A Family Gathering

No Foreigners at Guildhall Luncheon to Prince and Princess of Wales.

Prince Speaks Enthusiastically of the Boundless Possibilities of Canada.

Lord Salisbury Speaks Words That Will Strengthen Ties of Empire.

London, Dec. 5.—The city entertained the Prince and Princess of Wales this afternoon at luncheon given in the Guildhall and presented them with an address of congratulation on their successful tour of the British Empire.

The royal party drove from York House to the Guildhall in an open, four-horsed landau, escorted by Life Guards. They met everywhere with the heartiest reception from the sight-seers lining the brightly bedecked and troop-guarded route.

The scene in the library of the corporation's historic quarters, where Their Royal Highnesses were received by the lord mayor, Sir Joseph C. Dimsdale, and the corporation, was picturesque. Levee or diplomatic dress uniforms or judicial robes were worn by the majority of the guests, among whom were the agents-general of the colonies.

Prominent among the other notables present were Lord Salisbury, Lord Rosebery and Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain. The reception was made the occasion of a demonstration in favor of the government and of Mr. Chamberlain, the colonial secretary, as well as of emphasizing the loyalty of the colonies and their devotion to Great Britain. It was purely a family affair, no foreign diplomats being invited, but the guests present included most of the notables of the country.

The Prince of Wales wore the full uniform of a rear-admiral. The Princess was dressed in black embroidered velvet, relieved by a long chain of diamonds. The Lord Mayor and aldermen wore their state robes. Seated in the vicinity of the Prince and Princess of Wales were Lord Salisbury in the Windsor uniform, and Lord Rosebery and the Duke of Devonshire in the same uniform, with the broad ribbon of the Garter. Last, but not least, was Mr. Chamberlain in court uniform.

The Prince of Wales seized the opportunity to make a long statesmanlike speech on the relations between the Motherland and the Colonies.

Speaking about the Dominion, he said: "To Canada was borne the message already conveyed to Australia and New Zealand, of the Motherland's loving appreciation of the services rendered by its gallant sons. In the journey from ocean to ocean, marvelous in its comfort and organization, we were enabled to see something of its matchless scenery. The richness of its soil and the boundless possibilities of the vast and but partially explored territory. We saw, too, the success which has crowned the efforts to weld into one community the peoples of its two great races."

Mr. Chamberlain was accorded a tremendous reception when he rose to respond to Lord Rosebery's toast to the Colonies, but neither he nor Lord Rosebery said anything of international importance.

Lord Salisbury alone referred to the topic of which everyone was thinking, namely, Britain's unpopularity abroad. He said:

"No doubt it is true, just at this moment, that we have many enemies, who are not very reticent in expressing their opinion, but on the other hand, today's celebration, which is largely due to the action and co-operation of Their Royal Highnesses, has shown that we possess in the support of our distant kinsmen an approval and sanction, which to us is worth infinitely more than all the contempt and all the censure that we may receive from other nations."

This remark of the Premier was greeted with prolonged cheering, after which he continued, saying:

"I cannot admit that they are judges of our conduct, or that we can modify our proceedings in deference to their opinion. What we look to are the opinions of our own kinsmen, who belong to our own Empire. We have received from all portions of that Empire an indication that we have lost nothing in the opinion they held of the justice of our claim."

NANAIMO ASSIZES.

Mr. Justicie Irving Issues Warning Regarding Disgusting Habit of Spitting.

Nanaimo, Dec. 5.—(Special)—The assize court still continues to sit here, with Mr. Justice Irving presiding. In the Cumberland Chinese lottery case, in which two Chinamen were charged with conducting a lottery, the jury, after a two-days' trial, brought in a verdict of not guilty.

This afternoon Griffiths, second mate on the ship Balaculish, now at Steveston, was acquitted on the charge of committing an unnatural crime.

Newpaur, charged with assault, did not appear when the case was called today. His bail was forfeited.

The grand jury in their presentment yesterday called attention to what they considered a maladministration of justice in discharging Frederico, the Austrian sailor, who broke into a store. They ask an investigation. Mr. Justice Irving today announced in court he would enforce the law respecting spitting on the floors of the court house, and warned all present to desist from it upon risk of six months' imprisonment.

NEWS PRINT.

Paper Makers Have Decided to Increase Prices.

Toronto, Dec. 5.—(Special.)—At a meeting of the Canadian Paper Makers' association here today, it was decided in view of an increase of $5 per ton in cost of pulp to increase the price of news print ¼ cent per pound.

