L. P. Duff for the defendants.

A Novel Contest.—This morning at 10:30 the competition for readiness in impromptu speaking, for a prize presented by His Worship Mayor Hayward, will be held in the High school. Twelve pupils—three each in the four divisions—will compete, the conditions being to deliver a five-minute speech on a question asked by one of the audience. The event will prove a novel and interesting one, and no doubt quite a number of visitors will be in attendance.

P. P. P. P. at Nome.—A letter received from Charles E. Jones, of this city, who went to Cape Nome on the steamer George W. Elder, says reports of a very rich strike at Topkok, 50 miles east of Nome, continue to come in. Provisions were very reasonable. Eggs selling at $1 each when the first boxes reached there, dropped to 50c. per dozen, cigars and drinks from 50c. to 25c., good hams, 25c. per pound, meals $1.50 each. Potatoes, selling at 35c. per pound, dropped to $7 per sack.

After a Long Illness.—Mrs. Maria Byrnes, relict of the late George Byrnes, died yesterday at the Jubilee hospital, where she had been a patient for several months, suffering from an affection of the heart. The deceased was a native of Dublin, 50 years of age. She had been a resident of the province for many years and, like her late husband, endeared herself to all with whom she came in contact by her pleasant manner and kindly acts. A daughter and a son survive her. The latter, Albert Neete, recently came from California to visit his mother and was on his way south again when notified of her death. He will return this morning. The funeral will take place at 2:30 on Monday, from the hospital, and later from Christ Church cathedral.

Long Pending Case.—The trial of the Attorney-General v. Dunlop was commenced in the Supreme court yesterday before Mr. Justice Martin, and after some evidence had been taken was continued until this morning. This action is an outcome of the long pending cases of Dunlop v. Haney, and Haney v. Dunlop, respecting adverse claims to mineral claims in West Kootenay. Mr. F. Carter-Cotton, ex-finance minister, and ex-Attorney-General Henderson are here as witnesses. Yesterday Mr. John Kirkup, gold commissioner at Rossland, was examined. Mr. R. Cassidy appears for the crown and Mr. L. P. Duff for the defendant, while Messrs. McPhillips & Barnard are watching the case for Haney.

Clothing Thief.—Walter King, a variety actor, who is to be given a hearing this morning on the charge of stealing a lot of clothing from the Fit-Reform store, must have had some idea of going into business for himself, he having certainly taken more clothes than he could hope to wear. He entered the store and, while nobody was looking, gathered an armful of clothing and, rushing out, ran up the stairway next door and out into the back yard, where he hid his plunder, and then got back to the store through Hibben & Company's store. One of the clerks in the Fit-Reform establishment saw him leaving with a bundle, but before he could get to the door King had disappeared. He had been in the store several times. A lot of clothes stolen from Arthur Holmes were found in an alleyway, near the theatre where King was working.

Wigg.—Talkalot says he either knows a man, or he doesn't. He has no speaking acquaintances.

Wagg. No; they're all listening acquaintances.—Philadelphia Record.

TWO AFTERNOON FIRES.

Slight Blazes at Muirhead & Mann's and the Albion Iron Works.

Through the activity and excellent work of the fire brigade, what might have proved to be disastrous conflagrations were averted yesterday. At 3:20 p. m. and alarm from Box 62 called the department to Muirhead & Mann's sash and door factory, where fire was making good headway in the drying room. A high wind was blowing at the time, and the outlook was decidedly nasty when Chief Deasy and his men arrived. Two hydrant streams and a dose from the chemical speedily squelched the blaze, and the damage will not amount to more than $25.

At 5:20 p. m. the same box was pulled for a roof fire in the central building of the group occupied by the Albion Iron Works Company—all large wooden structures. This looked to be a rather difficult task for the firemen, but they were equal to the occasion. The blaze had made good headway, but in less than half an hour it was extinguished. The loss will be slight.

HOW EVIDENCE IS OBTAINED

"That Foreigners Poison Wells"—Chinese Tortured Until They "Confess."

