Local News

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

Portland Fair.—The travel to the Portland fair from this section is expected to be big this week, as this is termed "B. C. week" at the exposition. Many Victorians have already visited the Oregon city, and in addition there will be excursions from Vancouver and Nelson during the week. The Northern Pacific Railway Company are selling tickets for Portland at reduced rates, charging one and a third fares from Victoria for the round trip.

Visiting Portland.—On Sunday Mr. E. Scholefield left for Portland, where he will attend the annual convention of the American Library Association, of which he is a member. Mr. Scholefield is provincial librarian, and also one of the commissioners of our Carnegie library, and will gather new ideas which will be suggested to him while away.

Work on Hotel.—Work is progressing favorably at the new C.P.R. hotel. Yesterday a gang of men were engaged in erecting a new derrick, while another was employed in installing the compressed air plant, which will be used for the drills and riveters on the steel work. The actual work on the building will be begun in the course of a few days.

The Railway Change.—The E. & N. railway and local C.P.R. offices are now amalgamated, the business of both passing into the management of George L. Courtney, formerly of the E. & N. road. Mr. Courtney succeeds Hamilton Abbott in the local agency of the C.P.R. company, and henceforth the E. & N. railway will be officially known as the Vancouver Island division of the Canadian Pacific railway. Through the change Mr. Courtney will make his headquarters in the office on Government street.

Entertain Newspapermen—The party of Washington newspaper correspondents now touring Canada are due to reach Victoria on Friday next, when they will be taken in hand by the Tourist Association and shown the beauty spots of the city—the tally-ho coaches and several automobiles being probably utilized for the purpose. Much regret is felt at the circumstance that only a brief stay will be made by such an influential party, which comprises some of the ablest press correspondents on the continent.

Station Burglarized.—Some days ago an entrance was forced into the E. & N. station at Duncans, and with a jimmy the cupboard in which Mr. Williams keeps his tickets and small change was pried open. The burglar, however, found only about $3 in 5 and 10 cent pieces, as Mr. Williams always locks up the day's business in the safe. So far the police have found no clue to the robber.

Customs Statistics.—The total revenue collected at the Victoria customs house during the month of June amounted to $61,063.11. Of this sum, $60,843.78 represented duty. Only $9 was taken from Chinese sources, while the balance was received in a number of small ways. The domestic exports in June aggregated $40,551, and the foreign $24,933. The dutiable imports amounted to $210,957, and the free $54,161.

Hotels Busy.—The local hotels are rushed with business, and the lists of guests are longer than ever in the history of the city at this time of year. The busy two months are only commencing, and it is expected that during July and August unprecedentedly large crowds will visit the Pacific Coast. The C. P. R. has already booked 1,800 Pullman passengers, and a number of large and important parties will make excursions to Victoria during the next few weeks.

Victoria's "Commuters." — Victoria has now joined the list of cities which have their community of "commuters." This is evidenced each evening about 6 o'clock, when the procession of running men, laden with sundry parcels and packages, make their daily rush for the suburban train at the E. & N. station. The number of commutation tickest already issued has gone into the hundreds, a fact in itself showing that the suburban train is filling the proverbial "long-felt want."

"Attracting" Industries.—Apropos of the discussions which have taken place in Victoria respecting the desirability of bonusing industries, the following from the Vancouver Province is of interest: "An important decision of the committee was that the city council be asked to appoint a special committee which should deal with the general question of "attracting" industries to Vancouver. There was a suggestion that the committee of the council should be asked to devise the best methods to "bonus" industries. The word "bonus" did not meet with the approval of some of the aldermen, and so it was shelved in favor of the word "attract."

Many Indians Here.—According to their annual custom, there is a large number of Indians in the city from the West Coast, on their way to the Fraser river canneries. There is considerable rivalry among the representatives of the different canneries to secure the klootchmen for the work inside the canneries, some of the representatives giving as much as $2 each for "potlatch money." In the majority of cases this present is used to buy the necessaries of life, but in others it is used for whikey, and Constable Deasy is having his hands full in preventing them from getting the "fire water." The Indians use every method to deceive the constable, but he manages to keep his eye on them.

Esquimalt Cannery Starts. — The traps being operated in connection with the cannery of Messrs. Todd & Munsie at Esquimalt are to be lifted today for the first time, and it is expected that the cannery at Esquimalt will commence operations when the fish taken from the traps are delivered there tomorrow. The tugs Squid and Cascade have arrived from the Mainland to convey salmon taken by the traps of the Capital City Canning & Packing Co. to the Mainland. The Squid will take the fish to the St. Mungo cannery, on the Fraser, and the Cascade will carry fish to the Fraser consigned to the British Columbia Packers' Association.

