

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1894.

THE OPPOSITION'S TACTICS.

The frequent misrepresentations resorted to by Opposition papers in assailing the Government has been a matter of comment in these columns. Only a few of the more flagrant instances have been referred to from time to time, because systematically to attempt to expose the deliberate dishonesty of those papers would be to nauseate our readers with its repetition. Succinctly stated, then, their policy seems to be to distort every expression of the members of the Government so as to leave, if possible, a mischievous impression. They have failed to present a vital issue upon which to establish a charge or, while decanting volubly about corruption and what not, to unearth a title of evidence to substantiate their accusations. The avidity with which they seize upon a misprint in a report of a speech shows the scantiness of material at their disposal and to what extremities they are reduced, and how dishonestly they exercise their talents. With so little to inspire their pens, they tear many a passion to tatters in a manner that would more violently distress the soul of Shakespeare than the histrionic efforts of the poor actors of his own day. When we add to these dishonest tactics, puerile as they are those of insinuation and innuendo, we have fairly summed up the whole policy of the Opposition.

We have already referred several times to the manner in which the News-Advertiser treated a misprint in the Colonist's report of the Premier's speech at Nanaimo, where Mr. Davis was represented as advocating that the Nanaimo coal trade should be confined to San Francisco. This is a striking illustration of what we mean and affords a no less striking proof of the low standard of criticism which such writers have set up. In this style of warfare the News-Advertiser is the undoubted chief, and the Times and Columbian unhesitatingly march to its lead. Even if no correction had been made, and the Premier had actually used the language which might have been so interpreted, no sane man would believe that that was the meaning intended to be conveyed. No member of the Opposition would honestly impute so foolish a sentiment to the Premier, speaking, as he was, right in the centre of the coal industry. Not only would the editor of the News-Advertiser know in his heart if such language had been made use of that it was inadvertent, but he had before him the reports of the Free Press (Opposition) and the Telegram to tell him that such language was not used. Yet, in the face of these, he selected from the whole of Mr. Davis's exhaustive speech a single sentence, and that containing a palpable misprint, as the basis of a long article of invective, and when the fact is brought directly to his notice by an explanation and an explicit contradiction, sustained by proof, he meets it with evasion characteristic of the man's whole journalistic career. What Mr. Davis said and what he meant were alike plain to his hearers. It was a practical exposition of conditions as they existed, and a key to the policy of the Government in relation to the development of the coal deposits of the Interior. Owing to geographical conditions, the coal trade of Nanaimo is confined to the Coast and must in the nature of things continue so to be. On the other hand, such coal fields as those of Nicola, in the Interior, should be developed to supply the country east of the Selkirk. Not that, as the Free Press argues, Nicola would compete with coast coal on the coast, because that is another geographical impossibility, but that it should supply the demands of the country to which it is tributary. The News-Advertiser has not attempted to argue against the wisdom of such a policy; it has, however, in a very trumpery way, inveighed against what was not said and what no sensible man would ever think of saying. We have referred to this matter again to direct attention to the desperate straits in which the Opposition is placed when it has to resort to such frauds on the thinking public whereon to build political hopes of success.

MR. BOWELL'S MISSION.

The Hon. Mr. Bowell evidently made a good impression on those with whom he came in contact in Australia. He is very kindly and most respectfully spoken of by the newspapers, and his mission is regarded as one of much more than ordinary importance. The Sydney Morning Herald, a day or two after his departure, alludes to his visit in the following terms:

"The pleasant 'sending off' given to the Canadian Minister of Trade and Customs on Saturday is the close of an interesting mission. The close of the mission, so far as Australia is concerned, is but the beginning, we confidently hope, of a new page in the history of relations between these colonies and British North America. In several ways Mr. Bowell's coming has been useful. It has given us not only a more vivid and a personal interest in Canada and taught us practically how really desirous the people of that country are to form closer bonds of brotherhood and commercial interchange with us, but the Canadian Minister has furnished a telling object lesson to us on the benefits and possibilities of federation. Mr. Bowell has been surprised and puzzled to find everybody everywhere in favor of federation of the colonies, and still we have no federation. It sometimes seems a puzzle to outsiders that we can see from time to time the various little rocks and stumbling blocks that rise up here and there and temporarily come between us and the goal. But we know as truly as the Canadian Minister has found that we are bound for federation. One visitor exhibited some political shrewdness when he said that perhaps the blocking of federation had come of such one of us being afraid of one man taking the lead and obtaining more credit than the others. If he has not made a

bull's eye he has made a good shot at the truth.

