Suggestions Re Taxation

How to Raise Revenue From the Wild Lands and the Timber.

Assessors Speak on Objections of Mr. Oliver to the Tax on Farms.

Western Fuel Co. Heard From and Banking Interests Express Opinion

THE commission enquiring into the operation of the Assessment Act continued its sessions yesterday. During the enquiry a number of matters not strictly connected with the Assessment Act, but concerning the questions of revenue, were admitted. For instance, during the morning session Mr. W. J. Sutton, the well-known mining engineer and geologist, was heard in reference to the Land Act, and he offered a number of suggestions as to the way timber lands should be handled so as to produce the best results from a revenue point of view, and to conserve the timber from destruction by fire. Written suggestions were also heard from Mr. Wm. Shannon, of Vancouver, along similar lines, and at the afternoon session Mr. Shannon appeared before the commission. E. M. Yarwood, solicitor for the Western Fuel Company, Nanaimo, was also heard with reference to the coal tax, and Mr. C. C. Fisher, collector and assessor for the New Westminster district, was heard respecting the assessment upon the farming community, with regard to points raised by Mr. John Oliver, M. P. P. It was expected that representatives of the banking interests would attend, but their views were contributed in a letter signed by Mr. C. Sweeney and Mr. G. Taylor, chairmen of the clearing houses of Vancouver and Victoria, respectively.

As there was no witnesses expected today, it was decided to adjourn over until Tuesday next, when Mr. John Oliver and others are expected to appear before the commission.

MORNING SESSION.

Mr. E. M. Yarwood, solicitor for the Western Fuel Company, Nanaimo, was heard relative to the coal tax, which he said bore unfairly on their interests. He said the intention of the act, as passed by the Dunsmuir government, was that the tax should be in lieu of all other taxation. He thought it should be amended to meet this idea, so that the tax would be in substitution of all taxation on land. In 1902 the company paid in royalty $20,000; in provincial taxation $2,055, and in city taxes over $27,000.

The chairman—"That is, of course, on the shaft head and everything in the city?"

Mr. Yarwood—"Yes, but to the province we paid over $23,000 in round numbers. This was equal to 4 per cent. on their capital." He did not suppose any business in the province would pay anything like that.

The chairman instanced a case where a company was raising coal from a limited number of the acres it held. According to your theory the government should exempt all the acreage not mined?

Mr. Yarwood said he did not contend that it should all be exempt, but only a certain portion of it.

To Mr. Ker witness said some or their coal lands were used for other purposes.

Captain Tatlow asked if witness had a means of showing the amount of coal mined in the last two or three years.

Mr. Yarwood said that last year they mined about 202,000 tons.

Mr. Tatlow—"You are mining a good deal of coal which does not pay anything to the province, under Nanaimo harbor?"

Mr. Yarwood—"There is no royalty paid on this; but the province gets a tax of 5 per cent. a ton."

Mr. Tatlow referred to a suggestion made at a previous session that wild lands having no other value except for coal mining purposes, should be classed separately, and asked witness if he approved of this.

Mr. Yarwood said he thought that lands which were not held for coal purposes should be classed separately. In cases where land was put up for sale for taxes and not sold, the act, as at present drawn, did not permit the actual owner to redeem. This, he thought, should be amended, as it opened the door for fraud. He suggested that in giving a deed that they should only give to the purchaser at a taxation sale the interest that the assessed owner had in the land.

The chairman, while questioning whether this suggestion would amount to anything in regard to coal lands, agreed that the attention of the treasury department should be called to the section.

Mr. Tatlow said that, as a matter of fact, the matter had already been referred to the attorney-general for consideration.

The chairman read a letter from Mr. Wm. Shannon making certain suggestions in regard to the administration of timber lands, with a view to revenue. One point made therein was that as they were not allowed to export logs, no sale was allowed for telegraph poles, which otherwise might find quite an extensive market in Mexico.

The letter was received for consideration in connection with the Land Act, not being within the scope of the present commission.

The chairman said he did not know what would happen if they had to raise all their revenue by taxation. At present only a small part of it was got in this way.

Mr. Tatlow—"Only about 25 per cent."

