

BRIEF LOCALS

Gleanings of City and Provincial News in a Concise Form.

From Saturday's Daily.
B. Haigh, formerly circulation agent for the Times, has returned from South Africa.

Incorporation will be asked at the coming session of the provincial legislature for a company to supply the town of Nelson with water from Anderson creek.

Rev. Solomon Cleaver on Christmas Eve visited the fortunes of William Hawkey and Miss Emma Wilson. The wedding was performed at the residence of Mr. Tyler, 51 Hillside avenue.

Ah Sing, a Chinese, was arrested by Constable Anderson this morning charged with stealing the sum of \$17.50. He will be brought before the police magistrate on Monday morning.

A former resident of this city Mr. P. D. McMillan, now of Griswold, Man., was married at Wood Lake, Minn., on the 18th inst. to Miss Alberta Gerrie, eldest daughter of Mr. William Gerrie.

Donations are thankfully acknowledged by the treasurer of the Refuge Home Committee from the mayor and council of \$25 and from Mr. S. M. Robinson, of Nanaimo, of five tons of coal.

The editor of the Hamilton Temperance Lecturer, W. W. Buchanan, one of Canada's leading temperance lecturers, is expected soon in this city. He will deliver a series of temperance lectures.

This week's Official Gazette contains a notice that application will be made at the coming session of the provincial legislature to incorporate Greenwood City in Yale district and Rossland in West Kootenay.

On Thursday death came to Mrs. Glenroy Clunes. The deceased, who died at her husband's residence, was a native of New Westminster and only thirty-three years of age. The funeral took place this afternoon.

Last evening at the residence of Mr. Marshall, 109 Fisguard street, in the presence of a number of friends, Rev. W. Leslie Gray united in marriage Mr. Samuel Sidwell of Saanich, and Miss Annie C. Russell, late of Lanarkshire, Scotland.

On Thursday evening the ninety-second drawing of the Vancouver Island Building society was held. The committee were as follows: Messrs. H. A. Munn; W. Scott and J. H. Meldrum. Ninety-two was the successful number, which was held by Mr. C. Booth and Mrs. Mary Shaw.

For the first time in many years, Christmas passed without any arrests having been made by the city police. There was not even an ordinary drunk gathered in. More latitude was given than on other days, and the police overlooked those who were doing nothing worse than celebrating Christmas day.

Preparations are all but completed for the farewell leap year ball to be held on New Year's Eve. The Fifth Regiment (by permission of Col. Gregory and officers) will be in attendance. The supper is to be in the hands of a capable committee and a good time is assured to all who attend.

The remains of the late Mrs. W. J. Deasy were laid to rest this morning in Ross Bay Cemetery at 10 a.m. Rev. Father Nicolay officiated at the church and Father Althoff at the cemetery. The following gentlemen acted as pallbearers: D. Henry, D. McDonald, W. P. Smith, Thos. Kinsey, Jas. Hay, and Chas. Bush.

A private letter, received from a friend at Stevenson, states, incidentally, that at least three new canneries are to be built in that vicinity, in time for next year's salmon run. One of these is being put up by the Colonial Canning Co., a number of Newfoundland fishermen, and will be located between the Bain and the Todd canneries. It is said that R. V. Winch, of Vancouver, will also build a cannery near there, while it is understood the old Phoenix, which was burned, will be rebuilt. Columbian.

Referring to an entertainment given by the Misses Webling, who will appear at the drill hall on Tuesday and Wednesday evening next, assisted by Herr Adolph Freimuth, violin soloist, and the 5th Regt. band, the Winnipeg Tribune says: "The dramatic and musical entertainment given by the Misses Webling last night at the Bijou attracted a large and fashionable audience. The favorable opinion of the Misses Webling created when last they appeared before the Winnipeg public was not lessened by last night's performance, in fact they have gained more confidence, and evidence a marked improvement, no doubt achieved by travel and wider experience. The dresses and setting were all that could be desired and in excellent taste. Miss Lucy, who is the elder sister, sang with great sweetness and danced with exquisite grace and refinement in her own peculiar innocent and versatile way. The entertainment concluded with a patriotic sketch of the great Dominion, entitled 'Fair Canada,' the characters represented being Canada (Peggy) Summer (Rosalind) and Winter (Lucy) which was enthusiastically received, and for which the young ladies were accorded well merited applause."

