Death in The Flames

Finnish Settlement at Malcolm Island Suffers a Terrible Calamity.

Fire Breaks Out in a House Containing Over a Hundred People.

Eleven Unfortunates Lose Their Lives and Seventee Injured.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 2.—Thursday evening witnessed a grim tragedy with dire results to the Finnish settlers on Malcolm Island. The news was brought down last night by Matti Kurrika. In a terrible fire, which broke out while the men were at a meeting in a large dwelling, in which 24 families were living, 11 persons were burned to death and 17 injured.

The building was the headquarters of the company, and was three stories high, and all the married members of the settlement lived in it. There were more than a hundred people in the building when the fire broke out.

STORY OF DISASTER.

Mr. Kurrika, who with J. W. Bell of this city caught the Coquitlam on Friday morning and brought the news here tells the following story:

"Shortly after 8 o'clock on Thursday evening the men were meeting in the third story of the doomed building when they discovered the house on fire. I turned and told the people to leave the house quickly.

"At the foot of the stairs on the ground floor I pushed the door open and was momentarily overcome with smoke. The whole ground floor was ablaze.

The stairway was still intact and men, women and children came pouring down it to safety. The alarm had become so general that the 137 men, women and children in the building were all aware of the danger. When I reached the ground outside, men and women were throwing their children from the second story and jumping out after them. Strange to say none of these children were hurt.

STRUGGLE FOR LIFE.

"The most thrilling episode of the awful night was the fight for life of a man named Wallam, who was seized by Heinonen, who was made mad by the calamity and kept him back in the burning building. The men could be seen struggling madly, while flames were roaring around them. At last, by a mighty effort, Wallam, who is a powerful man, lifted Heinonen in his arms and threw him from the second story, jumping after him. Both were injured, but their lives were saved.

OBERG'S BRAVERY.

"While the mad-man was struggling with Wallam, August Oberg was told by his wife that she had saved her two sons, but their daughters were still in the building.

Oberg groped his way back through the smoke and into the room. The little girls were still crying in the bed. He seized one under each arm and made for the door, but the flame eaten planks gave way with him and his children fell crying from his arms. When he rose to his feet, the poor little ones were gone, and if he had delayed a moment, he would have met the same fate, as the room was tumbling to pieces about him.

THEIR LOST CHILDREN.

J. W. Bell of Vancouver, was at the fire and says he stood with other men catching the children as they were thrown from the windows. He says that Oberg, who strove in vain to save his little daughters, was the last man to leave the building alive. There was despair and utter hopelessness on all sides. "The women could not speak English except "Baby," and when I asked them if they had lost any one, some of them piteously cried: 'Baby, Baby,' and covered their faces in an awful grief too deep for words."

SOME OF THE VICTIMS.

Mrs. Hantula and four children, who perished, had recently arrived from Dakota; the father was absent in Vancouver at the time of the fire. Two children of this family were saved.

Mrs. Lofbacka, a widow and two children, who also perished, were recently from Extenson, Vancouver Island; Mr. Oberg lost two daughters, as already related, but two boys of the family were saved. August Sortell was a workman, aged 50.

HEROIC ACTS.

Many of the men performed acts of great bravery and were badly burned. Mr. Hantulla, who lost his wife and four children, had recently arrived from Dakota. Mrs. Lofbacka got her two children into the hallway of the hotel, but all were overcome by the smoke and perished.

Mr. Sortell, who was at the meeting upstairs was coming down when he fell through the charred floor and crashed through into the roaring furnace of flames, and could be seen through the window burning to death, with one hand upraised and standing erect.

Secretary McKela may lose his eyesight, owing to his heroic efforts to save Mr. Nygreen. He jumped from the third floor and is badly, perhaps fatally injured.

Mr. Heskeman is unable to move owing to injuries received while rescuing women and children.

President Kurrika jumped from the building and was stunned. After he came to, a bundle struck his feet, he stooped and picked it up, and found it was a baby rubbing its eyes and unhurt. It had been thrown by a mother from the second story. The mother was saved by jumping.

Medical aid and other assistance is much needed.

Oswald Beckman, the postmaster, is a graduate from a United States Medical college of medicine, and rendered much assistance.

The Colonization company was incorporated in November, 1901, Matti Kurrika being the organizer. The Provincial Government gave the settlers the entire island of 28,000 acres, and the timber thereon, subject to certain improvement conditions, and in furtherance of the plan about a hundred families had moved to the island, a sawmill was in operation, and a settlement named Sointul laid out. The settlers, in the face of a number of obstacles associated with the work of the pioneer, had overcome difficulties and were becoming prosperous, with excellent prospects ahead. The loss is said to be about $10,000.

PROMPT ASSISTANCE.

The Provincial Government yesterday lost no time in instructing the Chief Provincial Constable at Vancouver to purchase all the supplies necessary for the immediate relief of the sufferers, and a man left on the steamer for the North last night from Vancouver with the supplies.

