The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY THIRD YEAR — VICTORIA B. C. FRIDAY APRIL 11 1902 — VOLUME LXVII

Almost a Sensation

Lively Scene In Which Mr. Curtis Is Threatened With Removal

Mr. Justice Walkem Objects to Using Enquiry For Political Capital.

Another Long Series of Questions On Irrelevant Subjects Asked Premier.

The proceedings of the Royal Commission underwent a slight change yesterday morning. It was at the instance of the Deputy Sheriff, whose appearance on the scene coincided with a little closer attention on the part of Mr. Curtis to the investigation of the charges of fraud than have been apparent in the tactics of that gentleman for several days past. He had been persisting in political enquiries somewhat foreign to the charges, and on failing to elicit from the witness information regarding the policy of the government had become somewhat violent in his harangue, on which the Commissioner sent for the sheriff's officer to have him removed from the court as an obstructer of the work of the commission. Quasi apologies followed, and Mr. Curtis at once proceeded with the cross-examination of Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir upon the charges of fraud and malfeasance.

At 10 o'clock in the morning the Commission resumed its labors, the Premier being again on the witness stand.

On the big pile of Colonists and other newspapers containing the reports of the speeches of the meetings at the recent election, being handed over to Mr. Curtis again, Mr. Cassidy objected that already these papers had been gone through two or three times, and he hoped that the court would see fit not to permit any further the circuitous repetitions of the past few days.

The Commissioner pointed out that much of Mr. Curtis' cross-examination was wholly irrelevant, and he was surprised to see him leave the matters of the investigation so much alone and attempt to divert the sphere of the commission into the field of provincial politics. He was, however, giving Mr. Curtis every latitude, and did not propose to allow the commission to be open to any charge of stifling the evidence. Mr. Curtis had assured him the preceding day that this was a political matter, and there was no doubt but that its present trend was the gathering of material for campaign purposes. He regretted that this was the case, and must now state that the time had come to put a stop to this sort of thing.

This was followed by a somewhat lengthy discussion between the Commissioner and Mr. Curtis, and Mr. Cassidy, as to how the business should be proceeded with, the Commissioner repeatedly objecting to the turning it into a political field.

Turning at last to the witness, Mr. Curtis took up the open letters to Ottawa, but did not make much headway as the witness refused to answer questions touching the policy of his government, and his political opinions. They did not affect the charges of fraud, and he would say this, that he had never in all these things considered his own interests.

Out of the two per cent. of the gross earnings reserved to the government, and the other safeguards of the Loan Act, Mr. Curtis attempted again to get at the policy of the government, but the witness refused to answer.

Finding that the Commissioner would give him no assistance, he followed on with a violent harangue upon his ideas of fair play, to stop which the sheriff's officer was sent for.

The Commissioner then explained that Mr. Curtis was taking advantage of the liberty of investigation, which had been extended to him, but could not be allowed to turn that liberty into license.

Turning then from the opinions and beliefs and policy of the witness on railway lines and traffic, Mr. Curtis got down to the charges about the E. & N. road, and the Premier stated that he never had any idea of selling that road for a big sum through the making of this contract. It was for the benefit of the whole of the province, and particularly that of Vancouver Island and the city of Victoria, and thus to himself as a property holder here, but only as it would other property holders. His self interest had never been in his mind in the course of these negotiations. When Mr. Mann was here in February, an offer had come from him for the purchase of the E. & N., but in order to get down to Victoria they had never been told that they must come in over the E. & N., nor was it necessary for them to do so.

Here Mr. Curtis' persistency in talking while the Premier was answering his question, led His Lordship to remark that the scene reminded him of a police court.

Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann, the witness continued, had said that they would not be content with running powers from Seymour Narrows down, but the government would not give them their contract except on the condition that Victoria be made the terminus of their road. He had already given Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann his charter to Cape Scott.

Asked about the E. & N. railway, the witness after remonstrating, said that he owned one-half and the Pacific Improvement Co., the other. They had a like interest in the E. & N. land grant. He and the Pacific Improvement company also owned in like manner the Wellington Colliery company. He had no company in Victoria to retail coal, but sold his coal to people here, who resold to the citizens. He also owned the R. Dunsmuir Son's company, of San Francisco, which sold coals there. The E. & N. road had paid no dividends. The returns sent to the Minister of Railways at Ottawa would show the deficit of the road, and he expected that those reports would be correct. Stock had been issued for the amount that the road had run behind. This value had been sunk in capital stock in the way of bridges, filling, and other assets of the road. Running expenses had a separate account. The Ottawa blue book showed the deficit for 1896 to be $192,943.27; for 1901 $49,065.64, and so on for other years, amounting to between the years 1891 and 1900 to the sum of $1,500,000. The year 1899 showed a net earning of $5,000 odd, the others being all deficits. If the Canadian Northern traffic ran over this line it would make it pay. But the road can make $60,000 a year today, as Mr. Curtis could see for himself if he would come down to the witness' office.

