WS OF THE PROVINCE

ortant Farmers' Meeting at Dun-
an—Artillery for Nanaimo—
Budget of Alberni News.

al City Church Troubles—Fish-
men Catch an Eagle—$800,000
Worth of Matte.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

VANCOUVER.

NCOUVER, Feb. 3.—John Crean left
rday on the Comox for Shoal Bay
siness connected with the Queen
nd Bully Boy claims.

e third annual poultry show, which
be held in the market shed on Tues-
o Friday inclusive of next week;
ises to be the most successful show
held here. It is expected that there
be between 400 and 500 fowls and
t 250 dogs. Dog Day will be
nesday. The entries will close on
ay evening, the 5th inst.

WESTMINSTER.

STMINSTER, Feb. 3.—Considerable
rise has been caused amongst the
bers of the Church of England in
diocese by the news that the Eng-
committee had resigned. In for-
ing their resignations to His Lord-
Bishop Dart, the committee give
ollowing reasons for their action:
Before leaving England, Your
ship gave us most distinctly to un-
and that the work of the diocese
d be conducted on the same lines
n the past. In this we
been disappointed. (2)
transfer to Your Lordship's
stipend of the grant made by the
G. for many years to the Indian
ion, is a step which, even as a tem-
ry expedient, we cannot conscien-
ly approve. Thus, on two im-
ant matters of principle, we find
elves in direct disagreement with
r Lordship. We need hardly say
we take this step with the greatest
t, and wish to express our deep
w at feeling thus compelled to
our connection with a work with
ch we have so long been associated."

NANAIMO.

NAIMO, Feb. 3.—A proposal is on
to form a battery of artillery, and it
been very well received.

he annual meeting of the Nanaimo
Association was held in the office of
George E. T. Pittendrigh last night.
L. Simpson has returned by the
erni stage from a month's prospec-
trip to the West Coast. He and a
prospector worked their way up
Victoria along the coast, prospec-
as they went and meeting with very
uraging success. On reaching Al-
ni last week, after having staked a
ber of claims at different points,
decided that the weather was too
g to continue the trip. Mr. Simp-
expresses the opinion that the min-
prospects of the West Coast are ex-
nt, and will develop largely in the
t few months.
t is reported that the Duke of York
raulic mine had its first big clean-up
Sunday, and the result was eminently
sfactory, a large return of gold being
ained.
number of important strikes have
n made down the Alberni canal, out-
of the railway belt. These consist
fly of copper ores, carrying a fair
e in gold, and a working per cent. of
per. Some of the most valuable of
e have passed into hands from
ch some heavy development work
be expected in the spring. The
e of York hydraulic claim is rapidly
ing into fine working shape, and in a
days the machine will be set on a
k of high grade gravel. The large
unt of dead work to this end is now
ut finished. The Quadra group is
g developed by a tunnel which is in
ut 20 inches of good sound quartz.
Alberni Consolidated is again going
ll blast, and the mill is working on
rich quartz. Rumor has it that the
of the West claim is about to be
to a strong Scotch company. Pros-
ors driven in by stress of weather
g glowing accounts of the richness
e northwest coast of the island.

DUNCAN.

UNCAN, Feb. 2.—A special meeting
he Cowichan Agricultural Society
held on Monday at the Agricultural
, Mr. Robert Musgrave, vice-presi-
, occupying the chair, and about
y members being present. A unani-
s resolution was passed changing
name of the society from "The Cow-
n and Salt Spring Island Agricultur-
ociety" to "The Cowichan Agricul-
l Society," and resolutions were car-
unanimously "that the government
propriation be apportioned amongst
agricultural societies according to
amount of members' fees and income
ch society"; and "that the regula-
s of the board of horticulture be en-
ed," and for the formation of a fruit
vers' and shippers association. Mr.
. Earl, of Lytton, Mr. E. Hutcher-
and Mr. R. M. Palmer, who were
t heartily welcomed by the meeting,
addresses on fruit growing, co-op-
ive fruit shipping, and spraying, and
first named gentleman's remarks on
success of B. C. fruit at the autumn
w at Spokane was highly appreci-
as were also his comments on the
ff question.

NELSON.

(From the Nelson Tribune.)

