

TWICE-A-WEEK TIMES

Published Tuesdays and Fridays by THE TIMES PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED, JOHN NELSON, Managing Director.

Subscription Rates: Daily, by mail, per annum \$2.00; Daily, by mail, per annum \$2.00; Daily, by mail, per annum \$2.00; Daily, by mail, per annum \$2.00.

Advertising Rates for Twice-a-Week Times: Condensed advertisements, 10 a word; minimum charge, 25c.

OSCAR II. IS DEAD.

Oscar II, King of Sweden, and formerly King of Norway, has been gathered to his fathers. Called to the throne in 1872, the reign of King Oscar was not distinguished by any events of a particularly startling character, although his Majesty had inherited the martial instincts of one of his great paternal ancestors he might have had occasion more than once to create a stir in northern Europe. But he was essentially a peaceful man, devoting such talents as he possessed to the benign pursuits of literature and to effecting essential internal reforms in his kingdom. If Oscar II, had been a strenuous prince, more anxious to magnify his own house and name than to promote the welfare of his people, he would probably have determined to maintain the connection between Sweden and Norway by force of arms. However, seeing that in view of the feeling of the Norwegians, it were better that separation should take place, he bowed his head to the inevitable, and the disruption took the form of a peaceful parting of friendly nations. Probably if the blood of the Bernadottes had coursed more strongly in the veins of the departed monarch than the thinner commercial stream with which it formed an alliance a few generations back these might have been an armed conflict between the two branches of the great warlike Scandinavian family. But the good king chose the better part. He permitted events to take their natural course, thereby averting not only a fratricidal war but possible political and military complications which might have extended far beyond the boundaries of Norway and Sweden. His career has come to an end and he will be laid in the tomb of his ancestors full of years and honors.

THE C. P. R. AND THE ALL-RED ROUTE.

It has been apparent from the time the idea of an all-red route connecting Great Britain, Canada, Asia and Australia was first mentioned that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company was disposed to regard with suspicion any such scheme. Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, the executive head of that powerful corporation, has set at rest any doubts there may have been upon the subject by publicly and practically announcing that the C. P. R. will exert its potent influence against the consummation of the enterprise. Sir Thomas is quite frank in his statement. He is influenced in his attitude by purely selfish reasons. The C. P. R. is itself in the transportation business upon the two great oceans. It receives subsidies from the Imperial and the Dominion governments. If another company were to enter the business under the aegis of the governments in question, it would undoubtedly prove a powerful competitor for the C. P. R. Therefore, having a large amount of capital invested in steamships operating in the carrying trade both on the Atlantic and the Pacific, it is not at all surprising to learn of Sir Thomas Shaughnessy's sentiments.

The concern the head man of the great railway company evinces in the interests of capitalists who might be influenced by purely sentimental considerations to investing their money in a fast Canadian service is also quite touching. He cites the cases of the German and British companies which have built extraordinarily fast steamships in proof of his position that an all-red route must prove a losing proposition. He points out that the tendency is all in the direction of the commissioning of vessels of large size but moderate speed. And there is undoubtedly a good deal in what Sir Thomas says. At the same time we do not think ships of the Mauretania class are contemplated by Lord Strathcona, Mr. Sifton, and other promoters of the so-called all-red line. The C. P. R. has demonstrated at an opportune time—opportune from the point of view of the people of Canada as well as from the standpoint of the owning company—of what can be accomplished on the Canadian route by steamers of moderate speed. One of the Empress liners has made the trip from port to port—which is, after all, the essential and practical test in transportation—less time than the fastest of the Cunard greyhounds has accomplished a like passage. That fact in itself seems to us to constitute an effective argument in favor of the all-red route. It answers all the objections raised by Sir Thomas. It seems to us it would be a fine advertisement for Canada and for the C. P. R. if the fact could be finally and definitely established that at least

one day could be saved in crossing the ocean by a Canadian route. Once the advantages of the route are established, there will be plenty of business for the boats of the C. P. R. and for other competing companies which will assuredly enter the field. Doubtless Sir Thomas has considered what that would mean for the land end of his great transportation system. Doubtless, also, he will say he speaks with authority when he mentions the difficulties in the way of the success of the all-red line and thinks his is the last word on the subject.

"DOING WITHOUT THINGS."

