The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-FOURT YEAR — VICTORIA B. C TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17. 1903. — VOLUME LXVII

Discussing Commission

U. S. Members Are Chosen and Will Soon Be Announced.

And Money Asked For to Carry Out Provisions of Treaty.

Edward Blake Is Considered Good Man For Canadian Side.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The President today transmitted to the House a copy of the treaty entered into between the United States and Great Britain relative to the Alaskan boundary line, together with a draft of a bill appropriating $100,000 to carry out the provisions of the treaty.

President Roosevelt and his cabinet were in session today and the selection of the United States commissioners under the terms of the Alaskan boundary treaty, which was ratified a few days ago, was discussed. The commissioners have been chosen, and may be announced soon.

Toronto, Feb. 13.—The News special cable says: "The Ottawa correspondent of the Times cables that Edward Blake is mentioned in official circles as one of the British representatives on the Alaskan arbitration tribunal. I saw the member for South Longford today and asked him whether he had been approached in the matter. The reply was he knew nothing about it, and would not say whether he would accept were he offered the position. It is generally admitted in British official circles as well as by Canadian residents here that he is the best man for the post. His great reputation gives Mr. Blake a unique standing in British eyes.

WILL NOT BUY.

Germany Does Not Want Ready Made Fleet.

Berlin, Feb. 13.—The German navy department, after considering the proposal that Germany purchase the four battleships being constructed for Argentina and Chili in England and Italy, has decided not to do so for two reasons; first, because the Government is not willing, in view of the present state of the Imperial finances, to ask the Reichstag for the $17,000,000 required; second, because the general staff of the navy does not wish to incorporate into the German navy guns of different calibers and turret machinery and other essential features of warships which are not similar to those in use on board German built vessels.

It is pointed out that the present homogeneity of the navy would be impaired were the four warships to be acquired by Germany, as the gunners can now be changed from ship to ship without loss of their efficiency. But if the four foreign vessels were taken over with their armaments and separate stocks of ammunition it would be necessary to have gunners differently drilled.

NORTH ONTARIO.

Election Takes Place Next Month.

Ottawa, Feb. 13.—(Special.)—The writ for the North Ontario election was issued today. Polling takes place on March 10th.

A deputation from Ontario was asked by the Government to encourage steel ship building on the Great Lakes.

It was decided today to state a case to the Supreme court to determine whether the Federal or Provincial Governments have a right to grant leases of water lots on Ottawa river. The province claims that the river bed belongs to them under the Privy council decision.

Sir Albert Rollitt, M. P., chairman of the London Chamber of Commerce, delegation writes thanking the Canadian board for courtesies extended on the occasion of the recent visit.

PROHIBITION CONVENTION

Manitoba Party Will Try to Have Candidates in Politics.

Winnipeg, Feb. 13.—At the Prohibition convention the following enumeration of the policy of the temperance party as formulated at the last convention was reaffirmed with the addition of the words: "Wherever practicable."

"We are determined to see, through means of our local organizations, that in every constituency there shall be a candidate who can be definitely relied upon to give an independent support to prohibition."

A report from the executive recommending the employment of two additional field secretaries, and the raising of a campaign fund of at least $10,000 was adopted.

Rev. Jos. Hogg, treasurer, reported receipts of $868, a large portion of this consisting of sums subscribed at the last convention. He reported $120 as due for expenses of the field secretary's work. Rev. E. J. Chegwin and B. H. Spence were appointed to audit this report.

W. W. Buchanan in an address on the referendum vote in Ontario, dwelt at length on the efforts of the liquor men to win out at the polls. He declared that the sum of $800,000 had been spent, or $3 for every vote that was polled through their efforts. The fact that the total vote polled was only six thousand less than in the general election, he said, was an indication that the temperance sentiment was very strong in the country.

FOLEY WILL PROTEST.

Not Satisfied That Mr. MacPherson Is Elected.

Vancouver, Feb. 13.—(Special.)—A large meeting of Mr. Foley's supporters took place last night, when it was decided to protest Mr. MacPherson's election.