A Daily Mail.—As a result of the complaints made by the board of trade, the local post office authorities took up the matter of a daily mail service between Victoria and Seattle with the superintendent of this division of the mail service at Vancouver, and it has been arranged that a mail will be carried on Mondays—the layover day of the steamer Whatcom—by the steamer Princess Victoria. The mail will arrive in the early morning of Monday by the Princess Victoria, and will be taken to Seattle by the same boat, leaving at 6:45 p. m. The mail will close at 6:30 p. m. Yesterday the steamer Whatcom, which has the mail contract and carries the mail on other days than Monday, made a special trip, and she brought no mail owing to the trip not being a regular one.

Tourist Travel Heavy. — Tourist travel was never heavier than at present. Every day large numbers of people pass through, either coming or going to the Portland exposition, and in addition there are the usual travelers to and from the Orient, or sightseers who are making the trip to the Coast from various parts of the East. Trains and boats have large numbers of passengers, and it is not unusual for the incoming trains to arrive in two sections at Vancouver. The steamer Princess Victoria, which is justly the pride of the Canadian coast cities, has an unusually large list of passengers every day, and only a boat of its capacity could afford the accommodation. The triangular trip between Vancouver, Victoria and Seattle is very popular, and the boat's capacity for speed is the subject of many favorable comments among visitors.

Alaska the Mecca. — Southeastern Alaska will be the Mecca for tourists traveling westward to attend the Lewis and Clark exposition during the months of July and August. So great has been the demand for special excursions, the Alaska Steamship Company several weeks ago decided to run the Black Ball liners Jefferson and Dolphin on four special trips in the month of July. All reservations for the voyage, have about been taken, and it is estimated that between 500 and 600 men and women in every walk of life will travel to Alaska on the vessels. The Pacific Coast Steamship Company is also handling many excursionists this season. The Spokane is making six round trips, and the steamer City of Seattle leaves this month with the members of the National Library Association. There is hardly a voyage in the summer months but from ten to a dozen persons make the round trip for pleasure.

Heroic Rescue.—Two lives were saved at Vancouver on Saturday afternoon by the heroism of Quartermaster William Hadley of the R. M. S. Empress of China. He was sitting on the taffrail when suddenly he heard a cry as if someone had fallen overboard. He sprang to the side of the ship and saw struggling in the water near the dock a young man who had hold of a little girl. He immediately ran down the gangplank to the end of the wharf and sprang into the water. The young man had apparently lost his presence of mind, and, struggling for life, was holding the little girl under the water. Mr. Hadley with great effort separated the two, and concentrated his attention on the little girl, whom he took in one arm. In the meantime the young man, who had gone under for a minute, came to the surface again, and Mr. Hadley, thrusting out the arm that was free, managed to pinion him against the piles. By this time a number of Mr. Hadley's shipmates arrived on the scene and rescued them both from their perilous position. Quartermaster Hadley will probably be given the Royal Humane Society's medal, for on two former occasions he has saved people from drowning in other places.

To Aid Injured.—Dr. Hart made a quick trip to a logging camp 34 miles from the city on Sunday night in the White automobile driven by Dr. Hutchison, of Hutchison Bros. H. Walton, a logger ,who formerly ran the Colonial hotel on Johnson street, was seriously injured by a log which rolled over his body, and a telegram was sent to Dr. Hart asking him to hurry to the unfortunate man's assistance. Not being informed in the despatch of the nature of the logger's injuries, the doctor hurried. He secured Mr. Hutchison's car, and with the chauffeur driving, made the trip to the camp, eight miles up the Sherringham Point road, in three hours, over eleven miles on. It was found that Walton, who is getting out logs with a partner, had been braced against a felled tree to start another timber rolling, when the strain being released as the timber started to roll, caused the one against which the logger was braced to start. It rolled onto Walton, breaking his collar bone and bruising him severely. Dr. Hart treated the injured man, who is today being brought to the city by a tug for further treatment.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

Bank Clearings.—The total bank clearings for the week ending July 4th, as reported by the Victoria Clearing House, were $808,577.

The Metlakahtla Fire.—Neither the officers of the excursion steamer Spokane nor of the Jefferson, both of which steamers came from points along the Alaska fire zone, brought any information concerning the fate of the mission settlement of Metlakahtla, which was reported to be on fire June 26.

Shows July Peaches.—A. N. Hewitt, of Gordon Head, yesterday placed on exhibition at the rooms of the Tourist Association a number of beautiful ripe peaches, grown on his farm at the place mentioned. They are splendidly developed and of good size and color and an eloquent testimony of the fruit-growing possibilities of that section of the lower Island.

New Cable Laid. — The steamer Trader has completed the work of laying seven miles of cable between Victoria and Port Angeles for the Western Union Telegraph Company. The old cable became disabled last winter and gave considerable trouble, but it is expected that with the new line a thoroughly reliable connection across the straits has been established.