KILLED.

MRS. HANTULA and four children.

MRS. LOFBACKA and two children.

TWO GIRLS (daughters of Mr. Oberg).

AUGUST SORTELL.

INJURED.

Austin McKela, secretary of the settlement, face and hands badly burned, eyesight probably destroyed.

Heinonen, blacksmith; burned about face.

Two Ekman, 18 years old, engineer; inhaled flames and burned about hands and body.

(Mrs. Neva, jumped from second story, injured about head; condition serious.

Lingren Nygren, badly burned.

Mr. Oberg and Mrs. Oberg, both badly burned about head and arms.

Wallam, injured by smoke and heat.

Nine others slight injured.

Is Bamfield A Failure?

This Is the Question Cable Experts Are Asking Themselves.

The Land Line Across the Island Causes Constant Interruption.

Is the Bamfield Creek cable station a failure?

Those in the province who have been given "a peep behind the scenes" are seriously asking themselves that question; and if the information which has reached the Colonist be correct, the cable experts who are stationed at Bamfield Creek have answered it in the affirmative.

That there should be any grounds for asking such a question as the above, will not come as a surprise to the initiated. The basis for the fear which exists is shown by the remark attributed to one of the cable experts, who is now located at Bamfield Creek: "It's a case of a seven million dollar cable being attached to a clothes line." In other words, the cable is rendered inoperative much of the time owing to the telegraph line connecting Bamfield Creek with the cable on the Eastern shore of the Island reaching to Vancouver being down very often.

There is a large staff of operators stationed at Bamfield Creek, the major portion of them being cable experts, and the latter are very outspoken in saying that a huge blunder has been made in choosing Bamfield Creek as a landing point for the cable. They declare that they are at a loss to understand why the British and Canadian governments and the Commercial Cable Company should have been led into such a mistake, and express the belief that when the facts are known, there will be the "biggest kind of a row."

The one great difficulty seems to be the impossibility of maintaining communication with the Mainland, and consequently with the world, over the land wire which stretches across Vancouver Island. It runs from the cable station for a distance of two miles along the sea front, being fastened in places on precipitous rocks, and then dashes off across the Island over one of the most rugged routes for a telegraph wire in the world. Up to this date, since the cable has been opened for commercial purposes, the land wire has in many instances, so it is alleged, been down for days at a time, despite the most strenuous efforts of the linesmen—who are stationed at points five miles apart across the Island. Of course when this interruption occurs, the great seven million dollar Pacific cable is useless—its business paralyzed.

Can this not be remedied and the Island wire made secure? Those who best know the Island say No. Not unless a land cable is laid; and this, the Colonist's informant says, the C. P. R., which has the contract for giving the cable people a land service, is seriously considering. If this be done, the cable experts say, why not have had the Pacific cable "shored" at a point closer to the Mainland in the first place? Had it been run up Alberni canal—which almost cuts the Island in two—it would have been all right. Or, had it been moored at a point near Victoria, there never would have been the slightest trouble.

As matters stand, it is a physical impossibility for an army of men to guarantee that the wire across Vancouver Island from Bamfield, shall be up continuously. For days in the mountainous section the linesmen in the winter time can hardly leave their lonely cabins, and if they do manage to get out, they find a herculean task confronting them after a storm has prostrated the trees and poles in every direction.

It is not believed that the Imperial and Dominion governments will allow such a condition of affairs to exist very long. The importance of being in communication with Esquimalt and the fleet at an hour's notice is too great to permit of condoning a lack of foresight, fraught with tremendous possibilities in time of war; and the cable men at Bamfield have their ears open anticipating the orders for a change which they feel sure is coming.

There are among those who have discussed the matter some uncharitable enough to say that those responsible for having suggested the location of the cable station at Bamfield Creek were inspired by a desire "to get a whack at Victoria"; but the more important criticism rests in the fact, which was pointed out by many and freely discussed some months ago, that at Bamfield Creek the cable is wholly unprotected. In case of war, it could be destroyed by any fast vessel; whereas, if it had been, as it was strongly argued it should have been, landed under the guns of Esquimalt, it would be safe from the acts of enemies.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

Genuine

Carter's Little Liver Pills.

Must Bear Signature of

Brent Good

See Fac-Simile Wrapper Below.

Very small and as easy to take as sugar.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. FOR HEADACHE. FOR DIZZINESS. FOR BILIOUSNESS. FOR TORPID LIVER. FOR CONSTIPATION. FOR SALLOW SKIN. FOR THE COMPLEXION

GENUINE MUST HAVE SIGNATURE.

Price 25 Cents | Purely Vegetable. Brent Good

CURE SICK HEADACHE.

Results of Saturday's Sport

Soldiers Defeat Columbia Association Players at the Barracks.