Sir Hibbert Tupper has given his opinion to Mr. Foley's committee that the fact that the returning officer did not get the ballot boxes to Atlin in time to have the election in Atlin on the same day as in the rest of Burrard annuls the election. Besides this members of the committee at the meeting hinted that sufficient evidence outside of this irregularity was in hand to successfully protest the election.

PLAY AT DUNCANS.

Theatrical Performance at the Agricultural Hall.

Duncans, Feb. 12.—A very interesting play was performed on the stage of the Agricultural hall last evening by local amateurs, entitled "Pocahontas." Upon the lifting of the curtain the very fine scenery painted by Mr. Springelt, which represented a beautiful scene in the Cowichan valley, was greeted with rounds of deafening applause.

The leading characters were taken by Mr. L. Hadwen, Mr. Service, Mr. G. Mutter, Mrs. Mellin, Miss B. Jaynes, Mr. G. Pooley, Mr. H. Williams, Mr. Rolston, Miss L. Jaynes, and Mrs. Springelt, pianist.

Mrs. Mellin acted the title role, and Mr. Hadwen, "John Rolfe."

The costumes of the actors were very artistic, and the rendition of the play was very good, and was thoroughly appreciated by the audience, as proved by the round after round of applause and the numerous encores which greeted the performers all through the play. The comic part, acted by Mr. Harry Williams, as "The Coon," kept the audience roaring with laughter the whole evening. The "cakewalk," which closed the performance, was exceptionally good, Miss B. Jaynes and Mr. Rolston greatly distinguishing themselves. The performance was for the benefit of the Cowichan library, over $100 being taken at the door. After the play, refreshments were served in the adjoining dining room, and the remainder of the evening was spent in dancing.

SMALLPOX AT BLAINE.

Confirmation of the Outbreak Reaches Westminster.

New Westminster, B. C., Feb. 13.—(Special.)—Confirmation comes of an outbreak of smallpox at Blaine, Wash. Three cases are now quarantined, and the report says there are others. Dr. Fagan was there yesterday.

Suing the New Member

One of Mr. MacPherson's Committee Claims Balance Is Due Him.

Dr. Carroll Loses His Case Against the City of Vancouver.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Feb. 13.—A writ was served by the sheriff on R. G. MacPherson, member-elect for Burrard at the instance of Cleophas Guiguere, who sues Mr. MacPherson for the balance claimed, $96.50. When this payment was refused Guiguere, who was on MacPherson's election committee took the account to Sir Chas. Tupper to collect. Needless to say the suit is being pressed for the purpose of securing evidence that it is hoped will lead to Mr. MacPherson's disqualification.

A LAND SUIT.

Mr. Justice Drake presided at the trial of Carroll vs. the City of Vancouver today. The plaintiff, Dr. Carroll took action against the city for the possession of the land around the water works dam, and for damages for trespass. Mr. MacDonnell for Dr. Carroll undertook to prove Dr. Carroll's title to the land in possession of the city, and closed his case. Mr. Hamersley for the city disputed Dr. Carroll's title on the ground that tax sale by which the property was transferred to J. MacQuillan was illegally conducted, and the tax sale title invalid, and as Mr. MacQuillan sold to Dr. Carroll, Dr. Carroll had no title. This view of the case was taken by Justice Drake, who followed his own decision in a similar case entitled Kirl vs. Kirkland. The case was thrown out on the ground that Dr. Carroll had no title to the land and costs went against the plaintiff.

MONGOLIAN IN PORT.

Reaches Halifax After an Exciting Voyage.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 13.—After an exciting voyage of 14 days, the Royal Mail steamer Mongolian reached Halifax early this morning. Her machinery broke down and for 17 hours the steamer was helpless in a furious gale.

FIGHTING 'PHONE COMPANY.

Fort William People Want a Municipal Service.

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 13.—An injunction was served on the Bell Telephone Company by the town of Fort William today and all work on extension of the system has ceased. Members of the railway unions at a meeting decided to use none but municipal 'phones in their homes.

C. P. R. ON ATLANTIC.

Negotiations Regarding Purchase of Elder-Dempster Line.