Fires Extinguished.—It is probable that the fires which have been raging in Alaska, and particularly the Southeastern coast and adjacent islands, have been extinguished by the rain which commenced falling over that territory last Wednesday. Two steamers of the Lynn canal fleet reached Seattle on Monday bringing reports that so far as could be learned the forest fires were dying out, and the further report that the smoke which has for the past week or so been hanging over Clarence straits is no longer noticeable.

C.P.R. at Spokane.—According to a despatch from Spokane dated July 3rd, the Canadian Pacific has won the first round in its fight to secure terminal grounds on the north bank of the river in that city for its new line, the Spokane International. In the superior court Judge Huneke instructed the attorneys for the Spokane International to prepare findings of fact in their favor, rejecting the Great Northern suit to secure a 30-foot right-of-way through the new terminal grounds, the court holding that the Spokane International had shown priority of possession and good faith.

Going Into Camp.—Already the seashore at Brighton (Foul) Bay, Oak Bay, Cadboro Bay and Cordova Bay are becoming dotted with white tents of all sizes and shapes. The same is the case all along Kanaka beach, and in the neighborhood of Esquimalt, while the Gorge has not lost anv of its popularity. Shawnigan Lake and other points up the line are as attractive as ever, and with the suburban with special rate announced by the E. & N., many local business men will make their summer headquarters at one of these beautiful resorts.

Welcome Governor McInnes.—A Dawson correspondent under date of June 24th, writes: "W. W. B. McInnes, the new governor of the Yukon, is expected to arrive in Dawson about July 2 or 3. A telegram was received from him yesterday by President E. S. Busby, of the Canadian Club. The executive committee of the Canadian Club will meet this week to settle the date for a public entertainment, and after the decision will wire to Mr. McInnes. It is likely that Mr. McInnes will want to stay at Whitehorse a day or two, and no doubt the citizens of that place will want to entertain him there."

Heavy Exports.—Commercially the fiscal year just closed has been a notable one, chiefly for its heavy exports. In this respect the months of January, February and March were among the heaviest on record, owing to the selling out and shipment of the stores of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo yard. Great quantities of supplies were forwarded to England, and there was also a great deal sold locally, much of which found its way across the boundary line. Domestically the shipment of furs of land and sea, of lumber and of fish, constituted the bulk of that represented in money valuation under this heading.

Planting Salmon Fry.—C. B. Sword, Dominion fisheries inspector, visited Nanaimo on Monday for the purpose of meeting a shipment of Atlantic salmon fry, which was to be placed in Nanaimo lakes. The shipment of fry, which numbered some thirty thousand, arrived early on board the fisheries cruiser Georgia, and were immediately placed in a rig and driven to the lakes, where they were deposited by Mr. Sword. Another and larger shipment will be received in the course of a couple of weeks, which will be placed in waters further up the Island.

Alberni Bye-Election—Referring to the bye-election about to be held in the constituency of Alberni the Nanaimo Free Press says: "The Conservative party goes forth to battle serene in the consciousness of right and principle. In Mr. Wm. Manson they have a candidate of which any community might be proud, a man selected by the unanimous voice of the convention held at Alberni and free from the wirepulling and scheming that has rent in twain the Liberal party in that constituency. The Conservative party views the coming struggle with equanimity and confidence."

Dividend Declared.—According to advices received from Nagasaki and through statements appearing in the Nagasaki press the net profits of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for the six months ending March 31 amounted to $1,485,661. At a recent meeting of the shareholders a dividend of 10 per cent. on the net earnings for the half year and a special dividend of 2 per cent. per annum were declared. It is reported that the company has ordered two steamers from England of about 2,500 tons gross each. The vessels will be for service in North China ports. At the conclusion of the war the Nippon Yusen Kaisha will perhaps establish services to Calcutta and Java.

Boston Excursionists Coming.—One of the largest excursion parties, the Boston Library Association of Boston, traveling in a special train, will probably visit Victoria next week. The party reached Seattle on Sunday over the C.P.R. from St. Paul and left for Tacoma, en route to the Lewis and Clark Exposition at Portland. They will return to Seattle and embark there on a trip to Alaska on the steamer City of Seattle. It is likely that Victoria and Vancouver will be visited en route north. This is the second Raymond-Whitcomb excursion this season, a small party of New York tourists having spent several days in the city a few weeks ago.

Tourist Association.—At the annual meeting of the Vancouver Tourist Association, the report of the treasurer, Mr. J. J. Banfield, which was unanimously adopted, showed total receipts of $5,310.50 and expenditure of $5,380.43. The balance in hand is $487.14, while there are unpaid liabilities of about $250. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: Hon. president, His Worship Mayor Buscombe; president, H. C. Clarke; vice-presidents, F. J. Proctor, W. C. Nichol; hon. treasurer, J. J. Banfield; executive committee, Dr. R. D. Grant, R. K. Honigate, W. D. Haywood, Campbell Sweeny, E. J. Coyle, Wm. Godfrey, B. F. Dickens and R. J. Lecke; secretary, W. E. Flumerfelt.