Miss Stella Wilson was the winner of the large Christmas cake raffled at Messrs. Kippen & Botsford's.

On account of the holidays the weekly wheel tournament of the J. B. A. A. will not be held this week.

Segher's Council Y. M. C. will elect officers to-night. The sixth of their whist parties will be held in their hall. View street, on Wednesday evening.

The Spring Ridge Methodist church Sunday school will hold their annual Christmas tree entertainment to-morrow, Tuesday, the 29th at 8 o'clock.

A small fire occurred at the Newport lodging house on Yates Street on Saturday evening. The blaze was extinguished without the aid of the fire department.

Why carry old line life insurance when much more desirable protection can be secured at less than one-third

the cost in the safe, solid and reliable Maccafee of the World.

A social and dance will be given by the Daughters of England in the A. O. U. W. hall on January 1st. Lt.-Col. Prior will act as chairman. The Wolff orchestra will furnish the music.

The electors of South Victoria will meet to-morrow evening at Cedar Hill school house to further consider the petition to the government asking for a reduction of assessments.

Petitions are being circulated in the city approving of Mr. Stock's harbor improvement scheme. The petition will afterwards be sent to Ottawa and the minister of public works asked to give the scheme his favorable consideration.

A farewell leap-year dance will be given by the ladies of Hope Lodge No. 1, Degree of Honor, in the A. O. U. W. hall on Tuesday evening. At midnight an excellent supper will be provided by the committee in charge.

The Natural History Society of B. C. will meet in the provincial library at 8 o'clock this evening. Mr. J. Deans will read a paper on a Chinese called found in Dove Creek, Cassiar, in 1888.

Sergeant Langley and Officer McKenna, of the provincial police force, have gone to Kamloops for the purpose of removing a number of convicts from there to the penitentiary at New Westminster.

A slim pocketbook will not hinder you from having a fine rain coat on Xmas day for we are selling them at cost to clear. John Partridge, Lansdowne House, 86 Yates street. Show room upstairs.

To-morrow evening a concert will be given at their hall by the Second Victoria Company of the Boys Brigade. The Central Presbyterian Sunday school will hold their Christmas entertainment in conjunction with the concert.

Santa Claus will visit the Protestant Orphans' Home on Thursday afternoon next. Donations towards the Christmas tree will be thankfully received, and may be left at R. Porter & Son's stores. A cordial invitation is extended to all friends of the institution.

Three boys named Joseph Reynolds, Herbert Northcote and William Pugh, who were living with Father Durand at Comox, ran away on Thursday last and came to Victoria on the City of Nanaimo. The provincial police were notified and will probably send the boys back by the next steamer.

The retiring superintendent of the Metropolitan Sunday school, Mr. E. A. Lewis, was presented by Mr. E. Dunlop on behalf of the teachers and officers of the school with a very handsome gold-headed cane as a mark of esteem in which he has been held while occupying the office of superintendent.

At the Y.M.C.A. popular concert on Saturday evening the following programme was given: Solo, Mr. Rowlands; solo, Miss Dora Wolf; solo, Mr. Roper; solo, Miss Pickett; club singing exhibition, Miss Emma Wolf; recitation, Miss Nichols; vocal solo, Mr. Wheeler; reading, Mr. Jackson; solo, Mrs. Rowlands, and solo, Mr. Rowlands.