M. Gibson, of Kaslo, went to Ains-
h on Wednesday to arrange for the
ediate beginning of work on the
k Diamond and Little Donald.
he shipments of ore and mattk from
mines and smelters of West Koote-
for the month of January will, in all
ihood, aggregate over $800,000 in
e.
evelopment work on the Lone Star
he Slocan is being pushed ahead
ily by Bob Shiell for the Hansard
ng Company. Latterly a number
uartz stringers have come into the
el, carrying more or less galena.
ager Shiell expects to strike the ore
within the next few days.
carload of machinery, including a
boiler and engine, has arrived over
.P.R. for the Nelson Nawuill Com-
.

ARRESTED AT LAST!!

The Man of Many Australian Murders Captured in San Francisco.

Perfectly Cool and Collected—May Be Sent South at Once.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 2.—This morning at 5:15 the long watch of the officers who have for so many days been anxiously awaiting the arrival of the four masted barque Swanhilda, from Newcastle, New South Wales, was rewarded by the sight of that vessel coming through the heads in tow of the tug Active. It was not without some trepidation that the arrival had been latterly awaited the reports brought by the s.s. Monowai having confirmed the idea of a possibility that the bloody handed murderer Butler, the perpetrator of so many cold blooded homicides might in some way or other have given justice the slip and escaped the sword of justice, which there is now every reason to expect will be so wielded as to avenge the deaths of those whom the man of many aliases had contrived to rob and dispose of with such diabolical persistence and, it may be added, ingenuity. But there is now no more uncertainty as to his capture, for George Edwin Butler, alias Ashe, is now a prisoner in the San Francisco jail. Passing the heads the tug blew six whistles, the signal agreed upon if Butler was on board. Shortly after, a red light flashed out through the darkness, another signal, and the officers knew that their man was there. The custom house boat Hartley was at once boarded by six detectives, four newspaper men and four revenue officers, and steamed rapidly away to the Swanhilda, which was met off Fort Point. The revenue officers went on board the Swanhilda to ascertain if Butler had been put in irons, but as they reported that he had not the detectives went on board without delay. Butler being pointed out, was handcuffed in a few moments. He denied that he was Butler, but he was positively identified by the Australian detectives, McIlattie and Conroy. The suspected murderer was taken on board the Hartley, which soon landed him at the wharf. A patrol wagon was in waiting, and he was hurried off to prison. Although the arrest was a complete surprise, the suspected man maintained remarkable coolness and calmly puffed a cigarette as he went ashore.

Captain Fraser, of the Swanhilda, said that Butler shipped with him as a seaman under the name of Lee Weller, one of the victims. All went well on the trip across the Pacific and it was not known that a notorious murderer was on board. Yesterday when it was known that the vessel was near San Francisco, Butler asked Captain Fraser when the pilot appeared to slow up as he expected letters from Australia. When the pilot came aboard Butler approached him and asked: "Well, is it yes or no?" The pilot did not know what he meant and the man gave no explanation.

Captain Fraser was informed by the pilot that it was supposed that Butler was on board under the name of Lee Weller and was told of the arrangements for his capture. Captain Fraser agreed to do all in his power to help the police. It was agreed that when the crew lined-up for inspection, Captain Fraser was to stop in front of Butler. When the police came on board and the men lined-up Butler was the second in line. Captain Fraser stopped in front of him and at the same time Sergeant Bonner, of the local police, covered him with a pistol. Butler's hand went up like a flash. Irons were slipped over his wrists and one of the most notorious criminals of modern times was a prisoner. Detectives McIlattie and Conroy, who knew Butler in Australia, Conroy having narrowly escaped being one of his victims, were disguised when they boarded the Swanhilda. When they charged Butler with the crimes attributed to him he professed ignorance and denied that his name was Butler. On board the Hartley on the way to shore the disguises were removed and still Butler pretended not to know his captors.

Butler is specifically charged with having committed three murders, while several others are attributed him. His plan of action in Australia was to advertise for some one to work a mining claim in the bush with him. Of the applicants who answered the advertisement he would choose only such men as had few acquaintances and about whom no special inquiry was likely to be made. Then assuring himself that his new mate was a man of means, Butler would start off with him for the bush, which is the technical name of the wild Australian country lying outside civilization, and is a place well fitted to deeds of darkness. Arrived at the claim, Butler would set his man to work, and while the unsuspecting miner toiled eagerly for the gold that was to place him beyond want, a rifle shot would re-echo into the stillness of the bush, and the luckless laborer with a gaping, ragged hole in his temple, would plunge forward into the grave he had just dug.

