The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-FIRST YEAR. THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST MONDAY MARCH 28 1898 VOLUME NO. 31

MR. GLADSTONE'S CASE

A CANCEROUS GROWTH SLOWLY BRINGS THE STATESMAN TO LIFE'S CLOSE.

OPERATION IMPOSSIBLE OWING TO AGED AND ENFEEBLED CONDITION.

AGED SUFFERER EXPRESSES PITIFUL LONGING FOR RELIEF IN DEATH.

PALLIATIVES WEAKEN HEART'S ACTION AND BRING THE END NEARER.

New York, March 25.—The Sun publishes the following from its London correspondent to-day. "Mr. Gladstone is dying of a cancerous growth involving the bone tissues back of the nasal passages. The melancholy truth is now admitted privately by his son, Mr. Herbert Gladstone, and other members of his family.

The unanimous verdict of several specialists who have been consulted regarding the case is that an operation is impossible owing to the aged and enfeebled condition of the patient. It would be possible to afford considerable relief and also to prolong life by surgical means if Mr. Gladstone were younger, but his heart already threatens failure to perform its functions and the surgeons are of the opinion that the administration of anaesthetics would result in immediate death.

"The only relief possible is that afforded by opiates and other palliatives. These will be used freely as the disease progresses, for, although they tend to shorten life, it is the wise judgment of the physicians and the family alike that they would not be justified in seeking to prolong the agony which has already led the aged sufferer to express a pitiful longing for death."

The pain has now continued for six months and although it is somewhat less acute then what it was a few weeks ago the strength and vitality of the patient's wonderful constitution are sadly declined. The end, when it comes, will be from failure of the heart's action rather than from the direct ravages of the terrible malady. It is hardly probable that it will be long delayed."

MANITOBA AND NORTHWEST.

Settlers and Other Travellers Swarm the Winnipeg Streets—Separate Schools Under Act.

Winnipeg, March 25.—(Special)—There were very busy scenes at the C.P.R. station during last night. In addition to the heavy westbound trains with Yukon travellers, three sections arrived with settlers on board from Ontario. There were 300 returning excursionists also on the trains and by the time the last section arrived the C.P.R. platform and depot building were swarming with people.

About 200 new settlers left for provincial points to-day. The Western states delegates also departed to day, including 11 from Kansas and five from Wisconsin and Minnesota who went to Yorkton. Three from Kansas left to-night for Edmonton and five from Dakota went to Alameda.

It is stated to-day on the best authority that at an early date School Inspector Rochton will start on his spring trip of inspection and that on this trip he will visit a large number of Catholic separate schools, which have decided to come under the provisions of the public schools act amendments of last session. Upon the inspector's report grants will follow in due course.

To-day was the sixtieth anniversary of Premier Greenway's birthday.

A Fort William special to the Free Press says an accident occured to the second section of the west bound express at English River this morning. Full particulars cannot be learned, but two were killed and twenty wounded. The train was in charge of conductor Brown. The accident was caused by a broken rail. Dr. Hamilton, C.P.R. surgeon here, is now at the scene of the accident.

GRAND TRUNK REPORT.

A Much Better Showing Than That of the Previous Year and the New Manager Commended.

Toronto, March 25.—A special cable to the Evening Telegram from London says: The half-yearly report of the Grand Trunk railway, just issued, shows receipts for the period to have been £2,247,151, an increase of £135,617 as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. The working expenses of the road are shown as £1,434,804, being a decrease compared with the similar period of £80,616, making the net traffic receipts for the last half of the year £81,347. Adding to the above £107,886 interest received on bonds of other railways and the International Bridges Company makse the net revenue receipts £920,235, an increase over the 1896 period of £213,528. The total net revenue charges, including rents of leased lines, interest on debentures and stocks and bonds, and the amount advanced to the Chicago & New Haven Company, amount to £644,972, leaving a surplus which, deducted from the deficiency shown in the report of June, 1897, leaves a balance of £10,280 to the credit of net revenue account of December, 1897, to be carried forward to the next helf-year's account. The revenue surplus shows an improvement of £236,177, and for the entire year of 1897, £277,972 as compared with a deficiency of £42,975 shown for 1896. The Grand Trunk and Wabash agreement is also shown by which the latter line between Windsor and Buffalo via Suspension Bridge is leased at a yearly rental of $275,000, increasing every five years $25,000 until the maximum is reached of $450,000, the Wabash paying its quota of the cost of operating and maintaining the line leased.