A correspondent of the China Mail, writing of the Boxer rising, says: "Recent efforts have been made to excite the people of Tungchou against the foreigners who have lived in that city for an entire generation, during a large part of which period extensive medical work for men, women and children has been carried on to universal satisfaction. Yet to the Boxer sympathizers of that decadent city it seemed a happy expedient to seize a wretched beggar who had been to the dispensary to be smeared with sulphur ointment for the itch, and beat him to make him confess that he had been bribed by the foreigners to poison wells! The poor fellow was terribly abused until he admitted something, and was then taken to the magistrate for examination. The incumbent of this office had been in this post several times and knows the city well. He soaked some of the medicine in water to see if it would turn all the colors of the rainbow, as alleged (which it was supposed would be positive proof of evil-poisoning intentions), and then dismissed the case, on the ground that there are no 'Frenchmen' on the North Back street, of whom it was claimed that the stuff was got.

"After this another miserable wretch was seized and half killed to make him admit a like charge, and as he refused he was about to be buried alive in a temple yard, as Heaven's punishment for his dreadful crimes. But the priest, fearing lest it should spoil the fengshui of his sacred spot, complained to the magistrate that the perpetrators had chosen the wrong spot."

MAY PROVE SERIOUS.

Sailor Dreadfully Beaten in a Road-House—Five Men Arrested.

Thomas Chambers, a member of the crew of the American ship James Drummond, is at the Jubilee hospital in a precarious condition from wounds on the head, and the first mate and four other members of the crew of the same ship are in the provincial jail, awaiting a hearing on the charge of assaulting Chambers, or if he dies a more serious charge. Chambers, who is a colored man, came to town yesterday morning and complained to United States Consul Smith that on the trip up the Coast he had been assaulted by the mate. The consul was to investigate the inquiry this morning, and the change in the affair brought the matter into the hands of the provincial police. After calling on the consul, Chambers returned to Esquimalt and dropped into the Coach and Horses saloon. There he met the mate and the four men from the ship. What happened will come out in evidence, but certain it is that the colored man received an awful beating, and he says the mate and men did it. When he arrived at the provincial police station he was in such a dazed condition and so badly cut up that acting chief Murray sent for Dr. Fraser, who immediately ordered the man to the hospital. An examination showed that he had either been kicked or hit on the head with a blunt instrument and otherwise beaten. There is danger of concussion of the brain.

Acting Chief Murray, after he had made the victim comfortable, proceeded to Esquimalt, and arrested Charles Whinther, the mate; and John Smith, Alex. Soe, W. H. Gower and J. K. Holden. They will be given a hearing just as soon as Chambers can leave the hospital.

CANADIAN LOBSTERS.

An Enormous Shipment Sent to France From Nova Scotia.

Fully a quarter of a million dollars' worth of lobsters will be shipped from this port by the steamer Roger that sails shortly for Havre, says the Halifax Herald, of June 20. The shipment embraces 25,000 cases, or 1,200,000 cans of the crustaceans. They are worth more than $10 per case wholesale, so that the value of the shipment is more than $250,000. The weight of fish exclusive of packages, is 600 tons. These lobsters are intended for consumption on the continent. Those consumed in England are shipped to London. France is one of the greatest consumers of our lobsters.

MILKMEN, DON'T READ THIS.

From London Tit-Bits.

When Thomas drove up to deliver the usual quart of milk, the gentleman of the house kindly inquired, "Thomas, how many quarts of milk do you deliver?"

"Ninety-one, sir."

"And how many cows have you?"

"Nine, sir."

The gentleman made some remarks about an early summer and the state of the roads, and then asked, "Thomas, how much milk per day do your cows average?"

"Seven quarts, sir."

"Ah, um!" said the gentleman, as he moved off.