Mr. Wm. J. Sutton, mining engineer and geologist, was permitted to speak concerning various matters affecting the taxation question, it having been, as he said, suggested to him by several gentlemen that he should do so. The first point suggested by Mr. Sutton was that wild lands were not properly classified. There were many varieties of wild land. There was first-class timber land and second-class timber land. Under the classification of first-class timber lands he would place timber that would run over 30,000 to the acre, while second-class timber lands should consist of those lands which ran under 30,000 and down to 10,000 to the acre. Under agricultural lands there were also two classes of lands, which, because of their quality from a settler's point of view, would be readily taken up, and lands which were desirable because of their location in a settled portion of the country. Then there were pasture lands containing very little timber, and lands suitable practically for nothing else but sheep runs. Then there were mineral and coal lands. In the present classification of wild lands all these lands were dumped in together and were subject to a taxation of 5 per cent. This caused hardship in many cases. The holder of second-class land had to pay as much as the holder of land of the first class. In many cases assessors were unable to get away from their offices to inspect these lands, and they must classify them in a rough, slipshod way. He knew of cases where lands worth $30 and $40 per acre had been assessed for the same amount as lands worth from $2 to $5 per acre. The same thing applied to agricultural lands. He mentioned these matters that the attention of the government might be called hereto, and not in a spirit of unfriendly criticism. Owing to unfavorable laws the lands of the province were not as profitable an asset as they should be. There used to be a clause in the act which permitted the government to sell lands at $5 per acre. This was rescinded. The government could not sell any timber lands at all now. He contended that the 5 per cent. land tax was an embargo on the province's most valuable asset.

Mr. Tatlow—"Do you advocate the unrestricted sale of land?"

Mr. Sutton—"No, I do not advocate that strictly. I think there should be some regulation over it. But I think the government should sell lands freely; let people buy them, and let them become subject to taxation."

Mr. Tatlow—"By lowering the price?"

Mr. Sutton—"No. They were selling all right at $5 per acre, but they started an agitation that land grabbers were buying up the whole country and that the sale of these lands must be stopped."

Mr. Cotton—"Timber lands?"

Mr. Sutton—"Timber lands and agricultural lands the same way. There are a number of restrictions which make it difficult for a man to purchase it. The government, I think, should give every possible facility to the unloading of this vast estate which they possess, and not put embargoes in the way."

Mr. Tatlow—"Don't you think it advisable to have it surveyed?"

Mr. Sutton—"Yes; in a business-like way."

Mr. Tatlow—"You refer to that as one of the obstacles in the way of purchasers?"

Mr. Sutton—"Oh well, it is one of the obstacles in the way [illegible] to the

(Continued on Page [illegible])

News Notes Of The Dominion

Three Children Plunge to Death Over a High Cliff at Quebec.

Mayor of Montreal Says King and Queen May Visit Canada.

Quebec, Jan. 12.—A sled upon which were three young sons of P. Chamberland, of this city, dashed over the high cliff in the rear of the St. Foye toll gate this morning. The children were not missed until this afternoon and were then found lying in a snowdrift at the foot of the cliff. One had apparently been instantly killed, having fallen on a rock, another is dying and but slight hopes are entertained for the recovery of the third. No one saw the accident.

L. J. Demers, one of the best known newspapermen of the province, and former proprietor of L'Evenment, died here this morning at the age of 47 years after an illness of over one year.

Arthur Lachance was chosen last night by the Liberal convention as government candidate in Quebec Centre at the coming election to replace Judge Malouin.

A ROYAL VISIT.

Montreal, Jan. 12.—Mayor Laporte today said, in answer to a question bearing on the subject that recently he had received letters from prominent people in England in which it was intimated that there was every probability of King Edward and Queen Alexandra coming to Canada some time this year.

TWO SEATS SAFE.

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 12.—In the Supreme court of Prince Edward Island yesterday Justice Hodgson sustained the preliminary objections to the election petitions against A. A. McLean and Alex Martin, Conservative members-elect for Queen's. They will, therefore, hold their seats.

A WRETCH'S DOOM.

Woodstock, N. B., Jan. 12.—Thomas Cammack, an old man who murdered Wm. Doherty, wounded Chas. and Geo. Doherty and beat his wife, a sister of the Dohertys, and then fired the house in which they lived at Glassville, N. B., last July, was hanged at 5 o'clock this morning by Sheriff Hayward.

SCHOOL TEACHER KILLED.

Chatham, Ont., Jan. 12.—Miss Christinna Bates, aged 27, a school teacher of this city, while walking on the track to Bloomfield yesterday was struck by a train and killed.

WINNIPEG WIRINGS.

Winnipeg, Jan. 12.—Neepawa opera house was destroyed by fire this morning. The loss on the building is $12,000. The fire originated in a defective furnace. Among occupants who are losers are: Kerr & Graham, general merchants, $25,000; Geo. Dinwoodie, $5,000; W. C. Nelson, $2,000; Burns Bros., $1,000; B. Richardson, Dr. McFadden and W. Wright, barber, $500 each. West of the opera house Jos. Wakefield's building, occupied as a business college, and the Field house building were torn down to prevent the spread of the flames. It took the firemen three hours to get on a stream of water.