The directors regret that the amicable relations between the G.T.R. and the C.P.R. systems have been interrupted in consequence of the unwillingness of the latter to agree to passenger rates arranged by American competition with the G.T.R.

Manager Hay's efforts on behalf of the road the directors highly appreciate and make due record of the fact.

The retiring directors, Messrs. Hubbard, Jackson, Sergeant and Welby and also auditors Whinney and Davidson, offer themselves for re-election at the semi-annual shareholders' meeting to be held on the fifth of April.

RAILWAYS TO CONFER.

Committee of the Passenger Association to Meet in Buffalo Early Next Week.

Montreal, March 25.—(Special)—Mr. McNicoll, chairman of the sub-committee of the Trunk Line passenger commission, announced this morning that the delayed meeting in reference to the rate war would take place in Buffalo on Monday or Tuesday next. Mr. McNicoll, speaking for the C.P.R., denied the report that the local rates will be put back to the former basis prior to the settlement of trans-continental trouble.

ALIENATION OF AFFECTIONS.

Standard Bank Clerk Sued by a Man Whose Home He Is Charged With Breaking Up.

Toronto, March 25.—(Special)—A case of damages for alienation of affections by one Fleury, of Stouffville, against Geo. M. Campbell, a Standard Bank clerk, was given to the jury to-day. The Fleurys married in 1884. Campbell came to board with them and Fleury says he alienated his wife's affections and broke up his home. It is alleged that the couple were seen together in another town and passed at a hotel as man and wife. Mrs. Fleury denied the allegations and other parties said that the woman seen at a hotel with Campbell had yellow hair, different from Mrs. Fleury's and it could not have been her.

A SHOOTING MYSTERY.

Hint of Disclosures in the North Augusta Case—Rural Magistrate's Fall Out.

Brockville, March 25.—(Special)—A complication has arisen in connection with the North Augusta shooting tragedy. The preliminary hearing after the adjournment of the inquest was held before Messrs. Joynt and Bellamy, justices of the peace. A disagreement arose between them as to the value of the evidence. Joynt said he considered it impossible to convict the prisoner and took it upon himself to order his discharge. Bellamy objected to do so without advice, and Joynt withdrew.

A mystery surrounds the case. It is reported that the business upon which the deceased called at the Pear home on the night of the tragedy was not wholly in connection with the sale of the patent alluded to.

The county crown attorney says if Pear is discharged he will cause another information to be laid when he would be brought before a Brockville magistrate.

THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

List of Passengers Killed and Injured in the Mishap Near Fort William.

Winnipeg, March 25.—(Special)—The train wrecked near Fort William to-day consisted chiefly of colonist cars with second-class passengers for the Pacific coast. The following is a list of killed and injured:

Killed—Frank Mardian, Detroit, body sent East.

Seriously Injured—C. W. Marks, Detroit.

Slightly Injured—Wm. Merritt, Toronto; M. Soffoky, N.Y.; J. F. Taylor, Sr., J. F. Taylor, Jr., Halifax; D. Slosman, New York; H. Sexl, New York; Martha Nelson, St. Mary's, Ont.; J. P. McKeown, Fredericton, N.B.; C. A. Dawner, Detroit; Duncan McLeod, River Dennis, N.D.; Jos. Higg, Montreal; Jos. Burns, Montreal; H. S. Howard, Jr., Mrs. Howard, H. S. Howckford, J. C. Clark, Windsor, Ont.; Thos. James, Toronto.

Madrid, March 25.—The report of the Spanish court of inquiry into the loss of the Maine says emphatically that the explosion was of internal origin.

To-day at two o'clock a special train, bearing members of the orchestra, chorus, etc, of the Giorza's Mass, leaves for Nanaimo. The organization which but recently scored a pronounced success locally is to give a concert this evening in the Black Diamond City in aid of the Nanaimo general hospital. Tickets for this event have already found good sale and judging from this the concert bids fair to be very largely attended.

LIBERALS' GREAT LUCK.

Another Member Secured by Vote of Returning Officer—An Election Fund Molested.

Toronto, March 26.—(Special)—Four election protests were filed this morning against Premier Hardy, South Brant; Mr. Harcourt, Monck; Mr. Russell, East Hastings; and Colquhoun, West Hastings.