J. B. A. A. Basketball Team Win From Victoria West at Drill Hall.

The game played yesterday afternoon at Work Point between the Columbias and Garrison association football teams resulted in a win for the soldiers by a score of four goals to one. The Columbias were short Richardson at full back, and Berkeley on the forward line, their places being very ably filled by Youens and Donnovan, of H. M. S. Egeria. The game started shortly after 3 p. m. with the Garrison kicking down hill, the Columbias kicked off and immediately took the ball towards their opponent's goal, but no score resulted, the ball going over the line. Play continued of the give and take order until the soldiers' front rank took the ball down and from a scrimmage in front of the Columbias' poles and gained their first goal. This put the Columbias on their mettle, and Lawson receiving a pass neatly converted, and the score was one goal all. Play continued very even until shortly before half time, when Clinch, of the Garrison, made a brilliant run and sent in a shot which beat Marshall, and made the score two to one in favor of the soldiers. Shortly after, the whistle blew for half time with no further score. Things now looked rosy for the city team, as playing down hill was a distinct advantage, and their opponents were only one goal ahead, however their hopes were soon shattered, as soon after the second half started S. Shanks, the Columbias clever right full back, in running for the ball, slipped and unfortunately received a slight fracture of his right ankle. This necessitated his retirement, and for the remainder of the game the Columbias were obliged to play one man short. The second half of the game saw some pretty combination work on the part of the Columbias forward line, but it all resulted in nothing. The backs were repeatedly called upon to save, and did well, but with one man short the odds were too great, and the Garrison notched two more goals, while the Columbias failed to score, and when the whistle blew for full time the soldiers had scored four goals to the Columbias one.

The game through was free from unnecessary roughness, and the only unfortunate incident happened as related above. For the Columbias J. Johnson at half back certainly played well, as did also his brother Alec. Marshall in goal was repeatedly called upon and saved some very hard shots. On the forward line Youens, the latest addition to the Columbias, played the best game, Lawson also showed up well at times. For the Garrison all played a good game, but Sapper Clinch, the left forward outshone them all.

Mr. J. Noot refereed the game and gave entire satisfaction to all.

The next league game takes place next Saturday, when the Garrison will meet Victoria at Work Point.

The Intermediate football match yesterday afternoon between the old rivals, Victoria West and the Capitals, resulted in a draw, neither side scoring, the teams being very evenly matched for the first few minutes. Victoria West kept the ball down in the Capitals goal, but were unable to score. Then the Capitals pulled themselves together with a rush, and the right wing, who were playing a splendid game, took the ball away up the field, but they were very poorly supported throughout the game. Unfortunately at this stage of the game W. Okell hurt his knee and had to retire from the game, F. Baker taking his place. Time and time again the right wing of the Capitals would take the ball right up the field, only to lose it again owing to the poor support which the rest of the forwards gave them. T. Peden put in some fine shots, but Crocker was like a stonewall in goal. For the Capitals T. Peden and J. Temple on the right wing deserve special mention for their playing. G. Temple at centre half, and A. Haughton, full back, also played a good game. For Victoria West A. Stevens, full back, and T. Croker, H. Stewart and Geo. Okell, forwards and F. Baker at half back also played well.

Before agreeing to play this game the Capitals entered a protest against Victoria West, who were playing three men who were not only over age, but who have played in the Senior league games.

The rules of the Intermediate league distinctly state that a player must be under 21 years of age, and must not have played in any Senior League game. J. Hanbury acted as referee. This makes two games between the above teams, the Capitals winning the first one, thus giving the Capitals three points and Victoria West 1 point.

The Junior football match yesterday afternoon between the Central school and the Capital's Association teams, ended in a draw, each side scoring one goal. Both teams showed a want of practice, and the game was not up to the usual high standard shown in previous games by these teams. J. Peden, scoring for the Capitals and T. Morley for the Centrals. H. Cowper, J. Peden, J. Fawcett and J. Greig played well for the Capitals and, Morley, Nesbit, McInnes, Sargison and Therriault in goal played well for the Centrals.

Mr. H. Holden refereed the game to the entire satisfaction of all concerned.

The standing of the Junior League follows:

	Pl'y.	Won.	L'st.	Dn.	To Pl'y.	Pts.
Capitals	5	4	0	1	3	9
Centrals	6	3	2	1	2	7
North Ward	5	3	2	0	3	6
South Park	6	0	4	2	2	2
Victoria West	6	0	4	2	2	2

The Naval Yard team will be pleased to meet the Capital City team next Saturday afternoon at the Naval Canteen ground at the former meeting of these teams the Capitals won by two goals to none. The Navy Yard intend to make matters even on the next season, and a good game is expected.

THE TURF.