CHINESE REFORMER.

Expected Visit from Shi Shih Chin to British Columbia.

Vancouver, Dec. 5.—(Special)—Shi Shih Chin, the famous Chinese reformer, who was detained by the customs at California as an undesirable person to admit into the United States, being an apparent enemy of the Chinese government, and who was afterwards admitted to the United States, will be in Seattle in a few days, and delegates from Vancouver, Victoria and Nanaimo Chinese Reform associations will meet him there and invite him to tour the Coast cities of British Columbia. In expectation of the coming of the famous Oriental, the Chinese population of Vancouver is preparing for a grand reception.

CONVOCATION HALL.

Graduates and Students of Queen's Raising Funds for Building.

Kingston, Dec. 5.—(Special)—Queen's students and graduates intend to subscribe funds to erect a convocation hall. It was decided by the students to raise $20,000 among themselves.

WANT A MINISTER.

Halifax Labor Council Ask for Representative in Cabinet.

Halifax, Dec. 5.—(Special)—The labor council last evening adopted a resolution which was forwarded to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, asking that a labor representative be appointed to the cabinet.

MEMORIAL TO ARNOLD.

Window Unveiled at Winnipeg—Dean O'Meara Dying.

Winnipeg, Dec. 5.—All Saints' Church was this afternoon the scene of an impressive and interesting ceremony when a memorial window was unveiled to the memory of Major Arnold, who fell in South Africa.

Rev. Dean O'Meara is very seriously ill of typhoid. His physicians fear he cannot survive the night.

To Tend Bar No Longer

Vancouver Drink Mixer Falls Into a Fortune Left By Relative,

Atlin Census Curtailed By Loss of the First Returns on Islander.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 5.—Charles Newman, an employee of the Merchants Exchange hotel, who has been bartender for a number of saloons in Vancouver, received word today that an uncle had died leaving him £12,000 in cash. Mr. Newman received the news at St. Paul's hospital where he is lying ill.

A large and very valuable collection of skins of animals from Tasmania ready for the taxidermist, have been presented to the Free library board by the Tasmania government.

Steamer Saga has arrived from the halibut banks after a very rough trip. J. W. McFarlane, assistant census commissioner at Atlin, arrived by the Amur today. As the census returns were lost on the steamer Islander, they had to be taken over again. They will be fully 600 short so many having left for the winter.

The customs duty collected for November was $85,906,83, or $400 lass than November of last year. The imports were $296,188, and the exports $368,-583.

During November there were 33 births, 16 marriages and 22 deaths.

Mr. W. N. Le Page has secured a patent for a machine for drying the refuse material left from the manufacture of glue. The principal is the pumping of dry hot air through the wet refuse after the glue has been drained off. It is claimed that the system dries the refuse to a six per cent. moisture comparatively free from smell, which makes a very valuable fertilizer.

Among the many patents issued recently by the Patent office at Ottawa, is one to L. C. Park for crushing mineralized rock. It is the arastra principal mechanically applied. In brief the rock is placed in a tower with a revolving bottom section. To prevent the rock jamming the revolving bottom section is filled with ground rock before the machinery that moves the floor of the tower is started. The weight of the rock which fills the tower and the grinding process caused by the revolving bottom is supposed to very effectively pulverize the rock. The pulverized rock passes out through grooves, but should any larger particles be mixed with the finer material it is again ground by rings placed around the margin of the bottom section, before it is finally emptied into the receptacles placed to receive it around the outside base of the tower. Mr. Park has shown his invention to many prominent mining engineers who claim that the principal is scientifically correct. Next summer the invention will be given a practical test. Mr. Park is now engaged on a machine which he hopes to perfect which will profitably pulverize tailings from stamp mills. Stamp mills are supposed to grind ore to a mesh so small that it will not be profitable to grind it any further. But the tailings contain a quantity of gold yet which Mr. Park believes he can secure by the simple method of grinding them down economically to a still finer mesh. Mr. Park's last invention to be placed on the market is a contrivance, by which a rocker is rocked by working a lever which at the same time pumps the water into the rocker, the water returning by a ditch into the water tank again. The machine is for use where little water is available, and is said to work so fast that two men are kept busy. Mr. Park tried his machine himself in Nome, and it worked so well that there were soon many in use.

RECRUITS FOR MOUNTED RIFLES

Quota From the Northwest Increased—McKenzie and Mann's Claim.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 5.—Sergeant-Major Graham, son of Mr. Graham, of the Post Office department, who was with Colonel Evans in South Africa, is to be quartermaster of the Mounted Rifles for South Africa. Fifty-five additional recruits are to be drawn from the North West Territories, making 135 altogether from that section.