Butler appears undisturbed by his position, and sits unconcernedly facing his questioners with contemptuous glance. He affects to be rather amused than otherwise at his predicament. He is below medium height and is decidedly insignificant in appearance. He has a malevolent expression, but hardly looks like a confirmed criminal. He is apparently about twenty-seven years old. When his baggage was brought ashore any quantity of incriminating evidence against him was found carefully packed in with his own belongings. A photo of Mrs. Weller, a pair of bluchers on which were stamped Weller's name; two watches, a spectacle case and a watch chain with a locket, all bearing Lee Weller's name or monogram; a number of books, on the fly leaves of which were the names of Weller and his wife, and many other articles are considered by detectives as positively connecting him with the murder of the sea captain and prospector. The detectives are very positive as to the identity of their prisoner and scoff at any possibility of mistake.

When the Monowai sails for Australia on Friday she will not take Butler and the Australian detectives. The prisoner's presence is required before U.S. Commissioner Heacock next Monday, and if Butler makes a technical defence to his extradition, as he says he will do, he may remain in San Francisco for several weeks. When he was taken before the commissioner he said his true name was Lee Weller, and after Constable Conroy, of the Australian police force, had identified him as Butler, the alleged murderer, the prisoner's attorneys asked for a continuance for ten days, in order to prepare a defence. Next Monday was set by the commissioner.

Butler maintains his policy of reticence and absolutely refuses to discuss his past, except for momentary lapses, when a shrewd question throws him temporarily off his guard. Butler is displaying much cunning, but it is rather of a low order. He refuses to even look at a reporter, unless the newspaper man keeps him supplied with cigars, which he smokes incessantly. When thus bribed, he will listen to questions, but will return no replies.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOLS.

Resolution to Grant State Aid Adopted—Official Report on the Indian Plague.

Bayard's Farewell Banquet—Swiss Citizens and U. S. Extradition Laws—Bimetallism.

LONDON, Feb. 2.—In the House of Commons to-day the resolution of Mr. A. J. Balfour, first lord of the treasury, providing for state aid for voluntary schools was carried. The plan proposed is that the schools shall be relieved from the local rates and by grants of five shillings for each child. It is estimated that this will require a yearly appropriation of £616,500.

Lord Sandhurst, governor of Bombay, has sent a cable message to the effect that in the section where the plague had its strongest hold disease is being suppressed, but it appears to be extending to new portions of Bombay. In places most recently infected by the plague the mortality is evidently not so great. In the city of Bombay the number of deaths diminished during the week ending January 29, but the feeling at that place is one of great unrest. In the city of Poonah, Bombay, Presidency, 58 cases were reported, but a late account is to the effect that 48 cases were announced in a single quarter of the town. The number of deaths at Karachi reached 23 for the week ending January 22. It is estimated that one-fourth of the total population of the city has left Karachi on account of the plague. The only deaths reported from Sind are said to be those of travellers.

The French government has protested to the Khedive against the Egyptian government accepting a British loan for the payment of the expenses of the Anglo-Egyptian expedition to Dongola, pointing out that the proper course is to apply to the "international debt commission."

Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, and other prominent members of parliament, has been obliged to decline an invitation to be present at the dinner which the United States ambassador, Thomas F. Bayard, will give to-morrow at his private residence in honor of the Prince of Wales.

The Federal council of Switzerland has submitted to the U. S. government, the draft of a new extradition treaty to supersede the present treaty, which permits Swiss citizens to be extradited to the U. S. contrary to the Swiss extradition laws.

A dispatch from Brass, West Africa, says that the cause of the recent massacre by the King of Benin of the British expedition under Consul General J. R. Phillips, is that the King was performing a ceremony involving the annual butchery of slaves, and did not want any white men present.

Under the auspices of M. Thierry, director of the Economist, and Deputy Fongetrol, both prominent bimetallists, Senator Edward O. Wolcott, of Colorado, who is visiting Europe in the interest of bimetallism, had a short interview with President Faure on Sunday. Since then he has seen M. Loubet, president of the senate, and M. Agnin, director of the Bank of France. Senator Wolcott expressed a wish to see M. Meline, the president, to-day, and will start for Berlin this evening or to-morrow.