The run of the Hunt Club yesterday afternoon from "Burleigh," the residence of Mr. James Dunsmuir, was well attended, some 15 turning up for the sport, among them four ladies. It was most enjoyable and amusing from start to finish. At the very first jump the fun started; one of the hares refusing, his horse taking it the second time of asking. The other hare, not to be outdone by his partner, took the jump all right, but slipping on landing, came down with his rider in a nice puddle. At the third fence a hound came to grief, his horse landing on its nose, the bridle in some mysterious way coming off. The field got going again only to be stopped by a check laid by the hares. Shortly after this another horseman parted company with his mount, and still another one made a graceful exit over his horse's head, landing on the top of his own in a pool of mud, which slightly altered his complexion; and so on through the balance of the run the fun lasted. The three ladies to finish came through without any accidents, taking all the jumps in excellent style. The hares reached cover seven minutes before the field put in an appearance. A rather unusual thing was the finishing of the entire field. It is needless to add that Mrs. Dunsmuir looked after the wants of the members in a most hospitable manner. The run next Saturday will start from Mrs. Beaven's, at Oak Bay, which will be without doubt one of the best of the season.

Word has been received by Mr. J. J. Bottger that his fast mare Karabel has again won at Oakland. The track was a sea of mud, and the field a large one, but the speedy little British Columbia filly went under the wire half a head in a driving finish. The mare was a long shot, and carried considerable Canadian money played on her by members of the local sporting fraternity.

LACROSSE.

At a meeting of the Victoria Lacrosse Club held on Thursday evening in the Victoria Athletic Association rooms, reports were submitted from the various officers on last year's doings, as follows:

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 28th, 1903.

To the Officers and Members of the Victoria Lacrosse Club:

Gentlemen: In presenting this statement I am sorry to report a deficit for the past season of $100. As I think you all know, the club guaranteed Messrs. J. H. Todd & Sons $500 for the use of the grounds for the season, but with one exception, that of May 24th, the gate receipts have been very poor, and $400 is all we have been able to raise towards this guarantee. This is, however, the only outstanding debt, everyone else having been paid in full.

While regretting this deficit, the fault lies almost entirely with the players themselves, for if lacrosse is to be made a success here a good team must be put in the field and to do this the players must turn out and pull together better than they did last year, especially as the number of players available is so limited.

With the aid of Mr. Mellish, the club treasurer, I have compiled a statement of expenditure for the season, the amount of which is $2,048.85, and in my estimation it is entirely too much, as I don't see why the club cannot be run on more ecopomical lines.

In concluding this report I must mention the club president, Mr. Chas. L. Cullin, the treasurer, Mr. Mellish, the executive officers, to whom the thanks of the club are due for their untiring efforts to promote interest in the national game.

Thanking you for having honored me with the secretaryship of the club for the past season, I remain,

Yours respectfully,

F. W. STEVENSON,
Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Statement of the Victoria Lacrosse Club from April, 1902, to January 28th, 1903:

1901, by bal. cash on hand	$ 57 55
1902, by deposits to date	1,991 35
To cash paid sundry ac.	$ 155 00
Gate keepers and referees	58 00
J. Buckley, looking after club house	75 00
Prof. Robert Foster	25 00
Man cutting grass	11 35
Doctor's fees	25 00
Rent of Pioneer Hall	2 50
New Westminster L. C. expenses to Victoria	170 00
Vancouver L. C. expenses	150 00
Nanaimo L. C. expenses	75 00
Victoria L. C. expenses at Vancouver and N. W.	320 00
Royal Bank of Canada to retire notes	120 00
B. C. Lac. Assn. fees	10 00
C. J. Trawford, Nanaimo	28 00
J. H. Todd & Son for rent of grounds	400 00
Jno. Barnsley & Co.	15 00
T. M. Brayshaw	4 25
B. C. Saddlery	3 25
Colonist P. & P. Co.	21 00
T. R. Cusack	39 00
J. Casey	6 50
Dean & Hiscocks	36 75
W. S. Fraser & Co.	7 00
Jno. Fullerton	34 70
J. E. Grice	5 50
E. F. Geiger	6 25
C. N. Gowan	2 85
J. Heaney	5 25
Hutchison Co.	35 00
Chas. Marston	9 50
D. S. Mowat	12 00
Paterson Shoe Co.	19 20
R. Porter & Sons	7 35
Times P. & P. Co.	11 05
Victoria B. & S. Co.	72 00
Victoria Transfer Co.	12 50
Victoria Steam Laundry	2 65
Victoria Waterworks	4 20
M. W. Waitt & Co.	30 50
Waites Bros	12 00
J. Wenger	10 80
Balance on hand	05
	$2,048 50

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Gentlemen.—Last year's season was not as great a success as we would have wished it of be either financially or otherwise. The club is still liable for $100 to Mr. Todd for percentage on grounds. This will have to be handed to the club of 1903 as a legacy, with the hope that it will be more than cleared at the end of the season.