The clearings for the week ending Jan. 12 shows an increase of $1,847,649 over last year. The figures are: Week ending Jan. 12, 1905, $7,066,845; corresponding week of 1904, $5,219,196; corresponding week of 1903, $3,908,692.

The government of Manitoba will petition the federal authorities to extend the provincial boundaries north to the Hudson bay and west to include portions of Assiniboia and Saskatchewan.

President Mackenzie of the Canadian Northern railway, announced that his company will build to Hudson Bay from Melfort, Saskatchewan.

Lyleton, Man., Jan. 12.—J. Harris, butcher, was found dead in his stable today. Suicide is suspected.

BUSCOMBE MAYOR OF VANCOUVER

Dr. Mcguigan Defeated by a Very Large Majority—A Suicide.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Jan. 12.—M. Droissart, an eccentric but wealthy Frenchman, took his own life in a closet in his residence here last night. He tied himself to the ceiling by a cord and then stepped off a chair. He was a French-Canadian and owned a dozen houses in the city. The man was said to be in despair from the fact that his young lady had refused to marry him. He built a fine house and furnished it richly and asked her to be his wife. She refused and he killed himself.

Hon. Chas. Wilson, attorney-general, returned today from a trip to England in connection with two provincial cases.

Fred. Buscombe, formerly of Hamilton, Ont., was elected mayor today, defeating Mayor McGuigan by a majority of 1,024. Reform of the administrative departments of the city was the chief issue of the mayoralty contest. The aldermen elected were: Ward 1, Bethune, Halse; ward 2, Cook, Stewart; ward 3, Heaps, Wilson; ward 4, Kemp, McDonald; ward 5, Baxter, Morton; ward 6, Johnson, Williams. License commissioners: W. Hunt, H. C. Clark. School trustees: Duke, Ferguson and McLennan. The waterworks and school by-laws both passed.

Lifebuoy Soap—disinfectant—is strongly recommended by the medical profession as a safeguard against infectious diseases.

LAKE CARRIERS' ASSOCIATION.

Detroit, Mich., Jan. 12.—The annual meeting of the Lake Carriers' Association began here today with members present from all the important ports of the Great Lakes. Before the session opened it was said that the labor question probably would not be discussed until tomorrow. President Wm. Livingstone read the annual report of the board of directors, executive committee and officers. It received the negotiations between labor unions and the officers of the association during the year and comprehensively discusses the strike of the masters and pilots last season. Improvements in process of construction in the various channels of the Great Lakes were reviewed and described.

DRAWBACK ON FLOUR.

Washington, Jan. 12.—Secretary of the Treasury Shaw today issued a regulation allowing a drawback on flour and by-products, resulting from the grinding of wholly imported wheat. The duty on imported wheat is 25 cents a bushel. There is pending before the department the question of drawback on flour produced from mixed imported and domestic wheat.

NELSON FOR HOUSTON.

Redoubtable John and Four of His Ticket Are Elected—Other Cities.

Nelson, Jan. 12.—John Houston was elected mayor of Nelson today by fifteen majority, ten in the West Ward and five in the East, after the most exciting contest ever witnessed here, the recorded votes being many times greater than on any previous occasion. Over $12,000 changed hands today as a result of the election. The figures for mayor and aldermen are as follows: Houston, 515; Rose, 500. Aldermen—West Ward—Harry Bird, 187; J. E. Annable, 214; D. M. McDonald, 210; James Johnston, 179; R. M. Macdonald, 167; A. H. Clements, 170. First three elected. East Ward—W. G. Gillette, 344; J. J. Malone, 310; J. A. Kirkpatrick, 305; R. Robertson, 297; W. L. Spry, 280; G. N. Bartlett, 279. Of the Houston aldermanic ticket four aldermen were elected.

Rossland, Jan. 12.—Charles R. Hamilton was elected mayor by a majority of 75.

Kamloops, Jan. 12.—Charles S. Stevens won out for the mayoralty today in a bitter three-cornered fight against John T. Robinson and Duncan Brown. The latest returns for aldermen indicate the election of five out of six of the business men's ticket, viz.: A. E. McLean, Robert Mackay, J. M. Harper, D. C. McLaren and P. A. Barnhart, with a possibility of Ald. J. F. Smith being re-elected.

U. S. HARBOR DEFENCE.

Washington, Jan. 12.—An important order was issued by President Roosevelt convoking a board including Secretary Taft as president, and seven members of the general staff to revise the report of the Endicott harbor defence board appointed in 1885. The board convoked today also is instructed to extend its examinations so as to include estimates and recommendations relative to defence of the insular possessions.