Watched Longest Day.—At the Yukon capital on June 22, five hundred people ascended Moosehide Dome, the towering peak back of Dawson, to view old Sol making his longest daylight sprint of the year. It was the annual pilgrimage of Dawsonites to the highest elevation in the vicinity. Leaving Dawson about 8 o'clock the majority were at the summit an hour and a half or two hours later, after an easy climb. A great number of the climbers were women, and perhaps half or more were children. The youngsters were the hardiest and most nimble actors in the play. Several saddle horses and a number of pack animals were taken up, and Dr. Varick, the dentist, sent up a wagonload of beer, sandwiches and the like, and fed the host. Everybody joined in the feast, and had a great time.

The Salmon Pack.—The Vancouver World expresses the belief that no matter how freely the salmon ascend the Fraser this year the total pack will be about 25 per cent. less than it was in the year of the last big run, 1901. The total number of cases put up then in all British Columbia was about 1,230,000. This year it will not be more than a million all told. Some canneries have been closed down and others have passed a self-denying ordinance which they must perforce keep because when they reach the limit assigned they will have nothing left to put the fish up in. The Fraser river canneries have made preparations to pack between 750,000 and 800,000 cases and the remaining canneries about a quarter of a million more. Consequently when the supplies of tinplate and so forth are exhausted, the salmon may go on their way up the river rejoicing—that is if there any to go.

Leaving for Vernon.—Rev. Mr. Lambert, who has been in the city attending the convention of the Episcopal church, afterwards remaining in consequence of the illness of his wife at the Jubilee hospital, left this morning for Vernon. He is returning to take up his duties as examiner for McMaster's University of Toronto. The reverend gentleman has been a guest at "Maplehurst" with Hon. Mr. Walkem. He was minor canon of Hereford Cathedral, England, and is rural dean of Kootenay. The many friends of Mrs. Lambert will be pleased to learn that she is convalescing after a long and severe illness and will shortly be able to return home completely restored to health. During Mr. Lambert's stay here he was much admired for his musical accomplishments, having a voice of rare depth and volume. He on numerous occasions conducted in England several important classical oratorios—amongst them the "Creation" and "Messiah," in which as many as 300 or 400 performers took part, and which are supported by the nobility and gentry of England.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

Equipping Sawmill.—On the last up-trip of the Queen City to Alberni she took a quantity of heavy machinery for R. N. Wood's new sawmill at Alberni. They are now at work cutting lumber for the sawmill sheds, and he is expediting the work in order to fill a requisition for considerable lumber from the newly started Johnson fish saltery, Barkley Sound.

Dominion Fair Feature.—Rev. A. Silva White, of Nanaimo, has received official notification from the Westminster Dominion fair management that the proposal made by him for a demonstration by the Church Lads' Brigade will form part of the programme and will likely be on children's day, the date of which, however, has not yet been definitely fixed.

Welcomed at Dawson.—According to a special despatch from Dawson Commissioner McInnes had a great reception when he arrived there on Monday last. In reply to addresses of welcome the new commissioner made a speech, saying that although a Liberal he was not a Liberal official, but the executive of the territory, and should recognize no political party or faction. His first official act was to declare a half holiday for the Fourth of July celebration.

Oyster Beds Leased.—The Vancouver News-Advertiser states that word has been received that the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works has decided to grant a lease of the oyster beds at Blunden Harbor to a local syndicate in which several employees of the Union Steamship Company are interested. The owners, it is understood, intend to immediately proceed with the cultivation of the beds.

Wedding at Alberni.—At Alberni on Saturday evening last Mr. Robt. Orr was married to Miss Maggie Shaw, daughter of Alexander Shaw of Alberni. Rev. Mr. Glassford performed the ceremony and the bride, who was given away by her father, was supported by Mrs. A. Dawson, Mr. D. McDonald of Bamfield being best man. Mr. Orr is one of the most enterprising farmers in the Alberni district, and both bride and groom enjoy a large circle of friends.

West Coast Mines.—There is much activity in mining circles on the West Coast, and several very promising properties are being extensively developed. M. A. Ward, proprietor of the Arlington hotel at Alberni, who owns the Hetty Green mine, in partnership with Mr. Thompson on Deer creek, Alberni, reports that the property is already paying its way, and promises to be a valuable producer in a short time.

