

THE LATEST EARTHQUAKE.

Old Mother Earth is dealing harshly with the more advanced and progressive of her children in this year of grace 1906. First she proceeds to settle herself down upon her foundations in the neighborhood of California, shaking the flimsy structures of men's hands to pieces and letting other elements of destruction loose, causing much loss of life and devastation of property throughout the state. Apparently satisfied for the time being with what she has accomplished on the northern continent, she proceeds to shake up the whole Pacific coast line in South America, causing still greater havoc. The general result of the earthquake shocks of which the whole world is reading with mingled feelings of horror and pity may be taken as an indication that in certain portions of the globe it might be well for man to imitate the example of the lower forms of animal life and stick closer to primitive forms of living. It has been made sufficiently manifest that where the foundations of the earth are not firmly and permanently established, modern tall structures are very unsafe habitations. Furthermore, the modern conveniences reared in the air on poles and buried under the ground in conduits simply add to the forces of destruction once they are set in motion.

As all the modern avenues of swift communication with the South American districts which have been laid waste by the earthquake have been destroyed, the news which has reached the world is more or less vague and indefinite; but sufficient is known already to indicate that greater desolation will prevail in Valparaiso, Santiago and other cities of the southern coast than fell upon California as a result of the late earth convulsion there. A great cry will assuredly arise for assistance, and the world, its sympathies aroused by the tales of destitution, will no doubt respond with its usual alacrity in such cases.

CRICKET.

Cricket will be the great sporting event of the week in Victoria. It is not at all likely that many of the people of Victoria will regard the festival as of much importance. At least they will not give testimony to their appreciation by attending the various matches in large numbers, notwithstanding the fact that there will be no charge for admission at the gates. The Times has on more than one occasion expressed its opinion that cricket is the most interesting game played to-day with bat and ball. There is nothing in the list of pastimes to which man is given in his moments of leisure that is to be compared with it either from the point of view of participant or spectator.

One of the chief charms of cricket is the absence of all wrangling between players and umpires. The decisions of the autocrat of the field are accepted with equanimity and philosophy by fieldsmen and batsmen alike. If there be differences of opinion upon a point of play, they are not given expression to on the ground. The consequence is that there is as much difference between the American game of baseball and a British game of cricket as there is between a howling mob of maniacs let loose for a season of "relaxation" and an orderly crowd of peace-loving citizens taking their pleasures as gentlemen should.

Not that we have anything to say against baseball considered in its proper light as sport. It is the spirit in which the game is played—the modern American spirit—to which we object, and to which all must take exception who believe in fair play for both sides and who are satisfied to let victory rest with the stronger and more skillful players. The average crowd at a baseball match is not content with that. It is intensely partisan in its sympathies, and this partisanship finds expression in the most extraordinary of performances. The moment a game begins the players on the field commence an incessant chatter for the purpose of disconcerting, or in the parlance of the "fans," "rattling" the batsmen. The spectators join in the chorus. The consequence is a scene more or less resembling pandemonium from beginning to end of the contest, with success usually attending not the stronger side, but the side least subject to the influence exercised by a harassing multitude of antagonistic spectacular elements.

Our mercurial neighbors on the other side of the line prefer to take their sport in that manner, and it is none of our business. They have the right to act as they please and to achieve success in any manner that seems good in their eyes. But we prefer the old British custom of a fair field and no favor, with manifestations of admiration for cleverness and skill wherever it is to be found. This spirit is to be found in its most admirable form in the game of cricket, and we cannot refrain from once more expressing our regret that there seems to be little prospect of the game becoming popular, from the standpoint of the spectator, in this country. It seems out of harmony with the peculiar genius of our institutions. The causes of this public indifference are probably to be found in the fact that as a people our seasons of leisure are limited, and in the other fact that a game of cricket cannot be decided in an hour, or in a day if there are matters of fact at issue on the lists of players. If the public be not born with a hereditary love of the game, it must necessarily be a somewhat difficult matter in this country to impart to it

the acquired taste. Still the clubs on the Pacific coast are doing their best to keep the sacred flame alight, and we wish them abundant success in their somewhat discouraging mission. And in this connection it is a peculiar thing that Canada is either going back in the game or that her neighbors on the other side are making great strides forward. There was a time when Canadians could win an international match occasionally. They have not gained a victory for several years.

THE EXHIBITION.