Decision was given in the West Huron case, in which four ballots were left in dispute the other day. A ballot for Garrow, Liberal, disallowed was counted for him, and one ballot counted for Beck, Conservative, was disallowed. Two other ballots claimed by Beck and disallowed by the county judge were again disallowed. This leaves the vote a tie, with the election in the hands of the returning officer, who will doubtless give the seat to the Liberal. The previous decision was in favor of the Conservative.

Yesterday protests were filed in the cases of Brockville and South Toronto. The special charges in the Toronto case are to the effect that moneys were subscribed by Sir Charles Tupper, Messrs. Whiney, Marter and others.

WORK OF AN ENEMY!

MAINE COURT OF INQUIRY DECLARES WRECK DUE TO EXTERNAL CAUSE.

SPANISH GOVERNMENT CABLES THAT IT HAS FORMED A CONTRARY OPINION.

WAR PREPARATIONS HURRIEDLY GOING ON AND CONFLICT NEAR AT HAND.

TORPEDO FLEET THE LIKELY OBJECT OF THE FIRST ATTACK.

Washington, March 25.—The court of inquiry appointed to investigate the cause of the Maine disaster has reported that the loss of the battleship was due to an outside explosion. The state department by direction of the President has cabled United States Minister Woodford at Madrid to notify the Spanish government of this conclusion.

The President and his cabinet advisers had two extended sessions to-day, one at 10:30 a.m. and another at 3:30 p.m. at which the report was considered in detail. Members of the cabinet stated after the meeting that the discussion was of a grave character and that never since the wrecking of the Maine has the situation seemed so critical. The Spanish government has cabled officially to Washington that the Spanish naval commission holds the disaster of the Maine to be of internal origin.

The government of Spain, it can be stated positively, is not disposed to turn back the torpedo flotilla bound from the Canaries and will be disinclined to consider a suggestion from this government tending to interfere with the disposition by Spain of her own forces.

War preparations of an unprecedented scale are being hurried to completion by the war and naval departments and the country is practically on a war footing.

The foregoing gives the record of one of the most eventful days the national capital has seen since the close of the civil war. It was a day of profound important action, of the deepest anxiety, coupled with naval and military activity, one step following another in rapid succession. Public men in all branches of official and congressional life no less than the public in general shared in the tension to which the situation has been wrought. There was no effort among the highest officials nor indeed was it possible owing to what was clearly apparent in the developments of the day, to minimize the situation.

Commander Marix, judge advocate of the court of inquiry, delivered the report to Secretary Long early this morning, and shortly after it was carried to the White House and placed in the hands of the President. No intimation of the results reached by the court, however, were known until two o'clock when an Associated Press bulletin gave the information to the country as well as the eagerly waiting officials at Washington. These results, briefly stated, are that the loss of the Maine was due to an explosion from the outside, the court being unable to fix the responsibility for the explosion.

The court does not express an opinion, but the testimony goes to show that it was a powerful submarine mine, the exact character of which is not determined by the testimony, though the belief was expressed that it was a floating submarine mine. There were two explosions, the court finds, the first was on the outside and that set off one of the smaller magazines. It was this result, expressed in detail, and with the precision of a court deeply conscious of its responsibility, together with the evidence on which it was based, that occupied the attention of the cabinet throughout its extended sessions of the morning and afternoon. All other and lesser subjects gave way to this foremost question. There was no change in the plan of making the report public and transmitting it to congress early next week, accompanied by a brief message from the President.

While interest was thus centered at the White House, the navy and war departments were hurrying forward their work of preparations. The advance of the Spanish torpedo flotilla continued to receive the closest attention of naval officers, but so far as could be ascertained no definite line of action was determined upon. The need of intercepting this fleet was urged by the highest naval authorities. From the standpoint of the Spanish government this movement was not a menace, having been decided upon many weeks ago. On the contrary, the Spanish government holds that the extensive armament of the Tortugas was a more direct hostile act than any movement of the flotilla. Instead of stopping the flotilla, the present attitude of Spain tends toward reinforcing it with other Spanish vessels, not as a menace but from what the Spanish government feels is a requirement called for by the existing condition of affairs.

Hardly less suggestive than the approach of the torpedo flotilla was the information received to-day by the highest military authorities that the Spanish government had hurried to completion extensive fortifications on the island of Porto Rico, lying just off Cuba and the only Spanish possession in this hemisphere other than Cuba. The exact character of these new defences has been made known here and they are being given weight with the military authorities as showing the disposition of Spain.