The board will also recommend the order in which the proposed defence shall be completed so that all the elements of harbor defence may be properly and effectively co-ordinated.

British House Meets 14th Feb.

King Edward Signs Proclamation and Will Open Session In State.

All Indications Point to an Early Dissolution of the Present Parliament.

London, Jan. 12.—King Edward at today's meeting of the privy council signed a proclamation convening parliament for Feb. 14. The session will be opened by the King personally with full state ceremony. The unusual lateness of the date of the reopening is interpreted to mean that the government does not propose to press any redistribution bill but to give to the aliens' bill, which Premier Balfour has definitely promised, the first place in its legislative programme. Recent speeches of ministers confirm the belief in an early dissolution of parliament and it seems likely that unless previously defeated possibly through the intentional abstension of the Chamberlainites the government will find a pretext for voluntarily dissolving parliament towards the end of March and so hand over to the Opposition the seemingly thankless task of formulating the budget.

IMPERIAL PAROCHIALISM.

Colonization Society Organized by the Mayor of Tunbridge Wells.

London, Jan. 12.—(Special)—A meeting at Tunbridge Wells under the mayor decided to form a colonization society. This is said to be the first attempt at imperial parochialism. It is proposed that representatives from each parish be formed into a committee which shall include all residents returned from the colonies whose advice would be serviceable.

A BIG SHIP'S PERIL.

Indus Fast on Fire Island Bar and Lightering Will Be Resorted To.

New York, Jan. 12.—The great steamer Indus still lies on Fire Island bar tonight with little prospect that she will be floated before the next high tide tomorrow morning. The vessel went ashore during a dense fog early today. Today three tugs were standing by and a wrecking crew had been taken aboard the ship. It was expected early tonight that efforts to float her would be made at high tide about midnight, but nothing along this line was done. The ship is resting easily and apparently is not seriously damaged. A report from Fire island at midnight said it was believed the Indus would have to be unloaded before she could be hauled into deep water.

MRS. CHADWICK'S JEWELS.

$25,000 Worth Held for Debt of $17,000.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 12.—Nathan Loeser, receiver for Mrs. Chadwick, has made an examination of the jewelry held by Henry W. Wuerst, of Elyria, Ohio, as collateral for a loan. Mr. Loeser estimates the value of the jewels at $17,000. The Wuerst claim amounts to $20,000. The entire collection is believed to have originally cost Mrs. Chadwick $25,000 or more.

A WISE ADMIRAL.

Paris, June 12.—Admiral Doubasoff was today requested to indicate whether his recent interview in the Echo de Paris, which attracted so much attention, owing to the fact that the Admiral was looked upon as having indicated that peace between Russia and Japan was probable in the near future was correct. He refused to furnish the slightest indication concerning the correctness of the interview, and said: "I do not wish to provoke a press controversy. Consequently I neither deny nor affirm the words attributed to me. All I can say is that in order to deny the Echo de Paris interview a newspaper should have serious reasons.

A Gorgeous Pageant

Formal Opening of Parliament Yesterday Most Brilliant in History.

A Great Array of Elegant Costumes and Handsome Uniforms.

The Speech From the Throne Outlines the Session's Programme.

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA, Jan. 12.—The opening of the tenth parliament of Canada today was conceded to be the most brilliant in the history of the Dominion. The scene upon which Lord Grey entered was bright with a great array of ladies in elegant costumes and officers in splendid uniforms.

Black Rod was at once instructed to summon the Commons. The Commoners appeared and R. F. Sutherland, the new speaker, announced that he had been selected for the office and prayed that His Majesty's representative would be graciously pleased to approve the choice. The choice was duly approved and then the speech from the throne was read as follows:

Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate, Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

SPOILS OF WAR

Tokio, Jan. 12.—General Nogi reports that the Japanese captured at Port Arthur 546 guns, 82,670 shells, 30,000 kilos of powder and 2,266,800 rounds of rifle ammunition.

I desire on this occasion to assure you how sensible I am of the great honor conferred on me by the King, in appointing me to the distinguished position of Governor-General.

My pleasure in being called upon to represent His Majesty in the Dominion has been heightened by the cordial welcome I have received on all sides and from all classes.

This favored land, with all its vast resources and improving facilities for transportation, is attracting people on an ever ascending scale, not only from the United Kingdom, but also from the United States and from many other countries. As the opportunities for settlement under the advantageous conditions which exist become better known, this Dominion will become the home of an increasing number of happy and contented people, whose character and prosperity will add strength to the great Empire of which you are so important a part. It is gratifying to note that the trade of the Dominion, which in recent years has so steadily increased, is not diminishing, the aggregate trade for the last fiscal year being the largest on record. The revenue for the past six months is also greater than for the corresponding period of the preceding year.