If the Minister of Customs has, while endeavoring to establish better and closer commercial relations between Canada and the Australian colonies, been able in any degree to assist the public-spirited men of those colonies in bringing about the union which is so necessary to their well-being, present and future, every true-hearted Canadian will rejoice. The good of the Empire to which we all belong and are proud of as well as that of Australia, will be furthered when the disjointed colonies of that continent, now foolishly jealous of each other and pulling against each other, are all united in one closely knit federation, having but a single aim and all working harmoniously for the general welfare. When that takes place, as it surely will before very long, the importance of Australia, both in the Empire and in the estimation of the world, will be wonderfully increased. Union in that case will be something more and something better than mere strength. Mr. Bowell may well feel proud if he has in any way aided in bringing about such a consummation.

WANTONLY INSULTING.

Mr. W. T. Stead, the irrepressible, has found that the ladies of Chicago do not regard him as a heaven-sent prophet. A few days ago, when addressing an organization composed of the members of the ladies' club of the city, assembled for the purpose of devising means to relieve the unemployed, he used language which any audience composed of respectable women in any country could not but regard as most offensive. In fact, it is difficult to understand how any man desiring to be considered a gentleman could bring himself to speak as he did. The audience, among whom were the most actively benevolent and most highly cultured women of Chicago, were deeply indignant, and they warmly resented being talked to in a way so utterly unbecoming and so inexcusable. The newspapers have taken the part of the ladies, and have in very plain and very forcible language expressed their opinion of the course pursued by Mr. Stead. The Tribune speaks of "Stead's impertinence," and says: "It is high time that Mr. Stead should be made to understand that his services in the matter of the unemployed are needed no longer in this city, and that it will be a relief from a personal and a benefit from a general point of view when he shakes the dust of Chicago off his feet and turns his face towards new fields for his peculiar style of introducing reforms." This is mild compared with many of the Tribune's expressions, and we must say that we are not surprised at the indignation manifested by the people and the newspapers of Chicago. It is impossible to imagine Mr. Stead speaking in the way he did at the ladies' meeting in Chicago to a similar audience in England. If he should attempt it, we venture to say that, if there were any men present, he would be in danger of being thrown out of a window, or of being forcibly ejected in some other way. Neither English men nor English women would stand much of that kind of offensive nonsense.

VICTORIA'S SEWERAGE SYSTEM.

For a number of years the sewerage system of Victoria has been a subject productive of more discussion in the newspapers, in the City Council and on the platform, than probably any other occupying the attention of the citizens during the same or a similar period. It is safe to say, too, that no other subject affecting the health and well-being of the community is of greater moment. It is one, however, regarding which the greatest diversity of opinion has existed and still exists. From the extensive area to be covered and the necessarily expensive nature of the work to be performed, for successful and complete accomplishment, it was, no matter what system of carrying it out might have been adopted, one requiring the most careful and skilful consideration. The permanency of the undertaking made it absolutely essential that no mistake should be made in the principle of construction or the mode of giving it effect.

As every person in Victoria is aware, a system was inaugurated after mature and very careful deliberation, and to a certain extent carried to completion. Now that the system has been for some time under review, and has given rise to animated and somewhat acrimonious discussion, and as the conduct of the whole matter must enter into the issues of the present municipal campaign, it is desirable to state the considerations which should affect the verdict of the people. As is usual, in a question of this kind, which involves special knowledge, a great deal of misconception has arisen and much has been stated that can only be explained on the assumption that it proceeded from prejudice, factious opposition or lack of knowledge of the subject.