Montreal, Feb. 13.—The Star's London cable says: "Regarding the C. P. R. purchasing the Elder-Dempster steamers for the fast Atlantic freight service, I understand the present position is as follows: The Elder-Dempster people are willing to sell if the Canadian Pacific is willing to buy. The Elder-Dempster, however, want the best possible obtainable price. The C. P. R. people are now having steamers surveyed as they reach British ports so as to ascertain the fair market value and progress is necessarily somewhat slow."

CANADIAN TRADE.

Deputation in Flour Duties—Jamaica Raises Embargo.

Ottawa, Feb. 14.—(Special.)—A deputation of flour millers here today saw Sir Richard Cartwright and asked for the re-establishment of flour standards.

The trade department is advised that Jamaica has raised the embargo on Canadian cattle.

QUEBEC SCHOOL TROUBLES.

Member of Council of Public Instruction Resigns.

Montreal, Feb. 14.—(Special.)—Rev. Dr. Rexford has resigned from the subcommittee of the Protestant Council of Public instruction, which was dealing with the case of Dr. Harper, inspector of superior schools, whose services the sub-committee recommended should be dispensed with. Dr. Rexford's action is regarded as a protest against the non-acceptance of the report.

Text of Protocols

Conditions Agreed to By the Representatives of Allies and Venezuela.

German and Italian Terms Same as British With Few Exceptions.

President Castro Seems Greatly Relieved at the Turn of Events.

Washington, Feb. 14.—Moved by the spirit in which Herbert W. Bowen has conducted the peace negotiations at Washington with the representatives of the allies, and anxious that his mission should succeed, Andrew Carnegie, upon hearing of Germany's action in demanding a cash payment of one million seven hundred and eighteen thousand bolivars, instead of the £5,500 previously promised her, sent the following message to Mr. Bowen, dated February 12: "I shall be glad to hand you over at once $360,000 to meet the German demand, if Venezuela desires it."

This fact became known tonight after the last of the addenda to the peace protocols had been signed at the British embassy. Mr. Carnegie, it is said, has been watching with close interest the progress of the negotiations. The message was sent as soon as the news of Germany's demand was published. Mr. Bowen despatched a grateful reply to Mr. Carnegie, thanking him for his generous offer, which, however, it was not necessary to accept. In announcing Mr. Carnegie's offer tonight, Mr. Bowen said that many banks and financial syndicates had all along been anxious to lend money to Venezuela, and had sent representatives to see him with this end in view, though these offers were of course of a business nature; whereas, the offer of Mr. Carnegie was made without any reservation or mention of security for the return of his money.

At the conference at the British embassy this afternoon an important addendum was signed to clear up article five in the Italian protocol. By a curious error this article provided that the Venezuelan government obligated themselves to assign to the Italian government, commencing the first day of March, 1903, for this purpose and to alienate to no other purpose, 30 per cent. of the customs revenues of La Guayra and Puerto Cabello. Had this provision stood unamended, the Italian government would have been entitled to their 30 per cent. instead of sharing with the allies as intended. Fortunately the protocols were despatched to the foreign offices of the allies. It was clear up to this point that the negotiators signed the following agreement this afternoon: "We interpret the three protocols to mean that the 30 per cent. referred to therein of the total income of the customs houses at LaGuayra and Puerto Cabello, shall be delivered to the representatives of the Bank of England at Caracas, and that said 30 per cent. is not assigned to any one power, but is to be retained by the said representative of the Bank in Caracas, and paid out by him in conformity with the decision rendered by the tribunal at The Hague."

The text of the protocols signed last night by Mr. Bowen and the representatives of the allies, was made public today. The British protocol is as follows:

"Whereas certain differences have arisen between the United States of Venezuela and Great Britain in connection with the claims of British subjects against the Venezuelan Government, the undersigned Mr. Herbert W. Bowen, duly authorized thereto by the Government of Venezuela, and His Excellency, the Right Hon. Sir Michael Herbert, K. C. M. G., C. B., His Brittanic Majesty's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the United States of America, have agreed as follows:

Art. 1.—The Venezuelan Government declares that they recognize in principle the justice of the claims which have been preferred by His Majesty's Government on behalf of British subjects.