As to our non-success in our games, it is due to a number of causes. Lack of harmony amongst the players and neglect to practice regularly. The successful manipulation of a business depends largely upon the goods offered for sale. Try to foist off on the public an inferior article and disaster follows. The same applies to a lacrosse team or any other line of sport. We hear complaints of not being patronized. This is too true. We were not patronized, that is, liberally enough to make our season a financial success. Where does the fault lie? With the public? No! With the players. Produce the best article possible and patronage will follow liberally. Have the best or as nearly to it as possible. Once the people of Victoria feel that we have a good team to put in the field with a possible chance of winning, and they will encourage us in every way. But let it be known that the result is a foregone conclusion and there is a very poor attendance indeed. Lacrosse is not the only sport that meets the same obstacle.

There must be a considerable change in the management of the team and business. Economy in expenditure and liberality in practices. As long as there are only just the required number of men for a team available so long will the interest lag. The players know we cannot do without them and become independent, asking favors and concessions out of reason. Refusing to practise because they know well they will be called on in any event. If there were twenty or more players striving to get a place on the first twelve, there would follow a healthy rivalry for position, and it would not be necessary to coax them into line. Drop out these men who are half-hearted. Give the younger boys a chance to show what they can do. This will encourage them. Many times last season younger members of the team were disheartened simply because after putting in faithful practice they were pushed aside for some older player who had established a reputation in past years and continued to play upon that. No man can successfully play on that alone. Speed and endurance and abundant enthusiasm are essential, and we must look to the younger members of those qualities.

Much as I regret to make the suggestion, it seems that the best thing for the national game in Victoria is—to let drop all hopes of a senior team for a couple of years and devote ourselves exclusively to the intermediate and junior branches. We have not the material here to make up a good senior team. Our crop of players failed some four or five years ago, and we have no recruits to draw from. Now let us cultivate these, and in a very short time we will have an infusion of new blood who will uphold the honor of our city nobly.

The suggestion has been made to get men from the East, finding them situations in order to keep them here. I am averse to this plan. It savors too much of professionalism. Besides, no one, I do not care who, he or she is, takes the same interest in any game played by outsiders as when played by their own friends, brothers and sons. What a glorious thrill comes over us when we see one of the "boys," whom we all know and like, go through his opponent's defence, dodging the one, sprinting past the next and finally by a well directed shot, scoring the winning goal. Every spectator is personally interested, and is running with him, dodging, and helping him on. With what pride we look upon them and crowd about to shake hands and shower congratulations. We are worked up to a climax without really being aware of it or knowing how it is done. If defeat comes, well they did their best anyway, and will try again, maybe to succeed. It is entirely different when the team is composed of strangers. The spectators pay their money and expect to see a good game, also come loaded with harsh criticisms, and if they are defeated, walk away disgusted.

There is no reason why we should not have good games here and well worth watching, even if they are only intermediate. Last season there were several games played and evenly contested. The spectators enjoyed them immensely, and improvement would come with every match. A league could be formed with Vancouver, New Westminster and Nanaimo.

The trophies which were to be given to the winners of the 1902 junior series last fall will be presented to them of the opening meeting of the season of 1903, which takes place some time in March.

C. L. CULLIN,
President V. L. C. 1902.

MINING ACCIDENT.

Man Killed and Another Injured Near Wilmer.

On Tuesday last Edward Wills was killed and William Wilton injured at the Ptarmigan mine near Wilmer. While drilling into a "missed" hole, the charge exploded with disastrous results.

Boom At Crow's Nest

Great Stimulus Given to Coal Output By Removal of Duty.

Ten Thousand Tons Daily to Be Shortly Shipped to States.

The amount of coal from the Crows' Nest Pass fields ariving in the United States, through the port of Gateway, over the Great Northern's branch from Jennings, is 300 cars, of 20 tons each, a day, an increase of 50 cars since the repeal of the duty on foreign coals by Congress two weeks ago, says the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. All this fuel is for use along the line of the Great Northern, and, according to statements given out in Seattle yesterday, within a short time the imports of this coal will be at least 500 cars per day, or 10,000 tons.

At the time the duty was taken off coal, the Great Northern was paying into the customs 67 cents a ton. On the amount it is bringing in at the present time it is saving $4,020 a day, and with the import increased to 500 cars a day, the saving in duty to the road, by the act of Congress, will be $6,700 a day.

"When the Jennings branch was opened," said a well posted official yesterday, "the coal imports of the Great Northern railroad were 25 train loads a day, each train having 10 cars of 20 tons each. This amount was wholly insufficient for the needs of the road, and it was the intention to increase the output of the mines as fast as possible so as to double it. This was being done at the time Congress took off the duty on coal, and, of course, this made it possible to increase the output in more ways than one.

"The mines at Crow's Nest Pass are now working night and day, and cars are being rushed in as fast as they can be secured. To meet the demand for cars, some of which have been engaged in the coal trade of the road in Montana, are being taken off the Montana and sent to Canada.