Asylum Returns.—According to the returns from the Provincial Hospital for the Insane, it is shown that the number of patients undergoing treatment in the institution continues to grow larger. At the commencement of the month there were only 837 patients in the institution, 96 of whom were women and 241 men. At the close of June the number, despite deaths and discharges, had increased to 844.

Were Not Deported.—Two Chinamen who had been ordered to be deported on the Empress of China as suffering from trachoma were released at Victoria just before the vessel sailed. Their release was obtained through Mr. G. F. Cane, of Vancouver, who secured a writ of habeas corpus from Chief Justice Hunter. The grounds urged for their release are that they are British subjects and have resided here for a number of years and so cannot be deported. The case will be argued on Saturday.

The Cutworm.—Although as far as present information goes the cutworm has not put in an appearance around the farming districts of Victoria, but the Nanaimo Free Press says: "The cutworm is reported getting in its destructive work on an extensive scale this season among the cabbages and other vegetables both in this vicinity and on the Cumberland district. The worm has a big appetite and everything goes. Consequently a great deal of care will be necessary by people having gardens if they wish to save their vegetable crops."

New Fishing Ground.—C. M. Beecher, of Vancouver, spent a few days at the end of June at his cottage on Salmon river. He had some good fishing, taking seven or eight brace of trout a day, averaging one and a half to two pounds. Salmon river is on Vancouver Island, to the north of Campbell river, famous for its Tyee salmon. In August these grand fish will sometimes take the fly in the tidal water at the mouth of Salmon river. On one occasion Mr. Beecher and his party of three, in an afternoon, landed four salmon, and lost three, all of which took the fly. These fish were more like the Tyee than any of the other varieties.

The Coal Market.—According to Harrison's (San Francisco) coal report no material change of values has been made because of the strike. The total deliveries of Australian coal this month foot up 4,720 tons; last year they were 9,778 tons; so far this month the arrivals from British Columbia amount to 28,231 tons, last year 16,966 tons. The quantity of coal here in wholesalers' hands is very light, the sales for domestic uses are gradually diminishing. Fuel oil is freely offered at current rates, and is controlling four-fifths of the steam trade. The outlook for an early settlement of the labor troubles now existing in British Columbia looks encouraging.

Canning by Electricity.—The succulent sockeye is to be canned by electricity within the next fortnight in some of the big canneries along the Fraser. The inauguration of fast hourly communication by means of an electric car service between Vancouver and Stevenston is but the first step in what may be termed an era of electric development in the cannery town. For arrangements are now being made by the British Columbia Electric Railway Company to supply electric light and power for all purposes, and at a rate that will place cheap and reliable power at the disposal of even the smallest manufacturer.

Important Discovery.—Correspondence of the Associated Press from Honolulu, dated June 28th, contains the following of especial interest to British Columbians: A letter bearing the signature of George Vancouver, the great explorer, has been found among documents found among the archives of Hawaii. It was written in 1794, and is a testimonial left by the explorer with King Kanehameha, the Great, testifying to his peaceful disposition and kind treatment of Vancouver and his men. The document is well preserved. Many other similar relics have been found, among them being numerous treaties with the various people of the world by the Hawaiian monarch. There are also letters signed by the Hawaiian kings of the early part of the last century showing their allegiance to Great Britain, and one from the first Kamehameha to King George the III. telling him of the complete conquest of all the Hawaiian group by the island king. Vancouver's letter tells of a meeting of chiefs at which the sovereignty of Great Britain was acknowledged.

Located at Goldfields.—Frank A. Thompson, a former Victorian, a son of Capt. Thompson, the inspector of steamboats, was amongst the visiting members of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, who left last evening en route to Dawson. He has a position with a big company at Goldfields, Nevada. Since leaving Victoria, Mr. Thompson has had a varied experience in a mining way. First he went to Crofton, where he was connected with the smelter of the Northwestern Smelting & Refining Co. From there he proceeded to Colorado and Montana and next to Goldfields. Mr. Thompson is metallurgical engineer and superintendent of the New Western Reduction Co., which has installed a sampling and customs mill. Smelting ore is shipped to San Francisco for treatment. Most of the capital invested at Goldfields comes from Colorado and Montana. Within the past eighteen months five million dollars worth of gold has been taken from these gold fields, and there is a considerable area that has not been touched.

Touring the Province.—John Innis and J. P. McConnell, two well known journalists from Toronto, are in the West. Mr. Innis is an old Calgary man and an artist of considerable merit as well as a clever writer. He has portrayed the life of the West in many paintings and drawings. Among his best known works are two scenes entitled "On the Edge of the Herd" and "Sweet Grass." He was correspondent for the Toronto Mail and Empire in South Africa during the war and made many drawings, but of late has been doing portrait work. Messrs. Innis and McConnell are now free lances. They will journey to Kamloops, where they will outfit a pack train and go south into the Similkameen country, where they will spend a few weeks and then proceed north into the Cariboo district.