Thomas looked after him, scratched his head, and all at once grew pale as he pulled out a lead pencil and began to figure on the wagon cover. "Nine cows is nine, and I set down seven quarts under the cows and multiply; that's sixty-three quarts of milk. I told him I sold ninety-one quarts of milk per day, sixty-three from ninety-one leaves twenty-eight, and none to carry. Now, where do I get the rest of the milk? I'll be hanged if I haven't given myself away to one of my best customers by leaving a big cavity in these figures to be filled with water."

To be free from sick headache, biliousness, constipation, etc., use Carters Little Liver Pills. Strictly vegetable. They gently stimulate the liver, and free the stomac from bile.

A Factor In Modern Progress

The Possibilities Offered by Iron For Increasing Human Progress.

A Plan to Produce the Metal With Least Possible Waste.

Nikola Tesla in Century.

Iron is by far the most important factor in modern progress. It contributes more than any other industrial product to the force accelerating human movement. So general is the use of this metal, and so intimately is it connected with all that concerns our life, that it has become as indispensable to us as the very air we breathe. Its name is synonymous with usefulness. But, however great the influence of iron may be on the present human development, it does not add to the force urging man onward nearly as much as it might. First of all, its manufacture as now carried on is connected with an appalling waste of fuel—that is, waste of energy. Then, again, only a part of all the iron produced is applied for useful purposes. A good part of it goes to create frictional resistances, while still another large part is the means of developing negative forces greatly retarding human movement. Thus the negative force of war is almost wholly represented in iron. It is impossible to estimate with any degree of accuracy the magnitude of this greatest of all retarding forces, but it is certainly very considerable. If the present positive impelling force due to all useful applications of iron be represented by ten, for instance, I should not think it exaggeration to estimate the negative force of war, with due consideration of all its retarding influences and results at, say, six. On the basis of this estimate the effective impelling force of iron in the positive direction would be measured by the difference of these two numbers, which is four. But if, through the establishment of universal peace, the manufacture of war machinery should cease, and all struggle for supremacy between nations should be turned into healthful, ever active and productive commercial competition, then the positive impelling force due to iron would be measured by the sum of those two numbers, which is sixteen—that is, this force would have four times its present value. This example is, of course, merely intended to give an idea of the immense increase in the useful performance of mankind which would result from a radical reform of the iron industries supplying the implements of warfare.

A similar inestimable advantage in the saving of energy available to man would be secured by obviating the great waste of coal which is inseparably connected with the present methods of manufacturing iron. In some countries, as in Great Britain, the hurtful effects of this squandering of fuel are beginning to be felt. The price of coal is constantly rising, and the poor are made to suffer more and more. Though we are still far from the dreaded "exhaustion of the coal-fields," philanthropy commands us to invent novel methods of manufacturing iron, which will not involve such barbarous waste of this valuable material from which we derive at present most of our energy. It is our duty to coming generations to leave this store of energy intact for them, or at least not to touch it until we shall have perfected processes for burning coal more efficiently. Those who are to come after us will need fuel more than we do. We should be able to manufacture the iron we require by using the sun's energy, without wasting any coal at all. As an effort to this end the idea of smelting iron ores by electric currents obtained from the energy of falling water has naturally suggested itself to many. I have myself spent much time in endeavoring to evolve such a practical process, which would enable iron to be manufactured at small cost. After a prolonged investigation of the subject, finding that it was unprofitable to use the currents generated directly for smelting the ore, I devised a method which is far more economical.