In answer to a question, the witness said that he preferred to have his name made public in the Cape Scott road charter rather than to have any interest in it on the quiet. What he did was always honest and above board. He had nothing to be ashamed of, and was not trying to use his position to make money for himself. If, however, it was wrong for him to advocate the new road, then for the self same reason anybody having any interests or property in the country was doing wrong in trying to help things forward. His interests were large, and if the country grew and prospered, his values would be enhanced also.

He, however, was not in politics to make money, but would like to remind Mr. Curtis that but yesterday at lunch in the House, he, Mr. Curtis, had said that he was sorry that he had gone into politics, for there was nothing in it.

Asked about the Wellington Collieries company, the witness said that it had not paid any dividend yet, but with the growth of Victoria, and its trade, no doubt the coal trade would grow too. Its profits had gone back into capital account.

As to the San Francisco company, its profits were none of Mr. Curtis' business. That was his own private affair. As to the money that had been put into the E. & N. road in the past years, he would not state where the money came from, or whether he borrowed it or not.

Mr. Curtis persisted in these questions, and getting no answers, appealed to the judge, but the appeal was not upheld. His Lordship echoing Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir's remark, that it was "none of Mr. Curtis' business."

During this part of the cross-examination, there were numerous heated passages between the parties, in the course of one of which Mr. Curtis shook his fist in the Premier's face. The latter hotly resented the attempt to go into his private affairs, and pointed out how crazy it was to drag them into the present investigation.

The commission then adjourned for lunch.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

On resuming after lunch, Mr. Curtis put in several additional copies of the daily papers to be marked for use in the case. These contained reports of meetings and had already been frequently referred to and used in the progress of the investigation. The letters and telegrams between Mr. Greenshields and Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann concerning the recent visit of the former here, were then demanded by Mr. Curtis. These, at the time, were refused as being privileged documents, and His Lordship now sent to order that Mr. Greenshields be brought back from Montreal to produce them.

Mr. Curtis persisted in the demand for the papers, but His Lordship would not issue a search warrant for the local telegraph offices. The Commissioner did not purpose to pry into other people's business. About half an hour was spent over this.

The cross-examination of Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir on the Cape Scott charter was then proceeded with, but the witness refused to keep on answering the same questions over and over again. The charter was freely offered to Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann, and without any conditions. He had a Dominion charter too to build from Wellington to Cape Scott. It would have gone with the other. They had cost $2,000 or $3,000, of which Mr. Bodwell had got $1,000. It was offered for the interest of the country, with which his own was identified, and that sometimes to the loss of himself. The building of the road here would increase the value of everybody's property, his own included, but to what extent he could not tell.

Mr. Curtis persisted in asking "what do you think questions," but the judge would not commit the witness for not having a much clearer idea of the increase in the value to the E. & N. grant lands. Mr. Curtis here attempted to enliven the proceedings with some vulgar wit, which led to the Commissioner's remark that he was trying to make a burlesque of the proceedings.

Mr. Cassidy then interrupted by showing that no charge of fraud could be based upon the increase of the value of property, as otherwise every ratepayer in Victoria who would vote to have a line brought down here would be equally guilty of fraud.

Mr. Curtis, however, persisted, and went into the matter of the distance that the road would pass through his land. The witness repeated that he had not desired to sell the road, but would have built it himself if the Dominion subsidy could have been got. He had offered the right-of-way for the Cape Scott road, but the townsites were not mentioned. An independent line paralleling the E. & N. would increase the value of the lands, but it would interfere with the traffic of his road. Touching the increase of values of the land, the witness thought that the progress of the country should not be stopped just because it would affect some of his properties. That was a most unreasonable position to assume.

the witness' bank account stood, but this witness' bank account stood, but the effort failed.

The prosecutor then tried to go into a lot of details regarding the V., V. & E., and the two 30-mile ends of that road came in for a great deal of discussion, which lasted in a disjointed way up to 4 o'clock, when the commission adjourned until today at 10 a. m.

DESPATCH FROM MR. MANN.

The following despatch was received from Ottawa yesterday by Hon. W. C. Wells:

Ottawa, April 9.—We asked for two parallel lines across the Territories, one from Swan river to Yellowhead Pass, the other from Grandview to Edmonton, connecting with the Edmonton, Yukon and Pacific. The latter was granted, the former we voluntarily withdrew. It does not effect the projected line to Bute Inlet in any way.

D. D. MANN.

FIRE AT VALOIS.

Houses Destroyed at Summer Resort Near Montreal.

Montreal, April 9.—Fire last night destroyed seven houses at Valois, chiefly the property of Montreal summer residents. The loss is placed at $20,000.