Metlakahtla is Safe.—Reports published to the effect that the town of Metlakahtla, the Indian village on Anette Island, in Southeastern Alaska, had been destroyed by fire were erroneous. Ex-Governor A. P. Swineford, of Ketchikan, stated that the stories given publicity were unfounded. "There were several bad fires in the woods," he explained, "but there was nothing to the statement about the town being burned out. There were only two buildings destroyed, the house in which Missionary Gould lived and a deserted cabin. The town itself was in no serious danger at any time."

A Quesnel Wedding.—At Quesnel, B. C., on June 28, the marriage took place of W. F. Manson, on the operating staff of the Yukon telegraph line, to Mrs. M. McNaughton, well known to British Columbians as authoress of several works dealing with life in the early days in this province. The church was crowded with friends of the contracting parties, and the bride, who was the recipient of many handsome gifts, was attired in a costume of cream silk, shot with rose, of the style of Louis XVI., which had been imported from Europe; picture hat to match, and wore a pearl-studded heart brooch set with rubies, the gift of the groom. The honeymoon is being spent at Cottonwood, B. C.

After Big Game.—Among those who have been attracted to British Columbia by the reports of the good shooting which can be secured, are A. E. Melthudy and O. G. Dietz, of St. Louis. These gentlemen are at present registered at the Victoria, waiting for the steamer for the North. They will go as far as Fort Simpson, where guides will be secured. It is their intention to only go after big game, no shotguns being taken with the outfit. The principal trophies looked for are mountain goat, grizzly bear and moose. Besides looking for big game, fishing will also take up some of their time. The two gentlemen are active members of the American Gun Club, of St. Louis, and devote a good deal of their time to shooting and fishing. They are highly pleased with the delightful climate of this city. Unable to remain a single day without some kind of sport, they yesterday tried their luck at salmon trolling, but without success. Since leaving St. Louis they have visited Dewar Lake, Portland and Seattle, and on their present trip will be gone about four weeks.

Chief Cooper Resigns.—The Indians of the Songhees reserve are at present without a chief, and have been in this state since the 1st of the present month. Michael Cooper, who was chief, handed in his resignation on Friday last, to take effect on July 1. The cause of Cooper's resignation is a dispute between the chief and Willie Jack, who he claimed has been trying for the last few years to oust the chief from his position. The honor of being chief is not given from father to son, but is the result of an election. Chief Cooper was elected for the first time in 1894, and has served three terms, now being in his fourth. He is the third chief since the time of Chief Fraser, who signed the treaty with Sir James Douglas. The result of the resignation of the chief will be another election, and the members of the tribe are not taking favorably to the prospective new chief, who is Willie Jack. Cooper is well liked by the members of the tribe, and an endeavor will be made to induce him to stand for re-election, which will take place in the fall after the return of the fishermen from the canneries. Although the members want Cooper to try for election again, he is very emphatic on the point and says he does not want to be chief, as there is nothing in it. He has to work the same as any other member in order to live. Cooper is quite contented to relinquish his title, as it does not get him anything, and he can make more by working.

Increased Subsidy For Mail Steamers

Improvements Being Suggested for Canadian-Australian Service Now Higher Paid.

New Turbine Steamer and the Moeraki May Run to Victoria.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

The subsidy to the Canadian-Australian line has been increased $30,000 a year, the amount paid the steamship company formed by the New Zealand S. S. Co., which owns the Miowera and Aorangi, and the Union S. S. Co., which owns the Moana, being $330,000 a year for a monthly mail service between Australia and Canada.

News to this effect was received by the steamer Miowera, which reached port yesterday after a fast passage. The steamer left Sydney on June 10th and brought a full complement of passengers, as well as much freight. So crowded was the steamer that three passengers were in each stateroom, and many were given sleeping accommodation in the social hall and saloons. The steamers have been crowded for the last five trips, having had to refuse passengers.

According to J. S. Larke, Canadian trade commissioner in Australia, who was a passenger on the steamer yesterday, the Australian government wishes to have this line improved, and made the great mail route to England and Europe. Much influence is being brought to bear upon behalf of the San Francisco service, but the Australians favor the "All-Red" route. They seek to have a fast steamship service across the Pacific, which will assist in landing the mails in London faster than can be done via the Indian ocean. But the Australians are averse to having the steamers call at New Zealand. They seek a direct service from Australian ports.

The trouble is that the present business does not warrant the placing of another line, but the government is anxious for an improvement and subsidies may be increased to allow of steamers being built. A new turbine steamer is being built in England to be delivered in May next, and this vessel may make her first trip in this service. If arrangements can be made when the height of the season is near, next summer it is probable that the new steamer and the Manuka, which has already visited Victoria, and the Moeraki, a vessel equally fine, will form the fleet in service. There are difficulties in the way, in that the Union S. S. Co., which operates the steamers mentioned, has but one of its steamers in the Canadian-Australian service, the Moana. If the New Zealand S. S. Co. could be induced to take off their two vessels the matter could be arranged.