The Casualty department, Capetown, cables that Sergeant Hepworth, S. A. C., reported dead some weeks ago, is alive and well.

Mackenzie & Mann's claim on account of expenses incurred in connection with the Yukon railway contract amounted to $510,000. The government took off $200,000 for saving the firm was able to make, by using material in other work. The Prime Minister promised last session that the amount would be still further reduced, and that among other things the claim of the firm for 15 per cent. profit on expenditure must come off. The account now goes to Judge Burbridge, of the Exchequer court for investigation at the figure of $302,717 and interest.

GREAT FIRE AT LIVERPOOL.

Liverpool, Dec. 6.—As a result of an explosion, the Liverpool Exchange is now on fire.

DOMINION HOUSE.

Report That It Will Be Summoned in February.

Montreal, Dec. 5.—Le Partie, Tarte's organ, says tonight it has been definitely decided to call parliament for February 1.

How Col. Hughes Handled Boers

Canadian Officer Handled Them Vigorously and With Marked Success.

Their Attempts at Bluff Were Promptly Ended By His Shrewdness.

Apropos of the offer of service in South Africa that Col. Sam Hughes made a few days ago, the following from the Ottawa Citizen will be read with interest:

A good many Canadians would like to see Col. Sam Hughes one of the majors of the mounted force now being sent out to South Africa if he would accept such in lieu of the command he has applied for.

Col. Hughes has been subjected to a good deal of jocular criticism, but he was a valuable man in his position as an intelligence officer in South Africa, though his opportunities were limited. Besides being a brave man, he is a man of indomitable perseverance and energy, and should make his mark in dealing with the Boers. When out before he was one of the few intelligence officers who could extract real information from the Boers and who could make surrendering Cape rebels cough up brand new Mauser rifles, ammunition, choice horses and saddlery. His methods were rough and ready, but effective.

A British intelligence officer would sit in front of his quarters with a monocle in his eye, and a cigarette in his hand, and a string of rebels anxious to surrender (and get passes) would file up armed with a mobile museum of old elephant guns, flint locks, Martini rifles and shotguns of the pre-hammerless days. They would also each be leading a woe-begone old skate of a horse adorned by a moth-eaten saddle. The British officer would say: "Well, men. Come in to surrender, eh? Jolly good thing to do. You fellahs really ought to know better, don't-ye-know, than to take up arms. Very serious thing to do. Why, don't ye-know, you might be shot for this?"

The Boers would look becomingly contrite and shuffle their feet.

"Brought in your arms and horses, eh? Jolly good thing to do. Seen anything of the enemy about?"

Boers (in chorus) "Neeah, myn herr."

"Aw—just pile your arms down here, like good chaps, and hand over your horses. Don't see how you do such good shooting with those old tools. That must have been rather a good old elephant gun in its day. Make your own ammunition for it, I suppose."

"Yaa, boss."

Officer (to orderly): "Just put that elephant gun aside don't-ye-know. I want to take it home as a curio." (To the rebels): "When you have turned in your arms and horses, men, passes will be issued and you can return to your farms, don't-ye-know. But see you don't get into any more trouble, or bai Jove! we'll have to take seve-ah measures next time. Right—o! sergeant. Carry on. Orderly, bring that gun to my tent. Ta! Ta!"

The rebels armed with the protection of a British pass would depart to dig up their Mausers, get their own riding horses and resume business at the old stand. If any patrols called at their houses while they did not happen to be on the war path they would flash the passes at them with truculent impudence and the patrols could do nothing. The holders of the passes were peaceful subjects under British protection, and a poor Tommy was liable to be shot for taking one of their chickens if he was hungry.

Col. Hughes' methods were less easy-going and produced wonderful results. The Boer ought to be an ideal poker player for he is a bluffer from way back, but, being an ignorant bluffer, when his bluff is called real hard he collapses. Observe Col. Sam at work: A bunch of rebels would be brought in to surrender with the usual old clo' outfit. Col. Sam would come out of his tent to receive them with a gun on his hip and pause to regard the outfit with his eagle eye fixed in a steel-blue, glassy stare expressive of equal proportions of Angry Menace and Sovereign Contempt. Then he would remark coldly: "Sergeant, what are those Things?"

"Rebels come in to surrender, sir."