INTESTATE ESTATES.

No Heirs to Claim Money Left in Ontario.

Toronto, April 9.—Attorney-General Gibson has applied on behalf of the Ontario government for the administration of the estates of the following persons, who died intestate on dates indicated, with neither kith nor kin to claim the money, which will pass into the provincial chest: Edmond Gilchrist, January 18, 1894, $213.31; Charles Farley, September 20, $4.62; John Pettner, October 18, $510.23; Mary A. Hinds, March 25, $48.35; D. McDonald Gillies, February 18, $371.13.

If sick headache is misery, what are Carter's Little Liver Pills if they will positively cure it? People who have used them speak frankly of their worth. They are small and easy to take.

Wonderfully Rich District

How the Okanagan Valley Was Benefited by Railway Construction.

Erection of Large Creamery Is Now Contemplated—Favors Canada Northern.

Amongst the guests at the Dominion hotel is Mr. F. Hassard, one of the pioneers of the Okanagan district. In 1880 he reached this city, having come out from Malton, Ont., and pushed on up country, taking up a half section near Armstrong, where he has lived ever since. Returning here yesterday it is needless to say that Mr. Hassard is noticeing many changes, or rather he is not finding very many of the old landmarks noticed during his brief visit of twenty-two years ago.

In the Okanagan valley, however, he has seen even more wonderful changes. In the early years the settlers labored under great difficulties, more keenly felt, too, by the agriculturists than by the cattle men. With C. P. R. construction times improved, but it was not until the S. and O. railway gave a regular service through that country that its progress became one of leaps and bounds. In late years this has been particularly noticeable. Three years ago 100 cars of produce of various kinds were shipped out to Sicamous junction. The next season that had increased to about 250, while last year in spite of some shortage, resulting from the drought, a further and very considerable increase was also made. Of this the full returns are not yet to be had, but from Armstrong alone Mr. Hassard states about 150 cars of produce were shipped out.

The present season up there is somewhat late and also dry, but when he left, seeding operations were getting well under way.

The agitation that has gone on there for some time past is on the eve of bearing fruit, in the shape of a co-operative creamery. Over three hundred cows have been listed, and the stock lists, which have been in the hands of Messrs. Fletcher and Pinder of Armstrong, Leffroy of Vernon, and Higgie of Enderby, are said to be about completed. This gives the district the hope of having a creamery in operation early in the coming summer, and Mr. Hassard, on whose farm a good deal of butter-making has been carried on, hails the institution as a great boon to all the dairymen of the district. In the past good butter and bad has had the tendency of bringing the same price at the local stores, and as a result low prices have ruled, but with a creamery they hope for better things.

Mr. Hassard takes considerable interest in politics and says he hopes that the Canadian Northern bill will pass and the construction of the road be pushed on with as little delay as possible. Although a farmer himself, he does not seem to fear the results of a land subsidy to the road. From his experience in the Okanagan he says neither lands or minerals will be worth much until one is constructed and that the sooner the work is begun the sooner the province will receive revenue from a great tract of country which at present does not bring in a cent.

MISS HARDIE IS CHAMPION

Wins the Ladies' Single in the Ping Pong Tournament.

Miss Hardie won the ladies' ping-pong championship in the J. B. A. A. tournament by defeating Miss M. Goward, with three sets to one, yesterday afternoon. The scores were, 6-5, 1-6, 6-2, 6-4. Miss Goward placed well, but Miss Hardie's smashing and general skill proved too much for her. Great interest was taken in the game. In the semi-finals, a fine contest was witnessed, getween Miss M. Goward and Miss A. Bell. After a hard struggle, in which the best features were Miss Goward's placing and Miss Bell's swift smashes, Miss Goward won, the scores being 6-4, 5-6, 6-4. In the gentlemen's singles, T. B. Tye's brilliant play proved too much for Dr. Garesche, but the stonewaller Hart defeated the meteoric Lewin. C. S. Wilson's steady play won in the end against C. Schwenger's wonderful smashing. L. Dickeson had a hard struggle with W. T. Patton, but finally won. The full scores for yesterday are as follows:

Ladies' Singles—Miss Bell beat Miss Drummond, 6-5, 6-3; Miss Goward beat Miss Bell, 6-4, 5-6, 6-4; Miss Hardie beat Miss Gowen, 6-0, 6-0; Miss F. Hardie beat Miss Goward, 6-5, 1-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Mixed Doubles—Mr. Tye and Miss Galley beat Mr. Falls and Miss Janion, 6-3, 6-0; Mr. H. Goward and Miss F. Gowen beat Mr. Howie and Miss F. Drummond, 5-6, 6-4, 6-3; Mr. J. Leeming and Miss Hunt beat Mr. Ross and Miss Hayes, 6-2, 6-4; Capt. Bowdler and Miss Vernon beat B. Schwengers and Miss McFadden, 6-2, 6-2; Mr. Pinder and Mrs. Cuppage beat W. Goddard and Mrs. Travis, 6-0, 4-6, 6-4; Dr. Garesche and Miss Trimen beat Mr. and Miss Brown, 6-2, 6-2; Dr. Garesche and Miss Trimen beat Mr. Pinder and Mrs. Cuppage, 3-6, 6-5, 6-5; Mr. Powell and Miss Holmes beat Mr. Williams and Miss Earle, 6-3, 6-5; Mr. Powell and Miss Holmes beat Mr. and Miss Wilson, 6-1, 6-0; Mr. H. Goward and Miss F. Gower beat Mr. Tye and Miss Galley, 6-4, 2-6, 6-5; Mr. Trimen and Miss Russell beat Mr. and Miss Hardie by default.

Ladies' Doubles—Mrs. Cuppage and Miss Green beat Miss Lawson and Miss MacRae, 6-1, 5-6, 6-3; Miss Trimen and Miss Russell beat Miss Earle and Miss Askew, 6-5, 6-5.

Gentlemen's Doubles—Leeming Bros. beat E. H. Russell and L. B. Trimen, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3; A. Hood and R. Janion beat C. Wilson and J. H. Austin, 6-1, 6-2; Patton Bros. beat Tremayne and Tye, 6-1, 6-0; Wilson and Dickenson beat Howie and Tomlin, 6-3, 6-1; C. Schwengers and Wilson beat Nason and Gowen, 6-3, 6-1; T. G. Wilson and J. M. Lawson beat T. R. Cusack and Geo. Tite, by default; H. Coombe and J. D. Pemberton beat J. C. Bridgman and J. H. Lawson, 6-1, 6-2; Patton Bros. beat Leeming Bros., 6-2, 6-5; Schwengers and Goward beat Cornwall and Lewin, 6-3, 6-2; Powell and Goward beat Bridgman and Coles, 6-5, 6-4.

Gentlemen's Singles—C. Wilson beat C. Schwengers, 6-5, 6-2; L. Dickenson beat W. T. Patton, 6-3, 6-5; T. B. Tye beat Dr. Garesche, 6-3, 6-1; J. Hart beat F. Lewin, 6-4, 6-4.

Today's programme is as follows:

Mixed Doubles—J. Leeming and Miss Hunt play Capt. Bowdler, R. E. and Miss Vernon at 5 p. m. The winners play R. B. Powell and Miss Holmes at 5:30 p. m.

Ladies' Doubles—Miss Vernon and Miss Bell play Mrs. Langton and Mrs. Langley at 3:30 p. m.

This evening no games will be played owing to the concert given in aid of the Condor relief fund.

If sick headache is misery, what are Carter's Little Liver Pills if they will positively cure it? People who have used them speak frankly of their worth. They are small and easy to take.

TURKS AND CHRISTIANS.

Fighting Reported and the Revolution Is Spreading.

London, April 8.—Wiring from Cettinje, the capital of Montenegro, the correspondent of the Daily Mail reports heavy fighting between Turks and Christians in the province of Novibazar, in European Turkey, and that the revolution is spreading.

OHIO TRAIN WRECK.

Engineer and Fireman Killed and Several Passengers Injured.

Cleveland, Ohio, April 8.—An incoming Big Four train was wrecked tonight within a mile or two of the station here. The engineer and fireman were killed and several passengers, it is reported, were hurt. The wreck is believed to have been caused by a washout which undermined the tracks.

KING CHRISTIAN.

Danish Monarch Celebrates His Eighty-Fourth Birthday.

Copenhagen, April 8.—King Christian, who was born April 8, 1818, today celebrated his 84th birthday, surrounded by his children and grandchildren. The octogenarian monarch, who is well preserved in mind and body, entered keenly into all the festivities. Sixty members of royal families were present at the palace for the occasion, and took part in the gaieties, which included a reception at noon by the King, a family dinner, and in the evening an entertainment with a concert by the singers of the royal theatre. His Majesty was the recipient of gifts from most of the royal personages of Europe. Extensive celebrations of the King's birthday took place throughout Denmark, including military parades and feasting.

BOY'S SUICIDE.

Eleven-Year-Old Lad Hangs Himself at Revelstoke.

Revelstoke, April 8.—A very sad affair occurred here last night. The 11-year-old son of Mr. Turnross of this city, was seen alive by his brother standing at their front gate at 7:30 p.m. His parents made inquiry for him about 9:30, and on search being made the boy was found hanging in their barn, dead. They cannot assign any reason for the rash act, as the boy was in the best of spirits all day.

PROTEST TO BISHOPS.