A wise teacher has crossed the ocean for the purpose of instructing the majority of Americans who are not of the millionaire class in the useful art of attaining the priceless possessions of happiness. The secret lies in cultivating the habit of "doing without things." Andrew Carnegie is so happy that he prays for an indefinite prolongation of his mortal life. It is easy for Andrew to be happy, because he has a castle in Scotland and can disport himself on the links there or elsewhere whenever the spirit of sport moves him. If he had to do without the castle and the links and instead were compelled to play the part of a "puddie" in one of the superheated rolling mills of Pittsburgh in order to obtain the necessities of life, possibly he might be praying to-day for the dissolution of soul and body, finding, as many are finding, life an intolerable burden. It is an easy thing for millionaire philosophers who lack not any good thing, or anything which to the inexperienced appears to be good, to preach the virtues of self-abnegation. Still there is no doubt that there is a good deal in what this sage, who is not a millionaire, although she has not to labor with her hands for the wherewithal to keep body and soul together, says. And this is a very opportune time in the history of the United States for a wise person to set her foot upon its free shore and preach to the people the virtue of "doing without things." There are many who for the next year or so will be compelled, willy-nilly, to actively cultivate the art of denying themselves. From all we can learn, the optimism of Henry Clews notwithstanding, the people of the United States are in for a period of dull times. Confidence has not been completely restored. Thousands of men who have had an abundance of work for their hands to do for a considerable number of years have been thrown out of employment, and they are going to remain idle for some time. That is the worst feature of life in the strenuous republic. Industry does things in spasms, instead of plodding along in the direction of greater things, as it does in Great Britain and in Canada. That is the reason we do not feel depressions to so great an extent as they do. And but for the fact that the idle men gravitate to this side of the line, to the extent of their competition making us fellow-sufferers with themselves, the dullness of the times over there would possess but an academic interest for us.

The people of British Columbia are not accustomed to doing without things, but they might profitably cultivate the habit, say to a limited extent. Mr. C. A. Gregg, of the Colonist editorial staff, on Sunday contributed a striking article to his paper on the subject of the resources and possibilities of Vancouver Island. Mr. Gregg has evidently studied the subject very carefully, and his conclusions are deeply interesting to all who pin their faith to this island as the theatre of important transportation developments in the not remote future.

The climate of England has done the Kaiser a world of good. We are all delighted to hear of the restoration of His Majesty's health, and proud to think the physicians of his royal uncle's household may have had something to do with it.

Even the banks of San Francisco have become involved in the infamy of that delectable city. Over four millions of dollars lent to shareholders and officials, practically without security, seems a somewhat lose way of doing business even for San Francisco.

POSSE SHOOTS TWO MEN.

Winlock Marshal Badly Wounded While Chasing Would-Be Robbers.

Winlock, Wn., Dec. 9.—A Winlock posse killed two yegmen this morning. Following attempted robberies of the postoffice and Winlock bank, Marshal Castellar and Constable McFadden stopped two men on the railroad track. They ran, shooting Marshal Castellar twice in the chest. He, too, may die.

MAINTENANCE OF INDIANS.

Ontario to Pay Dominion \$300,000 and Assume Certain Liabilities.

Ottawa, Dec. 9.—A suit as to the maintenance of Indians on disputed territory between Manitoba and Ontario has been settled in the Exchequer court. The result is that on account of the territory given by bond being awarded, Ontario will have to pay the Dominion over \$300,000 and assume certain liabilities in perpetuity for the future.

A stone weighing a ton and a half was split open by blasting at Blackburg, Scotland, and a living worm was found embedded in it, being located eleven inches from the outside of the nearest point.

BIG INVESTMENT IN QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S

American Capitalists Completing Deal Which Involves Nearly Five Million Dollars

Vancouver, Dec. 6.—A deal involving the investment of between four and five millions in the Queen Charlotte Islands by St. Paul Milwaukee, and New York capitalists, is being completed. Options in their behalf on copper, coal, and petroleum lands, have been secured by Osborne Plunkett. The deal includes the establishment of a line of steamers between the Queen Charlottes and Vancouver.

BILL TO AMEND RAILWAY ACT

Royal City M. P. Wants Companies Made Liable for All Fires Caused by Locomotive Sparks.

Ottawa, Dec. 9.—J. B. Kennedy, New Westminster, introduced a bill to-day to amend the railway act so as to hold a company responsible for all fires caused by sparks from locomotives. Meantime the statute limits damages to crop, fences, plantations and buildings. The bill was read for the first time.

