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# VICTORIA WILL THRIVE.

**When Citizens Buy Product of Home Industries and Thus Create Employment.**

**Local Concerns Turning Out Superior Product Starved by Importations.**

To the Editor of the Colonist:

Sir:—The many contributions to your and your contemporary's columns, with the editorials, re the necessity of helping our city by supporting home industries, shows that it is one of the questions that is of some interest and of great importance to the people of Victoria. To those who have had the good fortune to have steady employment it perhaps has not caused much inconvenience, but to the many whose lot has fallen in less pleasant grooves it is of great importance. Why do we bonus industries, unless it is to find employment? Why do we regret dullness of trade? Simply because it means to many a loss of work. If we rejoice that trade is good, and the prospect of good trade is bright, it is simply because the unemployed have avenues opened leading to chances to earn for themselves sufficient to keep themselves and those dependent on them well fed and clothed.

If the Victorians would only reason to themselves and look around they would find that everything rests on themselves, whether we have a prosperous city or not. If we close our factories in the city and lose our sealing trade there will be no need for better streets, improved sidewalks and the many things that are at present occupying the labors of the big Fifty. A correspondent some time ago pointed out in your columns the fact that many desirous of remaining residents were compelled to leave Victoria, through lack of opportunities to give their children a commercial training. Victoria's great need at present is a bigger population. Victoria has room for thousands, who, if they came here, would not only assist by contributions to the taxes, which would assist the city and be all profit, as the fixed charges and expenses of governing the city would be the same.

But what encouragement is there here for families to come and take up their residence with us, and no prospect of employment for them and their children? It is within my personal knowledge that eight families have had to leave this city of ours through the lack of employment for their children.

Good streets, better sidewalks and a pleasant city are not going to provide food and raiment for our growing children; and this is what is at present occuping the attention of many of Victoria's residents.

There is a distinct remedy for this, as shown by your leader and the letters addressed to you by the Trades and Labor Council.

Support Your Local Industries.

Why should the printing of this city be sent out when it is generally acknowledged that Victoria is ahead of many cities in its printing establishments, that the work is superior and turned out at a price consistent with the class of work done. We ought to be proud of these firms and while we are supporting them we are providing employment for our children.

The appeal from the cigar makers of this city is a case in point. Smokers generally acknowledge that the cigars made here are in many respects better made and are of better material than those brought from the East; certainly the Eastern cigars are enclosed in boxes embellished with labels from New York, but smokers don't buy cigars to look at. It would find employment for our children and give them the opportunity to learn a trade and increase our population then we ought to support our local industries.

It is poor consolation to those who have invested their all in industries who intend to settle down here, who have risked their capital in business, to find that as soon as they have paid their hands the money is spent in goods brought in from the East. When once this money goes off the Island it never or seldom comes back. We have a score of factories here, which half the year are closed through lack of trade; Victoria, if her residents wished to, could remedy this by insisting on having at least the goods manufactured here. Looking through your columns today I found that several manufacturers in this city were calling attention to their goods and perhaps you will allow me to mention them outside of the trades already dealt with.

We have here, I believe, one of the largest biscuit manufacturers west of Toronto; the goods made and turned out by this firm are, without doubt, of first class quality. It is known that M. R. Smith & Co. are large employers of labor, use British Columbia flour; get their printing done in this city and in many indirect ways spend large sums of money which is circulated here with benefit to the city. Still there are times when this plant is stopped through lack of trade, and yet we will find that every second grocer in the city is pushing Eastern goods, simply because they are cheaper.

W. J. Pendray's soaps have a big name. By his advertisement he claims that with a reasonable amount of support his plant would enable him to employ fifty men, boys and girls. Our business men could, if they would, bring this about. This would mean employment for our children and only requires that our residents should support local industries.

We see our grocers' shelves lined with Eastern coffees; yet those who have tried our local firm's—Stemler & Earle's—know that nothing imported from the East can compare with this firm's manufactures. This firm gives employment to quite a number of hands; besides manufacturing it makes its own packages, gets all its printing done locally and gives to our children a means of employment, and more could be found if we would only support our local industries.