The date of Victoria's annual agricultural, horticultural and industrial exhibition is rapidly approaching. This fête is of greater importance to Victoria and Vancouver Island, perhaps, than any enterprise to which we have given our attention except the construction of a bridge across Seymour Narrows. If we can make it the success it ought to be, and which it will be if we truly appreciate its value, it will have a greater influence in determining the fate of this city as a trade centre than any of the minor projects which have been taken up with a marked degree of enthusiasm. Therefore we hope the secretary will be energetically assisted in his efforts to forward the work of preparation. The event and that he may not be hampered in his work for lack of the necessary funds. We are just beginning to realize what the future has in store for this island as a province of fruit, as the home of a growing dairy industry and as a manufacturing centre along certain lines. Our representative in one line of business has lately been proving to the people of the Northwest what we can do in the production of fruit of the very highest texture and flavor. The Victoria exhibition is designed to bring the people at home together and let them see for themselves what we are accomplishing—to educate them up to the point of an intelligent appreciation of the resources of their own country. The time cannot be far distant when the show will be self-supporting. In the meantime it is our duty to encourage the management and to give it every possible assistance in making the fair a success.

The conclusion is rather startling, but we were prepared for it. The root of all our woes is over-education. The shortage of labor is due to our Canadian system of free education. We were under the delusion that the peculiar phase of the economic problem in Canada was more or less intimately related to the unbounded prosperity of the country at the present time. A few years ago the situation was entirely different. Then there was an abundance of labor, but it could find nothing for its idle hands to do, even although the N. P. was in full force and effect, but could not be employed. Then the free schools were busily unloading their misfits upon the country, as they are to-day. The situation was surely sufficiently perplexing without mixing up in it the shortage of water supply in the city of Victoria, which is also held to be due to our pernicious system of "educating the people above their station in life"—or rather the condition of life in which it has pleased an all-wise Providence to place them. Now we are asked to behold the consequences of interfering with the benevolent will of the omnipotent arbiter of our destinies. We are suffering from the consequences of yielding ignorant aldermen to rule over us! The evils can only be corrected by placing all the powers of government in the hands of "property" and of "education." That is in the hands of people who are educated in the true sense of the term—by heredity, generations of environment and travel. Verily the times are out of joint! What shall be done to save this untoward generation from the consequences of its folly and madness? And to think that we are making preparations to call the children of the rabble together again for the purpose of filling their youthful minds with false ideas about their station in life! Some of them will assuredly be aspiring to positions which providence evidently designed for others.

After all there might be a greater evil than a shortage of labor. The balance between supply and demand cannot always be perfectly maintained, and it is surely better to have employers calling for help than workmen and workmen's families begging for bread. When the era of railway building comes to an end in Canada—as we suppose it will some time—although it is quite possible that when the Grand Trunk Pacific is finished and the various feeders now projected in connection with it and other lines are completed, still more employers' extensions may be projected—a great army of laborers ought to be released and distributed throughout the country. In any event, the demand for help in a province like British Columbia, where every prospect pleases and wages are high, ought not to go long unsatisfied. We believe the chief obstacle to a satisfactory increase in our working population lies chiefly in the high cost of transportation from the centres in which human life exists in exceeding great abundance and cannot obtain work for its hands to do. This obstacle surely ought not to be insuperable. If government and transportation companies were to co-operate the difficulty might be overcome.

We observe from the dispatches that the Canada Cup, the emblem of yachting supremacy on the Great Lakes, has returned to its northern home. The yacht which was rejected two years ago won the cup for Canada this year. It would seem to show that the victory of the Americans in 1904 must have been due either to superior seamanship or a fluke.

The "flag" stands in somewhat the same relation to the United States as the Kaiser does to the German Empire. If a native speaks in enlightening terms of Wilhelm, and an official catches him at it, he is sentenced to a term in jail for lese majeste. A citizen of the great republic has just been fined \$25 for hissing the flag.

Only twelve men in a hundred have dark eyes, as compared with twenty women.

BOTH PETITIONS HAVE BEEN SIGNED

WILL BE SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL TO-NIGHT

Trouble Expected Between Mayor and Aldermen on Water Question—Interesting Session Promised.

(From Monday's Daily.)

The water problem will be advanced another step at this evening's meeting of the city council, providing there is no deadlock between the Mayor and aldermen in regard to the respective merits of the two propositions placed before the ratepayers in the form of petitions. These have been signed by citizens representing the requisite amount of property so that all that remains to be done is to pass the necessary by-laws and arrange to have them put to a vote at the earliest possible moment.