It is difficult to deal publicly with what must be decided by expert evidence and professional advice. Sewerage is purely and simply an engineering problem, and the test of efficiency of any system, in the eyes of laymen, can only be the successful following completion, assuming that it has been carried to completion on the lines laid down in the engineer's recommendations. Only demagogues affect to know all about a subject, the requirements to a full understanding of which are special training and long study.

The present system of sewerage in Victoria has been freely criticized on several scores by a number of laymen. As has been pointed out, assuming them to have been wholly disinterested in their judgment, which in cases may be fairly questioned, they cannot be accepted as the best judgment. The system, which is known as the "separate" system, has been condemned as inadequate, as too expensive and as badly constructed. To all of these statements, and

they are simply statements unsupported by any shadow of proof or the opinion of a single authority on hydraulic engineering, absolute exception must be taken.

From the standpoint of those responsible for the promotion and direction of the present system, it is the one best suited to the requirements and conditions of the city; it is the least expensive, compatible with efficiency and completeness; was thoroughly and carefully designed, and efficiently and economically constructed. These are all claims broadly and strongly made, it is true, but presented after due deliberation. On the other hand, whatever failure may have attended the system as it exists or any dissatisfaction that may have resulted, has arisen from two well-known causes, the insufficiency of the appropriation to complete it on the scale contemplated and necessary in the best interest of the city, and the action of the Council itself in not only failing to sustain the commissioners and the engineer-in-charge in their recommendations, but in obstructing them and pursuing an obstructive and vacillating policy that has been illustrated in every department of civic administration during the past two years. It has been a policy of neglect, and in regard to public and needed works, has brought the name of Victoria into thorough disrepute. The system of sewerage, scientifically and practically a success, has been baulked at every turn and what was in every way well conceived and well executed has led to complication and stagnation.

The plans and specifications of the engineer and his subsequent recommendations and reports carefully and minutely forestalled every objection and guarded against defective operation, and to-day the best evidence of success is that, after over a year's running, not a single stoppage or failure has occurred, notwithstanding the disadvantages under which it has labored. This statement is in accordance with the report of Mr. Wilmot, dated December 18, 1893. The number of connections he reports is 326, and the number of closets is 360, which serves at least a population of 1800. The wonder is, with flush tanks only recently constructed, though urged strongly by the engineer nearly a year before, that stoppages had not occurred.

Reference has been made to the obstacles thrown in the way of the Commissioners and the engineer by the Council. Their monthly reports ended with being read. They were not even discussed, no notice being taken of them, and they served solely to call forth abuse. As a rule the recommendations of the engineer were ignored. It was resolved to tear up the View street drain after the engineers appointed to examine it had reported it in good working order, in which condition it is to-day, and this resolve, disastrous if acted upon, would have been carried into effect had not the Commissioners prevented it. It has been pointed out that flush tanks were only put in recently, and gas check valves, recommended as a protection against sewer gas, are still unattended to. Had the engineer's recommendation for tile drains to be laid in the sewer excavations been adopted a great economy in time and money would have been effected, and the present waste of money for surface drains avoided.

It has been asserted, and much has been made of the contention, that if Mr. Pickering's plans for a combined system had been adopted, the cost, according to his estimate, would have cost only \$460,000, or at most \$500,000, whereas the present system will cost \$5,000,000 before it is completed. The very contractor Mr. Pickering sent out from England to examine the ground returned refusing to accept the work, and complaining that Mr. Pickering's figures were very misleading. When we consider that a large percentage of the excavation is through rock and hard pan and, as we all know, very expensive, and that the combined system involves very much larger mains and consequently increased excavations, it is absurd to talk of that system being the cheaper. More than that, Mr. Mohun's estimate of the entire cost of the single system, complete, is less than one million dollars. Whose statement are we to accept? That of the man who has no professional knowledge of the subject, or that of the engineer upon whose plans the work was undertaken?

The six and one-half miles of mains now completed represent the most difficult and most expensive part of the work. So far, about \$265,000 has been expended in actual outlay in construction, and reference to the statement of expenditure will show that it has been carried out economically. The supervisory cost represents only 3 per cent. of the value of the work, which will compare very favorably with any undertaking of the city that can be pointed to.