I have already taken up too much of your space, but could go on mentioning other firms who are large employers of labor, but if I draw the people's attention to the fact that the Albion Iron Works, who are the largest employers of labor in British Columbia and whose pay roll, I believe, is also the largest, claim that if the public would support them in their efforts to build up a trade for stoves they could employ an extra fifty men and boys; yet I am told that local business men would rather push the Eastern article for the few cents that there is in it.

The Victoria people ought to be alive to all this. It is no use saying: What are we to do with our girls? when with their first week's wages earned they spend it in Eastern or imported goods. If you wish to find employment for your children you must incist on having from your grocer and your clothier local goods. If you wish to see your husband's wages brought down to the Eastern standard then buy Eastern goods. To build up our city, to find employment for our children, to make Victoria prosperous, we must stop the continual draining of our money from the Island. Let us learn the lesson taught by other cities, that if we must prosper we must begin by helping ourselves.

EXCELSIOR.

DYKING DELEGATION.

**Lower Fraser Farm Land Owners Interview the Provincial Government.**

The dyking delegates representing Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, Coquitlam and Matsqui called upon the provincial executive yesterday and had a long interview, in which they presented their case, pointing out what they wanted the government to do. As one of the delegates stated afterwards, the lack of data available made the dyking cost more than either the government or the land owners anticipated. Consequently the land owners were saddled with an assessment in respect to dyking and maintenance which they find themselves unable to pay, and recognizing this a meeting of delegates was held in New Westminster in October, when the present delegation was asked to come to Victoria and interview the government to see whether a measure of relief could not be afforded to the owners of lands affected by dyking. The idea the landowners has is that by the surrender of a certain proportion of their lands the government would obtain a full equivalent for giving a clear receipt for all charges in connection with the dyking. The land owners think that under the circumstances, and seeing what is done in the United States in connection with the Mississippi river levees and in England in respect to the Fen country, which latter has been made a national undertaking, it is not asking too much that the government should come to their assistance.

The executive promised to give the matter their careful consideration.

Most of the deputation left for home this morning.

A MAORI RESURRECTION.

**Young Girl Reported Restored to Life by Touch of the King.**

An Auckland despatch says: There is tremendous excitement among Tauranga natives, owing to a reported resurrection of a Maori girl by Te Ehau, the Maori king's Tohunga, who came to Tauranga to prevent a Maori named Te Rere, causing deaths of other natives by "Makuta." A girl named Marata is said to have died at Mattaphi, and the body was taken to Ranagwee. Ehau went to see Te Rere and his wife, saying that if they caused more deaths they would die themselves. Te Rere then went to Rangawee, where a "Tangi" was proceeding over the body of Marata, and told the mourners to cease crying, as Marata would be restored to them. He then placed his hand on the dead girl's forehead, told her to rise, which she did, to the astonishment of all present. Maoris are frantic with joy and are showering presents on Te Ehau. Marata is quite well and walking about. She says she has been to Te Rangi (the heavens).

A STORM.

The winds burst with a tumult
Rushed down the streets and alleys,
They came by intersecting ways
From the far off hills and valleys;
They fought each other frantically
For the spoils of the city street,
Struggling upward in equal conflict
Where the leaves and the debris meet.
They wept and mourned aloud
About doorways and window panes,
They sung and cheered among chimneys
And trembling weather vanes;
Then came the deluge, huge drops
Like bullets upon us dashed,
The street lamps set in driving fog,
Through which the missiles flashed.
The battle raged near the citadel,
Here were wrath, frenzy and despair,
The wind swept with measureless force
And seemed to lift it from its lair;
But the lashing trees deceived the eye,
It stood immovable, proud and strong,
While unseen forces swung the great bell
Voicing our faith and trust along.
Then slowly the storm subsided,
The murmuring trees were still,
And the hush of the woodland hearkened
To the river's peaceful trill:
For the wind had fallen asleep,
And the moon grew whiter, and by it
The shadows lay dark and deep,
But the fields were empty and quiet.