The following officers were elected at the last regular meeting of Victoria lodge No. 83, Daughters of St. George, and were installed by the worthy district deputy, Mrs. G. Penketh: W. president, Mrs. Churton; vice-president, Mrs. T. Bradbury; chaplain, Mrs. Drakes; financial secretary, Mrs. Mulachy; recording secretary, Mrs. Nuri; treasurer, Mrs. Greenhalgh, and first conductor, Mrs. Cox.

Last week the kindergarten classes conducted by Mrs. McNaughton on the corner of Penwood road and Yates street held their closing exercises. The exercises evinced careful training on the part of Mrs. McNaughton and assistants. The little folks acquitted themselves well and will count the days until they return to their work again. The schoolroom is being repaired and beautified, and will be much improved for next term.

At the last regular meeting of Dauntless lodge C. O. O. F., the following officers were installed by D. D. G. M. J. Walsh: Noble grand, A. Neal; vice-grand, H. Waterson; corresponding secretary, Hansen; fifth financial secretary, James B. Colvin; lecture master, James Targ; conductor, Walter Noble; treasurer, I. T. Pearce; warden, Samuel Fulk; and representative to grand lodge, I. T. Pearce and James Welsh.

All arrangements are completed for the Surprise ball to be given by the Companions of the Forest this evening. The hall is prettily decorated and a pretty souvenir is awaiting each of those who attend. The Wolff orchestra of seven pieces will supply the music. A nice lunch will be provided. The committee in charge are Miss Sinclair, Mrs. Trace, Mrs. Dudgeon, Mrs. Hawk, and Mrs. Lang, assisted by Mr. Trace, Mr. Snider and Mr. Rennie.

The children of St. John's Sunday school will hold their annual Christmas entertainment and Christmas tree to-morrow evening in the school room. Santa Claus will appear by way of a brick chimney, the bricks of which will each contain a present and will be afterwards distributed by that genial old gentleman. A programme will be given including a farce entitled "Granny Cringles' Christmas." The entertainment is under the patronage of Lieut. Governor and Mrs. Dewdney and Mayor and Mrs. Beaven.

Cedar Hill school had their annual Christmas tree at the school house on the evening of December 24th. Santa Claus was lavish in his distribution of gifts and a well laden tree greeted the children. The number of presents from the section was augmented by a large number from the city obtained by Mr. Miller, secretary of the school board. A rendered mainly by the pupils of the school, was well received. All felt that they had spent a very pleasant evening and returned to their homes feeling extremely grateful to Santa Claus for his generous donations.

Next Tuesday morning the Albany subscription lists will be opened at Jamieson's book store. The Montreal Herald has the following comment on the Albany concert given in the metropolitan of Canada: "Last night the Windsor Hall was packed to suffocation from the gallery downwards, and even the stage had to be utilized to find room for the crowds who had been coming into the city to hear the Canadian Idols—Albany."

It was just the same Albany, with the lovely voice and fascinating manners. There is nothing new that can be said about her voice, which is famous all over the world, and last night, of course, her reception was tremendous. She was down to sing five songs and sang nine, and then the audience wanted more."

The following programme will be given at the Hogomany concert of the Sir William Wallace Society on Thursday evening: Vocal solo, "Nita Git ana," Mr. C. Rowlands; instrumental solo, "Scottish selection," Miss Blackie; vocal solo, "The Flowers of the Forest," Mrs. McGraw; vocal solo, "Angus Macdonald," Mrs. Rowlands; recitation, "How Martha Caught the Mouse," Mr. Irvine; dance, "Highland Flings," Mr. Anderson; quartette, "Annie Laurie," "Reel," "Tulach," Messrs. Munro, Russell, Jamieson, and Anderson; vocal solo, "Battle of Stirling," Mr. C. Rowlands; vocal solo, "Coming thro' the Rye," Miss Mary W. Macdonald; "The Rowan Tree," Mr. Gordon; and vocal duet, "The Dear Home Land," Mrs. Rowlands.