Within the limits of a single article, it would be impossible to take up all objections or pursue the subject in all the details. But the contentions presented in outline are capable of demonstration to the letter.

As to the system adopted, there can be no doubt as to its efficiency and comparative economy. It has the support of the most eminent engineers of the present day. It only requires the co-operation of a well-directed Council and of the ratepayers themselves to perfect it on a scale commensurate with the requirements of Victoria and equal to the demands of a population of 100,000 or more persons. A good system of sewerage and drainage is the essential to our health and comfort, and conditions precedent to permanent street improvements. So long as progress is blocked in these directions by faction and civic administration incompetent to comprehensively appreciate the needs of the city and apply itself to the task of reform, so long must it continue to retrograde in public estimation and disrepute, and the expectations of those who first hope was high christened her Queen City.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Vancouver Flooded With Depreciated Foreign Silver—New Artillery Companies.

Coal Mining Accident—Drowned at Lake Nanaimo—The "Gracie" Felicit.

(Special to the Colonist.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, Jan. 4. — Messrs. Bowser and Lovell, who conducted the presentation in the recent cases on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Association, are revising the Pharmacy Act so that future prosecutions may be sustained.

Mr. Frank Humphrey and Miss Delphine Williamson were united in marriage yesterday, the Rev. L. N. Tucker officiating. A mass meeting will be held at the market hall on Saturday night, when the aldermen standing for re-election will address the ratepayers.

Rev. Field Yolland was married yesterday to Miss Louise Cao, daughter of Mrs. Cao of Hestley avenue. The Rev. H. Edwards officiated.

Capt. Townley received from Victoria yesterday, the clothing, rifles and accoutrements for Nos. 5 and 6 batteries, R.C.B.G.A. No officer has been gazetted so that no one is responsible for this issue. Capt. Townley, however, is looking after the clothing, rifles and accoutrements. Over 100 men have enlisted and they are rather impatient with the thought that it will be another month before masters are definitely arranged.

Two rich individuals bought up thousands of dollars of Japanese and Straits settlement silver at 30 cents on the dollar recently and in a few days they flooded Vancouver, getting rid of the coin at its face value. To-day, as if by tacit consent, the banks, merchants, saloons and restaurants refused to accept the imported coin and every one made strenuous and unavailing efforts to get rid of it, for every one had more or less of the suddenly depreciated silver. Over a hundred dollars were sent to Victoria and hundreds of dollars to Winnipeg and the East. Everybody wants to lay a hand on the guilty parties, but beyond the fact of the simple announcement being made that two rich parties are responsible for the general wailing and gnashing of teeth, nothing is known.

The case of Walker vs. Calland was heard to-day before Judge Bole. An action was brought by Harry Walton against A. H. Calland, of Victoria, to recover the amount of an I. O. D. for \$170 given in settlement of a card debt. The debt could not have been collected through the next five months, as Mr. Calland put in no defence. The plaintiff was awarded the full amount with costs.

Judge Bole rendered judgment to-day in the case of J. A. and Dr. McAlpine in their appeal in the pharmacy judgment. It quashes the magistrate's decision.

VANCOUVER, Jan. 5.—Chilian Consul Morris says there are so many applicants from the United States for space at Chill's mining exposition that a special steamer is to be chartered. Mr. Morris is also receiving a very large number of inquiries from Manitoba, British Columbia and other provinces. The exhibits will consist of machinery, power, electricity, extraction of minerals, mechanical preparation of minerals, metallurgy, chemical industries, statistics and plans relating to the working of mines and railways. The Chilian Government is to defray the entire cost of the transportation of exhibits both by sea and land. The mines of Chilian ship annually about 20,000 tons of copper, 320,000 pounds of silver, 1,000 pounds of gold, and 20,000,000 quintals of nitrate.

There is skating at Lake of the Woods just outside the city limits.

Word has been received by Japanese Consul Shemeeze that the House of Representatives has been dissolved by the Emperor, on account of inability to agree over the proposed railway bill. The elections for the House will take place on the 25th inst. In the course of the week the Globe Reporter, a Chinese paper, will be published in Chinatown. The paper will be published by the Vengwan Bo Printing and Publishing Company.

