Another Cannery For Esquimalt

Despite Ill-Judged Action of Ottawa Construction Goes Forward Immediately.

Pioneer Salmon Preserving Firm to Play Large Part in Industrial Expansion.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

It is expected that the new cannery, which is to be erected on Esquimalt harbor by J. H. Todd & Sons, will be ready for occupation about the first of April. The building, 220 feet long by 80 feet wide, will be erected on a site near the entrance to Esquimalt harbor. A warehouse, 150 feet by 50 feet, is also to be erected as part of the establishment.

While their undertaking has now advanced to a state of assurance, in fact buildings operations are to begin this week, such would probably not have been the case, according to Mr. C. F. Todd, had it been foreseen that ignorance of local conditions would prevail with the Ottawa government in so fixing the close season as to place Canadian industry in a disadvantageous position, and play into the hands of the American canners, who will be permitted to continue operations in Alaskan waters when operations in southern British Columbia waters are perforce shut down, and at the same time will enable these same canners to work off their holdover stocks now in English warehouses, at augmented rather than speedy clearance prices. However, as the machinery and plant generally had been contracted for prior to the decision of the Ottawa authorities, the new industry will be advanced, with that commendable enterprise which is characteristic of the firm.

The cannery will be located on a spur of the E. & N. railway, and will have good shipping facilities by land and water. All the mechanical equipment, including tin plate, trap piles and webbing, will be on hand in time for the season's operations.

Six trap sites are controlled by the firm between Sherringham Point and East Sooke. Two of these sites were used last year, but will again have to be built upon, as owing to their exposed position it is impossible to keep them protected from the ravages of storm and sea. Enough traps will be constructed to ensure a sufficient supply of fish for the pack.

About 250 men will be employed in connection with this establishment when in full swing, during the fishing season. The traps will be in charge of Captain Charles Matthews. It is intended to have them ready for the first run of spring salmon, for which, when put through what is called the mild cure process, there is a considerable demand in Germany.

The new establishment will be known as the Empire cannery. In addition to the ordinary plant, its equipment will include a number of large scows to facilitate handling the fish.

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CANNED SALMON.

Review of the English Market for the Past Year.

In a review of the salmon trade in the English market for 1904, Messrs. Menry W. Peabody & Company, London, Eng., say, with particular reference to Puget Sound fish: "The English market received only a small quantity of Puget Sound salmon during last year, and all the salmon that was shipped was disposed of at practically the same prices as were secured for Fraser river sockeyes. The old stocks of Puget Sound Salmon were also disposed of. We have been through a very remarkable period in the Alaska salmon market. As is generally known, the two largest packers of Alaska salmon sent their shipments to England unsold, one firm by steamer from Seattle, and the other by the ordinary sailing ship route from San Francisco. For some unaccountable reason no price was named for these shipments, but these large parcels, which amounted in all close to 600,000 cases, were put into warehouses in London and Liverpool. It was hardly to be expected, in view of these heavy stocks, that the dealer would operate to any great extent, and, therefore, it was not unnatural that we should have a dragging market for Alaska, until some market was established by the naming of a price.

NEW COUNTY COURT JUDGE NOT NAMED

The Minister of Justice Answers Mr. Sproule's Question With Diplomacy.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Feb. 1.—Mr. Sproule was informed by the minister of justice that in 1893 and in 1904 the legislature of British Columbia had provided for a new county civil judicial district, but that the Dominion government never had make any appointment thereto. As to whether it was the government's intention to appoint W. W. B. McInnes to the position, Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated that "no doubt Mr. McInnes' name would be taken into account with other names when the time came to make the appointment."

The Liberals are finding difficulty in securing candidates in Wright.

Mr. Costigan celebrated his seventieth birthday today and was presented with a case of silver cutlery. Sir Wilfrid Laurier made the presentation. Mr. Costigan is to be translated to the Senate in succession to Senator Dover, deceased.

The first summer course of the Canadian school of musketry opens at Rockcliffe on July 6.

The militia estimates were under discussion in the Commons all day.

SOME FACTS ON TAXATION.

A correspondent writing in the Revelstoke Herald replies to an article in the Kootenay Mail headed "Jughandled Commission, Wild Land Taxation and Its Effects." "Fairplay," which is the nom de plume of the correspondent in question, says: "The article purposes also to deal with and incidentally to denounce the Provincial Government for its method of taxation as pertains to some timber lands held under crown grant by some Pittsburg capitalists." The facts brought out by "Fairplay" are interesting in the extreme. The timber lands to which reference is made were acquired years ago, and represent an area of 38,400 acres, which the owners hold at $750,000. He gives the history of the transaction as follows: In 1884 Ainsworth and Wright entered into an agreement with the Government to construct the Eagle Pass wagon road from Sicamous to Revelstoke in consideration of the sum of $20,000 in cash and 75,000 acres of land to be selected in even proportions or thereabouts in Kootenay district and in Yale. The result, of course, was that the choicest and most valuable lands were picked and 38,400 acres of the best timber land in the Big Bend, or for that matter in the interior of British Columbia, became the property of the contractors in satisfaction of the agreement, carrying with the grant, of course, all surface rights as well as timber. In 1887 the firm of Ainsworth and Wright sold to Shibley and Chase all their interest in these lands for 50 cents per acre, and a short time afterwards they sold to the present owners at a figure slightly in advance of what they paid.