Hon. Frank Oliver stated in the House to-day that W. T. R. Preston is now in Yokohama studying trade conditions in view of extending the trade between Canada and Japan. J. E. Armstrong, Lambton, East Riding in the House to-day on the debate on the address, will move amendment in favor of rural mail delivery.

Sir W. Laurier in answer to Hon. Geo. Foster, said that nothing had been done regarding the All Red Row. No official action was taken.

TOWN WAS SPORT OF EARTHQUAKE

Karatagh Lifted High in Air—falling Rocks Hailed—Houses Sank Into Fissures.

London, Nov. 30.—Now that the first account coming from Ashkand, via St. Petersburg, has arrived, it can be no doubt that the Karatagh earthquake was one of the most appalling natural catastrophes on record. "It is difficult," writes a reporter, "to describe the scenes which meet the eye at Karatagh to-day. What was a short while ago a flourishing township is now a grave of 4,000 dead. But the scenes which accompanied the catastrophe are even more difficult of adequate description. A group of survivors, still shaken by their experiences, related a terrible story, to which no written narrative can do justice.

On the eve of the disaster, October 26th, a terrific storm burst over Karatagh and its environs, striking a deadly fear into the hearts of the inhabitants. The animal world seemed to have an uncanny foreknowledge. Dogs howled, horses stamped, cattle moved with fright. Early in the morning the whole town seemed to shudder. The earth tremors were frequent, but few of the townspeople was sufficiently disturbed by them to leave their homes.

Fifteen minutes later a terrific shock set the entire place swaying, the air resounding with weird noises, then the town seemed to be repeatedly lifted high in the air and set down heavily by a mighty hand. Buildings were crumbling and crashing to ruins every moment or two. In scores of places the ground burst open and boiling water spouted upward.

Huge fragments of rock became dislodged from the surrounding mountains and added the thunder of their fall to the subterranean rumblings and roarings, which continued all the time. Numerous houses were battered down by the falling rocks. Others, with their occupants, sank bodily into great fissures in the earth.

The populace, or such of them as had escaped instant death, appeared to be man with terror. From every side arose awful shrieks. Those who fled for safety had to blind their eyes to many sad sights. The storm had come on again with renewed force and activity. Pandemonium reigned. Madheaded animals tore aimlessly hither and thither, continuous peals of thunder and flashes of blinding lightning added to the frenzy. Many fugitives perished under the hoofs of the animals.

In the meantime similar scenes were being enacted in the surrounding country, twelve large villages being destroyed on this same terrible morning. In Karatagh alone 2,000 bodies were recovered. As many more still remain in the ruins of 1,200 houses, while 25,000 animals, on a rough estimate, were destroyed.

NINETIETH BIRTHDAY.

Congratulatory Address Will Be Presented to Bishop Crige Next Week.

An address of congratulation, which will be presented to Rev. Bishop Crige on the 15th inst. to celebrate the ninetyeth anniversary of his birth, has been prepared by a number of the well known divine's friends, and is now at Hibben & Co.'s receiving signatures.

Bishop Crige is one of the pioneer clergymen of the province and, as the head of the Reformed Episcopal church in British Columbia, on account of his many sterling qualities, enjoys the esteem and respect of all. His ninetyeth birthday finds him strong in body and spirit; a wonderful example of the results of right living. Through his long and strenuous life, the greater part of which has been spent in this province, he has commanded the love of all his parishioners and the respect of the public.



There Are Gifts Here in Profusion For Everyone

As the Month Grows Older, the Values Get More Startling

AND FOR THIS EVENING we have prepared a Real Bargain Feast, in which everybody will participate. Yuletide purchasers could not wish for better opportunities than those afforded you here to-night. But to share in Bargains like these you will have to be here sharp on time: 7.30 p. m. STORE CLOSÉS FROM NOW TILL XMAS AT 9.30 P. M.

A Special in the China Department at 7.30 Sharp, This Evening

It offers Rare opportunities to purchase some HANDSOME PRESENTS at Specially Reduced Prices. Some of these values run as high as \$20.00 and are being sold at 7.30 sharp at \$2.50. Read down the list carefully, then act promptly.