The City of Puebla arrived yesterday light. She took away seven carloads of overland freight.

WESTMINSTER.

NEW WESTMINSTER, Jan. 4.—There were ten degrees of frost here last night and twelve at Ladners, while this skin ice formed on Langley slough.

Delia farmers are going to establish a creamery on the co-operative plan. Owen Salloway, aged 14, was shot in the thigh yesterday, near Mission City by a companion named Fennel, while deer shooting in the bushes. The boy is doing well.

A Chinaman slipped on the frozen sidewalk last night and broke his leg. The steamer Capilano arrived from the North this morning with 70,000 pounds of fresh halibut for the Westminster Fish Co. This is the largest cargo ever brought to a British Columbia port, and was caught in two days fishing. Two carloads of halibut were shipped to New York this afternoon.

NEW WESTMINSTER, Jan. 5.—A dispatch from Chilliwack says the thermometer registers seven degrees of frost and a heavy snowstorm is in progress. In the city last night the thermometer indicated thirteen degrees of frost. There is a regular blizzard this evening.

Premier Davis passed through the city at noon en route to Surrey. The Columbian Methodist college reopened to-day with a number of new students.

Isaac Bate and Miss Clara Belle Archibald, both of Nanaimo, were united in wedlock here on Wednesday by Rev. E. B. Chestnut, Presbyterian minister of Sapperton. The young couple will reside in Nanaimo for the present.

John Munroe McLeod, father of the late J. B. McLeod, the well-known lacrosse player, died this morning from internal injury received by a falling tree on Tuesday last. The deceased was a native of Scotland, but had been in Canada over fifty years. He was 75 years of age.

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, Jan. 4.—The newly organized lodge of Pythian Sisters held a successful "At Home" in the Y. M. C. A. rooms last evening.

Mrs. Peter Sabiston and Miss E. Horne left for California this morning, when they will spend the balance of the winter. Mrs. Sabiston and wife leave for the same place next week.

Patrick Bradley is another candidate for alderman at the coming municipal elections. He will stand for the South ward.

If the necessary expenses can be raised, Chief Soles, of the city fire department,

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—U. S. Gov't Report.

ROYAL Baking Powder
ABSOLUTELY PURE

will be sent to the Midwinter Fair as a representative to the "Fire Chiefs" convention.

Whilst skating on "The lake a mile from Union, last night, Martin Hanson and Miss Rosie Melado fell through. Miss Melado was with difficulty rescued by Hanson, who was with assistance arrived. For some time the body was not recovered. This afternoon the young man was found a few feet from where the break occurred. Hanson was aged nineteen and lived at Union, where he was employed in the mines, with his parents. He has a sister and cousin in this city. The funeral will be held to-morrow.

Magnus Edgar, of Gabriola Island, died this morning after a prolonged illness. Deceased was one of the early pioneers of this city. He arrived here twenty years ago. He was then an employee of the Hudson's Bay Company. For the last twenty years he has been farming on Gabriola Island. He was a native of the Shetland Isles and was aged 57. He leaves a widow and five children. His funeral takes place on Sunday afternoon.

This morning David Hopkins was fatally injured whilst in No. 1 pit, engaged in "breaking" down some coal blocks. When he engaged the prop gave way striking him on the head crushing his skull. He was at once removed to the hospital, where he died two hours later. He was single, aged 35 and a native of Wales.

The Seattle aloop Gracie Felitz arrived here last night and sailed this afternoon for Seattle. Her owner, Mr. Towle, stated to your correspondent that sensational reports regarding his vessel had been sent out from Seattle. They were entirely false, prompted, he believed, by the jealousy of the captains whose yachts his boat had defeated.

The vessel has been almost at the northern end of the island, exposing fine views of the coast and the surrounding waters. Those on board enjoyed plenty of good fishing and hunting, but did no prospecting.

NANAIMO, Jan. 5.—Ald. Joseph Ganner has announced his intention of not seeking re-election.