Many of our readers will be familiar with the details as given above. We are informed that a deal was recently pending for the lands, in which the cash consideration was to have been $750,000. For the purpose of ascertaining their assessable value they were cruised by a government official, as a result some of the land being reported as carrying 300,000 feet per acre, and a large portion of it 100,000. Estimating it, however, at 35,000 feet per acre, which the owners would probably regard as a ridiculously low estimate, there would be no less than 1,344,000,000. If marketed at a profit of $1 per thousand it would represent $1,344,000 realized on the transaction.

The value placed on the timber limit by the assessor was $7.50 per acre, or a total assessment of $288,000. Upon an appeal to a court of revision, the amount was reduced to $182,000, upon which 5 per cent. wild land tax is levied. The taxes upon that basis amounted, less the 10 per cent. discount before the 30th of June, to $8,640, or 22½ cents per acre. Under the law as it stands, a lumberman wishing to lease a section of timber land, if not operating a mill, it is pointed out, has to pay 25 cents an acre and has only a 20 years' lease at the outside.

The owners of this land have held the timber in question for twenty years for purely speculative purposes, without cutting a stick of timber on it, and now as a protect against taxation they have threatened to cut this timber all down and float it to Spokane and manufacture it there into lumber.

We do not say that the complaints against the Assessment Act are all equally as ill-founded as the one to which "Fairplay" refers; but it is an instance of some of the complaints which are being championed by newspapers anxious to discredit the government. The editor of the Kootenay Mail we believe formerly was a strong advocate of taxing wild lands, and inveighed against the holding of lands in large tracts without being used.

The Hamilton Spectator advocates a fixed date for elections as a remedy for governments springing elections on the people and against the uncertainty and suspense arising out of indefinite dates depending upon the will of the governments. If we are to preserve responsible government in this country we do not see very well how fixed dates for elections are possible. The theory that the Government can remain in office not a moment longer than it can command the support of the people as expressed through the members of the Legislature very often renders a general election necessary at unexpected times. No statutory provision could meet the exigencies of politics anywhere throughout the British Empire. We feel certain that even with the disadvantages that are incident to our system it is a great improvement over the system which obtains in the United States. If occasionally, as in Quebec, the prerogative of dissolution is abused it is apt, as it was in Quebec, to bring its own punishment, in the long run the sense of fairplay which exists in the public mind will assert itself, and preserve the balance of justice.

THE AGREEMENT RE WATERWORKS.

Prominent has been given to the matter of an agreement between the B. C. Electric Railway Co. by the statement which apneared in the Colonist on Sunday morning. It has been the subject of considerable discussion since. In this issue Mr. Lubbe discusses the interview of Mayor Barnard. Opinions vary as to the merits of the dispute. It is held by some that an agreement more or less secret in nature should not have been made, and that in going so far in the negotiations Mayor Barnard exceeded his rights, or at least was not sufficiently frank with the public. On the other hand, the supporters of the Mayor justify it on the grounds of business expediency. His Worship made his position sufficiently clear in an interview printed in the Colonist just before the municipal elections. He stated that it was ordinary business precaution not to show his hand in a matter of vital importance to the city before he was in a position to deal definitely with the Esquimalt Waterworks Company. Secrecy was an attitude that could not be maintained, as whatever agreement was entered into had to come before the ratepayers for their sanction, and ample time would be allowed for the fullest discussion of every detail. The Colonist without a knowledge of the agreement that has been entered into in a preliminary way is not in a position to discuss it intelligently. It is one, too, which requires the report of an expert. This we may expect soon to have. Needless to say the question in all its aspects is one of the most important that has been before the citizens of Victoria for some time.

TORPEDO BOATS ARRIVE.

London, Feb. 1.—A despatch from Brussels to the Times says: "There is curiosity in shipping circles at Antwerp over the arrival in a steamer from New York of ten torpedo boats, which were shipped in sections by an American firm for trans-shipment to Sebastopol. The Japanese consul has asked his government for instructions."