MONTREAL, Feb. 2.—Inspectors of the American immigration department are at present in Montreal looking into a scandal which has been created by the shipment of young women to New York for immoral purposes through the instrumentality of procuresses from that city. They are said to have already obtained many victims who have been systematically sent to Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago and New York from here. The object of the inspectors is to put a stop to this horrible traffic, and if possible convict the procuresses.

TORONTO, Feb. 2.—A farmer's house near Yorkville burned down last night, and a Barnardo boy, aged 14, perished. He had quarrelled with the farmer and, it is thought, burned the house in a passion, accidentally or intentionally falling a victim.

MONTREAL, Feb. 2.—The Montreal Star famine fund had reached the sum of $20,000 at 9:30 and by noon was running fast to $21,000. This fund in amount is the greatest and number of subscribers represented more numerous, than any fund in the history of Canada. The Star's cable says: Canadian liberality will be the means of securing many immigrants for the Dominion.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 2.—The charge against T. M. Brown, deputy for Macdonald at the last election was dismissed to-day.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

LAWRENCE'S CAFE.

A Welcome Addition to Victoria's Restaurants—A Dainty and Handsome Establishment.

Wholesale Candy Factory Equipped With Modern Machinery—Model Business Enterprise.

To those possessed of the proverbial sweet tooth (and who is without one?) the announcement of Mr. J. A. Lawrence on another page will be of interest. It also is of very great interest from a commercial standpoint, for the success of this venture will prove that confectionery can be produced in Victoria as cheaply, and of as fine a quality as the very best imported article.

For be it remembered, the finest goods in this line are still of foreign manufacture. Mr. Lawrence proposes to change this, and possessing, as he does, the practical knowledge of the confectionery business, and the financial ability to operate an establishment of the requisite size, there is no reason why the trade of the Canadian Northwest in the candy line should not come to Victoria.

In order to secure commodious and at the same time central quarters, the premises at Nos. 75 and 77 Government street were leased, and these, which, including the upstairs and an annex in the rear, afford ample space for a very large business. The ground floor has been fitted up as a confectionery store and cafe, in a style that can truthfully be described as "regardless of expense." The cabinet work on this portion of the building is solid oak throughout; the counters and fittings being particularly handsome. On the right of the entrace from Government street is a most elaborate soda water fountain, while on the left is the cashier's desk. At the end of the front shop is the piece de resistance of the cabinet makers' work in the establishment, in the form of a canopy in oak and plate glass, most ornately carved, containing another equally elaborate soda water fountain, while provision is made on the top of this canopy for a small orchestra, which it is the intention to have performing at regular hours. This canopy is unique in its way and was designed by Mr. Lawrence. All the cabinet work is from the establishment of Messrs. Weiler Bros.

Passages on either side of this ornamental piece of work lead to the cafe, on which the upholsterers and woodworkers have been given an almost free hand. Here are provided 96 seats grouped around the various tables—36 in number. No two of the latter being alike in design. All being made on the old Sheridan style, and in solid oak. Due privacy has been provided for family parties in the rear portion of the cafe, the arrangements here being most complete. The main partitions match the woodwork of the rest of the fittings, each carrying a bracket, from which are suspended handsome chenielle curtains, giving the apartment a rich, yet cosy and homelike appearance.

To the right of the cafe and in rear of the adjoining premises is situated the kitchen and wholesale packing department. The cooking is done on a 16-foot patent French range which was supplied by the Albion Iron Works Co. This apartment is large and airy, and will make a model kitchen.

In the rear of the building large bake ovens have been erected and here will be baked the bread which it is proposed shall render itself famous in the city. Further to the right is a large annex where the manufacture of all kinds of hard candy will be carried on. This completes a partial description of the ground floors of the establishment.

The upstairs portion of the building over Nos. 75 and 77 Government street, is occupied by a staff for the making of all grades of cream candy, and already the fruits of their labor are very much in evidence not only in the delicious perfume that pervades this portion of the establishment but also in the long racks containing creams of all manner and kinds laid out to dry preparatory to being packed for the trade.

A word must be said with respect to the silverware and table ware in general of this most sumptuous eating house. The proprietor has taken care that as far as possible all furnishings and fittings should be obtained locally, but rather than have anything not strictly in line with the rest of the establishment Mr. Lawrence has gone direct to the manufacturers for what he has had to import, with the result that the tables when "set" present a very rich appearance indeed. In fact the cafe can be claimed as one of the best for its size in America, no other town of the proportion of Victoria having anything that can approach Mr. Lawrence's establishment.