"Maud Irving," a two-act opera, will be produced at the Opera House by the pupils of the first division of the girls' school on Friday evening.

In the case of Marshall (Belle Johnston) vs. W. H. Philpott, orders to examine plaintiff and defendant on pleadings in the case have been granted. The examination is now proceeding before the deputy registrar of the Supreme court.

Fred Meskin has been appointed a commissioner in lunacy with full powers to manage the estate of E. Meskin, who was recently confined in the Westminister Asylum. The necessary bonds have been made out and filed.

Captain Gaudin, agent of Marine, has inspected the Nanaimo Pilotage returns for 1893. The report shows that five pilots were engaged during the year, the financial statement being as follows:

RECEIPTS.
Balance from 1892.....\$ 243 38
British ships.....3,382 00
Foreign.....16,701 50
Total.....\$20,326 88

PAID TO PILOTS.....\$19,640 75
Expenses of Board.....1,600 75
Balance.....\$ 383 49

The annual ball given by the Caledonian Society takes place this year on the 25th inst., in the Opera House. A strong committee has been appointed to make all arrangements, and it is their intention to make the ball one of the best yet given by the society.

During 1893 the number of cases dealt with at the Police court, including both city and provincial offences, was 448. Of the total 234 were "drunks," incapable, disorderly and otherwise. There were 74 cases of supplying liquor to Indians and having it in possession on Indian premises. The fines from these latter cases amounted to a little over \$4,800, and with the proceeds of the sale of the confiscated steamer Inn, to nearly \$6,000. Thirty-three cases of vagrancy, twenty-eight of vagrancy, twenty-three of assault, and twenty-one breaches of the peace, helped to swell the list. There was one case of bigamy, one of selling beer without license, and three under the Sunday Closing Act.

The inquest on the death of David Hopkins, who was fatally injured in No. 1 pit yesterday, was held to-day. A post mortem was performed by Mr. Jack to a thorough investigation was made, it being clearly shown that the accident was due to the carelessness of the deceased, who, in "breaking," had not used the prop erected for the purpose but another smaller one, less securely fixed. The jury's verdict was: "We find that David Hopkins' death was the result of his own carelessness in the use of the No. 3 level, No. 1 shaft, Esplanade, on the 4th day of January, 1894, by reason of his using a wrong prop in breaking cars down the incline, which prop was pulled out and caused his death, and that there is no one to blame. We recommend that a little more caution should be used by the men working in the mine and those directing them, as to what props to use and lowering cars at the incline."

A meeting of former underground employees of the East Wellington colliery was held to-day to discuss the question of future employment. It was resolved to ask Superintendent Robins, of the New Vancouver Coal Co. to let them go to work in the North and mid. The committee appointed to lay the request before him waited upon Mr. Robins this afternoon. They were courteously received, but informed that, owing to the fact of so many of the company's regular hands being out of work, it was impossible to promise them immediate employment.

VERNON.
(From the Vernon News.)
Hon. F. G. Vernon has just written to R. G. Sidley, J.P., instructing him to at once make a trail over the mountain back of Mr. Haines' house to connect with the road that goes from his place to Camp McKinney. Though this is an awkward time of the year to build a trail it is done to obviate the necessity of the settlers along the boundary line having to traverse U. S. territory in getting in supplies to their exemptions.

A meeting of the Agricultural Society was held in Cameron's hall on Saturday afternoon, December 23, and was well attended by members from town and the surrounding country.

Three more settlers have taken up exemptions on Anahort mountain, and there is room for thirty more. All the settlers are doing well, having had good crops.

SEAWIGAN.
COBBLE HILL, Jan. 5.—The Loyal Seawigian lodge No. 84, C.O.O.F., held their first annual ball at Old Fellows hall, Cobble Hill, on Monday evening, it being a great success. Quite a number of the members and friends were present, and it was pronounced the best ball ever given in the district.