The industrial project, as I worked it out six years ago, contemplated the employment of the electric currents derived from the energy of a waterfall, not directly for smelting the ore, but for decomposing water, as a preliminary step. To lessen the cost of the plant, I proposed to generate the currents in exceptionally cheap and simple dynamos, which I designed for this sole purpose. The hydrogen liberated in the electrolytic decomposition was to be burned or recombined with oxygen, not with that from which it was separated, but with that of the atmosphere. Thus very nearly the total electrical energy used up in the decomposition of the water would be recovered in the form of heat resulting from the recombination of the hydrogen. This heat was to be applied to the smelting of the ore. The oxygen gained as a by-product in the decomposition of the water I intended to use for certain other industrial purposes, which would probably yield good financial returns, inasmuch as this is the cheapest way of obtaining this gas in large quantities. In any event, it could be employed to burn all kinds of refuse, cheap hydrocarbon, or coal of the most inferior quality which could not be burned in air or be otherwise utilized to advantage, and thus again a considerable amount of heat would be made available for the smelting of the ore. To increase the economy of the process I contemplated, furthermore, using an arrangement such that the hot metal and the products of combustion, coming out of the furnace, would give up their heat upon the cold ore going into the furnace, so that comparatively little of the heat-energy would be lost in the smelting. I calculated that probably forty thousand pounds of iron could be produced per horse power per annum by this method. Liberal allowances were made for those losses which are unavoidable, the above quantity being about half of that theoretically obtainable. Relying on this estimate and on practical data with reference to a certain kind of sand ore existing in abundance in the region of the Great Lakes, including cost of transportation and labor. I found that in some localities iron could be manufactured in this manner cheaper than by any of the adopted methods. This result would be attained all the more surely if the oxygen obtained from the water, instead of being used for smelting the ore, as assumed, should be more profitably employed. Any new demand for this gas would secure a higher revenue from the plant, thus cheapening the iron. This project was advanced merely in the interest of industry. Some day, I hope, a beautiful industrial butterfly will come out of the dusty and shriveled chrysalis.

The production of iron from sand ores by a process of magnetic separation is highly commendable in principle, since it involves no waste of coal; but the usefulness of this method is largely reduced by the necessity of melting the iron afterwards. As to the crushing of iron ore, I would consider it rational only if done by water-power, or by energy otherwise obtained without consumption of fuel. An electrolytic cold process, which would make it possible to extract iron cheaply, and also to mold it into the required forms without any fuel consumption, would, in my opinion, be a very great advantage in iron manufacture. In common with some other metals, iron has so far resisted electrolytic treatment, but there can be no doubt that such a cold process will ultimately replace in metallurgy the present crude method of casting, and thus obviate the enormous waste of fuel necessitated by the repeated heating of metal in the foundries.

Up to a few decades ago the usefulness of iron was based almost wholly on its remarkable mechanical properties, but since the advent of the commercial dynamo and electric motor its value to mankind has been greatly increased by its unique magnetic qualities. As regards the latter, iron has been greatly improved of late. The signal process began about thirteen years ago, when I discovered that in using soft Bessemer steel instead of wrought iron, as then customary, in an alternating motor, the performance of the machine was doubled. I brought this fact to the attention of Mr. Albert Schmid, to whose untiring efforts and ability is largely due the supremacy of American electrical machinery, and who was then superintendent of an industrial corporation engaged in this field. Following my suggestion, he constructed transformers of steel, and they showed the same marked improvement. The investigation was then systematically continued under Mr. Schmid's guidance, the impurities being gradually eliminated from the "steel" (which was only such in name, for in reality it was pure soft iron), and soon a product resulted which admitted of little further improvement.

DIOCESAN SYNOD.

Proceedings at the Closing Sessions on Wednesday and Thursday.

The Anglican synod met again at 8 o'clock on Wednesday evening and sat for nearly three hours. Several important resolutions were passed, and there was considerable discussion as to the best methods of improving the financial condition of the diocese. Amendments to some of the canons were proposed and carried, and will come up for confirmation at the next session of the synod.

The following resolution was proposed by Rev. J. H. S. Sweet, seconded by Mr. W. C. Duncan, and carried:

"That this synod deplores the increasing tendency among Christian people to secularize the Lord's Day, and earnestly calls upon all members of the church to use every effort, both by precept and example, to promote the better observance of the day of rest, and to discountenance any sources of pleasure which may interfere with the worship and service of Almighty God."

Reference was also made to a matter which had been brought up at the previous session of the synod, the need of greater strictness in issuing marriage licenses.

A commission was appointed by the Bishop to prepare a full report of all trusts and investments held by the church of England in the diocese.