Art. 2—The Venezuelan Government will satisfy at once by payment in cash or equivalent the claims of British subjects which amount to about five thousand five hundred pounds, leaving out the seizure and plundering of British vessels, and the outrages on their crews and the maltreatment and false imprisonment of British subjects.

Art. 3—The Venezuelan and British Governments agree that the other British claims, including claims by British subjects other than those dealt with in article 6 hereof, and including those preferred by the railway companies, shall, unless otherwise satisfied, be referred to a mixed commission, constituted in the manner defined in article 4 of this protocol, and which shall examine the claims and decide upon the amount to be awarded in satisfaction of each claim. The Venezuelan Government admit their liability in cases where the claim is for injury to, or wrongful seizure of property, and consequently the questions which the mixed commission will have to decide in such cases will be only: (A) Whether the injury took place and whether the seizure was wrongful, and (B) If so, what amount of compensation is due. In other cases the claims shall be referred to the mixed commission without reservation.

Art. 4—The mixed commission shall consist of one Venezuelan and one British member. In each case where they come to an agreement their decision shall be referred to the decision of an umpire nominated by the President of the United States.

Art. 5.—The Venezuelan Government, being unwilling to provide a sum sufficient for the payment within a reasonable time of the claims specified in article 3, and similar claims preferred by other governments, undertake to assign to the British Government, commencing the first day of March, 1903, for this purpose and to alienate to no other purpose, 30 per cent. in monthly payments of the customs revenues of La Guayra and Puerto Cabello. In the case of failure to carry out this undertaking, Belgian officials shall be placed in charge of the customs of the two ports and shall administer them until the liabilities of the Venezuelan Government, in respect of the above-mentioned claims, shall have been discharged. Any question as to the distribution of the customs revenues so as to be assigned and as to the rights of Great Britain, Germany and Italy to a separate settlement of their claims shall be determined, in default of arrangements, by the tribunal at The Hague, to which any other power interested may appeal. Pending the decision of the Hague tribunal the said 30 per cent. of the receipts of the customs of the ports of La Guayra and Puerto Cabello are to be paid over to the representatives of the Bank of England in Caracas.

Art. 6—The Venezuelan Government further undertakes to enter into a fresh arrangement respecting the external debt of Venezuela with a view to the satisfaction of the claims of the bondholders. This arrangement shall include a definition of the sources from which the necessary payments are to be provided.

Art. 7.—The Venezuelan and British Governments agree that inasmuch as it may be contended that the establishments of the blockade of Venezuelan ports by the British naval forces has ipso facto created a state of war between Venezuela and Great Britain, and that any treaty existing between the two countries has been thereby abrogated, it shall be recorded in an exchange of notes between the undersigned that the convention between Venezuela and Great Britain of October 29, 1834, which adopted and confirmed mutatis mutandis the treaty of April 18, 1825, between Great Britain and the State of Colombia, shall be deemed renewed and confirmed or provisionally renewed and confirmed pending conclusion of a new treaty of amity and commerce.

Art. 8—Immediately upon the signature of this protocol, arrangements will be made by His Majesty's Government in concert with the Governments of Germany and Italy, to raise the blockade of the Venezuelan ports. His Majesty's Government will be prepared to restore the vessels of the Venezuelan navy which have been seized and further to release any other vessels captured under the Venezuelan flag, on the receipt of a guarantee by the Venezuelan Government that they will hold His Majesty's Government indemnified in regard to any proceedings which might be taken against them by the owners of such ships or of goods on board them.

Art. 9—The treaty of amity and commerce of October 28, 1834, having been confirmed in accordance with the terms of article seven in this protocol, the Government of Venezuela will be happy to renew diplomatic relations with His Majesty's Government.

Done in duplicate at Washington this 13th day of February, 1903.

(Signed),

HERBERT W. BOWEN.
MICHAEL H. HERBERT.

ITALY AND GERMANY.