The orders issued by the navy department during the day covered every branch of the service. The "flying squadron" is to consist of five ships. These are the crack armored cruiser Brooklyn, the battleships Massachusetts and Texas and the cruisers Columbia and Minneapolis. Other ships which are now or hereafter at Hampton roads will not be in this squadron.

At the same time the North Atlantic station, under Capt. Sampson, is to be further augmented. The cruiser Cincinnati, which left Port Antonio three days ago under sealed orders, it to report at Key West and become a part of Capt. Sampson's fleet. Orders were issued today to have all the warships painted black, a color that is better adapted to hostilities because the vessels will not afford so good a target.

The navy department was informed by cablegram from London that agents of the government had purchased a torpedo boat that had been constructed for the German government. The new acquisition is of the general type of German torpedo boats and is regarded as a valuable addition to the navy. One feature regarding her that affords special gratification to the officials of the navy department is that she is now ready for sea. It is expected that within a few days she will leave for the United States.

SHORT DISPATCHES.

Bombay reports 1,259 deaths from the plague during the past week, including four Europeans.

O. A. Howland, ex-M.P.P., takes time by the forelock by announcing his candidature for the Toronto mayoralty next year.

A party of gold hunters organized in Chicago and composed of S. P. Merchant, G. M. Hensen, C. Hansen, W. R. Niles and R. Ersike arrived in the city yesterday morning and have decided to purchase their Klondike outfits in the city.

London, March 25.—James Payne, the novelist and journalist, is dead.

Harwick, March 24.—The British steamer Seamow on her way to Hamburg yesterday evening sank an unknown vessel near The Haak light ship off the Dutch coast.

Fabien Paquet, a Quebec bailiff 76 years of age has been killed by falling fifteen feet from the Regent bridge in Montmagny to the ice beneath.

West Kent Conservatives will attempt to unseat and disqualify Mr. Pardo, the member-elect for the legislature.

CHILI TO ARGENTINA.

Unless Boundary Dispute is Submitted to British Arbitration There Will be a Fight.

London, March 24.—The correspondent of the Times at Santiago de Chili says he learns on the best authority that within two months both Chili and Argentina will submit a boundary line. In the event of a disagreement Chili will demand the submission of the whole question to the arbitration of Great Britain, and in the event of a refusal by Argentina she will declare war. The correspondent says it is generally believed that Argentina will accept arbitration.

OHIO RIVER RISING.

Prospect of a Prodigious Flood Should Rain Occur as Expected—Loss of Life Reported.

Cincinnati, March 24.—At 10 o'clock to-night the Ohio river at Cincinnati registered 51 feet 2½ inches, rising an inch an hour.

Reports from the source of the Monongahela bring news of heavy rains last night and of a rapidly rising river to-night. There is an assurance that the Ohio will have a protracted high stage of water, and a prodigious flood may be expected should the tributaries receive an accession of rain within two or three days.

Loss of life is reported at Hamilton, Ohio, where the great Miami swept away two cottages and drowned six inmates.

SUPPORT FROM MONTREAL.

Board of Trade There for All-Canadian Route to Kettle River as Well as to Yukon.

Montreal, March 25.—(Special)—The board of trade council adopted and forwarded to Ottawa to-day the following resolution:

"Whereas the opening of communication with the Yukon district is of vital importance to the mercantile and manufacturing interests of the country; and whereas such communication is in the opinion of this council to be most quickly obtained by the construction of a railway between Teslin Lake and Port Simpson: Therefore resolved, that the council of the Montreal board of trade hereby prays the parliament of Canada to legislate for the immediate construction of a railway in Canadian territory between Teslin Lake and Port Simpson or the head of any adjacent inlet on the Canadian coast navigable by ocean vessels, and to provide that portion of the line between Teslin Lake and Glenora shall be completed by September 1 of this year."

The council also unanimously endorsed the resolution of the British Columbia legislature opposing the granting of a charter to the Kettle River railway company.

A PHOTOGRAPHIC FREAK.

How Certain Substances Make Pictures of Themselves Told by a Scientific Expert.