Before the latter stage is reached, however, there is likely to be a somewhat heated argument between some of the city fathers and the presiding official. As has previously been stated by the Times the former have accused the latter of deliberately misrepresenting the facts in the wording of the petition outlining his scheme. This must be threshed out and, if the murmuring of the aldermen may be taken as a reliable indication, some trouble may be experienced by the Mayor in having his proposals laid before the people.

There is another point over which some members of the city council appear to entertain feelings of resentment towards His Worship. That is in connection with the semi-public meeting, if it may be so termed, that was called last Friday afternoon to consider the water question. It will be remembered that the gathering was attended by a number of prominent ratepayers and that D. R. Ker took the responsibility of calling, those present together. Several of the aldermen claim that the suggestion came from Mayor Morley, and that if a public meeting had to be called it should have been made general—all voters invited and all members of the council given an opportunity to explain their relative positions in respect to the two proposals. It is quite possible that there will be some hot words exchanged over this affair.

A motion to be introduced by Ald. Hall, which is published in another column, is attracting considerable attention. It practically demands that the water commissioner and other officials mentioned commit themselves in favor of one scheme or the other definitely. Such a thing, it is pointed out, is bound to be opposed by quite a few, who deem it unfair to place employees of the municipality in such a position. Ald. Yates has a notice of motion on the bulletin board, which is of interest. He begs leave to introduce a by-law regulating the speed of automobiles and other vehicles, besides providing for the prohibition of the use of whistles, steam whistles, and other discordant noise producers on motor cars.

Other matters of importance are on the tapis, and the session is expected to be one of the most interesting of the year.

HELPED CELEBRATE FORESTERS RE-UNION

Six Coach Loads of Victorians Journeyed to Nanaimo on Saturday--Baseball Match.

(From Monday's Daily.)

Six coaches filled with Victoria Foresters and their friends went to Nanaimo on Saturday and assisted in a re-union celebration of the order in that city. A large excursion from Vancouver, accompanied by the Sixth Regiment band of the Terminal City, also invaded the Black Diamond city, the delegation from either city arriving during the morning. That from Victoria was met at the railway station by the Nanaimo silver cornet band. After luncheon the parade was formed into line and got away on its line of march promptly at 1.30, headed by Grand Marshal Wm. McCurrach, followed by the silver cornet band, and the following in order named: Court Nanaimo, Court Kitchener, Nanaimo Juveniles, Victoria Juveniles, Nanaimo Companions, Victoria Companions, Sixth Regiment band, Court Lady-smith, Court Royal Columbia, Court Pacific Court Victoria, Court Northern Light, Court Vancouver, the past district rangers and the district officers.

As soon as the parade with its numerous following reached the grounds, the sports committee got to work to run off the list of scheduled sports, which all passed off satisfactorily to those taking part. One of the features of the celebration was a couple of baseball matches between the Victoria United and Nanaimo teams. The first of these played on Saturday resulted in a victory for the local nine by a score of 11 to 9, while in the game yesterday the home aggregation lost to the Nanaimoites by a score of 17 to 14. Referring to Saturday's match the Nanaimo Herald says:

Both teams were out to win the game, and had their strongest line-up on the field. Holness, Victoria's old standard, stood the ball for the visitors, while Miller officiated on the slab for the locals.

Considering the high wind that was blowing across the field all afternoon, the game was a good one and interesting to the large crowd of spectators present. Both teams had its quota of runners, who did not fail to show their leanings whenever a play was pulled off to the credit of their favorite team.

David Spencer Ltd.

WESTERN CANADA'S BIG STORE

Only Good Furniture in This Sale

It's not everyone who knows enough to safely trust his own knowledge and judgment in buying Furniture.

Do you remember how queer it was (and not very long since) to go into a store and feel how little chance one had to get information or right prices when the price was made by the man who waited on you and there was no tickets with plain figures?

How much easier it is now for a new beginner to learn how to buy these days.

The fact is, it is not possible here for anyone to pay more than an article is worth, and however little you may know about the prices yourself, it will make no difference. Yet that one item of the price is not always the most important in telling furniture. An article might be cheap enough for the kind it is. You need to concern yourself about the kind.

VEILINGS AND NECKFIXINGS

VEILINGS FIRST

To save complexions and keep their owners presentable, chiffon is asked for by more than half of our purchasers. No doubt the soft framing it gives a face has something to do with its popularity.

Plain Mesh Veils, 25c. upwards

Dotted Meshes, 50c.

Both can be had in black and colors.

NECKFIXINGS

Sheer dainty collars of Lawn, 25c.