With few exceptions, the German and Italians' protocols correspond with that of Great Britain. Germany, it is provided, is to receive $340,000, to be paid in five monthly instalments, beginning March 15, whereas Great Britain and Italy are to receive $27,500, the former the day the protocol is signed, and the other 60 days from that date.

To offset this increased advantage in payment given to Germany, the following is provided in article three of the Italian protocol: "The Venezuelan Government, accept, recognize, and will pay the amount of the Italian claims of the first rank derived from the resolutions 1898-1900, in the sum of $2,810,255.

"It is expressly agreed that the payment of the amount of the above Italian claims of the first rank will be made without being the same claims. The sums submitted to the commission, and without any revision or objection."

Article 8 of the Italian protocol also says that the following concession to Italy already enjoyed by Great Britain and Germany, "the treaty of amity and commerce and navigation between Italy and Venezuela of June 19, 1861, is renewed and confirmed. It is, however, expressly agreed between the two governments that the interpretations to the Government to the article 4 and 26 is the following: "According to the article four, Italians in Venezuela and Venezuelans in Italy are entitled to receive every matter, and especially in matters of claims, the same treatment of the most favored nation as it is established in the same article 26."

The Italian protocol reads "At once," where the British use the word "immediately" regarding the raising of the blockade.

CASTRO PLEASED.

Caracas, Feb. 14.—News of the raising of the blockade was received by President Castro at 8 o'clock this morning in a cablegram from Mr. Bowen, who said: "The protocols have been signed. The blockade will be raised tomorrow. Congratulations."

To this message President Castro replied as follows: "In the name of Venezuela and in my own name, I offer you expressions of my eternal gratitude for the decided spontaneousness with which you have proved the cause of justice, which is the cause of the humanity that distinguishes superior minds."

SIR OLIVER'S ILL-HEALTH

Concern Felt About Lieutenant Governor of Ontario—North Ontario Campaign.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Feb. 14.—Great concern is manifested over Sir Oliver Mowat's condition of health. He will be unable to open the Ontario legislature this session, and Chief Justice Moss will likely be appointed administrator of the province. Sir Oliver Mowat is over 82 years of age.

The Liberals are making a desperate effort to defeat Mr. Foster in North Ontario.

ST. EUSTACHE MURDER.

First Crime of Violence in Village For Nearly Seventy Years.

St. Eustache, Que., Feb. 14—(Special.)—For the first time since 1837 a murder has been committed at St. Eustache. At some hour between noon Thursday and 9 o'clock yesterday morning Antoine Seguine was murdered. He lived with his brother-in-law and his half sister, Theophile Belanger, and his wife. Mr. Seguine as far as known, went along to his barn and the assassin waited his coming and killed him without a moment's warning. The shot which killed him was evidently fired at close range, for his beard was singed. The victim was widely known and was popular in this district. He was a Liberal politician of some prominence. Chief McCaskill, of the provincial police force is working on the case and expects to make an arrest soon.

FIRE AT KAMLOOPS.

Standard Publishing Company Has a Scorching.

Kamloops, B. C., Feb. 14.—Fire broke out in the roof of the Standard Publishing Company's office last night about 9 o'clock, destroying the roof of the building and doing damage to their plant to the extent of about six hundred dollars, which is covered by insurance. The building is not insured. The cause of the fire is supposed to be from Chinese fireworks, which were let off in Chinatown.

Hopes For Better Terms

The Premier Speaks of Mission to Ottawa and Probable Results.

Dominion Will Not Disallow Anti-Chinese Acts in Future.

For Imperial Reasons Anti-Japanese Acts Will Be Disallowed.

Colonel, the Hon. E. G. Prior, Premier, and Hon. D. M. Eberts, attorney-general, returned from Ottawa last night, after attending the conference of Premiers and attorneys-general of the provinces held at the Dominion Capital, where Hon. Col. Prior took occasion to lay British Columbia's claims for better terms and for the rights of the province in regard to the fisheries and the Oriental question before Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Dominion Government.