In addition to the premises at Nos. 75 and 77 Government street Mr. Lawrence will continue business at his old stand No. 34 Government near the new post-office building as a branch store.

Having given a general idea of the premises a few words as to the products of the factory will now be in order. An idea of the varieties of sweetmeats that are manufactured may be formed when it is stated that there are now in stock 156 different kinds of hand made creams and nearly 60 varieties of chocolates. All these are made for the retail department of the store and are extra fine. A specialty will be made of medicated candy for the drug trade, and already dozens of handsome cut-glass bottles are ranged on the shelves filled with the various kinds of candy. All kinds of bar nut candy are also made, including pine nut, pecan, Brazil, filbert, walnut, almond and peanut. Parisian ices will be another feature of the cafe. The celebrated Troy bread, which was introduced at the Chicago fair by the Dairy Kitchen, together with aerated bread as made in London, will form two more items which it is the intention to supply the public. During his many trips to Europe Mr. Lawrence has spent much time in posting himself on the various details of the best London bakeries, and is able to guarantee that what he supplies will be first class.

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

ROSSLAND'S RICHES.

Graphic Description of Some of the Greatest Mines on "God's Green Earth."

Railroading as Practised by Mine Owners—The Difference Between "Spot Cash" and "Time."

ROSSLAND, Jan. 30.—(Special)—The transfer of the War Eagle to George Gooderham, of Toronto, Canada, is still a subject of universal comment in Rossland. Canadians are highly pleased that a man of Mr. Gooderham's business ability, influence and wealth should have obtained possession of so valuable a property, but there is a great under-current of criticism of the methods employed by the majority interest to sell the property. Time alone can damn or justify the course adopted by that majority, but there is no denying the fact that it was a most extraordinary proceeding to accept $200,000 less from George Gooderham than an English syndicate was willing to pay for the property, merely, because George Gooderham paid "spot" cash, and the English syndicate was only ready to pay $200,000 and the balance in forty days. Unsophisticated people think that an additional forty cents a share was worth waiting forty days for, but the majority interest in the War Eagle thought otherwise, and multitudes are asking why. If the War Eagle was about to end its existence as a rich producing mine, the action of the War Eagle management was easily understood; under any other hypothesis the conduct was strange and mysterious. One thing is patent, the group of men who controlled and operated the War Eagle played a high hand with the smaller stockholders, and did what they did with supreme indifference to the wishes or interests of the minority.

The same men still control and manage the Poorman, the Virginia and Iron Mask; all most promising properties, but the bold-faced railroading throughout of the War Eagle sale will naturally scare away investors from having anything to do with mines where such men have an upper hand. It is true that these men have been among the first to prove the riches of the Trail Creek country. They bought the War Eagle group for $16,000 after it had been twice abandoned by other mining men, and in the course of two years they have divided profits amounting to $175,000 and have expended fully $250,000 in wages, improvements and development. In two years the investment of $16,000 has brought back a return of $1,200,000. But the stockholders who kept the War Eagle stock at $1.60 and above did not share in these profits, and selling them out at a loss, must ever remain a stigma on the reputation of these men.

The Deer Park management, acting under a pressure from the smaller shareholders, have refused to consider the offer of an English syndicate to buy the property for $500,000. Mr. Labouchere, this syndicate's representative, visited the mine early in December, and after a thorough examination came to the conclusion that the Deer Park would ultimately make the grrat business mine of Rossland.

The Deer Park, with its enormous ore body, can only be compared to a mine like the "Anaconda," and if its present promise and amazing development continues it will surpass the famous Montana mine as a working producer. Only those who have seen the Deer Park, and examined the shafts and drifts and crosscuts, can have any idea of the stupendous ore body in that mine, and these also will not be surprised that an offer of $500,000 is declined for a property that a few Spokane men bought for less than $10,000.

Investors in the Evening Star will be glad to hear that there is a new hand at the helm directing the affairs of that property. I have frequently commented upon the incompetency of the former management, and any change were indeed a "God-send." The Evening Star is a good mine, and properly worked should enrich its owners.

The Georgia is still like a good ship deserted by its crew in mid-ocean, and lying derelict without sails or rudder. Whether this is due to bad management or disagreement among the principal stockholders, I do not know, but in either case it is to be condemned.