Mr. Mills, who conducted the negotiations with the Australian postal authorities, which resulted in the increased subsidy for the line, asks $100,000 a year further increase for his company if the service was to be improved. An arrangement was made for the continuance of the contract for a year from August 1st. Under the contract which ended this year, the company received $900,000, of which Canada contributed slightly over $170,000, New South Wales and Queensland about $120,000, and Fiji the balance. To this sum now is to be added $30,000 a year, of which Canada will contribute half. The original contract was for three years. This, just made, is for a year, the ports of call remaining as at present for the ensuing twelve months. To provide a faster and more frequent service the company asked an additional $100,000 subsidy, which proposal was declined. Unless three months' notice is given before July 31st of next year the arrangement will hold for the following year.

The steamer brought among her passengers C. J. Maujer, ex-mayor of Essenden, a suburb of Melbourne, and a prominent Australian manufacturer. His brother is one of the leading protectionist members of the Victoria legislature. Another notable passenger was A. S. Patterson, Australian director for Massey-Harris & Co., the Toronto manufacturers. The passage was an uneventful one.

THE CARMENCITA.

Was Off Attu on May 13 With Forty Skins—Four Men Desert.

A report has been received in Victoria by the steamer Venture that the sealing schooner Carmencita, on which is Capt. McLean, who has been indicted at San Francisco in company with the owners of the schooner for conspiracy to take seals illegally, was off Attu on May 13th. Four men went ashore at Attu in one of the schooner's boats and deserted from the Carmencita. The Carmencita had forty skins on May 13th, when they left the vessel. A United States revenue cutter is reported to be searching for the Carmencita in order to arrest McLean.

BARON KOMURA COMING.

Is Passenger on Minnesota, Due on Puget Sound July 20.

The Great Northern Steamship Co. has been advised that Baron Komura and his staff have embarked on the steamer Minnesota for this ocast, en route to Washington for the peace negotiations. The party is expected to arrive by July 20. It is not known whether the steamer will call here. She is reported to be bringing the Chinese crew for the steamer Dakota, but it is understood that an effort will be made to put them on board the steamer at Seattle, instead of at Victoria, as was intended.

Komura is a man well fitted for the responsible position for which his government has selected him. He graduated from Harvard university in 1877, being the first Japanese student to receive the degree of bachelor of laws from that institution. He was in charge of the negotiations with Russia relative to Manchuria prior to the present conflict.

In 1894 Baron Komura was secretary of the Japanese legation in Peking, and was later made governor of Antung, one of the captured provinces. He was later appointed minister to Korea, and later vice-minister of foreign affairs in Tokyo. For a year, from 1898 to 1900, he was minister to the United States, and made a host of friends in Washington during that time. Upon leaving Washington he was sent as minister to Russia, and stayed there until the Boxer troubles in November, 1901, he was appointed to his present post.

FOR SKAGWAY.

Princess May Goes North—Will Carry Mining Engineers.

Steamer Princess May, Captain McLeod, left last night for Ladysmith to coal, and thence she will proceed to Vancouver, en route north with the members of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, who were in session here yesterday. The mining men were passengers to Vancouver by the steamer Charmer which sailed last night, and will embark on the Princess May at Vancouver. The party, which numbers 95, will visit Atlin and Dawson. Great preparations are being made for their entertainment in the North.

PROROGATION IN SIGHT.

Budget Speech on Thursday and Recess About 15th.

Ottawa, July 5.—(Special.)—Hon. Mr. Fielding announced last night that the budget speech will be delivered Thursday. Prorogation will take place by the fifteenth.

AN UNNATURAL FATHER.

Confesses to Poisoning His Twelve-Year-Old Son.

Trenton, N.J., July 4.—Gustav Clossen, of Morrisville, Penna., was today taken to Doylestown, Pa., to answer the charge of having poisoned his 12-year-old son, Walter, some weeks ago. Clossen is said to have confessed to the detectives, who placed him under arrest.

BARON ROSEN ARRIVES.

New York, July 4.—Baron Rosen, the new Russian ambassador to Washington, and one of the two Russian plenipotentiaries to the peace conference, arrived in this city today on the steamer Kaiser Wilhelm II., accompanied by the Baroness Rosen and Miss Rosen, their daughter.

THE "GREEN PERIL" IN FRANCE.

Paris Letter to London Telegraph.