"Huh! You a rebel? What have you got in your hands? A gun? Well, I'll be ——. Call that a gun? What's that behind you? A horse? Well, of all the —— impudence! Your name's Johan Weger and you own 40,000 acres out at Springbok Spruit. And you have the impertinence to come in here and produce that delapidated old shooting iron and that heap of perambulating crowbait to Me. Why ——

—— I've a good mind to hank you up to that telegraph pole. Shooting is too good for you. You're the same old ——

—— —— that lead the commando that looted the loyalists over Uppington way. I suppose the rest of you were with the gang. Do you all understand English.

Rebels (in chorus) "Neeah, boss!"

"Well, it don't matter a damn. I'll bet you'll understand Me! Now look here: You leave that —— —— —— collection of old iron here and hand over those alleged horses to the sergeant, and you foot it back home, y'see —futsak! And by this hour tomorrow every ——

—— —— man of you has got to be back here with a first-class Mauser rifle in good working order, 200 rounds of ammunition and an A1 horse and saddle."

Rebels (in chorus) "But, boss"——

"Don't 'but' Me. You're blasted lucky that I don't string up a few of you as an example. Now, you be back here as I tell you tomorrow, or by the jumping —— —— —— I'LL GO AFTER YOU. You understand me thoroughly?"

Rebels (in chorus) "Yaa, boss!"

"All right, you can go; and when you come in tomorrow I want you to bring in the rest of the gang or I'll go after them. I'll teach you people not to take up arms against Her Majesty the Queen. Don't forget what I say about those Mausers and horses. Get to h—ll out o' this."

Next day there would be a stack of brand new Mausers in the quartermaster's stores, a slick looking bunch of horses in the corral, and a lot of ex-rebels would be footing it home to their distant farms over the veldt firmly convinced that rebellion was not half such an entertaining recreation as they had been led to believe.

But that British officer could not have done that to save his life. Principally because it would not be "club form." That is the reason the war is still going on.

WEDDING BELLS.

Mr. J. M. Mellis and Miss Allen Married in First Presbyterian Church.

A very pretty wedding took place last evening in the presence of a large congregation, mainly ladies, at First Presbyterian church, where the Rev. Dr. Campbell celebrated the marriage of Mr. James Monroe Mellis and Miss Alyce Maude Allen. The bridegroom was supported by Mr. F. A. Galbraith, and the bridesmaid was Miss Dolly Nunn. Mr. Newton gave the bride away. Mr. Jesse Longfield presided at the organ, and played the wedding march. The bride looked charming, dressed in cream crepon trimmed with white China silk with pearl passementerie, veil and orange blossoms, and carried a shower bouquet of white chrysanthemums. The bridesmaid wore white French lawn, trimmed with lace, and hat trimmed with purple and white, and carried a shower bouquet of purpel and white chrysanthemums. The bridegroom's gift to the bride was a gold watch and chain, and to the bridesmaid a chased gold brooch. The presents were numerous, showing the popularity of the young couple. After the ceremony at the church, a reception was held at the home of Mrs. Dwyers, 2 Blanchard street. The bride and bridegroom left by the Charmer for Vancouver, where they will spend their honeymoon, after which they will take up their residence in Victoria.

UP-TO-DATE STYLES AT WEILER BROS.

Our First Consignment

Of Fall Goods in the Upholstering, Drapery and Curtain line are now on sale, and we can only say that for coloring, artistic effect and value we have surpassed ourselves in these last purchasings.

Latest Novelties Fro PARIS, BERLIN, LONDON.

WEILER BROS
VICTORIA B. C.

FRA DIAVOLO AT THE VICTORIA

Jules Grau's Singers Give Good Presentation of Well Known Opera.

Fra Diavolo was the bill at the Victoria theatre last night. The Grau opera company presented the well known opera very capably to a large audience. Robert Dunbar, who was singing the tenor roles when Jules Grau's singers came here three seasons ago; had the role of the brigand, and sang well. The solos were well rendered in his pleasing baritone cantante voice, and he acted well, making a good brigand. Harry Davis as Lorenzo, the love-sick captain of Carbiniers, was in good voice, his work being thorough. Robert Kane sang the role of Lord Allcash well, giving the character its full amount of vagary. Arlie Arnold was an acceptable Innkeeper, and the two droll comedians who are laugh producers of no mean ability, Stanley Felch and Edward Eagelton—both good singing comedians—had the roles of Beppo and Giacomo, the tatterred robbers of Fra Diavolo's band. Never overdoing the comedy, and ever getting every possible laugh from the audience by their droll work, these two won much applause, especially in the comical burlesque on Zerlina's undressing act.