Members Object to Election of the New Coadjutor.

Montreal, April 7.—Several members in the diocesan synod have made protests to the House of Bishops that the legality of the election of Dean Carmichael as coadjutor bishop, and especially against the legality of the right of succession conferred by the election. They have no personal objection to the new bishop, but protest simply on legal grounds.

DEMAND FOR SHORTER HOURS

Carpenters Will Work But Eight Hours After First of May.

About seventy-five carpenters attended a meeting in Labor hall last evening, called by the local of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners. The chairman of the union's organizing committee, Mr. A. E. McEachern, occupied the chair, and explained that the meeting was called to consider the advisability of inaugurating an 8-hour workday. He said a number of the contractors had been asked for an expression of opinion and had had no objected, it being understood that any work previously figured on should be finished on the 9-hour basis. Those in favor of an 8-hour day were asked to stand, when the entire assemblage rose to their feet.

A resolution was offered to the effect that on and after May 1, eight hours constitute a day's work.

A lengthy discussion followed as to wages. On this point members of the union explained that according to their laws they were obliged to give three months' notice to contractors of any intention to increase wages, therefore, they could not demand nine hours' pay for eight hours' work without giving this notice.

The majority of those present, not being members of the union, wanted nine hours' pay for eight hours' work.

Mr. McEachern then left the chair, and Mr. Charles Chislett was voted to his place, and Mr. Clayton was chosen secretary of the meeting in place of the union's secretary, Mr. Masters.

A resolution was moved that the contractors be asked to consider eight hours a day's work on and after May 1.

Along with this resolution was passed another, which called upon all carpenters and joiners to affix their names to the resolution for eight hours, and that the same be published in the two local newspapers. This resolution will be held for signature before being printed.

MANCHURIAN TREATY.

Agreement Signed and Comes Into Force in Three Months.

Pekin, April 8.—The Manchurian convention was signed today. The ratification will take place three months from date. The Russians undertake to restore the Nin-chwang and Chan-Hai-Kwang railroad to the Chinese when the British relinquish control of the railroad in Chih-li province, but insist that Sir Ernest Satow, the British minister here, is not going to secure a large preponderence of British administrative control for the latter railway after it is handed over to the Chinese.

CHINESE EXCLUSION.

Chairman of United States Foreign Relations Committee Opposes Bill.

Washington, April 8.—Mr. Cullom (Ill.) made a vigorous protest in the Senate today against the passage of the Chinese exclusion bill in its present form. Coming from the chairman of the committee on foreign relations, this protest made a deep impression on the Senate. Mr. Cullom expressed himself as in favor of the exclusion of Chinese laborers, but insisted that many of the provisions of the pending measure were in contravention to treaty obligations with China. Mr. Patterson (Colo.) and Mr. Perkins (Cal.) supported the bill, maintaining that it did not contravene existing treaties, because by the convention of 1894, China agreed that Chinese laborers should be excluded from this country.

"Does your wife heed your instructions?" asked the domestic disciplinarian.

"Of course she does," answered Mr. Meeker. "Only this morning I said, 'Henrietta, please pass the butter,' and she did so without a moment's hesitation."

Combination Of Iron Works

Arrangements About Complete to Unite British Columbia Coast Firms.

United States Trying to Recruit Canadians For the Philippines.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, April 9.—It was learned today on the authority of an official of one of the firms interested, that the 10 iron manufacturing firms in British Columbia had definitely decided to come together for their mutual benefit, according to the plan made public some time ago. Mr. Seabrook, of the Albion Iron Works, was in the city today, and it is understood a meeting was held this evening for the purpose of making further progress in the scheme and deciding upon a plan of procedure in bringing in all the firms on a fair basis.

The united companies will be managed under one head. Stock will be issued to enable the new company to secure the different concerns. Enough working capital will be available to buy in large quantity in the cheapest markets. Unhealthy and unprofitable competition will be done away with, but it is promised that the public will secure work at more favorable prices and secure quicker contracts, for all work received will be divided between the different establishments according to their ability to turn it out quickly.

The firms who will join the combine are the Vancouver Hardware company, Albion Iron Works, Ross & Howard, S. Hollands, Vancouver; Schaake, Westminster; Dubson, Nanaimo; Wilson, Ladysmith; Albion Iron Works, Victoria; Victoria Machine & Depot company, Andrew Gray, Victoria.

There is a rumor on the streets of Vancouver, which can scarcely be credited, that men in the secret service of the United States government are recruiting among the Canadian volunteers in Vancouver for material for Uncle Sam in the Philippines. Be this as it may, several volunteers have resigned of late, and three are known to have been sent to the Philippines by the United States government, two buglers and a private. The private and two buglers just missed being drafted for South Africa, not quite coming up to the standard. The private was sent to the Philippines as a corporal in the United States army.