On the invitation of the President of the United States, my government has joined in the formation of an international commission composed of three representatives from each country to investigate and report upon the conditions and uses of the waters adjacent to the boundary line between the United States and Canada, and to make such recommendations for improvements and regulations as shall best subserve the interests of navigation in the said waters.

The rapid growth in the population of the Northwest Territories during the past two years justifies the wisdom of conferring on these Territories provincial autonomy. A bill for that purpose will be submitted for your consideration.

The surveys necessary for the location of the line of the national transcontinental Canadian railway are being vigorously prosecuted, and it is confidently believed that tenders for the construction of several sections may be invited during the coming season.

The display of Canadian products made last year at the St. Louis exposition proved a marked success in attracting agriculturists to the Western prairie.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The accounts of the last year will be laid before you. It will be satisfactory to you to learn that the expenditure has been less than the revenue, leaving a surplus over all charges.

The estimates for the coming year will be submitted at an early date; they have been prepared with a due regard for economy consistent with the development of the resources of the Dominion.

Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate, Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I invite your best attention to the subjects I have mentioned and invoke the Divine blessing on your deliberations.

His Excellency departed immediately after the close of the formal proceedings and the Commoners went back to their own quarters, but concluded that they had done enough business for this week and adjourned until Monday.

His Excellency gave his first state dinner tonight and it was largely attended.

Senator J. P. Casgrain is to be the Canadian commissioner to the Liege, Belgium, exposition.

Messrs. Power and Belcourt, ex-speakers, were sworn in as privy councillors of Canada today.

The members of the opposition are delighted to learn tonight of the arrival in Montreal of R. L. Borden. He will be present at the caucus tomorrow morning.

Col. Hughes will move a resolution in favor of the creation of an imperial parliament.

Hon. S. Fisher will reintroduce his bill providing for the inspection of seeds.

RUSSIANS USE CAVALRY.

General Oku's Headquarters in the Field, Jan. 12, 4 p. m., via Fusan.—A small party of Russian cavalry near Haicheng attempted to cut there way, but were driven back by the Japanese guard. No details have yet been received. It is the first time that the Russians have attempted to use cavalry along the line of communication.

GARRISON WAS 50,000 STRONG

Investigations by the Japanese Show Real Strength of Port Arthur.

Tokio, Jan. 12.—The Japanese achievement of Port Arthur is more remarkable in the light of further investigations The original Russian strength is now estimated to have been almost 50,000. It is announced at the army headquarters that in addition to the prisoners already reported about 13,000 wounded combatants will eventually be brought to Japan. General Nogi's headquarters' staff at Port Arthur are at present devoting their energies to despatching the prisoners to Japan, placing the wounded in hospitals and clearing the way for a thorough investigation of the spoils of war.

Confused reports reach Tokio of the condition of the city. It was said today that General Nogi will not return to Tokio at present.

Several survivors of the seventh detachment of Japanese who tried to block the harbor at Port Arthur by sinking stone-laden steamers in the channel, are expected to arrive at Sasebo today. The fate of 70 companions is unknown.

RUSSIAN CAPTIVES.

Two Shiploads of Prisoners of War Arrive at Nagasaki.

Nagasaki, Jan. 12.—(3 p. m.)—The steamers Kaga and Sunuki have arrived here with 1,600 Russian prisoners of war and fifty officers. All the prisoners have been quartered at Inisa, a village near by, where has also been prepared a lodge for General Stoessel, who will arrive next Saturday. The Russian officers are allowed much liberty within the bounds of the town, but they are under police escort. General Stoessel and staff will sail from here for Europe on a French mail steamer Jan. 16. These Russian prisoners are unfeignedly pleased at the end of the hardship of the siege and the considerate treatment of their victors.

LADYSMITH NOTES.

Mayor Banquets the Aldermen—Departure of Mr. Marshall.

Ladysmith, Jan. 10.—(Special.)—At the conclusion of last night's meeting of the City Council, the last of the retiring board, Mayor Coburn invited the aldermen and others attending the meeting to supper at the Grand hotel. All present sat down to a sumptuous repast, at the conclusion of which toasts were drunk, speeches made and a pleasant time generally indulged in.

The council, during the short term, may well feel proud of the work they have done. Ever since the city was incorporated the council has had to face great difficulties, the majority of which they have overcome by consistent hard work, and as a consequence at the present time Ladysmith is a much more advanced city than it was six months ago.