PLUMMER PASS, Jan. 3.—The last twelve months have wrought but little change in this community. Financially the settlement has improved remarkably, and in addition to a store erected in the spring, several new buildings now adorn the place, among which may be classed a large hotel and the Government fog alarm station. The post office statistics for the year indicate a steady commercial progress, and the returns are highly creditable to so small a settlement as the Pass. There has been an increase in crime as compared with other years, as in the spring various depredations were committed by robbers in robbing unoccupied houses, whilst numerous cases of sheep and cattle stealing were reported; but thanks to Superintendent F. S. Hussey, of the Provincial police, officer McNeill has since been stationed here, and is doing good work in remedying the evil.

A larger interest has been taken in sheep raising, and so far with success. Mr. Warburton Pike, of Saturna Island, and W. Grimmer, of Pender Island, are among the latest stock raisers around this district, and it is pleasing to note that this latter gentleman has been most successful with his exhibits at the different fairs. Agricultural pursuits have been diligently followed up and the hay and grain crops were exceedingly good. Attention is being more generally given to the raising of fruit for which these islands are well adapted, and many new orchards have been laid out with high anticipations. The fruit crops, however, was not so good as in former years. The population of the islands has been steadily increasing, Galiano Island more especially receiving its share of emigration, and judging from letters that are received from friends and others as to the locality of the place, more settlers will arrive in the spring.

Sealing, dog fishing and salmon fishing are among the principal occupations engaged in by the young men of the islands. In industry, whilst the transportation of cordwood to the River canneries and cities is attaining prominence. Coal prospecting on the islands took place in the spring and the indications were so good that a syndicate, formed principally of estimators and Vancouver capitalists, undertook to put a shaft hole down on Saturna. Misfortune, however, followed their undertaking, as at a depth of over 100 feet the head of the drill broke, leaving the remainder of the steel in the hole, every endeavor to get it out proving unsuccessful. The company, however, intend renewing their operations, and a diamond drill which has been purchased by them in the East, is at present lying in Vancouver awaiting further developments in the spring.

On behalf of the settlers residing in and around this neighborhood a hearty vote of thanks is accorded Capt. Jaggars of the "Yosemite," Purser Bishop and others of that ship's officers who have throughout the year extended them every courtesy and consideration.

Probably the largest gathering that has been witnessed at a soiree on Mayne Island took place in the schoolroom, after the children's entertainment, on Monday evening, December 25. Over 100 people were present, and the time was well spent in the woods and on the beach.

A case of sheep worrying by dogs has been reported on the island, a ewe belonging to Mr. T. Bennett being found in the woods torn to pieces.

Mr. J. Seabrook, of Galiano Island, spent the Xmas holidays with friends in Victoria. The unusual amount of exhilaration which has characterized Christmas week again showed itself on Friday evening last, when a partying, vaudeville entertainment was given at the house of Mrs. Jack to a number of young men who are about leaving for Victoria to embark on a sealing expedition.

The New Year's dinner given by Mrs. Deacon of Village Bay, was participated in by a number of friends and a jolly time was spent. Among the invited guests present were Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Sinclair, Mr. and Mrs. Winstanley, Mr. and Mrs. Cullinane, Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, Mr. F. Marchese, Mr. J. Pope, and Mr. H. MacKinnon. Warburton Pike, who has been spending Christmas in Victoria, returned home on Monday.

PACIFIC CABLE.

LONDON, January 6.—Sir Charles Tupper and Sandford Fleming, C.M.G., had made arrangements for an interview to-day with the Marquis of Ripon, secretary of state for the colonies, in regard to the British cable between Canada and Australia, about the promotion of which Mr. Fleming interested himself in his late trip to the antipodes. The Marquis of Ripon is unwell to-day, however, and the conference had to be postponed. There is great reason to believe that the Colonial Secretary favors the granting of a subsidy to the project by the Imperial Government.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Revised, corrected and complete copies of the Hawaiian correspondence, transmitted to Congress by the President's message of December 18, have been received from the Government printing office, and have been laid before the House committees on Foreign Affairs. The volume, in its completed and corrected form, contains a number of interesting and important communications from and to Mr. William Willis, which were searched for in vain in the voluminous and confused batch of correspondence laid before both Houses with the President's message.

FROM THE DAILY COLONIST, Jan. 5.

THE CITY.