"The force at the Canadian mines has been increased and will be kept as large as the capacity of the mines can be worked for the next year.

"The amount of coal which the Great Northern is bringing in at the present time may seem large, but it is not nearly enough to supply that road alone. It is the intention of the Great Northern to finally develop the mines at Crow's Nest Pass until the Northern Pacific and Burlington can be supplied with it on their mountain divisions. This, however, will probably not occur this year, or while the duty is off, for the reason that at the present time the Great Northern has no way of delivering the product without a long round-about haul of many miles. Of course, this is not the reason now for the non-sharing policy of the Great Northern, as it has not any more Canadian coal than will accommodate its own needs.

"There is little danger of the importations of coal from Canada by the Great Northern having any effect on the working of this company's properties in Washington or Montana. The products of the mines in these two states is needed for the prairie divisions of the road."

VICTORIA CREAMERY.

Very Satisfactory Results Shown by Annual Reports.

At the annual meeting of the Victoria Creamery Association, Limited, the reports of the officers were highly satisfactory to the large gathering of shareholders and patrons present. The report of the secretary-treasurer showed that after defraying all expenses of management a dividend of 5 per cent. on the capital stock of $4,000 was available, the calls on stockholders having amounted to $2,800. The creamery has been in operation continuously and has produced about 90 tons of butter during the yast year, which was sold at a minimum price of 25 cents per pound, enabling the management to distribute some $20,000 among the patrons, who number about 80.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Joseph Nicholson (by acclamation); vice-president, J. Shopland; secretary-treasurer, A. G. Snelling; board of directors, F. W. Borden, G. Sangster, J. Sluggett, J. McKay, L. Sea, J. R. Carmichael and Edwin John.

The creamery enters upon its second year with the brightest prospects, nothing being lacking but an increased desire on the part of consumers to encourage home industry.

AN ENJOYABLE EVENING.

Smoking Concert and Presentation at Work Point Barracks.

A very pleasant and interesting event took place in the Sergeant's Mess of the Royal Garrison Artillery at the Work Point for the last two years, having last. First class Master Gunner O'Brien, who has been stationed at Work Pint for the last two years, having been ordered to Bermuda, the senior non-commissioned officers of the R. G. A. organized a smoking concert for the double purpose of wishing the departure to Master Gunner O'Brien, and welcome to his successor, Master Gunner Kerrison, who had arrived a few days previously. Invitations had been issued to the warrant and non-commissioned officers of the Firth Regiment, and a few civilian friends. — Co.-Sergt. Major Thomas acted as chairman, and when he took his seat there were fully 60 members of the mess and visitors present, including Major-Gurdon, Capt. McDonald, Lieut. Millman and Lieut. Cameron. Letters of regret were read by the chairman from several of the other officers, owing to short notice and previous engagements, also from Col. Grant, who is still unable to don his uniform, not having fully recovered from his recent accident. The programme opened with the usual loyal toasts to the health of His Majesty "The King" followed by Her Majesty, the "Queen," the "Prince and Princess of Wales," and members of the "Royal Family." Staff Sergt. Martin, R. A. M. C., was the first name on a lengthy programme, he giving in fine voice, "Fine Perriwinks," G. M. S. Sharcott, A. P. C., followed with "St. Patrick's Day," well rendered. The chairman then proposed the health of "Col. Grant, Major Gurdon, and the Officers of the Station." Master Gunner O'Brien sang, "Once Again," and being encored obliged with "Nancy Lee." Major Gurdon, in replying to the toast of the officers, told how sorry Colonel Grant was that he could not be present with them that evening to bid farewell to Master Gunner O'Brien, and that he wished him every success in his new station. Major Gurdon, continuing, said that the officers were very sorry to lose their Master Gunner, for they had always worked together on the best of terms. He had been, during his service, connected with seven Master Gunners, and he could safely say that he held greater respect for Master Gunner O'Brien than any of them. Mr. J. W. Sexton was the next number on the programme, and gave, "The Ricketty Rackety Crew." Sergeant Haskey, R. G. A., followed with, "You've Got a Long Way to Go," for which he was encored. Lieut. Milman sang, "The Longshoreman," after which Co.-Sergt.-Major Thomas presented Master Gunner O'Brien with a handsome cose containing a double set of carvers, inscribed as follows: "Presented to Master Gunner O'Brien by the members and honorary members of the Sergeant's Mess, Work Point Barracks, Esquimalt, B. C., as a mark of their esteem upon his departure for Bermuda, January 27, 1903."

Master Gunner O'Brien in returning thanks on behalf of Mrs. O'Brien and himself for the handsome present and kind wishes expressed during the evening, stated that during the two years he had been stationed at Esquimalt he had been with two companies of the R. G. A., and he only hoped that he would get on as well with those that he would be associated with at his new station as he had here in Esquimalt. The mess waiter, Gunner Wells, then favored the company with "My Diary," for which he was recalled, and sang "Bacchus," as an encore. An intermission was here called for refreshments, during which Sergt. Walton, R. G. A., amused the company with a juggling act, performing some very clever tricks with an ordinary mustard tin.