Ever so many Swiss Embroidered Collars at, 50c.

Embroidered Linen Collars, 25c. and 50c.



The CLOTHING listed for the week's selling created a lot of interest this morning. We have a Large Stock, and nearly all the Suits are new. Some of past season's stock are being cleaned out at the same time. NORFOLK SUITS, all sizes, \$2.50 and \$3.35. THREE-PIECE SUITS, a Special Assortment shown at \$4.50.

SCHOOL FOOTWEAR

Child's Oil Peb Lace Shoes, standard bottoms, spring heel, double toe caps, sizes 8 to 10; \$1.00 per pair.

Child's Box Calf Lace Boots, spring heel, double toe caps, sizes 5 to 7½; \$1.25 per pair.

Child's Box Calf Button Boots, sole leather, toe caps; sizes 5 to 7½; \$1.25 per pair.

Child's Box Calf Lace Boots, "Iron-clad," sole leather, toe caps, 8 to 10½; \$1.50 per pair; standard screw bottoms, heavy soles.

Little Girls' Box Calf Lace Boots, Blucher cut, low heels, extra back strap; sizes 8 to 10½; \$1.50 per pair.

Little Girls' Box Calf Lace Boots, Oak tanned leather, sole leather toe caps, whole foxed; sizes 8 to 10½; \$2.00 per pair.

Misses' Oil Peb Lace Boots, standard screw bottoms, low heel, heavy toe caps, extra back strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.25 per pair.

Misses' Box Calf Lace Boots, spring and low heel, sole leather toe caps, standard screw bottoms, extra strong strap up the back; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.75 per pair.

Misses' Box Calf Lace Boots, oak tanned leather, extra heavy sole, low heel, sizes 11 to 13; \$2.00 per pair.

Misses' Dongola Lace Boots, Blucher cut, low heel, patent tip, good heavy sole and dressy; 11 to 13; \$1.75 per pair.

Misses' Velour Calf, Goodyear welted sole, Blucher cut, low heel, 11 to 13; \$2.50 per pair.

Misses' Dongola Kid Button Boots, spring heels, patent tip; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.75 per pair.

Youths' Buff Lace Boots, whole foxed, double sole, standard screw

bottoms, steel nailed soles, extra heavy strap, 11 to 13; \$1.50 per pair.

Youths' Heavy Oil Grain Lace Boots, whole foxed, double sole; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.75 per pair.

Youths' English Kip, oak tanned leather, bellows tongue, iron heel clip, extra heavy double sole, all double leather back and fronts to prevent any ripping, and waterproof; 11 to 13; \$3.00 per pair.

Youths' Velour Calf, oak tanned leather sole, whole foxed, dull matt kid top, low heel, very dressy indeed; 11 to 13; \$2.00 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Buff Lace Boots, standard screw bottoms, double soles, steel nailed, dull kid tops, extra back strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.75 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Youths' Whole Foxed Lace Boot, dull leather top, medium sole, strap; sizes 11 to 13; \$1.85 per pair.

Local

—W. H. Kitchen was day ago for selling Cowichan municipal census. He was defeated by Helmsken, K. C.

—Geo. Calder has the contract for the new residence for St. Land avenue. The plan by S. MacLure, the architect.

—Two lady visitors caught a couple of an bay a couple of weighed five and eight ladies, but the fish.

—Henry Cogan, of Sooke, left for his land Friday, accompanied by his wife and two children. They will be months visiting relatives has not seen for nearly a year.

—R. W. Dunsmuir on Esquimalt road, completed. The splendid interior and permanent Lemon, Gonnason & able feature of the building.

—The body of the Cockney arrived from night, and the funeral from the family residence, James Bay, m. Rev. W. Leslie officiated.

—The Daughters of member's house Thursday and social gathering. The meeting being arranged by Mrs. Hardaker on voyage. She was a charming order.

—Mrs. David Ford, master at Duncan, v. lly. at Shawinigan ago. She was taken removal was safe, announced to be on a ery.

—The late George died and Life published was a native of Victoria years of age. The place on Sunday, at o'clock from the past Funeral & Furnishings.

—Thos. McGrady, the lecturer, is billed to "Socialism" on Monday. The speaker, who have heard this his articles speak very truly, and predict a meeting will open at 8.

—An important meeting of the church will be held in the city hall commencing at 4.30. tion and by-laws are a full attendance of requested.

—The excursion up arranged by the Hu party for a hunting steamer, is due to Monday. A number by the Princess Be. The balance will re. steamer leaving Seattle.