Dr. McInnes delivered a very interesting lecture in St. Andrew's church school room last evening, on the wonders of the Antipodes. He said that Sydney was a city of sports as well as Melbourne, and the man, woman, girl or boy that did not have something up on Melbourne cup day was looked upon as a curiosity. The lecturer referred to the praise bestowed upon the Canadians in South Africa by the returning Australian volunteers. He spoke highly of the Australian volunteers, and stated that New Zealand, with a population of 750,000 or a population, had sent 6,000 soldiers to the front, while if Canada had acted in the same spirit, we would have had 35,000 of our young men in South Africa. The war had opened the eyes of the world as regards the bravery and courage of the colonials.

THE COWICHAN VALLEY.

Meeting Favors Railway By That Route to Alberni.

Somenos, B. C., April 7.—The meeting held on Wednesday in the Agricultural hall, Duncan, to endorse the claims of the Cowichan valley as the route for the proposed railway from Alberni, though not very large, was thoroughly representative and earnest.

The Reeve, Mr. J. N. Evans, was voced to the chair, and after a few remarks setting forth the object of the gathering, called upon Mr. Gidley, manager for the Cowichan Lumber Co. Mr. Gidley said he did not know the country further than the Nitenat valley; up to that point there were no difficulties in the way of railway construction.

Mr. C. H. Dickie, M. P. P., wished to know whether an independent line from Alberni was desired, or whether they wanted the Canadian Northern to come that way. He believed that, with the exception of one point near China creek, there were no difficulties in the way of construction. He would not advise any delay in taking action, as strong pressure was being brought to bear on the government in favor of other routes. The district was so rich in natural resources that he firmly believed a railway would pay from the first. He would gladly do all in his power to further the wishes of the meeting.

Mr. W. C. Duncan gave a graphic description of his explorations in this region. His account of mountains of white marble, of fertile valleys, of immense quartz ledges, of splendid timber, of cascades tumbling hundreds of feet, brick-red from the great iron deposits within—was as interesting as a romance, and made one long to start at once for a scene so rich and grand. But in his opinion a range of mountains blocked the way to Alberni.

Mr. A. A. B. Herd strongly urged the need of definite action. Such a line would open up a country unsurpassed in natural wealth, and would bring capital and settlers to the island. The government was being besieged by parties interested in other routes, and it was incumbent on Cowichan by earnest, united action to strengthen the hands of their representative, Mr. Dickie, who was prepared to do all in his power to forward their object.

The following resolution was carried unanimously:

"That, whereas, a railway has been projected from Alberni to some point on the east coast; and, whereas, it is most desirable that the railway should traverse the Cowichan valley with further connection with Victoria; be it resolved, that a deputation be appointed from this meeting to co-operate with the deputation from the council in laying a memorial before the government showing the great advantages of the route by way of Cowichan, its economy in construction and operation, the vast wealth of the country it would open up in minerals, agricultural produce, and timber, and that Mr. Dickie be asked to assist as far as he possibly can in helping the delegates to press on the government the claims of our district."

Messrs. W. Gidley and H. Newill were appointed as delegates, and with a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting was brought to a close, it being understood that the Reeve would, if necessary, call another meeting to hear the report of the delegation.

Miss Kostick—"I had a good joke on May yesterday. Without her glasses, you know, it is almost impossible for her to distinguish one person from another, and yesterday she actually talked to a dummy in front of a clothing store for ten minutes, thinking it was you."

Johnny—"Really! And how did she—aw—discovah her mistake?"

Miss Kostick—"She didn't; there's where the joke comes in."

MATSQUI FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

Address From a Well Known Practical Minnesota Lecturer.

A supplementary meeting of the above institute was held in the O. F. hall, Abbotsford, on Saturday, March 22, at 1.30 p. m.

The meeting was addressed by the Hon. C. L. Smith, of Minnesota. The subject treated upon generally was "How to Make the Farm Pay," including especially diversified farming as against single crop system. After some routine business had been disposed of, and a communication from the superintendent of the C. P. R., that it was possible that Messrs. Coyle and Green, assistant passenger and freight agents respectively, might attend to discuss the much talked of question of reduced passenger and freight rates, or the substitution of a cheap market train, and its attendant better shipping facilities, but for some reason did not arrive, much disappointment being felt. The president, H. B. Phillips, lost no time in calling the meeting to order, and in a few well chosen words on the subject of institute work, introduced the lecturer, who stated at the outset that he was glad to see so many farmers present, and gave a brief outline of what he had found to exist in his own state of Minnesota for the past 18 years, that length of time ago there was only one institute at work, and but one creamery, and that the single crop system prevailed, a system which if continued in meant bankruptcy to any farming community, not only to farming, but to every business pursuit. Railways as well as banks. Now a mighty change had come about. Banks which had been full of farmers notes was now full of farmers money. The credit system had given place to a spot cash one. Where one creamery existed then, now there are 1,000. Railways are dividend payers; banks in some instances so full of cash that the managers could not place it at a profit. Now what has brought about all this change? There was no denying the fact that this in a large measure to the educational work and dissemination of, highly, and the best available reading procurable from institute work and lectures. Take the last report issued from your agricultural Department in British Columbia. He had no hesitancy at all, and challenged any one to contradict it, that it was the best report issued in the history of the world, and he had seen and read a good many. It was a work brimful of the most interesting and up-to-date thought and experience, and one that should be in the hands of every tiller of the soil.