St. John's Junior Guild.—The members of St. John's junior guild are much pleased with the result of the fortnightly socials, which have been most successful, this winter. They wish to thank all who kindly assisted with the programme on Tuesday evening; also those who donated refreshments. The young people will hold their next social on the 14th inst., and will make a special effort to see that St. Valentine is appropriately remembered. There will be many attractive numbers on the programme, including "tableaux vivant" and some excellent musical selections. The junior guild hope they will see their many friends on that occasion.

A Vancouver Eye On E & N Deal

"World" of Terminal City Thinks Victoria and Island Have Great Future.

Some Wordy Speculation on the Alleged Recent Deal in Transportation Matters.

Respecting the pending railway deal between the C. P. R. and the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company, the Vancouver World has the following, which will be read with much interest by Victorians:

The annexation of the E. & N. railway means the ultimate capture of Vancouver Island by the Canadian Pacific railway. It means, by and by, the shortening of the time occupied in the trip to the Orient from one day to two days, and thus places the company in a splendid position for the carriage of through mails and passengers. It is, from a railway standpoint, a strategic advance to unoccupied ground, which gives the company getting there first an undoubted advantage.

To begin with, the C. P. R. now possesses an alternate route to Victoria for passengers. It has long had one for freight, namely, that via Ladysmith, by way of which cars are taken by the barge Transfer No. 1, landed at the Oyster Bay port and run down to the capital over the E. & N. This route, however, is lengthy, necessitating a detour through passages more or less difficult to navigate, and would therefore be unsuitable for the transmission of mails and passengers of which the first essential is speed. At the present time the steamer Joan runs across to Nanaimo in a little over three hours. The Princess Victoria could do the distance in less than two and the trip would be of the easiest as regards navigation. Once outside the Narrows, the boat would have a clear run across the Gulf, in which even in adverse atmospheric conditions she would suffer little delay, and few harbors have a more accessible entrance in all weathers than that of the coal city. From Nanaimo to Victoria a train could be pushed through over the E. & N. railway in less than two hours, the distance being only 73 miles, and the roadbed possibly the best to be found west of the Rockies. Victoria would thus be brought within four hours of Vancouver at all times of the year. Doubtless the all-water route via Plumper's Pass would still be used, especially in summer, for the benefit of tourists, but the tendency would be to make the main line of travel via Nanaimo or another Island port and on by rail to the Capital.

There is such a striking analogy between the respective positions of Liverpool and Ireland and those of the Liverpool of the West, Vancouver, and Vancouver Island, that it is safe to predict the establishment at a Queenstown on the west coast of the latter. This will be at the mouth of the Alberni canal or that of Quatsino sound. There is no difficulty whatever in building the E. & N. on to either or both places. The project, indeed, is one which has been taken into such serious consideration that, as stated on Saturday, the Dominion government has offered a subsidy for the purpose. Supposing it be carried out, the line would be built on from Wellington, five miles beyond Nanaimo, to Nanoose. From there one branch would run north along the easy levels of the east coast to Comox and across the Island to Quatsino, or up to Hardy Bay near Cape Scott, on the east coast. A branch would run west from Nanaimo via Alberni to a port which it may be presumed would be established near the place where the Alberni canal enters the Pacific. The C. P. R. steamers coming in from the Orient would touch at one or other port and there land mails and passengers to be carried on by fast train to Nanoose or Nanaimo, transhipped to a swift steamer which, like those plying between Kingston and Holyhead, would hurry them on to the Mainland, where from Vancouver the journey across the continent could be begun at least twenty-four hours before the Empress herself came around through the Straits and up the Narrows. Similarly, passengers and mails from the north would be landed by the steamers from Skagway and brought over the Island railway to an east coast point and rushed across the Gulf to Vancouver. On the other hand, passengers and mails for the Orient and the Yukon could arrive here a day or more after the departure of a steamer and still catch the boat at her final port of call on the Island.

Such are the possibilities from the point of view of the great railway. From that of Vancouver the outlook is still more favorable. The railway development outlined above carried out under the aegis of the C. P. R. means that this city becomes once and for all the centre of Island trade. All lines, no matter in what direction they spread out over the Island, must converge upon that port, be it Ladysmith, Nanaimo, or Nanoose, which is selected as the Island terminus of the lines constructed by the C. P. R., and must therefore lead direct to Vancouver. The getting of business turns largely upon the accessibility of the centre which is seeking it. Under the circumstances stated, railway and steamboat schedules will be primarily arranged with a view of suiting the convenience of persons wishing to get to and from the terminus of the C. P. R. in this city. The commercial traveler who leaves here to push the wares of his house will therefore be able to cover the island in less time and at less expense than the traveler from any other point. The goods for which he obtains orders will be shipped to the Island towns north, south and west more speedily and at lower charges than from any other distributing point.

ONTARIO'S INTEREST IN THE WEST.

Toronto Star.