London, March 24.—According to the Daily News, Dr. W. J. Russell, a prominent scientific man, has discovered that a certain substance placed in juxtaposition to a highly sensitive photographic plate in common darkness will become a polished piece of zinc after four or five hours contact. The sensitive plate has, as he paradoxically puts it, photographed itself without the aid of light, showing lines scratched on the zinc, flaws etc. Several other metals, wood, silks, straw and other substances, also photograph themselves in darkness in the same manner. Actual contact with the plate is not necessary.

WHY NOT

When sickness comes to your home, when the children catch colds, or become thin and run down, why not secure the best means of restoring their health strengthening their lungs, and making them robust and strong. Griffith's Norwegian Emulsion supplies the means, makes the children robust and strong, strengthens their lungs making them less susceptible to catching cold, and brings to their cheeks the rosy color which children should possess. It is vrey pleasant to take, the children all like it. Your physician recommends it, your druggist sells it. 50cts. and $1.

WHAT ABOUT RUSSIA?

British Government Reproached by the Press for Permitting the Chinese Concessions.

Japan Said to Have Been Conciliated by Promise of Withdrawal From Korea.

Chinese Fleeing Pell Mell From Port Arthur—Three More Russian Warships.

London, March 25.—In the house of Commons to-day Mr. Curzon, parliamentary secretary for the foreign office, said the government had no confirmation of the news contained in a Pekin despatch to the London Times to the effect that China has agreed to all the Russian demands.

The morning papers publish anxious articles reproaching the government for its inaction in China, and asking whether England has surrendered to Russia. The Times charges the government with vacillation.

Russia agrees that the port shall be open to the ships and commerce of the whole world with a customs tariff similar to that of a Chinese treaty port, although its administration will be the same as at any other Russian port. China having represented that Talienwan is certain to supplant Niuchwang as the chief port of Manchuria, and to cause a loss of the chief port of the imperial customs revenue, Russia undertakes to contribute to the Chinese government the balance of the customs collected at Talienwan after payment of expenses.

Though this arrangement is obviously temporary, the Chinese are much flattered by the concession. The conditions generally are clevedly designed to conciliate the trading stations, while Russia will consolidate her power and strengthen her base prior to the absorption of Manchuria.

Russia has notified China that Japan has withdrawn opposition to Russian action as to the Liaotong ports in consideration of Russia's withdrawal from Korea.

Yokahama, March 25.—A report that Japan has requested Russia to evacuate Port Arthur finds credence in the Japanese press, which regards the recall of Malexieoff, the Russian custom agent at Seoul as a sign that Russia has changed her policy in regard to Korea.

A despatch from Shanghai says that the Ruslan, having ordered the Chinese to leave Port Arthur, the mandarins and soldiers are bolting pell mell with their baggage to Chefoo, Niuchwang and Taku.

Three of Russia's largest battleships, says a special despatch from St. Petersburg, will shortly proceed through the Bosphorous for Chinese waters.

BLIZZARD IN ENGLAND.

Snow and Sleet Throughout the Kingdom and Great Suffering From the Cold.

London, March 24.—Snow and sleet is falling to-day in various parts of the United Kingdom, while heavy gales are sweeping the coast causing vessels to seek shelter in the harbors. A blizzard is raging in Derbyshire, imperiling the flocks and pedestrians. There were many small wrecks without loss of life on the coast, and the steam trawler Nellie which was wrecked off Rattray Head, lost all her crew by drowning.

London, March 25.—The storm continues throughout the United Kingdom. Railroad trains are embedded in snowdrifts, telegraph wires are down in most parts of the country and people have been frozen to death while traversing the moors. A hurricane swept all the coasts and terrific seas have been running. The channel services have been suspended and there have been numberless wrecks of small craft. The life boats and rocket service have been busy. Many people have been rescued from drowning, and shipping everywhere is seeking shelter. Much damage has been done to the harbors. Piers have been swept away high tides are flooding the streets. A Swedish brig went ashore near Grimsby this morning. Her crew perished before assistance could reach them. The greatest anxiety is felt for the safety of the fishing fleet.

FINANCIERS AGAINST WAR.

Offer to Supply Indemnity Funds to Spain Should United States Demand Reparation.

London, March 24.—The Cuban crisis has aroused financiers here to make efforts to avert war. A movement to this end is on foot in Lombard street, and American bankers who are leading it are supposed to have the sympathy and perhaps co-operation of the Rothschilds. The American bankers are endeavoring to secure the influence of financiers and governments, representing to them the damage to the commerce of all nations which a war would involve. The financiers are willing to invest liberally to prevent war, but aparently they are unable to devise a plan promising success.