Sergeant R. O. Clarke, of the Fifth Regiment, recited "Strathcona's Horse," after which the chairman proposed "Our Visitors, both Military and Civilian." Sgt.-Maj. Barker and Sgt.-Maj. Warwick responded for the R. E.'s; Sgt. R. O. Clarke for the Fifth Regiment, and Mr. Sexton for the civilians.

Sgt. Rowe, "Mona"; Sgt. Martin, "I'll Be Your Sweetheart"; Q. M. Sgt. Newton, "The Vacant Chair"; Sgt.-Maj. Barker, R. E., "Dr. Jarvey," all contributed to the programme. Master Gunner Kerrison then thanked the company for the very pleasant welcome they had given him, and hoped they would all get along well together. Staff-Ar.-Sgt. Manuel recited "The Quaker," and the proceedings wound up at midnight with a song from Gunner Boorman, the accompanist, "Jubilation Day," after a very pleasant and enjoyable evening.

Master Gunner left direct for Bermuda on Wednesday night, quite a large contingent from Work Point, coming up to see him off.

WILL FIGHT EXTRADITION.

Attempt Being Made to Get Fazon to Seattle.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 31.—(Special.)—Fazon, the Seattle gambler, who is wanted in Seattle in connection with the alleged gambling frauds in the Rainier Grand, is in Vancouver. He promised to return to Seattle and tell the truth, provided he was guaranteed immunity from punishment. Attorney Scott, who is prosecuting in the case, arrived yesterday and promised Fazon that he would not be prosecuted if he returned and testified as to the facts. Fazon's lawyer, W. H. Morris, however, arrived on the same boat from Seattle, and induced Fazon to remain. An attempt will be made to extradite him, and Sir Hibbert Tupper has been retained by W. H. Morris to fight the extradition.

The Danger to Dallas Road

Encroachments of the Sea at That Point Give Council Concern.

Enormous Difficulty in Baffling The Waves Experienced in England.

The members of the present Aldermanic board are fully impressed with the urgent necessity of some steps being taken at once to preserve the foreshore along Dallas road from further encroachments by the sea, and it is intended to take some definite action towards this end as soon as plans shall have been prepared by the city engineer. One alderman proposes that funds for the required work shall be provided by selling one of the city lots in the James Bay district. That the task is one which will tax the ingenuity of the city engineer, is admitted by all who have knowledge of similar efforts which have been put forth, ineffectively, in many instances, by the inhabitants of towns in the British Isles. The following, which is taken from a British exchange, has a bearing on the work contemplated and will be perused with interest by Colonist readers at this time:

"The Corporation of Lowestoft, Suffolk, convened a conference at Norwich, recently of the different local authorities along the East Anglian coast to discuss the advisability of asking for a grant from the exchequer towards building defences against the advance of the North Sea. The protection of the coast line should, it is claimed, be made a national question. Parts of the Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex coast are slipping bodily into the ocean, and the task of meeting these ravages by raising defences is taxing ratepayers' pockets to a serious degree. Lowestoft has in a few years spent £58,000 on this work, and has tried everything from groynes to sea walls, but the sea has continued its steady encroachments. The greater part of the beach has gone, the Denes have been inundated, and the cliffs themselves attacked. Property has had to be pulled down and rebuilt further inland. Cromer has had to throw out groynes and sea walls, and its expenditure in a few years on sea defences has totalled £50,000. Its little neighbor, Sheringham, has had to construct works that have involved an outlay of £20,000. Between Cromer and Mundesley, only a few months since, the noted Garden of Sleep fell into the sea. From Weybourne comes a tale of similar destruction. Suffolk has suffered likewise. Southwold last year spent £10,000 on defence works, but when these were completed storms caused so much damage that £2,000 more had to be laid out in repairs. From Aldeburgh there is the same tale of the sea's inroads, and Slaughden is practically deserted. The last remaining church of the vanished town of Dunwich stands lonely on the cliff's edge. Yarmouth, singularly enough, has escaped. There the coast is actually being added to, due, it is believed, to the influence of the three piers which help to hold back the drift of sand. Yarmouth's corporation, indeed, sells annually thousands of tons of sand and shingle from its beach."

Of course it is not contended for a moment that the shoreline along Dallas road is exposed as are the points mentioned in the foregoing, nor so subjected to the attacks of violent gales; but great damage is constantly being done, and the inroads upon the territory affected are sufficient to cause grave alarm. Some suggest that the Federal authorities be requested to unite with the city in a determined attempt at remedial work. The matter is one which will permit of no delay, and the council intend to make some move almost immediately.