Ontario has a deep interest in the West—a special interest because this province has done more than all the rest of Canada to populate that country. In the ten years between 1891 and 1901 this province contributed, according to the census, 54,739 people to the permanent population of Manitoba, the Territories, and British Columbia. In those same ten years Quebec gave the West only 6,374 people. Ontario has done much to colonize the West, and since the 1901 census was taken the movement of population from this province to the West has been greater than at any previous time.

The Toronto News is being abused by the Liberal papers of Ontario for opposing Premier Ross in the recent elections. The News professes to be independent, and, therefore, it is held that it should not take sides. There is a wide difference between independence and neutrality. A neutral paper is one that does not take sides at all. An independent paper is one that feels free to take either side. In the Ontario election the News did very effective work for the reason that it was independent in politics, and in its opposition to the Ross regime it reflected the views of a very large element in Ontario, who were tired of machine methods.

WORKERS RESUME LABORS.

Saratoff, Feb. 1.—The railway workers have resumed their labor. Schools will reopen on Feb. 2.

THE DOMINION EXHIBITION.

The Farmers' Advocate in its last number asks: "Where is the 1905 Dominion Exhibition to be held?" The question has been answered in the announcement that it is to be held at New Westminster. According to the Advocate the stockmen were beginning to get anxious about it as the time is short in which to prepare for it. Our contemporary stated: "We pointed out some time ago the desirability of having a Dominion Exhibition at the Coast this year, partly on account of the big Lewis and Clark Exposition to be held at Portland, Oregon, which will undoubtedly bring a large contingent of visitors from the Eastern, Central and Southern States, many of whom would journey north to see what British Columbia has to offer to tourists, to farmers, miners and commercial enterprises generally. Considerable time is needed to get up an exhibition worthy of the title Dominion, and an announcement should be made pretty soon if the Government intends to assist this year."

After the statement that no grant would be given this year had been made the announcement comes as quite a surprise, and we presume to the people of New Westminster a pleasant surprise, although they have not yet realized the responsibility of holding such an exhibition, if it is to be, as the Advocate says, worthy of the name. There is really very little time to spare to make ready for it, and it will require the expenditure of a large sum of money in addition to the sum to be received from the Dominion Government. It is, therefore, no mean undertaking. On account of the holding of the fair at Portland it is very essential that, now it has been decided upon, it should be a great success, and we trust to see every part of the Province assist to that end.

Acknowledged With Thanks—The manager of the Home for Aged and Infirm acknowledges with thanks the following donations to the home for January: Mrs. B. W. Pearse, Illustrated London News and Tobacco; Mrs. L. J. Quagliotti, San Francisco newspapers; Mrs. H. D. Helmcken, illustrated papers and magazines; Mrs. Clegg, sack apples; Mrs. Holmes, fruit and preserves; Gowen & Wriglesworth, goose; Fernie Bros., $10 expended on Christmas fare by chairman of home committee; Mr. T. Shotbolt, parcel of Collier's Weekly; Mr. N. Shakespeare, reading matter; entertainment committee First Presbyterian church, cake; Rev. Canon Paddon, clothing and boots; Pemberton & Sons, calendars; Colonist and Times, daily papers and monthly Mining Exchange.

SHOOTING AT CZAR WAS DELIBERATE

AN UNCONFIRMED report is in circulation that it has been officially ascertained that the discharge of grape from a saluting gun during the ceremony of the blessing of the waters on January 19, and which imperilled the lives of the Emperor and members of his family, was a deliberate act of the terrorists, their tool being a private soldier of the saluting battery.

There has been a partial suppression of disorder in Warsaw and traffic has been restored so far as to permit of the arrival of food. Murderous attacks on individual soldiers, however, are reported to be more frequent. In other industrial centres, including Moscow and St. Petersburg, the strike is practically at an end.

Grand Duke Vladimir, in an interview with the Associated Press, intimates that the people of Russia would soon be given a measure of representative government, although he declared that anything like general suffrage was not to be considered. The committee of ministers discussing the proposed reforms has published a report to show the people that the plans outlined in the imperial decree of December 26 are being considered.

MR. BALFOUR WILL STAND BY JAPAN

Will Remain In Office Until the End of the War With Russia.

London, Feb. 1.—W. L. A. Burdette-Coutts, M. P., speaking at the Westminster Conservative Club tonight, said the government would remain in office until the Russo-Japanese war was concluded, and predicted the ending of the conflict during the coming summer. He said the Anglo-Japanese alliance was the most prescient act of foreign policy ever achieved by Great Britain, and Premier Balfour was bound by every consideration of honor and patriotism to remain in office during the critical period, "when, the war being closed, other powers might step in and perhaps rob our ally as shamelessly as they robbed Japan before." With the closing of the war, the speaker said, would come a period of fine diplomacy, and it was impossible that that time should find the country in the throes of a general election.