Speaking of his visit the Premier said:

"A conference was first held at Quebec and my letter dealing with the rights of British Columbia, which has been published in full by the Colonist, was embodied with the resolutions passed at that meeting, and brought before Sir Wilfrid Laurier when the meeting of the premiers and attorneys-general of the various provinces was held at Ottawa, Hon. G. W. Ross, Premier of Ontario, acting as spokesman. At a later date we saw Sir Wilfrid Laurier and laid before him and the Dominion Government the claims of British Columbia. The Premier and cabinet gave us a good hearing, and promised to take the matters brought before them under consideration, but no definite assurances were made.

THE FISHERIES.

"The fisheries question—a larger return of the amounts collected for licenses, and the matter of trap-fishing—was brought before the Premier and cabinet, and also before the Minister of Marine and Fisheries at another time. We advanced the claims of the province for a larger return of the moneys collected in licenses, and also took up the question of trap-fishing, but we received no definite answers in either matter, although the Minister of Marine and the cabinet promised to give the question their consideration.

ORIENTAL IMMIGRATION.

"The question of Oriental immigration was taken up, and we urged an increase in the head tax. We also asked that the anti-Oriental acts passed by British Columbia be not disallowed by the Dominion, and in this connection Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the cabinet took a definite stand, to disallow any legislation that is aimed against the Japanese, as the Dominion Government considers that the Japanese Government has taken sufficient safeguards to prevent emigration to this province in allowing only small numbers to leave the country, and again the Dominion does not consider that the passage of anti-Japanese legislation is in the Imperial interest.

CHINESE HEAD TAX.

"In regard to Chinese the same compunction does not exist. The Dominion Government will not disallow legislation aimed at the Chinese, in fact the province may pass what legislation the legislature cares to, if it is only aimed at the Chinese and does not include the Japanese.

"I saw a copy of the Columbian newspaper on the train," continued the Colonel, "which says that we did not know what we were asking for in requesting 50 per cent. of the head tax on Chinese. The Columbian says we ought to know that an act has been passed to allow British Columbia 50 per cent. of the revenue obtained in this manner. True, an act was passed, but it was not brought into force, and will not be brought into force until an order-in-council is made, which step the Government has promised to take. We brought this fact to the attention of the Dominion Government—that British Columbia was entitled to all events 75 per cent. of the money thus derived, as British Columbia suffers most as a result of this immigration. We know well that the act referred to by the Columbian had been passed, but, as I have said, it was not brought into force, and the Government promised to pass an order-in-council which would bring this act into force and give British Columbia 50 per cent. of the head tax. We, however, did not think that 50 per cent. was sufficient, and we asked for more.

INDIAN RESERVES.

"We also brought the matter of the Indian reserve before the Premier and the Dominion cabinet. There are large Indian reserves placed by the Dominion Government on the best land in the province, much of which are held by very small numbers of Indians, and we thought that enquiries might be made into this matter, and the reserves cut up to suit the requirements and existing conditions and the balance placed on the market for white settlers. We also asked that permission be given so that the minerals under the Indian reserves could be worked, which the Dominion Government does not allow at present. Hon. Mr. Sifton said he would take this matter up, and Mr. A. W. Vowell, the Indian superintendent in British Columbia was telegraphed for, and reached Ottawa before we left. The Minister of the Interior said he did not see any reason why an arrangement could not be made to allow of the minerals being worked by the miners of British Columbia, and he will submit a proposition in this regard to the Provincial Government very shortly.

OTHER QUESTIONS.

Other matters taken up for consideration were the question of placing the salaries of the British Columbia judges on the same basis as those of the judiciary of the other provinces, the Alaska boundary question, and other matters, and, of course, the question of better terms for the province was gone into at length.

PROVINCIAL SUBSIDY.

"We asked for larger subsidies for the province. The Columbian, I notice, makes quite a mistake in this regard. It says that in asking for $140,000, we did not know the amount we were getting. The Columbian is in error. British Columbia gets a specific subsidy now of $35,000 and 80 cents per head on the population. What the premiers asked is, in fact, quite an increase on the amount British Columbia now gets, and would increase the specific amount received by British Columbia from $35,000 to $150,000, not including the 80 cents per head according to the number of the population. We also made special claims for larger amounts for carrying on the business of the country, owing to the more difficult circumstances attendant on every branch of the government, owing to the ruggedness and inaccessibility of a great portion of the province.