According to one of the anti-absinthe writers, 133,000 hectolitres, or 2,926,000 gallons in round numbers, of the stuff are annually absorbed by French people, men and women, for the women have also learned to like the green peril. Fifty years ago only 735 hectolitres of absinthe were consumed in France. The increase of lunacy is attributed to the deleterious drink. Sixty years ago there were only 10,000 registered lunatics, now there are 60,000. The increase in crime is also traced to the love of absinthe among the masses.

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Lighting Plant is To Be Improved

Details of Manner in Which the Council Proposes to Expend $11,000.

By-law Asking for This Sum Shortly to Be Submitted to the Ratepayers.

In a short time a by-law will be submitted to the ratepayers providing for the authorization of a loan of $11,000 for the purpose of improving the electric light plant of the city. An idea as to the manner in which the money is to be expended will be obtained from a report of the electric light committee of the city council submitted a short time ago, and the recommendations contained in the annual report of the superintendent. The report of the committee was as follows:

"We have examined into the matter and find that the lighting system is at present taxed to its utmost limit, and therefore it is impossible to grant requests for additional lights until such time as the present system may be enlarged. Your committee beg to recommend the following regarding enlargement and improvements to the present system, namely:

"One new dynamo, 230 lights capacity, approximate cost $2,940; 1 exciter, $145; 1 switchboard, $305; belt pulley and clutch and fitting same, $500; 3 transformers of 50 lights capacity, each $1,800; 150 long-burning arc lamps, $4,500; re-arranging circuits, $810. Total, $11,000.

"Your committee find that in the event of this recommendation being adopted and the new lamps installed, that one trimmer could be dispensed with, thereby effecting a saving to the city of $720 per annum. The lamps in use at present only burn 15 hours, and the up-to-date lamps recommended will burn 30 hours, thereby effecting the saving as suggested above."

M. Hutchison, superintendent of the lighting department, in his annual report said:

"I am particularly desirous of directing attention to the necessity of improving and installing extra equipment for street lighting, as the plant has gradually reached the limit of its capacity, and in order to meet the usual demand for extensions of the system (which seem to increase year by year), additional plant will be required. The street lighting system consists of 305 lamps distributed over five separate circuits, the aggregate length of line in said circuits being approximately 95 miles. I give below a statement showing the normal capacity of the various dynamos in use, and the number of lamps operated by each:

"No. 1 dynamo, capacity 60 lights, operating 59 lamps; No. 2 dynamo, capacity 60 lights, operating 57 lamps; No. 3 dynamo, capacity 60 lights, operating 59 lamps; No. 4 dynamo, capacity 100 lights, operating 92 lamps; No. 5 dynamo, capacity 40 lights, operating 38 lamps.

"It will be clear from the above that the dynamos are practically loaded to their full capacity, as line losses reduce the normal capacity about 5 per cent. Of the total number of lamps in regular service—viz., 305—130 are of an obsolete type and constitute our main source of trouble. These lamps were installed in this city in 1889, and at that time were equal to any on the market, but the progress made in electrical apparatus, design and construction has been such as to insure greater reliability and better service generally than was possible in the earlier designs. The manufacture of the earlier types has long since been discontinued, and the only manner in which these lamps can be replaced when damaged beyond repair is to purchase rebuilt second-hand lamps which have been discarded elsewhere owing to the difficulty experienced in operating same satisfactorily. The main aim in street lighting is reliability and continuity of service, and when the system fails to fulfill these conditions, complaints are made, particularly if an interruption of the service takes place. This is, I presume, only what might be expected, owing to the inconvenience experienced. It is unfortunately true, however ,that these complaints are improperly directed in most cases. Freedom from interruption is governed entirely by the facilities provided in the way of reserve capacity in engine, boiler and dynamo capacity. I need hardly mention that the more exacting the service required of a plant of any kind, the greater will be the cost of installation. It is clear that, while the plant installed in the lighting station in 1895 was of good type, the matter of reliability and continuity in service was not in any way provided for, except in the case of boiler plant, where plant of double the actual required capacity was installed. The selection of one engine of 300 horse-power as the sole source of power, instead of dividing the power between two engines of 150 horse-power each, has continually hampered our operations, as we are entirely without resources to bridge over the period required for repairs in case of mishap, to which, it will be conceded, all machinery, particularly that of the high-speed type, is liable."

A proposal is mooted in Winnipeg to divert the course of the Red river, which now divides the city from St. Boniface, and thus annex that town and the suburbs of Norwood and Louise. The plan is quite feasible from an engineering standpoint, but it is doubtful if the citizens would consent to lose their waterfront and add to the monotony of the civic landscape.

At the recent convention of the Associated Boards of Trade of the Territories, held at Regina, one of the subjects of discussion was the salaries of the new provincial cabinet ministers. After some friendly expressions of opinion it was resolved that the convention favored liberal salaries, commensurate with the dignity and responsibility of the positions.

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