PACIFIC COAST SALMON CANNING.

We are in receipt of the annual number of the Pacific Fisherman, published in San Francisco, which is brimful of information about the fisheries of the Coast, and well worthy to be kept on file for reference on the subject. Apart from its special features it is particularly interesting at the present time on account of the complete statistics it contains of the salmon pack for 1904. These are as follows:

	Cases.
Sacramento River	19,698
Columbia River	423,073
Outside Rivers	164,971
British Columbia	465,894
Alaska	1,952,144
Puget Sound	276,920
	3,302,700

There also are complete statistics of the salmon hatcheries on the Coast, from which we extract the following for British Columbia:

Chinook fry	4,495,000
Sockeye	22,554,000
Cohoe	6,204,000
	33,253,000

By hatcheries the result was as follows:

Seton Lake hatchery	4,989,000
Lakelse	4,120,000
Nimpkish	3,050,000
Shuswap	3,395,000
Bon Accord	11,699,000
Harrison Lake	6,000,000
	33,253,000

On the United States side of the line the following fry were hatched and liberated:

Alaska hatcheries	112,510,000
Puget Sound hatcheries	32,785,776
Columbia River hatcheries	19,477,740
Miscellaneous hatcheries	124,621,307
	289,394,823

In addition to its statistics the Pacific Fisherman Annual contains a number of special articles by experts and practical men in various lines of the industry and science of fishing on this Coast. Among them is an article by Mr. Babcock, being a review of the operations in British Columbia during 1904. The subjects include edible mollusks, shell fishes of the Northwest, the marking of artificially hatched salmon, early canning days on Puget Sound, labels, past and present, Pacific codfish industry, halibut fishing, hatcheries of the Alaska Packers' Association, the salmon situation, the story of the Pacific Packing and Navigation Company, British Columbia (by John Pease Babcock), and a number of others of lesset note. We congratulate the Pacific Fisherman on a number which it is probably quite right in claiming as the best special edition of a technical journal ever issued west of the Mississippi River.

COMMON LAW AND THE SOOTHSAYERS

Curious Neglect of B. C. Police to Enforce One Provision of Criminal Code.

During the past few days attention has been conspicuously directed to the numerical strength in this province of that class of people who, in the capacity of soothsayers, clairvoyants, seers, or fortune tellers, lay claim to an occult ability to penetrate the mysteries of earth, and divine things not within the ken of ordinary mortals. Particularly has the presence of these people been brought into public notoriety through their intrusion with "assistance" in connection with the protracted search for the two children missing from Nanaimo, whose fate is still as dark a mystery as on the day of their disappearance from their saddened homes.

The first of these spiritualistic "mediums" informed the police of the Coal City that the lost children would be found on Yellow Point, not far from Ladysmith, in the custody of a sheep rancher and his wife. Strange to say, the police, instead of taking proceedings against the medium, who calmly confessed that she had no information on the subject, but thought that as others had failed she might "take a guess" at the whereabouts of the children as well as anyone, visited Yellow Point, and gave an undeserved and unpleasant notoriety to a settler and his wife with respect to whom there is no suggestion of any scandal.

Then came another Vancouver spiritualist (self-advertising) who had the children somewhere else located, and since then there have been others assuming to have had mysterious communications, and who have miscellaneously described the whereabouts of the lost tots—one saying that they had fallen into an abandoned prospect shaft; another that they were detained as prisoners by a forest hermit, and were suffering from scrious illness.

There can be no question that these conflicting stories, with their suggestion of tortures long drawn out for the little ones, must occasion most poignant grief to the already deeply distressed fathers and mothers. And yet the police would seem to have never grasped the idea that it is their duty, under the law of Canada, not to permit the plying of their craft by people of such ilk.

PREST. LOUBET AND HIS MOTHER.

It is said of Mme. Loubet, mother of the president of France, whose death has just occurred at the age of ninety-two, that when the president paid his first visit to his native town, he disregarded all official etiquette and ran up to the balcony, where his old mother was watching the presidential procession, and kissed the old lady, who was overcome with emotion. She was then in her eighty-seventh year, but retained the clear eye and the energy of a peasant woman of twenty. She had received the news of her son's election in the presidency with some regret. "Oh, my poor Emile," she cried. "I saw little of him as it was. Now that he has gone higher I shall no longer see him at all. Oh. Mon Dieu! Mon Dieu!"

AN EMPTY COT.

When the sun sets in the cold grey sky,
And I call the children to rest,
And tuck each one, with a kiss, and a sigh,
In their cosy little nest.

As I whisper soft in their sleepy ears—
"God keep you safe all night,"
I find my eyes are full of tears,
Though I try to keep them bright.