Passing on in his remarks to the different values of grasses, covers, and roots for stock, selection, care, and detailed make up of a promising dairy cow. The various foods required, and the net results expected, finding that good and liberal feeding, with proper barn accommodation must be one of the prime factors. How often he went into barns and saw neither the cattle nor the barn clean, and with difficulty open the door for the pile of manure just managed to be placed outside. Now, if you think you are going to build up a good herd of dairy cattle, get a flock of sheep in prime condition and follow the calling of a farmer, and not put any brains into it, as well as labor, you will be mightily deceived. There is no trade or calling demands more to be successful. Cultivate one's acre properly and well, than five in a slip shod fashion. I am often asked in going round, to look at this and the other persons cattle, and I can see at a glance that generally more than one-half should be turned into the butchers if it is possible to do it. I have come across Jersey steers lately that has cost since their birth, if all had been sold they had eaten, would fetch $60, and no butcher going would give more than $30 for them. So farming is no business of course if you think you can get along in the old way since discarded by men who have got to the top round of the ladder by embracing every opportunity this and other kindred institutes seeks to impart. To be profitable a cow could make its owner, all things equal, 300 lbs. of butter a year. This is no exaggeration at all, and you had better keep one of this description than five poor ones. You know the great thing with human nature is that we know it all, and no one can teach us any thing better; but this past six years rapid changes for the better has taken place. Mr. Smith closed a two-hours new and interesting discourse, and some questions were asked and answered, and being tendered a hearty vote of thanks, took his seat amid a round of applause. The next meeting was announced for April 1 and 2, at Abbotsford, and the Municipal hall. Speakers D. Drummond, Esq., of Myrtle, and T. G. Raynor, Esq., Rose hall.

OBITUARY.

Deaths and Funerals in the City—Late W. McNiffe.

The funeral occurred yesterday of the late Mrs. Kirkpatrick, the cortege proceeding from the residence of the parents of the deceased on Kane street to Christ Church cathedral, and thence to Ross Bay cemetery. Rev. Canon Beanlands conducted the services at the Cathedral and the cemetery. There was a large attendance of friends, and many beautiful floral pieces. The pallbearers were: Messrs. George Grimmason, F. J. Gray, W. Terry, W. Bambridge, W. Bride, and R. Carter.

The funeral of the late Mrs. McHugh will take place tomorrow morning from the family residence, Fisguard street, and later at St. Andrews' R. C. cathedral. The deceased, besides the one son and three daughters mentioned yesterday, leaves another son, Joseph Henry, a resident of New Zealand. Mrs. McHugh resided in the Southern Colony for many years before coming to British Columbia, in 1861. Besides property in Victoria, she owned valuable farming land in Saanich.

The late Nigel Douglas, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Eakins, died at the family residence, Ida street on Saturday, was a native of Canterbury, England, and was 20 years of age. Services were conducted yesterday at St. Barnabas' church, the choir of which deceased was a member, attending at both the church and cemetery, and rendering appropriate music. Rev. Mr. Miller officiated. The pallbearers were: Messrs. A. G. Oaks, A. Onions, J. Bierney and H. Brown.

William McNiffe, second son of the late William McNiffe, died yesterday at Steven's hotel, Lake district, where he has been residing for some time. Deceased was a native of Victoria, and 32 years of age. He has been ill for several months. He leaves four sisters, Mrs. F. C. Jones, of San Francisco, and the Misses McNiffe, of Victoria, and one brother, Mr. Charles McNiffe. The funeral will take place on Friday morning at 9 from the family residence, No. 35 Quebec street, and at 9:30 at St. Andrews' R. C. cathedral.

If you once try Carter's Little Liver Pills for sick headache, billiousness or constipation, you will never be without them. They are purely vegetable; small and easy to take. Don't forget this.

Have you realized anything from that mining investment you were telling me about?

Yes; I have realized the truth of the saying: "A fool and his money are soon parted."

The New Regiments

Recruiting at British Columbia Points Commences on April 24th.

Preference to be Given to Men Who have Already Seen Service.

