

is very essential to the successful carrying out of the various sports. Would it not be well for those who are interesting themselves in this matter to call a meeting at as early a date as possible at the city hall and have the subject discussed thoroughly?

The mystery surrounding the sudden departure of Mr. F. B. Gregory, the popular barrister, for Honolulu, is likely to be cleared up. There is considerable romance connected with the circumstance. It appears, as is learned from a highly trustworthy source, that while Mr. Gregory was in Washington a few years ago, on business in connection with the Behring Sea dispute, he met a wealthy merchant from Honolulu, who was on the most intimate terms with the Queen of the Hawaiian Islands. The intimacy resulted in an exchange of photographs, and so far as the incident was concerned it escaped Mr. Gregory's memory until a few months ago, when he was surprised at receiving a note from his old friend, to the effect that the latter had shown the young barrister's photograph to Queen Lilioukalani, who was much impressed with it. The writer further stated that he rather suspected that if Mr. Gregory wrote to the dusky queen she would not be displeased. Acting on this suggestion Mr. Gregory wrote a long letter to Her Majesty, and was pleased to receive a somewhat lengthy reply, which was accompanied with a photograph of the Queen. To make a long story short Mr. Gregory received a pretty strong intimation that in case the queen was restored to her throne there was a vacant seat thereon, which with a little upholstery and other trifling and inexpensive repairs could be made to accommodate him. As a result of all this, the popular barrister has gone to Honolulu on a prospecting tour, and if all things prove favorable his friends in this city, and their name is legion, need not feel surprised to hear of a wedding in high life in that city. In any event it is sincerely hoped that if Mr. Gregory does not draw a house full on queens, he will at least return fully restored to health.

The meeting of laboring men—organized and unorganized—last Thursday evening, demonstrated at least one fact conclusively, and that is, the coming political contest will be a three-cornered affair. It is quite apparent that there will be a labor ticket in the field, but whether it will cut deeper into the Government ticket or the one which will be put forth by the Opposition remains to be seen. It is alleged that more than one horny handed son of toil is willing to offer himself as a candidate for the Legislature. As to the meeting, it might be remarked that much was said which should afford the members of the Government and the Opposition food for reflection. Mr. Dutton delivered a speech which contained several worthy suggestions. Mr. Elphinstone was the orator of the evening, and no doubt his voice will be heard often during the campaign. Mr. Brown, of course, discussed politics, while Mr. Howell aired his theory of single tax. The failure of the evening was Thos.

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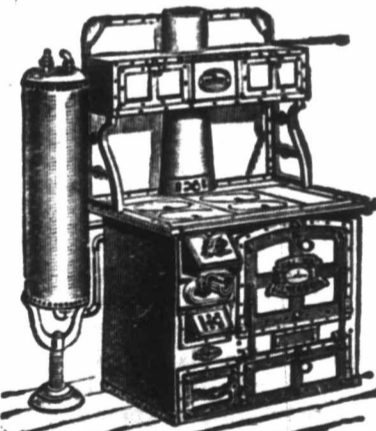


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Keith, of Nanaimo. No one knew what he was talking about, and the audience became disgusted with his egotistical references to himself and to what he had done in the House. Everyone knows that Mr. Keith has not accomplished anything. Mr. Berridge gave a recitation, but did not sing. Hon. Mr. Davie spoke at length, and it appeared that he had the majority of the audience with him. I shall at some future date discuss the attitude of the workingmen on matters affecting their welfare.

Fanny Rice is coming. This will be pleasing news to those theatre-goers who enjoy good, wholesome comedy. Miss Rice has long been recognized as one of the foremost of American comediennees, and now that Rosina Vokes and Annie Pixley have passed away and Lotta has retired to private life, it would seem that

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there is no one to dispute Miss Rice's claim to the title of the American comedy queen. The popular little actress and her specially selected company will be seen at The Victoria on the evening of February 8, on which occasion "A Jolly Surprise" will be presented in its entirety, and will be preceded by Offenbach's operatic gem "A Little Broom Seller."

PETE GRINATOR.

RETAILER

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