The American bankers tell the diplomats that if the United States demands an indemnity and Spain is willing to pay the financiers will gladly furnish the funds. The best informed diplomats do not believe, however, that the cabinet or dynasty dare risk the wrath of the populace which would inevitably follow acquiescence in the demand of the United States for reparation for the loss of the Maine.

Prominent financiers are calling upon the United States ambassador, Col. John Hay, seeking inside information regarding the political situation. Financiers are also seeking to bring pressure upon Washington through the American diplomats. The Spanish and Cuban firms and financial houses in London generally agree in expressing the opinion that there will be no war.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says: "All classes of the Russian army reserve have been warned to hold themselves in readiness to be summoned to service, and on account of the difficulties in Korea it has been decided to dispatch to Eastern Asia a corps of 5,000 of the first line of reserves."

The Chinese minister paid a hurried visit to the foreign office this evening and remained a long time there.

INHUMANITY AT SEA.

Steamer Runs Down a Schooner and Proceeds Without Assisting the Imperilled Crew.

Marseilles, March 25.—The Italian schooner Addolonata, of Messina, Sicily, was run down off Monte Cristo while on her way to Genoa by an unknown steamer which proceeded disregarding the signals of the crew of the schooner. The crew after enduring great privations and passing fourteen hours in the schooner's boats, heavy weather prevailing, landed at Monte Cristo. The underwriters of this city offer $2,000 for the discovery of the identity of the steamer.

THE TRAIN WRECK.

Remarkable Escape of the Passengers From More Serious Injury—A Traveler's Statement.

Winnipeg, March 26.—(Special)—The passengers of the train wrecked near English river reached here this morning. None are seriously injured excepting C. W. Markes, of Detroit, who is in the general hospital with very severe injury to scalp and back. He is unconscious. C. A. Dowler of Detroit, who sustained several contusions and cuts on the head, was seen by a press representative this morning, and said: "I was in the fifth car of the train, a colonist sleeper. Immediately after the crash I was congratulating myself on having escaped any injury, though I remember striking my head against what I thought was a cushion. After clambering out of the car I felt blood trickling down my neck, and found that my head was badly cut. Considering the circumstances there was no panic to speak of. Anyone seeing the wreck would imagine that, at least 50 persons must have been killed. The train crew were prompt in getting the people out of the cars, and in less than an hour and a half a wrecking train had arrived with a serveon on board. All with one or two exceptions proceeded west to-day.

BRITISH COAST STORMS.

Much Damage to Shipping and Many Heroic Rescues of Imperilled Seamen.

London, March 26.—The severe gales, accompanied by snow and sleet, are unabated all over England. The weather is especially severe over the southeast coasts, and it is worse off the French coast. The trips of the channel steamers to the continent are still suspended. Telegraphic communication is seriously interrupted. There have been numerous shipping disasters all around the English coasts and along the North Sea to the Baltic.

There have been many heroic rescues. at Shields the crew of the Norwegian bark Diamant were landed by the rocket apparatus in the presence of thousands of spectators. At Dover the gale was especially severe, the shore being strewn with wreckage; while at Lowestoff huge masses of cliffs were washed away and the houses on their tops were endangered. Over one hundred fishing smacks re missing.

Grave fears are entertained for the safety of the trawl fleet, numbering two hundred vessels. They have been exposed to the fury of the gale on the Dogger banks, and only one boat has returned. She has been lying off this port since Wednesday, unable to enter. The wind is blowing at the rate of 60 miles an hour.

NEWFOUNDLAND GRIEVANCES.

Particularly the Wrongs Inflicted by French Fishermen to be the Subject of Investigation.

St. John's, March 25.—In the legislature to-night he premier, Sir James Winter, introduced a resolution inviting the British government to send a royal commission of inquiry to visit the colony and to report on the financial condition and resources of Newfoundland, and particularly upon the grievances under which the settlers along the French treaty coast of the island suffer from wrongs done by French warships and predatory French fishermen.

INLAND REVENUE SERVICE.

Several Transfers From Winnipeg and Calgary in Contemplation.

Winnipeg, March 26.—(Special)—It is stated that a number of changes are about to be made in the inland revenue service in the west. H. A. Costigan, collector here, is to be transferred to Ottawa and given a position in the department there. T. S. Gosnell, formerly of this city, and now collector of inland revenue at Calgary, will take the position of collector at this point. W. J. Christie, deputy collector here, will be transferred to Calgary. W. W. Watson will be appointed to the position of deputy collector to be vacated by Mr. Christie.