Another property almost in a similar plight to that of the Georgia, is the West LeRoi and Josie. This is one of the most valuable pieces of mineral ground in Trail Creek and, although certain to be a rich mine, for it lies directly between the California, a property of great promise, and the LeRoi. But its principal stockholders, to use a slang phrase, "Can't get together." They are standing on their dignity, and they are too "hoity-toity," to get down to common sense and business, and the consequence is that the West LeRoi and Josie is liable to be stranded for many a long day to come.

Grand Prize is another property with an overhanging cloud. The title is in dispute, and there seems to be no active hand at the helm to direct its course or to protect its interests.

Eureka Consolidated is another that is also condemned to inaction by a cloud of adverses and the operations of the petty pirates, in the shape of "claim jumpers," which infest all mining camps.

I have never seen a mining camp where greater sobriety, decency and respect for law and order prevailed; and yet I have never seen a camp where the blackmailer and the petty highwayman called a "jumper" plied his trade with greater impunity. Hence the stagnation and inactivity of lots of valuble claims like Eureka and Grand Prize.

The Great Western is also lying idle owing to some manipulating of the principal owners. This also is a property of great value, and it is deplorable to see it in the condition that it is.

It is pleasant to pass from blame to praise. The mines owned and operated by the Rufus Pope syndicate are in first class shape. The complaint was originally made against these, that both in the case of the California and Big Three, that there was considerable over capitalization. That complaint has long since been done away with, for Mr. Larabee, the manager of these concerns, has settled down to develop and work these mines in a thoroughly business like manner. He secured in Superintendent Williams one of the most experienced, pains-taking and indefatigible mining managers in the whole Northwest; with the result that the Snowshoe and the Southern Belle surpasses the fondest wishes of the promoters. In the Mascot one of the Big Three group, they have a fine body of ore, but with little value in it as yet. But in the Snowshoe and Southern Belle they have not only got a great ore body but rich ore.

Some of the finest ore ever mined in Rossland is that of the Colonna. It looks exactly like that of the Sunset, on Deer Park mountain, and I am thoroughly convinced that both will make rich mines. Moreover, the Colonna is in good hands, and will be worked and developed by men of mining experience and ability.

The Campbell-Moynhan syndicate also form a first-class combination, and the properties owned and operated by them are in good shape. Mr. Moynhan has experience, ability and sound judgment to guide him, and he tells me that he was never so confident that Rossland will be the great mining camp of the Northwest as he is to-day. What the mines wanted, he says, is depth, for in every instance with which he is acquainted, he finds the volume and value of the ore increased with depth.

The Monita has an excellent plant, and a double compartment shaft, and in the bottom of the shaft (80 feet deep) I found a rich seam of ore that assays all the way from $75 to $150.

The Iron Horse, the Nest Egg and the Palo Alto are all engaged either in installing or preparing for machinery.

The Rossland Red Mountain is prospecting with a diamond drill and shipping some rich ore out of the drift on the north vein, but it will be 50 days before the tunnel cuts the vein, and too much must not be expected of this excellent property until the vein is tapped by this tunnel.

The Zilor has opened up a fine ore body and so has the Butte, which a short time ago was considered the prince of "wild cats." The Monita and I. X. L. have, however, had the greatest and most surprising development of any mine in Rossland since my last visit. A tunnel being driven into the O. K. mountain to tap free milling gold bearing ore cut through a large ledge of magnificent ore quite close to the surface. It seemed to me that this ledge is about ten feet wide, and the sample I knocked off assayed $81 in gold.

The J.K.L. is controlled by John S. Baker, of Tacoma, one of the best known and most enterprising citizen of the state of Washington. In the "boom" days he made a large fortune in real estate, and he married a lovely daughter of a wealthy and highly honored pioneer of California. With the collapse of the "boom" all the latent energy and keen business ability was aroused in Mr. Baker, and he resolved to wrest from the bosom of the Rocky Mountains the treasures necessary to save his immense property interests. He has been eminently successful, for, after all fortune is lavish of her smiles to the daring and the bold. In a few years Baker's income from his mining investments in Idaho will be a princely one, and if the I.X.L. keeps to its promise, it will far surpass the War Eagle and rival the Le Roi.

I have not been able to gather much information about the Loring-Crane properties. The Josie is shipping, and the Monte Cristo is said to have struck pay ore. I have no doubt the Monte Cristo will ultimately prove a big mine, but the St. Elmo and the Mayflower are not bettering their reputation.