At the last meeting of Milton lodge No. 311, Order Sons of St. George, the A. D. G. W. P., Thomas Bradbury, attended and installed the officers for the term. The various officers and congratulated the lodge on its growth and vancement during the past 18 months. The auditors also presented their report, showing a great increase both financially and in membership, the past year having been the most prosperous of any in the last four years. The Sons and Daughters of St. George will hold a tea party and social gathering of the members of both lodges and their families and a few invited friends on New Year's eve, when they hope they will be able to retain their reputation of having a jolly good time together, greeting old, making many new acquaintances and spending an evening always to be looked back to with pleasure.

The two young men, Robert McLean and William Laing, who so bravely saved three lives a year ago, were presented with the medals of the Canadian Royal Humane Society at the lodge meeting of the Sons of St. George on Saturday evening. A very large attendance was present and the two young men were loudly cheered. The presentation was made by Lieut. Governor Dewdney, and on the platform with him were Mrs. Dewdney, Hon. Col. Baker, Miss Allison, Lieut. Col. Gregory and Mr. Herbert Kent, who was acting on behalf of the society. The medals are of silver and on one side is inscribed the act for which they were presented and on the other, the crown surrounded by the words "Royal Canadian Humane Society." The medals were the gifts to the society of Lady Grant and Mrs. Billings, of Ottawa.

BEHRING SEA CLAIMS.

Mr. Charles Spring Continues His Evidence on the Onward Case.

This morning at 10:30 o'clock the Behring Sea Claims Commission resumed its sitting in the legislative assembly rooms. Mr. Charles Spring, continuing his evidence under examination of Mr. Peters in the case of the Onward, said that he fully paid the crew of the Onward for the time done by them on that vessel's sealing cruise in 1886. Some were paid up till the time of seizure and some till the time of arrival in Victoria. The United States government, he said, seized the skins, on those that were seized as well as the others.

Mr. Warren—He said that in December, 1886, the partnership existing between him (witness) and Captain A. McLean was dissolved, witness testifying his interest in the claims against the United States government, and Captain McLean retaining his. The witness placed the value of sealskins in 1887 at \$7.50 each.

Mr. Peters submitted letters from Captain D. Munro, of the Onward, dated from Sitka, describing the seizures and trials at Sitka, also the document dealing with the dissolution of partnership between witness and Captain McLean.

Michael Harkin, cook of the schooner Onward on her Behring Sea voyage in 1886, said there were sufficient provisions on the Onward. He told of the seizure and the towing of that vessel to Onalaska. While there he saw some provisions on board the Onward and put on board the steamer Paul. He was taken to Sitka from Onalaska on the San Diego and from there brought to Nanaimo on the United States revenue cutter Corwin. They were taken to Victoria by Mr. Spring.

To Mr. Lansing—One of the crew of the Onward went on board the St. Paul.

An adjournment was then taken until 2:30 o'clock this afternoon.

THE WEBLING SISTERS.

Attraction for To-morrow Night at the Drill Hall.

Speaking of the Webling Sisters, who appeared at the Vancouver opera house last Saturday evening, the daily News-Advertiser of yesterday says: "The entertainment given last night in the opera house by the Misses Webling was an excellent one. Those present were most enthusiastic and whenever occasion afforded, loudly expressed their appreciation of the efforts of the entertainers."

The programme was a mixed one, including pretty nearly everything in the way of artistic and finished acting, graceful dancing and cultured singing. The Misses Webling showed themselves accomplished artists, decidedly clever and versatile. The costuming was most effective.

"With the Misses Webling is Miss Elsie Macfarlane, a most accomplished and finished musician. The opening

piece on the programme was a piano solo by Miss Macfarlane, which was loudly applauded and which merited the outspoken appreciation it received."

The programme for the Webling Sisters' Victoria engagement at the Drill Hall to-morrow evening will be far superior to that at Vancouver, as the Misses Webling will be assisted by Herr Freimuth, Mr. W. North and the Fifth Regiment Band.