NEWFOUNDLAND'S PREMIER.

Remains in Politics Another Year, and Then Takes Judicial Post Preserved for Him.

St. John's Nfld., March 24.—As a result of the government conference last night Sir James Winter, the premier, whom it was proposed to transfer to the Supreme court bench, will remain in active politics for another year. Justice Little, the senior judge, will become acting chief justice in the place of Sir Frederick Carter, retiring, and former Attorney-General Morrison will become assistant judge. In May of next year Justice Little will retire and be succeeded by Sir James Winter as chief justice.

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NEWS OF THE CAPITAL.

Contractors Said to Have Given Up Fight for Yukon Bill in the Senate.

Liberal Caucus Demands That Public Service be Utilized for Party Purposes.

Mr. Slavin Quarrels With the Dawson Delegates—Drummond County Railway.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Ottawa, March 25.—Mackenzie & Mann have practically given up the fight in connection with the Yukon railway bill and withdrew their lobby to-day. The bill will be defeated in the Senate by at least twenty.

The report is current to-night that the government is endeavoring to secure Lord Aberdeen's consent to appoint six new senators under the provisions of the B. N. A. act. It is doubted whether the home government will permit this as it was refused to the Mackenzie government after the defeat of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway bill. Even if the request be granted it cannot save the bill.

During the last two days the Liberals have been in caucus eight hours, having a big row over patronage. A dead set is to be made against all Tories in the government service. It is said that all Tory deputy ministers will be retired. The Liberal version of the caucus says "the questions of removing sinister influences operating injustice to the party in power, to the promotion of the interest of Conservatives, was again discussed. Another emphatic expression of opinion registered was that it is necessary in the Liberal interest and for the safety of the party entrusted with the reins of power that Liberal influences should prevail in the councils of the government.

Mr. Slavin got into a big fight with the miners' delegates as a result of his attack upon them in a letter to the senators attempting to discredit them. The delegates got back at Slavin by stating that Boyle and Slavin are seeking a grant from the government of five miles of the Klondike river.

At the Drummond County railway investigation this morning, Mr. Wainwright, of the Grand Trunk, admitted that the government has secured a better bargain in the latest agreement, a feather in the cap of the Senate, which threw out the original bill last year.

The estimates will be brought down on Monday, and the budget will be presented on Friday.

Premier Laurier stated to-day that Mr. Mackintosh is still governor of the Territories.

The debate on the franchise act in the commons continued until midnight.

The railway debate in the senate was continued by Mr. Dever, who supported the bill, and by Messrs. Bolduc and McAllum, who opposed it.

KOOTENAY FOR CANADIANS.

Rossland and Trail Feel the Effect of Carrying the Le Roi Ore to a Foreign Smelter.

Rossland, March 25.—There was great indignation this morning among many prominent citizens when it was announced that a so-called public meeting had been held without any notice, and the feeling is so high that it is to be hoped specially arranged hole-in-the-wall meetings will never occur again in Rossland. A resolution was passed at the meeting which might lead people to believe that all Rossland was in favor of the Kettle River Valley railway, but such is really not the case for Rossland numbers among its citizens sufficient good Canadians to look after British Columbia's interest and keep trade and smelting on this side of the line.

Rossland citizens generally feel keenly that in their prosperity to-day they have built up the neighboring towns of the United States, and it is likely that Canadians in this camp will be invited to organize in order to encourage smelting in British Columbia, and build up Canadian towns instead of allowing everything to go across the line. In carrying out this idea the citizens feel assured of the support of the C.P.R., to whom they are already much indebted for reducing smelting and transportation charges. On this account Rossland is to-day on the eve of great prosperity, for although the Le Roi mine is shipping all its ore to Northport and thereby closed down the Trail smelter, the C.P.R. has filled the breach and the smelter at Trail will operate on a larger scale than ever, for the famous War Eagle mine at least is owned by Canadians.

Very fortunate for Roger's candy factory, a couple of workmen went up on the roof of the building yesterday afternoon to make some repairs, for they then discovered a small fire in progress, with prospects of a first-clas burn up in a little while. An alarm was turned in from the corner of Fort and Government streets, and the fire department came up on the run, to find that a few buckets of water successfully applied had made an end of the danger.