The Cracker-Jack, a new mine on the north side of Red mountain, is showing up well under development, and, indeed, all of the incipient mines of the camp are showing up well.

The Cliff is now shipping ore to the Nelson smelter under a most favorable contract for freight treatment. The Cliff, according to the famous expression of its genial and popular owner, Colonel Wharton, is the best copper proposition in the camp, and is considered by the Colonel to be worth half a million dollars. The Colonel does not care whether he sells or holds the mine, for he and his brother have chanced to find in the mountains of the Slocan a treasure as fabulously rich as that which Edward Dentes discovered amid the arid rocks of the Island of Monte Cristo—that treasure is the Ruth mine.

The Centre Star is one of the great show properties of the camp. It has millions of golden ore in sight, but its owners are waiting more favorable railroad and smelting facilities. Take it all in all, the outlook in Rossland is the very brightest that can be conceived. Eighteen hundred and ninety-seven will see wonderful developments, for the Canadian Pacific and the Northern Pacific will make a fight for the trade of the Kootenay. It must be remembered that Kootenay is the richest lead and silver region on the globe, and that its product in 1897 will not fall far short of five million dollars, and if the Kootenay in its infancy is so fruitful, what will it be in a dozen years from now when smelters, railroads, factories and refineries are scattered through this country.

In my letters I have not told a fraction of the possibilities of this extraordinary country, and I am convinced that within the next decade more fortunes will be made and more wealth created in the Kootenay than on any other part of God's green earth. I made my first trip over the Rossland & Red Mountain railway a few days ago. This road is not only a boon to Rossland and to miners and smelters, but it will prove a favorite with travellers and tourists. From the time it leaves Northport until it reaches Rossland, a distance of fourteen miles, it is panorama after panorama of beautiful scenery. There is a view of the lovely Sheep creek falls, tumbling over a mighty precipice, in the midst of primevial forests that is simply enchanting. Moreover, the construction of this road, through canyons and on the edge of mighty mountains, and always with heavy grading, is one of the finest feats of railroad engineering, even in America.

It is a curious commentary on past history and politics that this great and marvellous Kootenay finds the natural outlet for its wealth through American territory.

P. A. O'FARRELL.

EXPERIENCE THE TEST.

IT SEPARATES THE BENEFICIAL FROM THE WORTHLESS.

A Vancouver Lady, After Using Various Medicines for a Period of Eight Years Pronounces Dr. William's Pink Pills the Best Medicine She Knows.

Among the most popular residents of Vancouver is Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Hawson, and the following statement from Mrs. Hawson will no doubt be of advantage to other ladies. She says:—

VANCOUVER, B.C., Oct., 1896.

Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.:

Gentlemen,—I have derived so much benefit from the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, as the following brief statement of facts will show, that the failure on my part to make public the facts of my case would be a neglect of duty I owe to others of my sex who are suffering from the same complaints for years made life a burden to me. From fifteen years of age I suffered from anæmia with all the attending evils. The family physician and two other doctors consulted in turn failing to afford me any relief. At the age of twenty-two I came from England to Oregon, and acting under the advice of friends, consulted a specialist of high repute in Portland in that state, after having tried two other practitioners in Eastern Oregon without any beneficial result. I followed the treatment of the Portland physician for some months with no change in my condition being noticeable, except that I was rapidly losing flesh and sinking day by day into a state of lassitude. I was reduced to eight-nine pounds in weight, and was assured that unless some change for the better were obtained I could not live six months. At this crisis, when life had become a burden to me and I had hardly strength enough to move around, a friend told me of the benefit she had derived from Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and as a forlorn hope, having at one time or another tried remedy after remedy (so called), I consented to give them a trial. Even with the first box a change for the better was noticeable and this was sufficient to induce me to persevere. I bought six boxes more and when they were finished I was doing my own housework and had gained over ten pounds in weight. With the establishment of the normal functions I grew more cheerful, active and invigorated. That the cure was of no ephemeral nature is evidenced by the fact that now after a year has passed since then, and I have taken but two boxes of pills since that time, I weigh 110 pounds, and can attend to my necessary household duties. I can say nothing less than that I believe Dr. Williams' Pink Pills saved my life, and I recommend them to everyone suffering from similar complaints to mine as the best medicine I know, and after the host of nostrums I tried during a period of eight years, my knowledge of such is not limited.