Interesting reports were read by the rural deans, Revs. W. D. Barber and C. E. Cooper, of the conditions existing in the parishes of their respective deaneries.

A resolution was adopted to inaugurate a biennial conference between the dioceses of British Columbia.

The appointment of a committee was asked for to visit parishes for the purpose of explaining fully the advantages of the Quebec system.

A large and influential committee, not confined to members of the synod, was appointed by the Bishop in response to a resolution proposed by the rural dean of Nanaimo, for the purpose of making an effort to raise before the end of the year a sufficient amount to place the finances of the synod on a sound basis.

An adjournment to 10:30 on Thursday was made to enable the minutes to be read and confirmed; and the synod brought its session to a close at midday, after having decided that the next meeting, in 1901, should be held in the city of Nanaimo.

HE PAID.

From London Tit-Bits.

Some time ago a wealthy gentleman, well known for his extreme stinginess, drove up hurriedly in his carriage to the door of a celebrated doctor in Sheffield. He was in a state of acute discomfort and fear, from the fact that a piece of fish-bone was sticking somewhere in the region of his throat.

The doctor speedily removed the obstacle and the gentleman breathed freely.

"Thank you, doctor," he exclaimed, much relieved. "I'll never eat salmon again—never! And with what ease you removed it—a mere minute's operation, was it not? How much—a—what is your fee?"

"Half a guinea," replied Dr. B.

"Half a guinea!" exclaimed the gentleman, "for half a minute's work! Impossible!"

"But, consider," said the doctor; "a salmon bone!"

"What has that got to do with it?"

"Oh, a great deal," replied Dr. B. "Had it been halibut or fresh haddock, I should have charged less—perhaps 5s; codfish or eels, 2s 6d would have been a ample payment; mackerel, 2s; while a red herring bone I might even have removed free of charge; but salmon at this time of the year!—well, really, sir, one has to pay for these luxuries." And his patient paid.

JAMIESON'S LOST MINE.

An Old Similkameen Copper Find Located.

A bit of early history was brought vividly to mind this week by the discovery on timers well remember hearing Mr. Jamieson's Lost Mine, says the Similkameen Star. As far back as 1886 this mine was known to exist, it being the first copper discovery made in the Similkameen. Old timers well remember hearing Mr. Jamieson tell of his rich strike and of its location, but those were the stirring days of placer mining and the location was left to lie in idleness for the coming progress of civilization. On his death bed Mr. Jamieson described minutely its exact location, at the same time pointing out the fact that one was liable to travel right over the spot without discovering it. Since that time many attempts have been made to discover the mine, but all were unavailing. It was left for a party with no knowledge of the country or of minerals to make the discovery. Mrs. S. Spencer, whose husband has charge of the Royalty group of claims, was the lucky party, and it happened thus: Mrs. Spencer, who is with her husband on Friday creek was out looking for berries, and while hunting them by an old corral she happened to notice a peculiar looking formation of rock. Prospector like, she proceeded to secure a sample, and upon returning to camp showed her find to her husband, who immediately pronounced it a very fine specimen of copper ore. As soon as he could, he proceeded to the spot and upon looking the ground over, realized that indeed his wife had made a rich find. The rock is of very rich grade copper, similar to the cropping on the Sunset, and old timers say there is very little doubt but that this is the lost mine, as its description coincides exactly with that given by Mr. Jamieson.

A CASTLE IN SPAIN.

New Variation of an Old Trick Successfully Played on a Halifax Man.

From Halifax Chronicle.

About two years ago a stranger made his appearance at the provincial library and for several weeks he visited that place almost daily. He appeared to be searching up the pedigrees and ancestors of certain residents of this city. After a while he was looked upon very suspiciously, and the aid of the police was called in to solve the mystery. The Chronicle at the time referred at some length to his doings, and shortly after the mysterious stranger quietly left the city.

It was never ascertained what the real object of his mission was, but from recent developments it is presumed that his labors are now bearing fruit. It is known that he collected a fund of information of which he seems to be making good use.