WILLIAM BRYDSON, Victoria, B.C.

THE AUSTRALIAN STEAMERS.

**Discontinuance of Subsidies to Present Service Discussed in the Colonies.**

Advices from Australia by the steamship Miowera state that the usual appropriations for the Vancouver, San Francisco and other mails have been made. It was rumored before the steamship left Australasia that New Zealand would discriminate against Vancouver in favor of San Francisco lines in the matter of mail contracts. The Sydney Telegraph referring to this says:

"The postmaster-general has noticed the report of the debate which took place in the New Zealand parliament with regard to these services. It is well known that there is a loss in connection with the subsidy for the Vancouver service, and there is some doubt whether parliamentary approval will be given to the renewal of the contract. The subsidy amounts to £10,000 a year, but the annual loss altogether is about £8,000 per annum. This line was, however, not expected to pay directly. It was subsidized with the view of opening up and encouraging commercial relations with Canada. The contract, which was renewed for three years, will expire in May next. The contract for the San Francisco service is worked by the New Zealand government. New South Wales simply pays £4,000 a year for the carriage of the colony's mails."

Following is the report of the proceedings in the house of representatives at Wellington, New Zealand, relating to the matter:

"Mr. Seddon moved for the continuation of the 'Frisco and Vancouver mail services for another year from April 1 next. The government had received a communication from the New South Wales authorities, stating that the colony would renew the 'Frisco service contract, but as they did not say how long, he thought it better to renew for one year only. The New South Wales authorities has not yet considered the Vancouver service.

"Mr. Ward said the reason why the New South Wales authorities were not likely to renew the Vancouver contracts was because they believed that a very much better service should be brought into operation in a very short time across the Pacific. They would compel the 'Frisco contractors to put on faster steamers.

"A select committee of the house has reported in favor of faster steamers being employed in the 'Frisco service. The committee thought it doubtful whether the Vancouver service could be long continued, and in the event of its cesation a fast fortnightly 'Frisco service should be substituted."

WHAT MEN THINK OR SAY.

Nature has no moods; they belong to man alone.—Auerbach.

Trouble teaches men how much there is in manhood.—Beecher.

Where there is a mother in the house matters speed well.—Alcott.

Morality will be very difficult for a man who does not pray.—Hawels.

The manly part is to do with might and main what you can do.—Emerson.

# AT THE COUNCIL BOARD

**City Engineer Submits an Important Report on the James Bay Permanent Way.**

**Ald. Phillips Asks Questions—The Curfew By-law Goes Over to Next Week.**

The city council got through the weekly meeting last night in fairly quick order though mutterings of a storm seemed at first to be apparent when Ald. Phillips rose and, in the words of the immortal Dickens, "wanted to know, you know." It was on a question of privilege, and the alderman was addressing his remarks to the Mayor with great emphasis, but it all tapered down to quiescence again after a momentary flurry like the first snows of winter.

After the minutes were finished Ald. Phillips rose and said he had a few remarks to make on what he called a question of privilege. It was on the Yates street fire hall property and the alderman wanted the Mayor to give him a little information. The first was a letter dated November 19 from the counsel for the members of the old fire company who opposed the sale of the property. A reply from the city solicitor dated November 25 acknowledged this and said that it was shown to the Mayor and aldermen who could not admit the claims advanced as to what should be done with the property. Ald. Phillips said he had known nothing about the correspondence until Saturday and he considered that if the Mayor and a few aldermen were going to run things he wished distinctly to wash his hands of any responsibility.

Ald Hall rose to remark that he was as ignorant as the previous speaker of what had transpired.

The Mayor remarked that the aldermen knew quite as well what was going on as any one else.

Ald. Wilson, as a member of the old fire company, said that the understanding had been that the property was made over to the city and it was only when the city wanted to sell the property that it was found there were no deeds. He only hoped that the men who tried to block the sale would have to pay for the annoyance caused the city.

Ald. Humphrey remarked that the property was to all intents and purposes sold as far as the city was concerned, that is if the courts upheld their side.