Locomotive No. 15, the one that so badly smashed in the wreck last week at Union, was brought down from the scene of the disaster by the barge Georgian, in tow of the Mystery. The big engine presented a rather battered looking sight.

The following officers were installed by Mr. H. Fulton in Harmony Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F., last night:

N. G., H. Carrol; V. G., Jos. Malpass; secretary, D. Haggart; treasurer, Geo. Smith; warden, Dan. Matheson; conductor, Jean Lowe; R. G., A. Robertson; R. S. N. G., R. Gregson; L. S. N. G., Ken. McAskil; R. S. V. G., T. McMillan; L. S. V. G., W. Anderson.

Following the election of officers a pleasant evening was passed.

The tug Czar took on fuel this morning, preparatory to leaving with the Transfer for Vancouver.

On the eve of their departure for Vancouver both Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Marshall were presented with beautiful and useful gifts from their friends and co-workers of the Church of England of this city. This afternoon the committee of the Ladies' Guild gathered at Mrs. Marshall's and presented her with a gold thimble.

The church committee met tonight for the purpose of accepting the resignation of Mr. Marshall, who was the rector's warden. The committee also presented Mr. Marshall with a gift as a token of their appreciation of his work amongst them.

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall and family leave on Wednesday evening for Vancouver, and it is needless to say that everyone who had the pleasure of being acquainted with them wish them success in their new home.

Czar Is Still Vacillating

Nicholas Is Unable to Make up His Mind to Accept M. Witte.

Irrevocable Decision Made to Refuse Peace Unless With Honor.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 12.—The government seemingly is about to make the irrevocable decision that prestige abroad and the situation at home necessitate the continuation of the war till peace with dignity is possible. Beyond this point, however, confusion exists. Emperor Nicholas is still apparently vacillating as to whether he shall allow M. Witte full sway, in the meantime declining to permit Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky to retire, although the latter persists in the view that the confidence of the people in the manner in which the manifesto is to be worked out is vital, and this is impossible if the work is left so completely in the hands of the bureaucrats. Direct consultation with the representative classes interested he considers essential.

It has now been definitely established that the third section of the manifesto, as it was originally drafted by Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky, provided for representation of the zemstvos in the council of the empire and that it was stricken out against his earnest protest.

The lack of cohesion and alignment of the forces opposed to the existing state of things, and mutual distrust of each other's programme seem to make any revolution now unworthy of serious consideration.

Socialists, revolutionists and other extreme elements, as well as the subject races on the borders of Russia, all have different objectives; while the conservative Liberals, whom the government really hopes to appease, have little in common, and. Russia's millions of peasants have given no evidence of having been stirred by the prevailing political agitation. Demonstrations, and even disorders on a large scale in the centres of population, are regarded by the authorities as possible, accompanied by a recurrence of terrorism by those who believe the bomb is the thing with which he can fight absolutism. The last is really considered the likeliest and most deplorable possibility in the near future. For the moment, however, all is quiet.

LOCOMOTIVE EXPLODES.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 11.—The engine attached to a fast express train on the Erie road blew up at Creston, Ohio, early this morning, killing the engineer and fireman.

SMUGGLING LINEN.

New York, Jan. 12.—Frederick S. Pinkus, of the firm of Jaffe & Pinkus, linen importers, was arrested today on a warrant based on two indictments which charged Mr. Pinkus with smuggling linen and with attempted bribery of United States revenue officers. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. According to the indictments Mr. Pinkus returned from Europe on the Campania last June, bringing with him clothing, jewelry and liquors and glassware to the value of $1,200, foreign value.

DEFENDS THE DANCE.

London, Jan. 12.—The Rev. Forbes Phillips, vicar of Gorleston, who has written plays for Mrs. Brown-Potter, writes a letter to the papers indignantly protesting against the attack of Rev. Reuben A. Torrey, the American revivalist, on dancing. The Torrey-Alexander mission recently announced a crusade on London society against scandals, dancing, gambling, theatres, etc. Mr. Phillips declares that only a depraved mind and jaundiced life could imagine such monstrous charges as Dr. Torrey makes, and he hopes that all sweet-minded women will hesitate before allowing their daughters to attend Dr. Torrey's ministrations.

FRENCH CABINET CRISIS.

Paris, Jan. 12.—Consideration is being given in the highest quarters to the eventuality of the retirement of the cabinet as a result of the election of M. Deumor as president of the chamber of deputies. It is expected that M. Miller and M. Pouvier will form a cabinet in the event of the retirement of the present ministry. Foreign Minister Delcassé is expected to remain without reference to the other changes.

JAPANESE DIPLOMACY.