"I see," said the Premier, "the Times newspaper had an editorial inferring that my having attended the Monk banquet prevented my attending a meeting of the premiers. As a matter of fact, the Monk banquet occurred on the Thursday, and the meeting at Ottawa on the Saturday, but, in common with some others, I understood from Sir Wilfrid Laurier that the meeting of premiers would be held on the Tuesday, and I stayed over in Montreal on the Friday to see some of the Grand Trunk officials, and reached Ottawa on Saturday afternoon."

The Premier is looking well after his trip and looks forward with confidence to the meeting of the legislature.

AT VANCOUVER.

Deputation re Deadman's Island—Chinese and Japanese Immigration.

Vancouver, Feb. 13.—(Special)—Premier Prior and Attorney-General Eberts arrived by the Pacific Express today and at once took the steamer for Victoria.

The Premier received a delegation from the City Council regarding Deadman's Island. It was to the effect that the government give the island to the city, but in the event of their not doing so, and if the government was determined to lease it, to place in the lease the clauses regarding Mongolian labor and other clauses of less importance.

A deputation who are opposed to Mr. Ludgate securing the island, will meet Premier Prior on Monday in Victoria, by appointment.

Both the Premier and Mr. Eberts expressed satisfaction at their reception in Ottawa. As regards the Mongolian immigration question, the Premier understood from what the federal cabinet said, that as regards Japanese, the Dominion could have no choice in the matter, but to disallow the Natal Act as often as it was passed, as the Imperial authorities would have to be consulted, and, as the Japanese government were not allowing coolie emigration, the act would not be a friendly one as regarded from an Imperial standpoint.

As to Chinese immigration, as China was not suppressing coolie emigration, the case was different, and the Dominion government would not disallow an act to regulate Chinese immigration, as such a measure would be constitutional.

DEADMAN'S ISLAND.

Vancouver Board of Trade on the Fence.

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 13.—(Special.)—The council of the Board of Trade have taken a practically neutral stand on the Deadman's Island question, they met this afternoon and passed a resolution to the effect that in the disposition of Deadman's Island the commercial interests of Vancouver as well as the maritime importance of the island should be taken into consideration.

VANCOUVER HIGH SCHOOL.

Hopes to Take Advantage of a Rhodes Scholarship.

Vancouver, Feb. 13.—(Special)—The school board met tonight and decided by resolution to work in harmony and suppliment Superintendent Robinson's efforts to establish Vancouver college on such a basis in the educational world as to entitle the college to participate in the Cecil Rhodes bequest, by having one student each year eligible for a scholarship at Oxford. Superintendent Robinson is now in communication with Mr. George Parkin, and, as Mr. Banfield, the chairman of the board, explained, has invited Mr. Parkin to come to British Columbia in person and satisfy himself as to the eligibility of the school for one yearly scholarship.

CARDSTON PEOPLE ANGRY.

All the Whiskey in the Jail Was Burned.

Lethbridge, Feb. 14. — (Special.)—Word has just been received from Cardston that the town jail was destroyed by fire on Tuesday last. Everything points to incendiarism, coal oil having been used to start the conflagration. The liquor seized Saturday last was stored in the jail building, and the trial was to have taken place the day of the fire. There is intense local indignation.

CANDIDATE NOMINATED.

Dr. Stewart Chosen by Liberals of Centre Bruce.

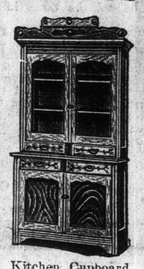
Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—Dr. J. M. Stewart was nominated by the Liberals of Centre Bruce for the legislature at Glamis today.

SEMLIN MEETING.

Addresses Delivered at Ashcroft.

Ashcroft, B. C., Feb. 13.—A political meeting here tonight was addressed by Messrs Semlin, McBride, Oliver and Tatlow.

DOMESTIC FURNITURE



Kitchen Cupboard, Antique Finish, 4ft. 4in. wide, $12.00.