Ald. Phillips wanted to talk again but the Mayor said it was quite out of the question unless the matter was brought up in a regular way.

Dr. Holden, as secretary for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, wrote calling attention to a resolution passed by the society asking that the eagles' cage at the park be made lighter and that sleeping apartments for the noble birds be added.

Ald. Hall was always ready for any improvement provided the park committee was only granted the money.

Ald. Wilson had a bright idea of his own to the effect that Dr. Holden might be given power to take the eagles round the park for a constitutional each morning.

The society's request was referred to the park committee to report upon at next meeting.

T. C. Sorby in regard to Weiler's new building said that everything would be ready to lay the sidewalk in a few days and suggested that the gutters should be laid at the same time.

Ald. Wilson suggested that now was the time to put in granite curbs and after a little discussion the subject was referred to the streets committee and city engineer to deal with.

An application from the Sylvester Feed Co. for another store in the city market was referred to the streets committee to act.

The C. P. N. Co. wanted to erect a shelter for cattle on the wharf used by the company. This was referred to the fire wardens and building inspector with power to act.

Attention was brought to the bad condition of the upper part of Chatham street by W. Snider. This was referred to the street committee and city engineer.

A timely and interesting report was that of the city engineer in regard to the permanent way across James Bay. It read as follows:

Dec. 5, 1898.

To His Worship the Mayor:

Sir,—As decisive action will soon be necessary for the purpose of maintaining communication between the portions of city lying north and south of James Bay, I beg to submit more fully than in a previous report, some of my views on the subject, with the object that the matter be fully considered in all its bearings before being finally disposed of. What I would respectfully suggest is that when the matter of a permanent way is taken in hand the sufficient amount of money be provided to fill in the flats, extend Douglas street across the bay to Belleville street, and construct a culvert from the head of the bay to discharge into the harbor west of the present bridge site, at a point near the south end of the bridge; then construct an arched bridge across James bay on the line of Government street to Belleville street. By so doing the reclaimed lands east of the bridge could be utilized either for pleasure grounds or business purposes as might hereafter be desired; the conduct of the work to be so arranged that the material used for reclaiming the mud flats would effect the deepening of the harbor immediately west of the bridge. Whether a causeway with a masonry or cement retaining wall or a bridge is decided on, if the work of filling in the flats is carried on at the same time as the construction of the permanent way, a saving of about $20,000 or more would be effected, as against constructing the causeway or bridge and afterwards filling in the flats. As to the respective merits of a causeway or bridge, the argument is advanced that a causeway the full width of Government street would give greater traffic accommodation than a bridge with a 32-foot roadway. Exclusive of the sidewalks, also, that the cost of maintenance of the causeway would be less than that of a bridge. As regards the traffic accommodation, I think it can be shown that a bridge with a roadway 32 feet would give about the same amount of clear traffic way as that now afforded by Government street. The total width of the street is 70 feet; from that deduct two sidewalks 12 feet each, two gutters 18 inches each, and allow for two teams standing at the edge of the sidewalks, one on each side of the street, 6 feet for each team, and there will be left a clear width of 31 feet for traffic accommodation, as against 32 feet clear roadway on the bridge. In any event the traffic way on the bridge, where there are no intersecting thoroughfares, would be sufficient for a city with a population of 200,000 inhabitants or more. As to the difference in cost of maintenance, the bridge could, by an increase in the first cost, be constructed with paved flooring, in which case the only difference in maintenance between a bridge and causeway would be the cost of painting the former occasionally, which would be inconsiderable. As regards appearance, there can be no difference of opinion as to the effect of the different forms of roadway—one would be for utility solely, for the purpose of affording traffic communication between the north and south sides of the harbor, but would be an obstruction to developing to the best advantage the land that might be reclaimed to the east side of it. The other would combine utility with artistic design, and besides affording accommodation for all traffic requirements, would permit of easy communication being had between the reclaimed lands and the harbor. Although I have not the data at hand at present for a close estimate of the cost of the work outlined, it would probably be in the neighborhood of $215,000. The most advantageous method to adopt for reclaiming the flats would be by means of an hydraulic steam pumping dredger; these have been successfully used in reclaiming large areas af land at Oakland, California, and Seattle, Washington, as well as at other places. The cost of the work would depend on the nature of the material to be excavated and the distance it had to be removed. The plant referred to can remove material with facility for a distance of 3,0000 feet and upwards.