THE THEOSOPHISTS.

At the regular public Sunday evening meeting of the Theosophical Society, the subject for discussion being "Theosophy and Adepts," the speaker said: "Theosophy is that great ocean of knowledge which reaches from shore to shore of the evolution of sentient beings. Unfathomable in its deepest parts, it gives the greatest minds their fullest scope, yet shallow enough at its shores, it will not overwhelm the uninitiated. And for that reason he will not let the formula become known, for initiates would take advantage of it and place would be safe from burning. Those who use oil or dynamite or powder can easily be traced, and that same preparation is necessary, but with this liquid fire a criminal who knew its composition could burn his way noiselessly through any door or set any house on fire by throwing against it a noiseless ball of the composition."

The cost of making this liquid fire is so small that it can be easily used instead of coal in heating a furnace. But the most valuable properties are those which it possesses which are absolutely foreign to those of fire as known to us. All forms of heat except that of electricity, must be generated in some such form of a furnace and be constantly supplied with fuel, but this fire is both flame and fuel itself. About a cupful can be set on fire and it will burn with a steady glow for an hour.

This wonderful fire can be utilized in the kitchen, and stoves can be dispensed with altogether as entirely useless. In order to fry anything it is only necessary to hand the pan from a wire and smear the bottom with a spoonful of the liquid. In an instant there will be a hot fire which will burn for over an hour. So that the cook of the future can take her fire out into the country: it can be used in cooking in camping, there will be no coal fires but the work of heating furnaces, of burning fires in grates, or running motors can be done by a harmless little spoonful of paste, which can be taken around in the vest pocket.

Of its practical uses, there is no end, for the subject is yet in its infancy, the inventor thinking but of the harm that might come, having stopped his experiments. He, however, says he intends to resume them and find out more about this explosionless, noiseless, unquenchable paste, which is fire pure and simple.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

CENTRAL AMERICAN REPUBLIC.

Negotiations which have been for some time in progress have resulted in the formation of what is known as the "Greater Republic of Central America." Into this federation Honduras, Nicaragua and Salvador have entered, by an agreement signed last September, the conditions of which were recently made public. It is hoped that Guatemala and Costa Rica may join later, in which case the word "Greater" will be dropped, and the federation will be known simply as the Republic of Central America.

Of the three partners in this alliance, Nicaragua has the largest area, though the difference between her and Honduras is not marked. Salvador, the smallest of the three republics geographically, with an area of only about one-seventh as large as that of Nicaragua, has a larger population than both of her bigger sisters. The total population of the three is about one million and a half.

Under the terms of the agreement, each of the three republics entering the federation becomes a state in the new republic, with its rights of local government unimpaired. Each has an equal share in the federated government.

Instead of a single executive head, an arrangement which might provoke jealousy, the central authority is lodged in a "diet" composed of three delegates, with an equal number of substitute delegates, chosen annually by the several states. This diet will have power to enact the necessary laws for the exercise of its functions, to appoint diplomatic representatives and to act upon all questions affecting foreign relations.

One section of the constitution expressly provides for the submission of all disputes to arbitration. "It is arranged that the diet shall meet in each of the capitals of the three states in turn, the order being determined by lot and the sessions to be for one year. The first session is to be at San Salvador."

This is not the first time that the attempt has been made to hold the Central American republics in a confederation. Soon after they achieved their independence from Spain they were so united, but more than fifty years ago the slender ties which held them were broken, and since then they have been separated and often warring states.

PASSENGERS.