Far away in a corner I seem to see,
In a quiet, darkened spot—
A little form that is gone from me,
And a little empty cot.

I pray God lessen the endless pain,
To comfort the one, whose lot
It has been to know the loneliness
Of a little, empty cot.
—Winifred Armstrong in Canadian Magazine.

THE LUMBER SHIPS.

News of Movements of Timber Droghers From Nearby Ports.

The British ship Ardencraig, Captain Chapman, has arrived at Port Blakeley to load lumber, under charter to J. J. Moore & Co., for Melbourne or Adelaide. British ship Port Caledonia, Captain E. E. Manning, has arrived at Port Townsend with cargo loaded at both Gamble and Blakeley. She has been loaded for some ten days, but owing to a dispute with her charterers over demurrage, has only now been able to come here for clearance, etc. British ship Eaglehorn, Captain Lovitt, has also arrived at Port Townsend from Port Blakeley with lumber for Melbourne, and she is also in a mix-up with the mill company and her charterers which has not yet been adjusted, and she will probably be here for some time yet. British bark Invermark, Captain Bolderston, is ready, bound for Fremantle with lumber cargo. She will probably get away about the middle of the week. Schooner Inca, Captain Rasmussen, has arrived at Winslow from Port Townsend to go on the ways for cleaning and painting prior to loading lumber cargo at some Sound mill for California. Bark Fresno has also arrived from Port Gamble for docking prior to her loading lumber cargo at Port Gamble.

LAST SEARCH FOR MISSING TOTS

Five Hundred Nanaimo School Boys Will Tomorrow Beat the Forest.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Nanaimo, Feb. 1.—(Special)—Tomorrow morning five hundred schoolboys, ranging in ages from ten to twenty, will take the southbound train to Southfield, where, under the direction of Mr. S. Bartlett, they will make a final attempt to locate the missing Rogers and Jones' children. The lads will be formed into squads of six each, under a leader who will at intervals have each lad report to him, so that no one may be lost. The entire party will form into a wide line and advance towards the city covering every inch of ground between Southfield and Nanaimo.

Supplementing her letter of yesterday, Mrs. Walker, the "medium" of Vancouver, says the old Englishman referred to lives with an Indian in a hut four or five miles from the railroad track in the bush not far from Ladysmith. It was on the afternoon of Jan. 10 that while on his way home from Nanaimo at about four in the afternoon he came across the children on the railroad track about a mile beyond Chinatown. Mrs. Walker while in a trance claims to have spoken to the old man. He says both children are ill, particularly the youngest, who is very sick. If anyone will call at his cabin they can have the children, as he does not want to keep them any longer. When asked why he would not return them to their homes he refused to reply.

John R. Packard, of Alberni, B. C., in a letter to Chief of Police Crossan, says he believes the children are at a spot which he describes as "Pit 4 1-2, T. A. mile and a half coming to Nanaimo from the eastbound track of the E. & N. railway," and the letter continues: "If you see a heap of brush, prospect hole or something or other it you see one," and just what this means no one here seems to know, but the searchers tomorrow will try and locate the spot. Mr. Packard does not give his reasons for believing the children will be found at this spot. A number of special constables will accompany the children and will thoroughly search the district for what will probably be the last time.

The appointment of Mr. Chas. Trawford as provincial constable for Nanaimo district gives universal satisfaction. Mr. Trawford is well fitted for the position and will doubtless prove an efficient officer.

By the accidental discharge of a shot gun, a young lad named J. Watson was shot through the foot yesterday.

TRYING TO KEEP THE MARKET.

Chas. Schack, who we presume is a lumber dealer, writes from High River, Alberta, to the Calgary Herald, stating that he received from a Winnipeg firm, agent for American lumber, a letter and petition blanks asking him to canvass for signatures to a petition to the Dominion Government not to put duty on American lumber. It is assumed that similar letters and blanks have been circulated throughout the whole of the Northwest and Manitoba, and that in a very short time there will be a monster petition go to Ottawa which will be accepted as the voice of the settlers of the prairie country.

Mr. Schack warns his fellow-lumber dealers against signing it, and asks them rather to join with the manufacturers in asking the Dominion Government to protect the lumber industry in the same way as the Eastern manufacturer is protected.

In speaking about the disastrous effect of the present condition of the lumber industry in the Province, he says:

"It means that they do not require any more of our horses, which they have bought from us in former years at good figures. The grain and hay supply is cut in half, hundreds of young farmers who went every winter to the lumber woods of British Columbia and brought back thousands of dollars, with which they improved their farms, find themselves without employment.

"Let us send our money to British Columbia and we get it back again in various ways. They need our horses, need our men, need our produce, what of it if we pay 2 per cent. more for our lumber does this signify anything? I think the men we send them from the country not as long as they pay high wages to and good prices for our produce.