E. A. WILMOT,
City Engineer.

The report was laid on the table.

An estimate from the water commissioner was in effect that it would take $150 to put the fountain in good shape, and although Ald. Hall spoke very strongly in favor of the advantage of having delightful streams of water flowing from the fountain, it seems that this year it is too late to do the concrete work, so the report was merely filed.

The water commissioner estimated that it would cost $985.50 to lay a water-pipe to Mr. J. N. Muir's house, and so, on account of the expense, the council had to decide that the work could not be done.

The street committee recommended that about 275 feet of sidewalk be laid on the North side of Kane street; that the vacant lot adjoining the corporation property on Yates street be rented from Mr. Wriglesworth for the use of the city, if it can be obtained or a rental not exceeding $5 per month; and that a sidewalk be laid on the north side of Fort street, between Vancouver and Cook; also that $200 be spent in improving Belmont avenue. This was adopted.

The special committee reported, recommending that the proposed new Rock Bay bridge be within the same limits or thereabouts as those of the present bridge, and that the propositions made by Mr. Sayward in respect to the filling in of a portion of the space to be covered by the proposed bridge be accepted. This report was also adopted.

Ald. Williams' motion in reference to a curfew by-law was laid over for a week, and Ald. Bragg's motion requesting the tramway company to operate their line to the city limits on Douglas street was carried, after being made, by the mover's consent, to read a little more mandatory.

The special committee reported that Mr. Dunsmuir had been seen about keeping the railway bridge open longer at night, and had agreed to keep the bridge open to 11 o'clock, provided the city paid $15 per month, to make up for the extra time the watchman would be on duty. The city would not assume any responsibility as to the bridge if this were done.

It was decided to agree to this, provided the bridge was opened by 6:30 in the morning.

Ald. Williams did not think there would be any difficulty about this, and remarked that Mr. Dunsmuir had explained to him that the reason traffic on the bridge had been somewhat interrupted lately had been due to the fact that necessary repairs were being made.

The council then adjourned.

A MILLION BURNED.

**Three Great Buildings in New York a Prey to Flames Beyond Firemen's Reach.**

New York, Dec. 4.—In a blinding rainstorm to-night the massive block of buildings on Broadway, Nos. 253 to 259, and included between Murray and Warren streets, was almost destroyed by fire. Within three hours more than a million dollars' worth of property was destroyed.

The fire began in the five-story brick building occupied by the men's furnishing firm of Rogers, Peet & Co. Adjoining this and south of it was the magnificent white building of the Home Life Insurance Company, and next to this was the brownstone building of the Postal Telegraph Company, erected at a cost of a million only a few years ago. Within a few minutes after the discovery of the fire the Rogers-Peet building was a roaring furnace. It was but a short time when the flames had eaten through the walls of the Home Life and were roaring high above that lofty structure. Great showers of sparks were carried in all directions by the gale that blew 60 miles an hour.

The Home Life Insurance building was occupied by that company and by a large number of prominent men in various lines of business. The offices of the Rapid Transit Company were on the ninth floor of this building, and it is believed that all the plans of the work on which the company had been working this many years were destroyed. In the Postal building as well there were many serious losses of a private nature, and when the flames reached the operating room of this building, which they did within three hours of the outbreak, one or two solitary operators still remained at their posts.

The fire burned more fiercely in the Home Life building, owing to its great height, and in an incredible short time the upper half was in flames. The water towers in the streets were able to throw their heavy streams only into the lower part of the structure, and the firemen, though they worked with great bravery and untiring energy in the blinding smoke and heat, could do little in the face of such a fierce sweep of flames and gale. It was only a question of time when the Postal building also, as far as the upper stories were concerned, went the way of the others.