Peace Negotiations in South Africa Progressing With Brighter Hopes.

Ottawa, Ont., April 9.—(Special.)—A special militia order was issued tonight relating to the new contingent. It says the force will be called the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth regiments, Canadian Mounted Rifles, service be until the termination of the war, and rates of pay the same as the Second regiment. Preference will be given to men who have already served. There will be a total of 104 officers, 124 sergeants, 64 artificers, 32 buglers, 1,712 rank and file, a total of 2,036, with 2,174 horses.

Recruits will be forwarded to Halifax without delay.

In Western Canada enrolment commences April 24, at Victoria, Vancouver, New Westminster, Kamloops, Sicamous, Revelstoke, Golden, Rossland, Fort Steele and Cranbrook. Other conditions are as telegraphed last night.

London, April 9.—The Associated Press understands that the peace negotiations are progressing satisfactory, so far as the Transvaalers are concerned; but, the latest advices indicate that there is small probability of the Free States surrendering in a body. The negotiations, thus far, have been mainly explanations of British intentions. It has been made plain to the leaders that their surrender will not entail banishment, and this has a potent influence. The leading Transvaalers urge their allies to arrange peace terms. The inner circles of the War office believe that if the present indications are fulfilled and the Transvaalers agree to surrender, that the Free Staters opposition will soon be overcome.

Rat Portage, Ont., April 9.—Through a letter to a friend here, Lieut. H. A. C. Machin, now in South Africa, conveys the news of the death of Frank Mieville, who left here last fall as a member of the same contingent. Although not mentioned in despatches, Mieville died some weeks ago from enteric fever. Deceased came to Rat Portage five or six years ago to engage in mining, and subsequently acted as manager of the Regina mine for a time. Mr. Mieville was a social favorite, and his untimely death came as a great shock to his friends. He was English by birth, and about 35 years of age.

Winnipeg, April 9.—(Special.)—Nurses Annie Matthey and Ruth Teeple, Winnipeg hospital graduates, have offered their services for South Africa in case nurses are wanted with the Fourth contingent.

THE TOURIST ASSOCIATION

Bureau of Information Ready For Business—Informal Opening Tuesday.

The executive committee of the Tourist association have completed the fitting up and furnishing of the association rooms, 32 Fort street, and on Tuesday next the bureau of information will be opened for business. The rooms will be open to visitors during the day and in the evening Mr. Herbert Cuthbert, traveling representative, will give an exhibition of 170 lantern views with which he proposes to illustrate his lectures, "British Columbia, Past and Present" and "British Columbia, the Canadian Wonderland, the Switzerland of America," which he will deliver at suitable points during his trips in the interests of the objects of the association. Many of these views are from Mr. Cuthbert's own camera, and quite a number have been taken within the past few days, for the purpose of showing the natural beauties of the drives around Victoria.

The members of the association extend a cordial invitation to the public to visit the rooms on Tuesday, day and evening, when they will be welcomed by members of the executive. Mr. Cuthbert's exhibition will begin at 7:30 p.m., and should attract a large audience, as the views are very beautiful.

RHODES' WILL.

From Seattle P.-I.

Now comes the last will and testament of a man, prepared some years ago, vast in direction and in thought, revealing as no other human document concerning him could have been. It is as if he had expressed, with a certain fine scorn of contemporary judgment, all but one side of his nature; as if he would have won a measure of satisfaction had it been possible for him to conceal forever from all but the Seer and Searcher of hearts what manner of man he was. But he felt a labor resting upon him to perform after death as well as during his incessant living activity. The moral responsibility that he seemed to hold so lightly when his plans were to be carried to success has its own way here. In the disposition of his great fortune the lonesome man speaks. Ideas unsuspected, purposes immense and reverent, a comprehension of life in aspects foreign to his daily acts, are written with simplicity and earnestness. It is in this heritage to posterity, sincere as must be the words of a man who is seeking to give force and direction to all that he ever accomplished, that the historian will find the real Cecil Rhodes and the psychologist and the adept in ethics a fascinating study. He was a Briton of the Britons, and but for his ambitious plans for a new empire in Africa, we might have cited him, perhaps would have done so in any event, as a representative of humanity. The man whom we view in the light of that document is intensely cosmopolitan. Seeking to impress himself, as human nature longs to do, upon the future, he studied the probable conditions of that future with a profound and liberal judgment. To the Teutonic stock, in his belief, belongs the world's future. To the peace of the world, a good understanding between the United States, Great Britain and Germany is indispensable. At the basis of lasting relations lies intelligent comprehension, sharpened and made useful by education. Therefore he makes one of the most munificent provisions for international education that can well find known. At the great University of Oxford five scholarships are to be provided for Germany, the students who enjoy them to be named by the German Emperor; and two scholarships for each of the present States and Territories of the American Union.