- | | |
|--|--|
| Reg. Values from \$5 to \$20, for \$2.50 | Reg. Values \$2.50 to \$5, for \$1.00 |
| FANCY BRASS CLOCKS, with perpetual calendar. Regular \$9.00 to \$17.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$2.50 | JAPANESE VASES, Oriental and European designs, worth from \$1 to \$2.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$1.00 |
| FANCY BRASS CLOCKS, assorted styles and sizes. Regular \$5.50 to \$20. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$2.50 | SHAVING MIRRORS, bevel plate edge (three in one). Regular value \$1.50 to \$4.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$1.00 |
| FANCY COPPER CLOCKS, in various styles. Regular values \$7.50 to \$20. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$2.50 | BRONZE CLOCKS, with ink wells. Regular value from \$2 to \$2.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$1.00 |
| FANCY SMOKER'S COMPANION. Regular value up to \$10. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$2.50 | JAPANESE TEA CADDY, made of brass. Regular \$2.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$1.00 |
| FANCY METAL HORSESHOE GONG. Regular price \$10. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$2.50 | TOBACCO JARS, made of Japanese brass. Regular \$2. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$1.00 |
| FANCY METAL GONG, with oak base, decorated figure. Regular \$6.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$2.50 | CRUMB TRAY AND BRUSH, made of oak, metal handle. Regular \$1.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$1.00 |
| FANCY METAL GONG, on Brass feet. Regular value \$6.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$2.50 | INK WELL, square cut glass. Regular \$2.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$1.00 |
| FANCY METAL GONG, bell-shaped, with oak base. Regular \$7.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$2.50 | METAL PICTURE FRAME, fancy trimmings. Regular \$3.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$1.00 |
| FANCY METAL FLOWER POT HOLDER, with metal loose lining. Owl decoration. Regular \$7.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$2.50 | BRASS CRUMB SCRAPERS. Regular \$2. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$1.00 |
| HEAVY BRASS VASES. Regular \$8.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$2.50 | OAK LETTER BOX. Regular \$2. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$1.00 |
| | FANCY WORK BOX. Regular \$3. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$1.00 |
| | BRASS IRON STAND, two wells. Regular \$2.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7:30 \$1.00 |

Extra Special at 7.30 This Evening MEN'S FOOTWEAR

Regular \$6.50 to \$8.75. For **\$2.50**

THIS EVENING we are putting on sale a number of broken lines of MEN'S BOOTS. This lot includes Men's Patent Leather Box Calf and Cordovan Lace Boots, Men's Patent Calf, Blucher Lace Boots, with Matt Kid Top, Men's Box Calf Lace Boots, and Men's English Cordovan Lace Boots, and Men's English Satin Calf Lace Boots. Regular price \$3.75, \$4.00, \$5.00 and \$6.50, at **\$2.50** 7.30 THIS EVENING, per pair.

Extra Special at 7.30 This Evening Something For The Little Ones

In this great event we have not forgotten the little ones, and the business of the home attend those who have paid their of not less than \$2.50 will be in the meeting. Those which scribble may do so at any time. Mr. Scowcroft, bell the city hall throughout the

FURNITURE SETS. Regular \$1.50. For 25c	BOXES containing doll bed, chair and wash tub and bath. Regular 50c. For 25c
TEA SETS made of tin with printed pictures on them. Jack and Jill. Regular 50c. and 75c. For 25c	IRONING SETS. Regular 50c. For 25c
	KID BODY DOLLS. Regular 50c. For 25c

Special Bargains Await Early Shoppers in Men's Dept.--7.30 To-night

LEATHER SUIT CASES, light and dark tan, with and without straps; sizes 22, 24 and 26. Regular values \$7 to \$8.50. THIS EVENING 7.30 **\$4.75**

MEN'S HEAVY RIBBED COTTON UNDERWEAR, all sizes. Special THIS EVENING 7.30 **75c**

MEN'S HATS, in soft fedoras, crush, flat top and stiff, all the latest styles. Regular prices \$2.50 to \$3. THIS EVENING 7.30 **\$1.50**

MEN'S HEAVY BLACK WOOL HOSE; sizes 10 1/2 only. Regular value 25c. THIS EVENING 7.30, 2 pairs for **25c**

Extra Special From the Book Department at 7.30 To-night

A very large assortment of the Padded Poets, which includes the works of every poet of note, such as Tennyson, Longfellow, Goethe, Byron, Holmes, Meredith, Lowell, Browning, Milton and a number of others, all nicely bound in leather, gilt edges, and very nicely printed. Regular \$1.25. TO-NIGHT AT 7.30 **50c**