Miss Mary Carrington is a good Zerlina, singing in splendid voice and well interpreting the role, and Miss Bessie Tannehill made the most of the role of Lady Allcash. Miss Carrington's version of the what-happens-just-before-the-candle-is-turned-out scene in the second act, was very good, as, in fact, was her rendition of the part throughout. Messrs. Dunbar, Davies, Kane, Eagelton and Misses Carrington and Tannehill sang the sextette from "Lucia" at the close of the second act, and sang it well, receiving a hearty encore. Fra Diavolo was well presented. Tonight the company will sing "Dorothy," tomorrow, "The Bohemian Girl," Saturday afternoon, "Wang" and on Saturday night "Rip Van Winkle."

CANADIAN MOUNTED RIFLES.

Militia Department Has Asked War Office to Approve Name.

Ottawa, Dec. 3.—(Delayed in transmission)—Subject to the consent of the Imperial authorities, the new contingent will be known as the Canadian Mounted Rifles. A cable was sent to the war office today for approval. Major Hamilton Merritt arrived in Ottawa this morning, having been summoned by telegraph to a conference with Dr. Borden and Col. Evans. He was offered the position of second in command of the mounted corps. Major Merritt accepted the offer.

Col. Evans told me tonight he had no other commission to announce for the present. It is pretty well understood, however, that he has offered the adjutancy of the regiment to Sergt.-Major Church, riding master in the Mounted Police at Regina; the position of medical officer to Dr. Devlin of Winnipeg, and veterinary surgeon to Dr. Ridell of Calgary. These three officers were with Col. Evans in the Canadian Mounted Rifles in South Africa.

The militia department is still waiting advices from England about the transport. It is definitely settled that no nurses will go with the corps.

A meeting of the executive of the Patriotic Fund association this morning discussed whether the fund should be made amply to the Mounted Rifles. It was decided to look into the charter of incorporation to see whether it could be made applicable.

CANADA AND AUSTRALIA.

Premier Barton Suggests a Conference on Reciprocity at Coronation Time.

A Melbourne special in the Montreal Star says: Although the Prime Minister has not received any formal invitation to be present at the ceremonies in connection with the King's coronation in June next, Hon. Edmund Barton said: "I have no doubt, from what I hear, that the commonwealth and Canada will be asked to send representatives to the ceremonies, and probably the individual states of the two British federations will also be given an opportunity of being represented if they wish it. In the absence of a definite invitation, the ministry as a whole have not considered who shall be the federal delegate, but there appears to be a consensus of opinion among ministers that the Prime Minister should undertake the trip to England. Whoever goes in behalf of the commonwealth, action will be taken to secure a conference between this gentleman and Canada's representative in order that the question of trade reciprocity may be discussed."

TORONTO PROSPEROUS.

Clearings for This Week Largest in City's History.

Toronto, Dec. 5.—(Special)—Toronto bank clearings this week made a record. The total of $16,509,115 was the largest week in the history of the clearing house. The payment of December dividends helped to swell the figures. The totals with comparisons are: This week, $16,-509,115; last week, $10,361,408; last year, $12,046,291; same week 1899, $11,-022,078.

Discussed the Social Evil

An Important Meeting of the Board Of Police Commissioners.

Rev. W. Leslie Clay Writes to and Appears Before the Board.

A discussion on the question of how best to deal with the social and other evils, including gambling, took place at the regular meeting of the board of police commissioners held at the city hall yesterday morning. It was brought about by a letter from Rev. W. Leslie Clay. The letter approved of the prompt action taken by the board to investigate the allegations made in respect to the St. George's inn during the Gill murder trial, and the writer thought some similar action might have been taken on the allegations that came out at the preliminary hearing of Frank Nicholes on the charge of murdering Tom Netis. At that hearing it was stated that the men had had drinks in a house of prostitution, and that they had visited a gambling den. This showed that these evils still existed and had contributed to the death of one man, despite the fact that orders had been given that they be abated. He drew attention to them in the hope that they would be effectually dealt with.

Rev. Mr. Clay was present at the meeting, and said that after the order of the board the evils had diminished, but they had apparently broken out again. He had no idea that they could be eradicated, but they could be checked.

The commissioners pointed out the difficulty of securing convictions, but promised that the suggestions of Mr. Clay would be considered.

Rev. Mr. Clay asked if gambling was being conducted in the places closed a year ago, such as the Savoy.