THE appointment of Mr. J. P. Plante as Police Magistrate of Nanaimo was officially gazetted yesterday.

A MEETING of the British Columbia Deposit & Loan Co., Ltd., in liquidation, will be held here on February 2, in order that the liquidator may present his final accounts.

THE California Rugby union men met Wednesday night and voted to pick a team to represent California in a series of games with Portland and British Columbia teams during the Midwinter Fair. The first game will be played in March.

THE incorporation of the Victoria Athletic Grounds Association, Ltd., was formally gazetted yesterday, with Messrs. W. H. Ellis, Thomas H. Allie, W. J. Smith, W. H. Collin and W. G. MacKenzie as trustees. The capital stock of the company is \$10,000, in \$10 shares.

THE funeral of the late Miss Perry took place yesterday from the residence of the deceased on South Turner street and from Christ Church Cathedral where services were conducted by Rev. Canon Padden, many sorrowing friends being in attendance. The pallbearers were Messrs. Macaulay, Marvin, Wilson, Stanley, Barnard and Powell.

TWO new district municipalities—the one to be known as Mission Valley and the other as Scarborough—were brought before the application in the former case were Messrs. B. Lequime, Charles Balgoin, Thomas Wood, G. Whelan, J. T. Davies, W. and A. Postill; in the case of Scarborough they are Messrs. Edward Pare, J. A. McDonald, H. White and D. Galbraith.

MAGISTRATE E. BAYNES REED held court at Esquimate yesterday for the trial of William Farrell, a sealer, who was arrested during the morning upon a charge of theft. The complainant was one William Lenoir, a naval pensioner, who stated that \$15 had been taken from the inside pocket of his waistcoat while he was asleep, a further sum of \$32 being missed from his cabin. The prosecution utterly failed to fasten the crime upon Farrell, who was discharged. Mr. Arthur Davey conducted the defence.

LAST evening, in the presence of a number of friends, at the residence of the bride's father, 73 King's road, the Legislative Assembly celebrated the marriage of Mr. Fred W. Rudge and Miss Janet Dyer, eldest daughter of Bartholomew Stapledon. The bridegroom was supported by Mr. H. Rudge and Mr. J. Stapledon, and the bride by Miss C. G. Stapledon and Miss Nellie Rudge. The bride and bridesmaids looked their best, which says a great deal. The presents were numerous, chaste and useful. After the bride's toast, "The Happy Couple," "The Bridemaids," "The Host and Hostess" received a hearty response.

THAT the citizens of Victoria have no intention of allowing the Y. M. C. A. to remain closed is evident from the liberal response which has been made to the appeal of the young men for financial aid. Worlock, the owner of the building, in which the rooms are, has made a most liberal offer, which will be made public in a few days. The second large help came in the shape of a check for \$100 from the Y. M. C. A. Dues. Quite a large number have promised \$1 per month, and several amounts, some larger and some smaller, have been received. The canvas will be pushed far and wide, and it is hoped the whole amount will be raised by the end of the month. The treasurer, Mr. Piddock, 79 Government street, will be glad to receive contributions.

MESSRS. McPhillips & Williams give notice of a General Assembly of the Y. M. C. A. to be held on Wednesday, January 17, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of electing officers and adopting resolutions. The assembly will be held at the Y. M. C. A. building, 79 Government street, and will be open to all members of the Y. M. C. A. and to all who are interested in the Y. M. C. A. cause.

THE newly formed Victoria Choral Society have adopted the report of the organization committee, which was presented at the meeting held on Monday last. The committee have recommended that the society should be incorporated as a company to construct, equip, operate and maintain a line of steam or electric railway, and a telegraph or telephone line from Vancouver to New Westminster, and that the society should be authorized to raise money for the purpose of building branches from the main line to a point in Hastings townsite and in Port Moody, and also to some point at or near the mouth of the Fraser river, with power to make connection with any other line or lines of railway or steamship company, and to build branches for that purpose, with power to construct and use ferries, and for all other usual powers, rights and privileges. The name of the company is to be "The Vancouver Central Railway Company," with headquarters and office at the city of Vancouver.

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