Also a splendid Range of Gift Books, nicely illustrated, well bound—just the kind for a Christmas present. Regular prices \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.50. TO-NIGHT AT 7.30 **50c**

Special Sale of Ladies' Black Silk Winter Underskirts

Regular Values \$5.75. **Tuesday Morning, \$3.50**

THIS IS INDEED A VERY TIMELY OFFERING. Just think, right at the beginning of the Season when these kind of SKIRTS are wanted. They are made with 14 inch flounce, tucked and shirred, giving full French Ripple effect, and are made of extra **\$3.50** good quality taffeta. The Regular Price was \$5.75. Special TUESDAY

Extra Special, 7.30 LADIES' TWEED SKIRTS, in dark grey, fawn and blue. Special To-night **\$1.90**

DAVID SPENCER, Ltd

Extra Special, 7.30 LADIES' TWEED SKIRTS, in dark grey, fawn and blue. Special To-night **\$1.90**

Perfection



ALWAYS OF LEAD PACKETS ON HIGH

LOCAL NEWS

(From Friday's Daily) —Stewart Williams, secretary of the Victoria Society, requests that those subscribed for the Homer-Kubelik-Witherspoon series will forward cheques for the same without delay.

—After weeks of real hard plam Lyon Mackenzie King, deputy minister of labor, coast for Ottawa, where he gave a special report on a question to be presented to the interest of the college. King, accompanied by his secretary, who has been rushing the transcription of graphic reports.

—Rev. A. E. Heathering, B. D., of Columbia College, minister, will preach in the Methodist church on Sunday the interest of the college. King, who is one of the foremost in the province, and doubt number will turn out to be of the education of the church. He will arrive from Vancouver evening, and will be a pastor, Rev. A. E. Roberts.

—The funeral of the late Beatrice Appleton, who died the Jubilee hospital, will residence, Gordon Head, at tomorrow, and proceed to the church, where services will be conducted at 2 p.m. From the church will proceed to Ross Bay where the interment will be made. Friends desiring to have out may leave them with Funeral Furnishing Company street, not later than tomorrow, who will see to the interment at the house.

(From Saturday's Daily) —As a result of examination held by W. F. Robertson, mineralogist at H. Carrington, vicinal geologist; A. S. Latton, and M. Richmond, have been admitted to the assaying in British Columbia.

—Yesterday afternoon at the funeral of the late Thomas took place from Hamilton room. Rev. J. Stanley Arden the services. A large number were present, and the floor were numerous. The following pallbearers: C. Stearns, Davey, J. T. McIlmura, John and G. Gowley.

—The annual general meeting of the Protestant Home will be held in the Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The meeting will be held in the home of the home attend those who have paid their of not less than \$2.50 will be in the meeting. Those which scribble may do so at any time. Mr. Scowcroft, bell the city hall throughout the

—L. Blackburn, basso cantus, has been touring Canada with Mr. Haughton, solo voice concert recitals, will sing "Abide With Me," at the Presbyterian church, tomorrow. Mr. Blackburn has given England and the continent Africa, Canada and the west and is now on his way to He has a voice of great range. He may give a recital leaving the city.

—The monthly social of of Christian Endeavor of Presbyterian church, Victoria was held last evening at Mrs. Walter Willicroft's. There was a very large attendance of young people and their friends. Most enjoyable evening was evening, passed away in games and music. Mrs. Kenzie carried off the prize. Scriptural conundrum. Dainties were served at the

—The management of Woman's Home desire to extend thanks to the following friends who resolved during Nov. M. E. McTavish, cash \$5.00; per. cash \$5.00; Crossley a cash \$5.00; St. Luke's church vegetables; Mrs. James sock apples; Mrs. (Captain) chickens; Mrs. Becker, tow Pither, cape; Metropolitan Ladies' Guild, bread, butter cakes; Helsterman & Co. and Colonist, daily papers.

—Rev. Christopher Bump the Central Baptist church give a course of lectures in connection with the Young People of the church on alternate evenings. The general subject Bible From Writings. The Bible is divided as follows: The out the Bible; the world's Bible; the Bible compared sacred writings; the Bible; the Divine origin of the human element in the grouping of the Old Testament; the geography of the Bible present; the unity of the Testaments; the manuscript of the Bible; the study of the Bible; the first lecture will be held on Monday evening in noisy hall, View street. A general invitation is extended.