The chief answered that there was no gambling in the Savoy, but there was in other places. As to the sale of liquor in houses of prostitution, it was very difficult to secure a conviction, as it was necessary to catch them in the act of selling the liquor. In the case in question it was not shown that liquor was sold, but that it had been supplied. Under the circumstances, as in the St. George's inn case, it would be impossible to secure a conviction.

Rev. Mr. Clay said Chief Langley had effected a great improvement, and had the confidence of the people in the matter. Under the present conditions, it was impossible to entirely blot out these evils, but the law should be enforced to its utmost. A blow should be struck whenever the evils showed themselves. The reverend gentleman thanked the board for the courteous way in which they had received his communication and the manner in which they had dealt with the matter, the chief having been instructed to abate the evils as far as possible.

ROYAL GIFTS.

Canadian Railway Man Remembered by Prince and Princess of Wales.

Montreal, Dec. 5.—That pleasant memories of their interesting tour through Canada still linger with the royal party, was evidenced by the arrival yesterday of two mysterious boxes at the head offices of the Canadian Pacific Railway company here. They were addressed to Mr. W. R. Baker, assistant to the second vicie-president, who accompanied their Royal Highnesses on their journey across the continent to Victoria, B. C., and return, and to whose good offices was largely due the successful accomplishment of a 7,000-mile trip without unpleasant incident of any kind whatever. In one of the boxes—a heavy oak one—was a massive silver jardiniere, on a handsome ebony base, a magnificent specimen of the silversmith's art, tl bore the royal arms and the following inscription:

"To W. R. Baker, Esq., from the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York ,in remembrance of their journey across Canada by the Canadian Pacific Railway, 1901."

In the other box was a large silver cigarette box, sent by the ladies and gentlemen of the royal suite, all of whose autographs, including that of Prince Alexander of Teck, were uniquely inscribed on the lid, whilst the following pleasant greeting was engraved on the front:

"To our friend, W. R. Baker, in remembrance of many happy days spent on the C. P. R., in September and October ,1901."

With these valued gifts were letters expressing Their Royal Highness' and the suite's thorough appreciation of Mr. Baker's unceasing attention and forethought, and their gratitnde for efficient service, on that memorable occasion. These royal souvenirs are both a recognition of Mr. Baker's social qualities and personal worth, and a deserved tribute to his efficiency in his official capacity, as representative of the great Canadian railroad, over which the Prince and Princess of Wales had, it is perhaps not too much to say, one of the most enjoyable experiences of their lives.

ERNEST REYER WRECKED.

Aberdeen, Wash., Dec. 5.—Early Wednesday morning while the terrible storm was raging along the coast, the French bark Ernest Reyer went ashore off the mouth of Quinault river. In the darkness and storm it was impossible to see how far away the land lay, but the officers and men cleared away the boats and made for the shore all reaching the land in safety. The shipwrecked men are being cared for on the beach by the Indians, but they have no hope of saving their ship, as she now lies hard aground with the breakers around her.

IGNOBLE COUNT.

Frenchman With Unsavory Reputation Again in Trouble.

Toronto, Dec. 5.—Count de Lantree, a French nobleman, sentenced to St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary for defrauding a Montreal bank, by means of bogus bonds ,and released on request of the Ontario government for evidence he gave which assisted in the conviction of the Aurora bank robbers, is again in trouble. He got a fur overcoat and cap from Allan's fur store here, giving a check with no funds in the bank, in payment. He skipped out and pawned the coat at Buffalo. He was arrested on the steamer in New York about to sail for France, and had to be forcibly removed. He will be extradited and brought here for trial.

CLERGUE'S BIG SCHEMES.

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Dec. 5.—(Special.)—The authoritative announcement was made today that an immense plant for making steel tubes would be located here. The plant is to be built next year, with a smaller plant on the Canadian side. It is stated that £25,000,000 of English money has been raised to push this and other Clergue enterprises on both sides of the river and that Canadian and United States patents for Perrin's system of making steel tubes, which is expected to revolutionize trade, have been purchased by the Clergue interests for £1,000,000. Sixteen mills are to be erected.

WIZARD IN COLLISION.

Another Torpedo Destroyer in Trouble, But no Loss of Life.

London, Dec. 5.—The British torpedo boat destroyer Wizard, while steaming out from Portsmouth, collided with a passenger steamer. The destroyer's bows were stove in, but she managed to regain the harbor. There was no loss of life.

DEVELOPING COAL AREAS

Toronto Capitalists Take Up Their Bond on Similkameen Property.