STOLEN MAIL.

Where Some People's New Year Gifts Disappeared.

Toledo, Ohio, Jan. 31.—Over 500 letters were found buried in a lumber yard here this afternoon. Every envelope had been slit, but money orders and checks to the value of several hundred dollars, which could not be disposed of without danger of detection were left undisturbed. The envelones were rifled of jewelry, cash and New Year's gifts.

OLD RESIDENT DEAD.

Mrs. Allan Dies Aged a Hundred and Four.

Tacoma, Wash., Jan. 31.—Mrs. Marguerite Allen, the oldest woman in the State of Washington, died at the home of her daughter in this city today, aged 104 years. Mrs. Allen was born in Scotland and emigrated to Canada more than 70 years ago, moving later to Ohio. She leaves a son in Detroit.

Session Announced

Proclamation Issued Fixing the Opening For March 12.

Government Uncertain Whether to Remove the Duty on Soft Coal.

Brantford Editor Appointed as Immigration Agent in Glasgow.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Feb. 2.—A proclamation in an extra of the Canada Gazette summons parliament for Thursday, March 12.

J. Bruce Walker, of the Brantford Expositor, has been appointed Canadian immigration agent at Glasgow, Scotland, in place of Mr. Murray, who has resigned.

James Wolfe, of Winnipeg, has been appointed interpreter for the Immigration Department.

W. H. Moore, of St. Louis, president of the National and International Good Roads Association, was in the city today for the purpose of extending an invitation to Lord and Lady Minto to attend the convention of the association, which will open in St. Louis on April 27.

Major-General Lord Dundonald, who has been confined to his house for several days with a cold, was in his office today.

The government has under consideration the question of removing the duty from soft coal, but decided to leave the matter over until parliament meets, when the views of the Liberal members will be ascertained.

According to a report which reached the Department of Trade today, the Canadians in Paris are forming a Canadian chamber of commerce.

Canned salmon from Canada is, according to the French customs, to be rated according to the maximum tariff, and Canadian agents say this is contrary to the French treaty negotiated by Sir Charles Tupper some years ago.

ORIGIN OF BASKETBALL.

Like Other Good Things a Canadian Invented it.

Hundreds of young men are now playing basketball, who probably have but a vague idea regarding its origin, or realize that for a young a sport it has had a most unusual career, says the Mail Empire. Started first as a game for members of the gymnasium classes of Young Men's Christian Associations, it has now attracted to the attention of all classes of athletes, as is seen from the scores of associations that now exist, including intercollegiate, interscholastic, Christian associations, and even professional.

So prominent has it become that the Amateur Athletic Union has added basketball to its list of sports for legislation on an amateur basis, and the number of suspended teams recently made in the other local association shows how rigidly the Amateur Athletic Union is keeping watch over its phase of athletic amusement.

Basketball had its birth in Springfield, Mass., eleven years ago. Dr. James Naismith, a Canadian has been given the unquestionable honor of inventing it, for it was an invention pure and simple. Unlike baseball, football, hockey, golf, and other sports, it was not evolved into its present standard through years of growth, with gradual improvements, but leaped with one bound into the present condition. The method of playing the game today and its rules differ only in the merest details from the first games played eleven years ago.

The game was the result of a general demand at that time for something which would present new features in regular gymnasium work, and fill other requirements for the necessary physicial instruction in the training school. The new game, whatever it might be called, was obliged to stand a severe test, inasmuch as seven requirements were demanded of it; namely, the game that could be played on any kind of ground, a game that could be played by a large number of men at once, a game that should be so attractive that men would like to play it for its own sake. A game that should have little or none of the reputed roughness of Rugby or Association football, and the game scientific enough to be interesting to old players.

Dr. Nalsmith, in discussing these early attempts, he said:

"About this time there was a protest against the introduction of Swedish educational gymnastics to take the place of the children's recess in the public schools. This led to the question of games. At a meeting of the physical department held at Dr. Gulick's house the point was brought up as to what constitutes a good game, and it was agreed that so far as the development of the right kind of manhood was concerned lacrosse was the ideal game. I tried all the games that seemed to offer any hope, and studied each carefully, but kept the idea of lacrosse always in mind. Then it occured to me that the only way was to get one that would fill the requirements as nearly as possible.

"That there should be a ball of some kind was the point to be settled upon, he made scientific and interesting, bringing in the element of physical judgment and yet be free from the personal contact which is so often the cause of roughness. A large ball was used in order that it might be handled with the hands and not hidden, and besides it requires no practising with a stick or bat. The net question was to prevent roughness.

"In order to eliminate the tackling features of football the person holding the ball was not allowed to run with it, but was required to throw it from the place without the necessity of tackling. To obviate the roughness sometimes prevalent in Association football in kicking the ball it was made contrary to basketball rules to kick the ball. The players were also prevented from using their fists