"I do not alone want every lumber dealer, to whom I presume the petition lists are sent, to help, but I ask every business man and farmer to well consider the question. Let British Columbia flourish and we will flourish, let us all do our share towards it as British Columbia is the only market we have for all our produce."

Mr. Schack may not be a Britisher, as his name would indicate, but he is evidently a believer in fair play, and feels that it is a poor business proposition for the Northwest to buy lumber from a foreign country, which buys nothing back, and all at the expense of a sister Province, which is one of its most profitable customers. The commercial basis of Confederation is the success of inter-Provincial trade. While we buy everything principally in use from the Eastern Province, we have nothing to sell in return, except lumber and fruit. If through the operations of producers in a foreign country we are excluded from selling lumber there is very little left for us. We do not get even one per cent. of the trade benefits of Confederation.

SALE OF THE E. & N. RAILWAY.

Rumors have been current for several days on the street that the E. & N. Railway had been sold to the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., and last evening it was announced that the deal had been practically completed. Mr. Dunsmuir, who was interviewed yesterday regarding the truth of the report, said there was no change in the status of the ownership, and that nothing had occurred to justify the conclusion that a sale had been completed. While not denying that some negotiations had taken place recently with several parties, he refused to discuss details. To whatever extent the matter has been discussed it has as yet taken no definite shape.

Chamberlain On Fiscal Policy

For an Hour and a Half Discusses Imperial Side of Question.

London News Deems Naval Defence of Colonies Equivalent to Preference.

Canadian Associated Press Cable.

London, Feb. 1.—Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at Gainsborough, urged upon his audience the desirability of thinking "imperially" without reference to the antiquated conditions of themselves or their country. Everyone should think not of himself but of his country's life, which would be prolonged after he had ceased to exist. He described the Empire as a responsibility such as had never been placed on any nation before. For the moment the Empire is a loose bundle of sticks bound together by a sentiment of sympathy, but so slender that a rough blow might scatter it into its constituent fragments. The British Empire, won by sacrifices, can only be maintained by sacrifices. Those who hated the name of imperialism, as Mr. Campbell-Bannerman had said, were honest in saying there was no need to change the fiscal policy, but such a policy was selfish and shortsighted. If anything should happen which should weaken the ties or if the colonies should map out a course of their own, Great Britain in trade would lose her most promising customers. Referring to the colonial support in the late war, he said that for the first time it made possible an organized union of all the different parts of the British Empire for common objects. He again quoted the remarks of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Deakin and the late Cecil Rhodes. Dealing with the colonial offer, Mr. Chamberlain said: "When Premier Laurier says 'we offer to meet you to make a treaty with you by which you shall treat us and we will treat you a little better than we both treat foreigners,' I do not know any name in the English language that I can give that statement, except as an offer which Sir Wilfrid Laurier made and which has been repeated in different words and in different forms, always to the same effect, not only by the statesmen in Canada whichever side of politics they are on, but also of the statesmen of the other self-governing colonies." He told the audience they were not bound to open their mouth, shut their eyes and take whatever the colonies gave them. He asked them to meet friends and relations in a friendly meeting to see whether the Empire cannot be more closely united on the basis of a preferential policy. He told the audience that they had been asked to meet overtures from the Canadians by a flat and insulting refusal, which would readily be entertained in the case of foreign countries. He ventured to say that the colonies, or high-spirited nations, if treated in such a way, would seek elsewhere the sympathy they asked. He read a long extract from an Ottawa paper in support of his views. Referring to the growth of the foreign trade of the colonies, Mr. Chamberlain proceeded: "I want to bring you all the trade the colonies can give. I want to bring about closer intercourse between the colonies and ourselves in order that our great Empire may be maintained. What do the colonies ask from you in return for this? They ask that certain advantages should be given to them on some of their principal products. They don't ask it on all, but they do ask that that advantage should be given them on corn meal and dairy produce. For in order to give it them we should have to put a small tax on these articles. They don't want a big tax. All they ask is for a turn of the scale in trade, as no one knows better than them—great industrial and manufacturing concerns, the majority of which are entirely in favor of this policy—that the turn of the scale is a consideration." Mr. Chamberlain went on to explain that under the preference scheme it would, on the whole, not cost more for a small tax imposed on some articles and would be counterbalanced by reducing the tax on others. Mr. Chamberlain explained that the Canadian preference increased the trade between five and six millions sterling yearly, involving two and a half millions in wages, or sustenance for 160,000 individuals. After speaking an hour and a half wholly on the Imperial side of the question, Mr. Chamberlain resumed his seat midst cheers.

At a meeting held in his house, Lord Brassey emphasized the opinion that emigration was the only permanent benefit to the unemployed. He appealed for subscriptions for that purpose.