Messrs. Hall & Murray representing Toronto capitalists, who bonded the Similkameen Valley Coal Lands, on December 1, paid to the Similkameen Valley Coal company $36,000. This property was bonded last August by the Toronto people who sent in the Montreal expert William Blackmore to whose thorough knowledge of coal fields in the rough as well as under development was in large measure due the success of the Crow's Nest property, and it was on Mr. Blackmore's report—which with all who know coal mining stands for gospel—that the bond has been taken up.

The acquired properties, which are but a small fraction of the area of which the Similkameen Valley company is possessed, will be developed in conjunction with the larger properties retained by the company, Mr. Blackmore having now been despatched to the East for the best that is obtainable in the way of modern diamond drill equipment, with which the deposits will be examined at depth, development proceeding immediately.

It is one condition of the acquirement of the property by the Torontonians that they will make their headquarters at Ashnola, and arrangements are now being made for the locating of offices, employees' homes and payroll at that point, besides which they will, so soon as the company's plans in this connection are matured, obtain from it the necessary light and power. Mr. Murray takes up his headquarters at Ashnola in the capacity of managing director.

Meanwhile the prospects of the original company grow brighter as each day passes. The property has been pronounced by experts infinitely more promising than was the Crow's Nest field at a similar stage of development, so practical a man as Alexander Sharpe, M. E., the former superintendent of the Dunsmuir collieries who went in recently to conduct investigations in behalf of Mr. Holt, Mr. Marpole and other Vancouverites, paying it this tribute:

"I spent a month in examining the coal measures of the Similkameen coal basin, between Princeton and Copper mountain, on behalf of Messrs. Holt and Burns. These deposits are 10 times as extensive as those of the famous Wellington section. The upper seams are semi-bituminous, the middle bituminous, and the lower semi-anthracite coal. The seams vary in thickness from five to nine feet, and are of about the right thickness for convenient and economical working. I took up about 10,000 acres. When the development of the deposit will be commenced, has not yet been determined. I regard the measures there as very valuable."

And besides having the coal fields to draw prosperity from, Ashnola and the company to which the embryo city owes its existence, have a central and commanding position in a district that is at once a great coal field, a richly mineralized area to which prospectors are already giving much attention, a district wherein agriculture and horticulture flourish, and where climate and timber are all that the heart of man could desire. Mr. D. R. Young, the managing director of the company is in Victoria, chiefly for the purpose of consulting Mr. J. E. Church their official broker there, and placing at his command the latest information of which the public may ask to be possessed concerning the affairs and prospects of the company. At the same time it is ordered that shares be advanced again to 50 cents from and after the 15th inst., and to the par value of $1.00 at the end of the present year.

Mr. Blackmore, who directed the formative operations of the Crow's Nest field and brought its value emphatically before the public, has now taken office as the consulting engineer, and is hurrying eastward with instructions to proceed on the plan of development work that he has outlined in his report. First of all he will secure and ship back the best diamond drill that is to be got, this being promised—on the ground and ready for work—by the 1st of January. In concluding his recent report on the property, Mr. Blackmore, than whom no more cautious expert is to be found in Canada, has the following:

"Having made a thorough examination of your property, I have no hesitation in saying that you possess a valuable estate apart from and in addition to its value as a coal mining proposition. The surface, townsite, and water power rights which you control must, in the event of the railway passing through this district, become exceedingly valuable, and, as indicated above, I consider that in all respects this portion of your property is favorably situated, with regard to any other similar property in the district, although I imagine it is mainly upon the prospects of coal mining and coke that you rely, and the only conclusion that I can come to, is that you have good grounds for believing that there is at this point a large tract of first class coal."

Mr. Young says he knows of no part of British Columbia where more natural resources exist than in the Similkameen valley. Copper and Kennedy mountain, situated two and a half miles from Ashnola, are well known, in fact are mountains of low grade copper ore. The Nickel Plate situated on Twenty-Mile creek, owned by the Standard Oil people, is also known to be one of Canada's best mines, silver and gold predominating, while on Boulder creek, lead and silver ores are found in abundance. Lime and all other requisites, necessary for smelting purposes, can be obtained within a radius of twenty miles of Ashnola. Taking in consideration these facts, coupled with coal and coke being produced on the ground, he looks for Ashnola to be one of the greatest smelting centres of that portion of the district.

Complete Neutrality

Text of Convention Regarding the Isthmian Canal Is Made Public.

Power to Build and Exclusively Manage Given to United States.