Gratefully yours,
HELEANOR H. HAWSON.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are a specific for the troubles which make the lives of so many women a burden, and speedily restore the rich glow of health to pale and sallow cheeks. Sold by all dealers, or sent by mail postpaid, at 50c. a box, or six boxes for $2.50, by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville Ont. Beware of imitations and substitutes alleged to be "just as good."

MEETING AT ALBERNI.

Mr. Huff, M. P. P., Calls Together His Constituents and Discusses Matters With Them.

What the Miners Want—Schedule of Requirements Prepared for Presentation.

A large and highly representative turnout greeted G. A. Huff, M.P.P., for the Cowichan-Alberni district on the occasion of the public meeting held in Alberni last week. The new hall was taxed to its utmost capacity to accommodate the number present and the remarks of Mr. Huff and a number of other speakers were listened to with great attention. Mr. Kirkpatrick was chosen as chairman and Mr. L. Bayne acted as secretary.

Mr. Huff opened the meeting by stating that he had been called for several reasons. In the first place, he thought it a fitting occasion to render to those whom he had been chosen to represent an account of his proceedings up to date. He believed that when his actions and the motives which prompted them were understood by those present, he would be credited with at least using every endeavor to further the best interests of this section. In some cases, where a short-sighted policy would have dictated one course, he hoped to be able to show that by looking ahead he had chosen a course calculated to ultimately result in the greater good.

Another great reason for the calling of the meeting was the fact that just now on the eve of a session he desired to learn as far as possible the feelings and desires of those whom he represented. He hoped that those present would freely state anything that to their minds would be calculated to advance the interests of the district. From this and the discussion which it would call forth he would be able to gather a good idea of the needs of the community, and his hands would be materially strengthened when he came to the floor of the house.

To these reasons for the meeting a third was to be added. He had been asked to use his influence in the house in favor of a charter for the building of a railroad from the mines of Alberni to Nanaimo city. Mr. Haslam, one of the promoters of the scheme, had promised to attend the meeting and explain the affair in detail. Unfortunately Mr. Haslam was not present, and the data at hand regarding the proposed line were very meagre. He only knew that those who were applying for the charter had no intention to build the road themselves. They claimed, however, to be backed by ample capital. Speaker was very sorry some representative of the scheme was not present to threw some light on the matter.

Mr. Huff concluded by asking for the opinion of those present.

Hr. Halfpenny started the ball to rolling by moving "that it was the opinion of those present that the government should build all railroads." After an animated discussion this passed.

Mr. Law followed, moving that "owing to lack of information it is premature to talk at this meeting about the Nanaimo-Alberni railroad. This meeting instructs their member, Mr. Huff, to withheld his support until more satisfactory information is secured." This was carried after considerable discussion, during which it was made plain that there was no spirit of opposition to the road, but a determination to await more definite explanations of the plans of the promoters.

J. F. Bledsoe, in addressing the meeting, pointed out that while the present regulations require a prospector to fulfil all the ordinary requirements in order to hold a claim within the railway belt, they at the same time had no title to pass to the miner. After all the requirements necessary to secure a crown grant had been followed the surface rights and base metals had to be again purchased from the owners of the grant. In his opinion some distinction should be made regarding properties in the bulk. It was yet a problem as to what will be done regarding claims which carry about equal value in precious and base metals. As the government was receiving all the usual fees it should arrange for a definite settlement of these things so that a prospector might know exactly upon what basis he would be compelled to work.

Mr. Huff promised to give this matter his earnest attention and try to have some better understanding between the railway company.

A schedule of the work registered in the district during the coming season was arranged and a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Huff for thus showing his readiness to do all in his power to meet the wishes of his constituents.

MINING BROKERS IN COURT.

Solicitor General Fitzpatrick's Mission to Rome Condemned by Toronto Orangemen.

TORONTO, Feb. 3.—(Special)—Scores of mining brokers appeared in the police court this morning charged with misrepresenting the amount of the capital invested in companies with which they are connected. The prosecution asked another adjournment, but as this had been several times asked before, the magistrate refused and the cases were all dismissed.

The County Orange lodge passed a resolution last night condemning the alleged mission of Solicitor-General Fitzpatrick to Rome to submit the Manitoba school settlement to the Pope, inasmuch as the Pope has no jurisdiction in any part of the British Empire.