Tokio, Jan. 12.—The Japanese war office has notified American Minister Griscomb that it will be pleased to permit General Macarthur and one aide to accompany the army of Japan in Manchuria. At present two British generals are accompanying the troops and satisfaction is expressed at America's action in also sending an officer of such high rank.

POWDER WORKS EXPLODE.

Paterson, N. J., Jan. 12.—Two men were blown to atoms, a small building was completely demolished and windows within a radius of more than a mile were shattered today by an explosion in the Ladin & Rand Powder Works at Wayne. The shock of the explosion was plainly felt in this city. The dead men were Charles Schuman, aged 30 years, and John Burke, 25 years, of Scranton, Pa. The cause of the explosion will probably never be known.

Election Day At Nanaimo

A. E. Planta Elected Mayor by a Good Majority Over Mr. Cocking.

Hundred Volunteers Join in the Search for Missing Children.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Nanaimo, Jan. 12.—The election held today passed off very quietly and if it were not for the small groups of men standing on various corners one would scarcely have known that an election had taken place. The day opened fine and clear, an ideal one for getting out a large vote. Voting was very slow at times and it was not up until after 4 p. m. that any rush took place at the polls and only then for an hour or so.

The polls closed at 7:30, when the deputies commenced the task of counting the votes. Contrary to general expectation, A. E. Planta was elected mayor over J. H. Cocking by a substantial majority of 83 in a total vote of 921.

After the result of the polls had been declared, Mayor Manson ascended the platform and called for volunteers to go and search for the two children who had been missing for several days. Immediately over 100 men put down their names to assist in the task and will meet for that purpose at 8 o'clock at the livery stables of Mr. J. H. Cocking, where rigs will be waiting to take them to the scene where traces of the children were last seen. The entire neighborhood will be thoroughly searched and an effort made to clear up the mystery which has surrounded their disappearance.

QUICK ACTION ON LOAN.

Berlin, Jan. 12.—Applications for the Russian loan were so large that the subscription list was closed immediately after it opened this morning.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 12.—The Russian subscription to the new loan opened at 10 o'clock this morning and was fully subscribed to within half an hour. It went at a premium of one point during the day.

TARIFF REVISION.

Washington, Jan. 12.—A statement opposing the calling of an extra session of the Fifty-ninth Congress to revise the tariff and expressing the belief that the agitation of this question at this time is "neither necessary nor desirable" has been signed by seven representatives from the Rocky Mountains and Pacific coast.

TO SETTLE MILL STRIKE.

Boston, Jan. 12.—It was announced at the executive department at the State House that Governor Douglas is trying to bring about a settlement of the strike of the cotton mill operatives at Fall River. The governor has entrusted the preliminary work of enquiry and possible negotiations between the mill owners and the operatives to Herbert D. Drake, who has long been connected with Governor Douglas in a business capacity. Mr. Drake arranged for a conference with labor leaders at Fall River today.

Fall River, Mass., Jan. 12.—A conference between B. D. Drake, representing Governor Douglas, Mayor Coughlin of this city and four secretaries of textile unions was opened at the mayor's office here today. The millers were represented at the meeting. Mayor Coughlin and Mr. Drake, Secretaries O'Donnell, White, Taylor and Knisey were in attendance. The conference was without result.

Members of the local textile unions will be asked tomorrow night to vote on the question to delegate the power of settlement of the cotton mills strike to the textile council. This action is said to be the result of the efforts of Governor W. L. Douglas to settle the strike.

CANTERBURY TO THE AMERICANS

Archbishop Refutes an Absurd Rumor as to National Church.

London, Jan. 12.—The Archbishop of Canterbury, replying to a correspondent who called his attention to an article in a recent number of the New York Churchman, denies that in a recent letter he advocated the establishment of some branch of religion as the national church of America, and says: "Nothing could have been further from my thoughts or wishes. The whole circumstances of the history and character of the constitution of the United States render such a notion entirely out of the question."

Continuing, the Archbishop points out that the national church of England is an absolute necessity, as a part of her existence. Such a fact, he says, is possible in the old country, but impossible in America.

In conclusion he says: "Let America cherish and forward her own characteristic life in her admirable way, but let England retain the system which history has shown is peculiarly adapted to the maintenance within our borders of a strength capable of rendering the world a service never more truly needed than it is today."

BALTIC FLEET SUPPLIES.

London, Jan. 11.—The Times states that arrangements extending over several months to supply the Russian Baltic fleet have apparently come to an end. There is no longer a chain of storeships ahead, and seemingly no arrangements have been made for the fleet's voyage homeward.