Cheaper than Imported

We make everything in Furniture that can be made, right in Victoria, in a modern factory and of native woods. Goods that cannot be made at home we import in car lots, at the lowest possible freight rates.

A Calendar of 1903 containing many POINTERS that every lady will appreciate, mailed free for the asking.

WEILER BROS.

Furnishers to the People

VICTORIA, B. C.

LEGISLATURE SUMMONED

A extra of the British Columbia Gazette published yesterday contains a proclamation by His Honor Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere, summoning the members of the local legislature to assemble "for the despatch of business," on Thursday, March 12.

Demands Of Miners

Decision of the Meeting Held By the Union Men at Nanaimo.

Superintendent Russell Promises to Take Subject Into Consideration.

Request That Work Be Resumed Is Referred to Pithead Gathering.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Nanaimo, Feb. 14.—Although the situation in regard to the claims of the miners looked somewhat serious this morning, events later in the day pointed to a more favorable condition.

Officials of the union absolutely refuse information as to what transpired at the meeting yesterday, but it was learned that the necessary 75 per cent. majority of the 564 men present decided to send the executive to the management of the Western Fuel Company with the following list of demands:

1. That an allowance for safety lamps be paid.

2. That the lower seam at Protection be paid for at the rate of $1 a ton, or worked by day work at $3 a day.

3. That the scale for underground work be increased all round, commencing March 1; day laborers and men working in over 4 feet of coal, 10 per cent.; men working in less than 4 feet of coal, 20 per cent.

It was further demanded that the executive should report at a Monday morning meeting, and pending settlement of investigations, work should not be resumed.

The executive saw Supt. Russell today, and he stated that the company would take the demands of the men into consideration, but asked that in the meantime that work should be continued in the mines.

This request will be placed before the mines at the pit head meeting on Monday morning and there is a hopeful feeling that work may be resumed at the afternoon shift.

In the meantime the union men, who include 90 per cent. of the underground employees of the Western Fuel Company are now idle.

THE MINERS' MEETING.

Regarding the meeting of the men on Friday, the Nanaimo Herald says:

"All day yesterday the air was filled with rumors as to what had been done at the miners' mass meeting held in the opera house. The meeting convened at 10 o'clock in the morning, there being over 600 men present. Of these many had not yet joined the union since the local body became affiliated with the Western Federation of Miners, and the morning session was for the most part taken up by initiations. There were about 125 men initiated yesterday, and the local miners union now contains practically all the men who work underground. By the time these initiations had been finished there was very little time for business, but the executive committee presented its report, which was practically to the effect that the management refused to restore the 25 cents a day on the safety lamps, but were willing that the safety lamp men should go to work at $3 per day. On the question of working the long wall workings in the lower seam of Protection mine, there was no concession or change. The management wanted these places worked at 68 cents a ton, the usual rate, and would make up deficient places to $3 per day. At the morning session this was simply received and an adjournment taken until 3 o'clock.

"At the afternoon session, although conducted in private, it was understood that the relations of the company to the men were thoroughly discussed in all their bearings. Not only the safety lamp and lower seam questions, but many other smaller but no less annoying differences that have of late crept in between the men and the management. Till 6 o'clock the discussion continued, and when the meeting adjourned, there could be no doubt from the expressions heard on the street that the men had decided to resist any encroachment on their conditions. None of the union officials would talk for publication. They would not even say there was hope for a settlement of the differences. One of the officers said he heard it reported that President Howard had arrived from California and hoped it was true. Enquiries at headquarters of the company, however, elicited the information that he was not in Nanaimo. The only thing that is known positively is that the union will meet again on Monday morning at 10 o'clock in the opera house, and in the meantime the mines will be closed.

"The SS. Wyefield is now lying at the coal wharf loading coal, and it will not be possible to fill her cargo out until the mines start work again.

Mr. Russell, superintendent of the company, was spoken to last night regarding the situation, and he declined to be interviewed for publication, except to say that he hoped the men would settle the difficulty in a sensible manner."

They make one feel as though life was worth living. Take one of Carter's Little Liver Pills after eating; it will relieve dyspepsia, aid digestion, give tone and vigor to the system.