Per Str. Islander from Vancouver.—Geo. McLBrown, Hamilton Abbott, R. S. Byrne, Thos. Ladner, A. O'Connor, J. A. MacChure, G. D. Scott, H. L. Strautz, D. Stewart, C. Thorn, J. Clifford, F. H. Parker, C. W. Johnson, Jas. Mitchell, W. D. McIntosh and wife, Jas. Hendry, C. W. Pratt, Rev. T. H. McKay, Mrs. Thos. McLaughlin, B. Springer, J. H. Duncan, A. Garasche, H. L. Macaulay, J. Hudson, Jno. Tyson, W. Clanton, A. Branchley and wife, J. P. Falls, W. Blair, R. A. Mansant, Mrs. Sim, Mrs. Elliott, Miss Elliott, J. H. Noonan, G. J. Snow and wife.

William, a brother of C. E. Jones, and Mrs. Jones, of Walla Walla, Wash., are spending the holidays in the city. They are registered at the Driad.

FARM—To lease for three years, situate seven miles north of the town of Alberni, on the Beaver Creek and Comox road; 35 acres in meadow, about 7 acres ready for spring crop, part of it ploughed this fall; about 20 acres pasture; fences all new; good spring of water and cedar post, barn—40x35; dwelling, five rooms with pantry, also milk house and other outbuildings; good running water within 100 feet of back door; post office and schoolhouse 15 miles; 5 head of cattle and 5 head of horses for sale; also hay, oats, carrots and potatoes. For further particulars apply on the farm or by letter to B. G. Hain, Beaver Creek P.O., Alberni, B.C.

When he turned around again he saw that instead of the solid material he was rubbing it was still steadily burning, that his rubbing it had smeared it over the

floor, and it was eating into the wood every moment. He threw several buckets of water on the stuff, but the water had no effect other than to be converted into puffs of steam, and the fire burned steadily on, cutting its way through the soft pine flooring. As the experiments were being conducted in the back of a drug store, which was filled with dangerous chemicals he knew that something must be done to put a stop to its ravages or the whole place would be blown to pieces.

After many fruitless attempts to put it out he procured a hatchet, and it was only by cutting out the entire square of wood on which the paste rested that he succeeded in stopping the fire, which burned for at least an hour.

Afraid of the uses to which this discovery might be put, Mr. Floyd has never made the secret of the ingredients public; but he says that the cost of making it is so small that it can easily be used instead of the cheapest waste material. And for that reason he will not let the formula become known, for incendiaries would take advantage of it and place would be safe from burning. Those who use oil or dynamite or powder can easily be traced, and that same preparation is necessary, but with this liquid fire a criminal who knew its composition could burn his way noiselessly through any door or set any house on fire by throwing against it a noiseless ball of the composition.

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THE
MOST
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CURES
OF
RHEUMATISM
EVER
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WRITE
FOR
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CONTAINING
SWORN
STATEMENTS.**

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VANCOUVER
The steamer Cap...
This is not only a...
000 pounds of halibut...
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A one-quarter inter...
Boulder and Hiden...
sold to W. H. Helyar...
The purchase price...
\$1,250 was paid in...
5th of July next.
The tunnel in the...
fork of Carpenter...
feet. In the last ten...
has increased from...
almost clean ore. T...
will grow wide w...
approached.
The Candium Mini...
Company is the name...
being organized by...
N.W.T., to develop...
in the M...
last month, is one...
motors. While here...
several properties wh...
tion of the directors...
the spring. The head...
part is to be in...
Holding its own th...
ations of the silver...
ing its place as sec...
the great silver min...
the Noble five. Dis...
Shocan was known b...
position has paid rich...
its owners. Althoug...
work done has been...
development, still...
have been sent to...
netted this compan...
first shipment of ore...
by way of Kaslo...
transportation and...
some idea of the val...
gathered within a...
tages, the property...
J. H. During the...
force of only six men...
ore was taken out in...

BURGYN...
At the recent su...
School examination...
Alexander Wilson, a...
Bay school, obtain...
tificate. This is the...
has successfully pass...
in the last five years...
The half-yearly mee...
Island Union Lodge, ...
officers, was held in...
Vancouver Bay, on Sat...
the result of the ball...
R. Lee; Vice Grand, J...
Harry; J. Akerman; Tre...