Was A Day Of Surprises

Aldermanic Contest Developed Some Sensational Features Yesterday.

Three New Men are to Represent North Ward This Year.

Ald. Vincent Goes Down to Defeat in Surprising Fashion in South Ward.

THE civic elections held yesterday, though there was no mayoralty contest nor any civic issue of paramount importance, yet developed some sensational features. It was not assumed for a moment that three new men would be elected for North Ward, yet this is exactly what eventuated, all the old candidates who presented themselves for election falling beneath the preponderance of "new blood," which is so largely to be a component part of this year's council. In this ward the contest was particularly keen, and as the count proceeded last evening at the polling booth no small amount of excitement developed, as it was seen that there would be a close run between Hanna, Beckwith and Fullerton, early in the evening it being conceded that Dr. Lewis Hall would be elected by a large majority.

The result in Centre Ward was not at all in the nature of a surprise—it having been generally conceded that the former representatives at the board would be the successful men. Elford had a narrow squeeze for his aldermanic existence, but he "got there" just as well as if he had a million majority, and his friends are congratulating him on that circumstance.

Another big surprise developed from the result in South Ward, where Ald. Vincent, one of the hardest working members at the old board, went down to defeat. The very keenest prophets thought Ald. Vincent would, if not heading the poll, at least get a second place. On the contrary, Ald. Vincent was snowed under in a most surprising fashion, and a new man headed the poll—James Douglas.

The following "plumpers" were cast for candidates in North Ward: Beckwith, 3; Dinsdale, 4; Fullerton, 39; Hall, 22; Hanna, 10; Kinsman, 24; Penketh, 24. The figures for the wards in the aldermanic contests are as follows:

NORTH WARD.

HALL	595
HANNA	454
FULLERTON	432
Beckwith	423
Kinsman	368
Penketh	311
Dinsdale	225

CENTRE WARD.

GOODACRE	239
STEWART	199
ELFORD	140
Levy	134
Quagliotti	133
Clarke	106
Anderson	73

SOUTH WARD.

DOUGLAS	435
FELL	405
ODDY	402
Vincent	318

Ideal weather conditions prevailed for the contest, and as a consequence many who otherwise would have remained at home came out and recorded their votes. The best of good feeling prevailed around the polling booths and though canvassing of voters as they approached the booths was active, no single unpleasant incident occurred.

THE BYLAWS.

General satisfaction was expressed on all sides when it became known that the two bylaws—the Douglas street extension bylaw and the Old Men's Home loan bylaw—had carried by big majorities. It was recognized that these were important civic measures, and though the vote was comparatively small, it was an emphatic endorsement of Mayor Barnard's programme of civic progress. The figures of the votes on the bylaws were as follows:

DOUGLAS STREET EXTENSION.

South Ward.	
For	279
Against	63
Centre Ward.	
For	157
Against	61
North Ward.	
For	361
Against	160
Total for	797
Total against	284

OLD MEN'S HOME.

South Ward.	
For	268
Against	83
Centre Ward.	
For	174
Against	59
North Ward.	
For	419
Against	128
Total for	851
Total against	270

SCHOOL TRUSTEES.

Following are the figures of the vote for school trustees:

Huggett	1,121
Bolton	1,115
Jay	1,051
Riddell	736
McKay	690

THE NEW STORM CENTRE.

Tangier, Morocco, Jan. 12.—Fierce fighting is reported to have occurred between Kabyl tribes in the neighborhood of Alcazar, whence burning villages are visible. Refugees report that many tribesmen have been killed or wounded. There are grave fears at Alcazar that the victors may attempt to sack that town.

THE PAGE MURDER.

Cambridge, Jan. 12.—The testimony of Chief of District Police Shaw and Henry C. Bourne at today's session of the trial of Chas. L. Tucker, charged with the murder of Miss Mabel Page, related to the bloodstained trousers worn by Tucker on the day of the murder Victorians, although there may be a fe his overcoat after his arrest. Shaw said that Tucker told him frankly of his movements on March 31, the day of the murder. Upon the witness expressing a desire to closely examine the trousers worn by the defendant Tucker as he removed the garments for inspection volunteered information as to how they became bloodstained.

Asked why he destroyed his hunting knife, Tucker replied that he feared the crime would be fastened on him should the officers search him and find the knife.

Bourne, when shown the pin found on the prisoner and adjudged to have belonged to the murdered woman, at first said that he had seen Tucker wear a pin of that design while he was employed at Robertson's boat house in 1902, but later admitted that it was not the same pin, being larger than the one he had seen Tucker wear.

Other witnesses called testified to the whereabouts of Tucker on the day Miss Page was killed.