Quite recently a well known citizen, who was engaged in the plumbing business but who has now given it up, received a very mysterious letter from Spain. The letter was signed by one who represented himself as a Catholic priest, and to all intents and purposes it was strictly confidential. The letter told of an immense fortune that was awaiting a claimant in Spain, and it was presumed that the man above referred to was part heir to this immense wealth.

The letter gave the history of his family for several generations back, and as far as could be learned this man and a young girl who was lying in a hospital at Spain at the point of death were the only living claimants.

So correctly was everything given in detail that the Halifax man had not the slightest doubt that he was the heir. In fact, he was completely carried away by this unexpected good fortune, which came at such an opportune time.

The letter said that there was only one way for the man to establish his identity, and that was by appearing personally in Spain.

This was the one stumbling block for this fortunate—or rather unfortunate—man. He did not possess the necessary capital to undertake such a big enterprise, but he took a couple of his friends into his confidence, and when he once made it clear to them that everything was genuine they quite readily advanced him the money. One of the parties who put up half the money does business on Barrington street, while the other is a councillor for one of the county districts on the western shore.

The heir to this mythical fortune has gone for a sunny climes of Spain, armed with all the necessary papers, etc., to establish his claim to the vast wealth that he hopes to inherit. The councillor has gone to Paris, so his friends say, to visit the exposition, but in reality he has also gone to Spain, with the object of assisting the heir to bring back this fabulous sum of money to the shores of Halifax.

There is but little doubt that the whole affair is a concocted scheme to exort money from the man who is named as the heir. No demand is made in the letter for money, but when he reaches Spain he will probably find that money is necessary to establish his claim.

Previous to the receipt of the above letter, the proprietor of one of the large hotels in this city was the recipient of a similar document, but he failed to take the bait that was thrown out. He consulted a legal gentleman, and later on made enquiries which led him to believe that the whole thing was nothing more or less than a well prepared scheme to fleece him.

The mission of the fortune hunters and their return is awaited by their friends with deep interest.

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION.

Rental of Timber Lands in the Railway Belt in British Columbia Reduced.

The Dominion government has passed an order-in-council reducing the rental of timber lands in the railway belt in British Columbia. A notice was published in yesterday's Gazette.

Hitherto a licensee of a timber berth paid $5 a square mile except for lands situated west of Eagle Pass, for which the annual ground rental was five cents an acre. It has, however, been represented that the rent for lands between Eagle Pass and Yale was excessive, as compared with the rental of $5 per square mile for limits east of Eagle Pass, the timber in the former being inferior to the timber in the latter tract. The view is confirmed by the crown timber agent for the railway belt in British Columbia, and the government has therefore ordered the annual rental of timber berths situated between Eagle Pass and Yale reduced from five cents an acre to $5 per square mile.

A special general meeting of the Levisthan Gold Mining & Milling Co., will be held at Kaslo on July 21.

A Farmers' Institute is authorized for Kamloops.

M. L. Foley and J. F. Foley, merchants, of Phoenix, have assigned.

The Canadian King Mining Co., of Spokane, capital $75,000; local office at Erie, A. W. Boyd, attorney, has been registered as an extra-provincial company.

The Sandon Forwarding Co., of Sandon, capital, $10,000, and the Alberta Hotel Co., of Greenwood, capital $20,000 have been incorporated.

Japanese on the Fraser are applying for the incorporation of the Japanese Fishermen's Benevolent Society, for the purpose of building a Japanese hospital and school, and otherwise promoting the interests of the Japanese engaged in fisheries on the Lower Fraser.

SITS DOMINION DAY.

Government Will Not Adjourn For the National Holiday.

Ottawa, June 29.—The Commons sits Dominion Day, despite strong protests from a number of members.

The anti-Chinese bill passed the Senate to-day, without division, although at one time it looked as if it would be thrown out.

Most of the estimates were under discussion all day, the opposition roundly scoring Mr. Mulock for cooking his accounts by charging the Yukon mail service to other departments.