—The funeral of the Pennock took place the family residence, at 2 o'clock, and a cathedral at 2.30. B. dated at the church. There was a large friends to pay a last to the deceased lady.

—Notwithstanding 1905 the Mutual Life the largest volume of the history of the corporation was the lowest companies. The Mutual Life of Canada profits. For rates at A. B. McNeill, special Drury, manager, 34 H.

—Those who went of Labor Day excursion welcome the announcement has been made. Labor Day, Monday, of Nanaimo has been. leave the C. P. R. do returning about 9.30. exact route has not. will probably be among at each picture.

—The Ladies' Aid formed Episcopal church. This is a residence of Mr. and cett overlooking Victoria and other ref. served, and a splendid given. The reached by either the street cars. The fun. time from 3 to 6 o'clock.

—There should be a at to-morrow afternoon. The City of Nanaimo pieces of the W. C. T. boat will leave the C. 2 p. m., returning no short stop will be. Saanich. Tickets at the mission, Y. M. C. C. P. R. ticket office. bers.

—The death occurred James W. Bolden at pital. He was the el. Bolden, sr., and 21 y. old. His parents a. most his loss. The arranged to take place Sunday from the p. Hanna, Yates street, conducted by Rev. G. pastor of the Metro. church.

—On Wednesday e. h. of Victoria West held their usual weekly routine of ordinary routine of a. ried out, during which admitted as an associated. Following programme: Fred. Songs, Bros. and Fletcher, vocal and Vesper and Eglison. A watermelon social for which Sister You. brews were responsible. A number of much mirth. then closed in the us.

What Other People Think

THE WATER QUESTION.

To the Editor:—Permit me to correct an unintentional misrepresentation of facts made in a Colonist editorial reference to the improvements suggested by the city engineer, water commissioner and myself, in which it says "should we abandon Elk lake after the expenditure of \$300,000." The scheme referred to calls for a vote of \$300,000, but the actual amount of the \$300,000 spent on the Elk lake system is \$112,500, made up of \$85,000 for the 30-inch main, and \$27,500 for cleaning up in and around the lakes. The balance provides for the distribution at a cost of \$146,410, and the 100,000-gallon reservoir, at a cost of \$25,000, both of which are requisite in the event of using any other supply; the remaining \$1,000 needs no explanation.

But, sir, this calls for still further explanation, in which you will see that the actual amount that the city will have to pay out of this vote of \$300,000, and by which they will insure a permanent supply by gravity is only \$25,000, being the cost of cleaning up in and around the lakes and the reservoir. This is explained by the fact that the installation of the 30-inch main will save its cost by the diminished cost of pumping that will be required. The 100,000-gallon reservoir mentioned at the small cost of \$15,000 is a saving in itself, as it will enable the pumps to be run during the night as well as during the day, and after having a hard week, turn out on Sundays for ordinary pay. We would point out that our plan is in no respect different to skilled labor as far as steady work is concerned, in fact, it is precisely the same, and when there is no work for skilled labor there will be a very poor chance for the unskilled man.

When the green man Mr. Bullen mentions is forthcoming, all such that are to be had are rushed on an emergency job, but when they are not forthcoming we are taking advantage of the scarcity of labor. It is the scarcity of labor which causes the overtime, and as one man cannot do two men's work in their contracts and not tender at the men's expense. We object to be worked like

horses owing to a difficulty over which we have no control.

The men who have endeavored to remain steady by the firm feel that a nine-hour day at our work is enough to expect of a man, and that a little inducement is absolutely necessary when this is exceeded.

A. J. MORLEY, Mayor.

STRIKE AT ESQUIMALT.

To the Editor:—Referring to statements made by Mr. H. Bullen on above, the men feel that he has given a very wrong version of the affair. Mr. Bullen states that we came to him without a moment's notice. This is not a fact, as we have all along been kicking and refusing the foreman point blank to work overtime under the present regulations, and his reply has always been that he has no objection to our working overtime, but that the firm would not hear of extra for overtime. Therefore the idea that Mr. Bullen conveys, that the men took the opportunity when labor was scarce to make this request, is entirely erroneous, the plain fact being that we felt that owing to laborers being scarce overtime was becoming serious, and few people have a desire to let their meals go and work on regardless of time, and, after having a hard week, turn out on Sundays for ordinary pay. We would point out that our plan is in no respect different to skilled labor as far as steady work is concerned, in fact, it is precisely the same, and when there is no work for skilled labor there will be a