It Is Open to All the Nations—Nothing About Fortifications,

Washington, Dec. 5.—The Hay-Pauncefote treaty was transmitted to the United States senate today by President Roosevelt in the following letter:

"I transmit for advice and consent of the senate to its ratification, a convention signed November 18, 1901, by the representative plenipotentiaries of the United States and Great Britain, to facilitate the construction of a ship canal to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans by whatever route may be considered expedient, and to that end to remove any objection which may arise out of the convention of April 19, 1850, commonly called the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, to the construction of such canal under the auspices of the government of the United States with impairing the "general principles" of neutralizing established in article VII. of that convention.

"I also enclose a report from the Secretary of State submitting the convention for my consideration.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

"White House,
"Washington, Dec. 4, 1901."

THE CONVENTION.

The provisions of the proposed treaty are as follows:

Article I. The high contracting parties agree that the present treaty shall supercede the aforementioned convention of the 19th April, 1850.

Article II. It is agreed that the canal may be constructed under the auspices of the government of the United States, either directly at its own cost or by gift or loan of money to individuals or corporations, or through subscription to or purchase of stock or shares, and that subject to the provisions of the present treaty, the said government shall have and enjoy all the rights incident to such construction, as well as the exclusive right of providing for the regulation and management of the canal.

Article III. The United States adopts as the basis of the neutralization of such ship canal, the following rules, substantially as embodied in the convention of Constantinople, signed the 28th October, 1888, for the free navigation of the Suez canal, that is to say:

1. The canal shall be free and open to vessels of commerce and of war of all nations observing these, on terms of entire equality, so that there shall be no discrimination against any such nation or its citizens or subjects in respect of the conditions or charges of traffic or otherwise, such conditions and charges of traffic shall be just and equitable.

2. The canal shall never be blockaded nor shall any right of war be exercised nor any act of hostility be committed within it. The United States, however, shall be at liberty to maintain such military force along the canal as may be necessary to protect it against lawlessness and disorder.

3. Vessels of war of a belligerent shall not revictual nor take any stores in the canal except so far as may be strictly necessary; and the transit of such vessels through the canal shall be effected with the least possible delay in accordance with the regulations in force, and with only such intermission as may result from the necessities of the service. Prizes shall be in all respects subject to the same rule as vessels of war of the belligerents.

4. No belligerent shall embark or disembark troops, munitions of war, or warlike materials in the canal, except in case of accidental hindrance of the transit ,and in such case the transit shall be resumed with all possible despatch.

5. The provisions of this article shall apply to waters adjacent to the canal, within three marine miles of either end. Vessels of war of a belligerent shall not remain in such waters longer than 24 hours at any one time ,except in case of distress, and in such case shall depart as soon as possible; but a vessel of war of one belligerent shall not depart within 24 hours from the departure of a vessel of war of the other belligerent.

6. The plant, establishments, buildings and all work necessary to the construction, maintenance and operation of the canal shall be deemed to be part thereof for the purposes of this treaty, and in time of war as in time of peace, shall enjoy complete immunity from attack or injury by belligerents, and from acts calculated to impair their usefulness as part of the canal.

Article IV. It is agreed that no exchange of territorial sovereignty or of international relations of countries traversed by the beforementioned canal shall affect the general principle of neutralization or the obligation of the high contracting parties under the present treaty.

Article V. The present treaty shall be ratified by the President of the United States by and with the advice and consent of the senate thereof, and by his Britannic Majesty, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington or at London at the earliest possible time within six months from the date hereof.

Done in duplicate at Washington, the 18th day of November, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and one.

PAUNCEFOTE. (Seal)
JOHN HAY. (Seal)

LEAVING THE STATES.

Iowa Farmers Coming to Canada to Make Homes.

Winnipeg, Dec. 5.—An exceptionally large party of settlers from Iowa arrived today on the Great Northern train from the south. J. F. Tennant, Manitoba immigration agent, was in charge of the party which consisted of about 60 persons in a special car. Some of the party are settlers who have already purchased land in the Canadian west and others are prospectors who represent parties in Iowa and will investigate for themselves before making purchases. These gentlemen all state that there is a great interest manifested in Manitoba among the Iowa farmers and a large influx of these desirable settlers is confidently looked for next spring.

FELL THROUGH ICE.

Little Boy Drowned in Red River Near Winnipeg.

Winnipeg, Dec. 5.—(Special.)—Willie Muldoon, the 6-year-old son of a teamster, was drowned today in the Red river. He fell into an air hole while playing on the ice. The body has not been recovered.