Casee, the Quebec man under sentence of death for the murder of his wife, has been reprieved.

The department of customs has adopted neat uniforms for the officials who examine travellers' baggage.

"Julius, we must begin to talk about our summer trip."

"That's so, Julia; the sooner we begin talking about it the sooner I can get you convinced that we can't afford to go anywhere."—Chicago News.

Mr. McInnes Will Not Run

Decides Not to Accept Any Nominations At Bye-Elections.

Says Government Should Be Permitted to Pass Necessary Legislation.

Yesterday ex-governor McInnes, in reply to requisitions asking that he allow himself to be placed in nomination in opposition to Hon. J. H. Turner at the approaching bye-election in Victoria city, handed the following reply to the petitioners:

Victoria, B. C., June 28, 1900.

To Messrs. S. Perry Mills, Q. C., Lewis Hall, P. C. McGregor and others, electors of the City of Victoria:

Gentlemen—It is with feelings of the deepest appreciation that I last night received your requisition asking me to be a candidate in opposition to the Hon. J. H. Turner at the forthcoming bye-election. For the following reasons, however, I have decided not to accept the nomination offered. For about ten months past this province has been in a condition of political unrest, and business interests, particularly in regard to mining industries, have been seriously affected in consequence. Over nine months ago I urged upon my then ministers the advisability of an immediate session, or an immediate general election, in order to end the political uncertainty then existing. The Ottawa government, however, by a wholly unwarranted exercise of power, against which I protested, forbade me to interfere with the time at which my ministers saw fit to summon the legislature. At whose instigation, and in whose interests they saw fit to do this I do not say, but it certainly was not in the interests of the people of this province. And when one whom they have chosen to treat as a political enemy was called upon, they expected me to adopt an altogether different attitude toward him. Had my hands not been tied by Ottawa instructions the political turmoil of the last nine months would, in all probability, have been ended long ago. But be that as it may, the fact remains that the province has just gone through an exhausting and unsettled political campaign, and I believe it to be now in the interests of all that until the present government have had time to pass necessary estimates and private legislation, and to enunciate a policy, they should not be opposed. Moreover, in this particular case, I could hardly bring myself to oppose a minister on his bye-election for the very office to which I myself had sworn and appointed him. For these reasons I have also declined to allow myself to be nominated for South Victoria and South Nanaimo. Thanking you, again, gentlemen, for the hearty promise of support given, I remain,

Your obedient servant,

THOS. R. McINNES.

Mr. McInnes holding such views, the Martinite executive thereupon decided that no further steps would be taken towards putting out a candidate in opposition to Hon. Mr. Turner.

ABATE DRAIN NUISANCE.

Council So Decide at Special Meeting Last Evening.

At yesterday evening's special session of the city council it was decided to proceed at once with the work of laying box drains in the various portions of the city where they are required, it being considered highly important in the interest of the health of the community that this should be done at once. Afterwards a long conference was held, from which the reporters were excluded, with W. J. Taylor, city barrister, in regard to the matter of the remaining Point Ellice bridge suits.

There were present His Worship Mayor Hayward, and Ald. Kinsman, Cameron, Hall, Williams, Beckwith, Yates and Brydon.

E. M. Johnson called attention to the bad condition of a drain on Rupert street. He thought it a menace to the health of the community.

His Worship Mayor Hayward said that he had asked Dr. Fraser and the sanitary officer to inspect the drain and ascertain, if it was as stated by Mr. Johnson. Typhoid fever would likely be engendered by it.

Dr. Fraser did not think that its condition was so bad as that.

City Engineer Topp estimated the cost of a box drain on Rupert and Collinson street at $65.

Ald. Williams, seconded by Ald. Hall, moved that the work be done at once.

Aldermen Kinsman and Yates disapproved of going on with this work when petitions asking for other drains were passed over. Ald. Cameron thought the case an urgent one, and though there were no funds available, practically, yet he thought the expenditure ought to be undertaken.

Engineer Topp explained that he thought the drains on Pandora,