The Chronicle, referring to Mr. Chamberlain's quotation from the Ottawa Journal, quotes a statement of Prof. Shortt, of Kingston, to the effect that unless Canada is willing to sacrifice bodily her manufacturing industries, she has little else to gain by way of fiscal arrangement.

Quoting the benefits to the colonies of naval defence, the News asks what right Mr. Chamberlain has to put his country in the dock as a criminal to face the colonies.

LONGEVITY IN THE ADIRONDACKS.

A story is told illustrating the great age that people attain in the bracing air of the Adirondacks by a member of a hunting party who had been deer stalking there. In a rather wild part of the country the party came across a log cabin. At the door was standing an aged native of the Rip Van Winkle sort. One of the gunners, after a short talk, asked him how long his father had been dead. "Father dead!" the old man replied in a tone of surprise; "father ain't dead; he's in the back room puttin' grandfather to bed."

TRIAL BY JURY.

A North Carolina lawyer was trying a case before a jury, being counsel for the prisoner, a man charged with making "mountain dew." The judge was very hard on him, and the jury brought in a verdict of guilty. The lawyer moved for a new trial. The judge denied the motion, and remarked: "The court and the jury think the prisoner a knave and a fool." After a moment's silence, the lawyer answered: "The prisoner wishes me to say that he is perfectly satisfied—he has been tried by a court and a jury of his peers."

LEASING FOREIGN ROADS.

Albany, Feb. 1.—A bill was introduced in the New York assembly today providing that the lease of a foreign railroad to a New York state road must be ratified by two-thirds of the stockholders of each corporation at an annual meeting for the purpose of electing directors, providing that notice of the approval of such leases shall have been given.

NEW HUNGARIAN MINISTRY.

Buda Pest, Hungary, Feb. 1.—Emperor Francis Joseph this morning received in audience Premier Tiszot, Vienna. The latter handed His Majesty the resignation of the Hungarian cabinet. The Emperor has summoned Count Julius Rassy, one of the foremo[illegible] opposition leaders, to Vienna.

Piles To prove to you that Dr. Chase's Ointment is a certain and absolute cure for each and every form of itching, bleeding and protruding piles, the manufacturers have guaranteed it. See testimonials in the daily press and ask your neighbors what they think of it. You can see it and get your money back if not cured. 60c a box, at all dealers or EDMANSON, BATES & CO., Toronto.
Dr. Chase's Ointment

VOL. XLVII.

Mr. Borde[illegible] Is Retu[illegible]

Leader of the Oppo[illegible] a Member of the [illegible] House.

Elected by Acclama[illegible] ton and Addres[illegible] Electors

Again Enunciates P[illegible] Party and Notes E[illegible] ing Signs

From Our Own Correspo[illegible]

OTTAWA, Feb. 4.—[illegible] L. Borden is a[illegible] acclamation toda[illegible] Carleton county, and wi[illegible] in the house on Tuesday [illegible] five members of parlia[illegible] fifty Ottawa friends a[illegible] opposition leader. They [illegible] special train to Stittsv[illegible] drove eight miles across [illegible] weather to the historic [illegible] 500 stalwarts from all [illegible] county assembled in t[illegible] and when 2 o'clock stru[illegible] turning officer, Mr. Co[illegible] Mr. Borden elected by [illegible] cheer went up which [illegible] almost a mile away. T[illegible] unique by reason of [illegible] twenty-five members of [illegible] livered addresses.

Each was limited to [illegible] and if any one sought [illegible] ting at his coat tails r[illegible] the fact.

Eulogistic references [illegible] all to the action of E[illegible] resigning to make way [illegible] den. Before the leader [illegible] tion spoke Mr. Kidd [illegible] with a beautifully illu[illegible] and a breastpin of opals [illegible]

Mr. Borden, on rising [illegible] gathering, was received [illegible] cheering. He spoke of [illegible] he would have in repres[illegible] and referred in generou[illegible] Kidd's unselfish action, [illegible] his own defeat in Hal[illegible] attributed to over-confi[illegible] part of Conservatives. [illegible] neglect in looking af[illegible] lists.

Once more he empha[illegible] of the Conservative pa[illegible] last session:

(a) The appropriatio[illegible] moneys according to pe[illegible] not according to party [illegible]

(b) Through control [illegible] penditures through the [illegible]

(c) Appointments to [illegible] be based on capacity an[illegible] acter and not merely fo[illegible]

(d) Amendments to th[illegible] and punishment of all [illegible]

(e) Protection to agr[illegible] facturers and other [illegible] would enable our peop[illegible] full benefit of the home [illegible]

(f) Establishment of a[illegible] tual trade preferences [illegible] pire.

(g) A thorough and [illegible] transportation policy ba[illegible] telligent study and co[illegible] the needs of the count[illegible] signed as to car