An insurance man roughly estimates the losses at about as follows:

Rogers, Peet & Co., building, stock and losses to other tenants, $350,000; Home Life Insurance Company, building and losses to other tenants, $400,000. The Postal Telegraph Company, building and losses to tenants, $100,000. Losses to surrounding buildings, $50,000.

The Rogers-Peet building was the property of the Hoffman estate and was one of the historic buildings of Broadway. It was erected 35 years ago.

The fire started from three explosions. What caused the explosions no one knows. The firemen could not find out. They thought gas had escaped in some manner in the basement and so resulted in explosion and fire.

The Postal Telegraph Company officials say that all their wires have been burned out and that they had no connections from the building.

The Hardware Club's quarters, which were on the top floor of the Postal building, were ruined. Their loss is heavy.

The Home Insurance building was one of the handsomest on Broadway and was supposed to be absolutely fireproof.

MAYORS IN NORTHWEST.

**Nomination Day Results in Many Returns by Acclamation.**

Winnipeg, Dec. 5.—Municipal nominations for the Northwest Territories were held to-day. The returns received by wire are:

Regina—Mayor, J. K. McInnis, editor of the Standard, by acclamation.

Moosejaw—Mayor, R. Bogue, by acclamation.

Calgary—For mayor, Jas. Reilly and S. A. Ramsay.

Indian Head—Reeve, W. H. Stephens, by acclamation.

Macleod—Mayor, J. Cowdry, by acclamation.

Edmonton—For mayor, W. S. Edmiston and C. Gallagher.

Prince Albert—Mayor, D. C. McLellan, by acclamation.

South Qu Appelle—For reeve, J. F. Cates and James Smith.

Lethbridge—For mayor, Dr. Newburn, John Kenny, Wm. Oliver.

# WHO IS A HOUSEHOLDER

**Imperfect Definition Opens the Door to Much Confusion and Argument.**

**Does the Qualification Extend to Servants or Members of Families?**

Who or what is a householder within the meaning and intent of the law? Is it the original tenant or occupier of rental residential premises or is the term broad enough to include also all members of the household who may contribute directly or indirectly a portion of the rental? It is just here that the point lies as to whether or not a large number of men and women are properly entitled to vote at the forthcoming elections in this city.

The "Electors and Elections (Municipal) Act," 61 Victoria, chapter 68, which should determine clearly the eligibility of a voter, defines the franchise of the householder to "extend to and include every person who hold and occupies a messuage, dwelling or tenement, on any part or portion of a messuage, dwelling or tenement, within a municipality, yielding or paying therefor a rental or rent value of not less than $60 per annum."

This looks plain and specific enough on its face, but the record enrolment of 703 householders voters at the city hall, and inquiries instituted in connection therewith, shown that the interpretations or constructions are many and various.

The city assessor, whose duty it has been to enrol the voters, does not feel that it is incumbent upon him to interpret the law. He has when appealed to in the matter shown the would-be voter the law, and the form of statutory declaration constituting the application for registration. If the candidate for a vote feels that he is competent to subscribe to the latter, it is the assessor's duty to formally witness his signature and place the name on the voters' roll—that and nothing more.

If the conscience of the "householder" has been over-elastic it is for some other official or board to declare, not the assessor.

One thing is certain. That the enrolment of householders on the voters' list is greater this year than in any previous twelvemonth in Victoria's history as a city. Another fact is declared to be equally potent by those who have given the subject patient consideration, this being that the churches and temperance workers have been unprecedentedly active this autumn in inducing the enrolment of "householder" votes. One or two of the city pastors have even gone so far as to declare from their pulpits that any woman of twenty-one years or over is by law entitled to a vote in civic affairs—saying nothing whatever of rental or other qualifications.

Of course this is incorrect, but certain it is that many married women have registered this year who are not householders themselves, but whose husbands pay more than double the minimum of annual rental, viz., $60. There are others, too, lodgers in hotels, who, with more propriety doubtless, look upon room rent as a perfect qualification.

Young women in domestic service have also came to the front, subscribing to the statutory declaration, and had their names placed upon the list of those qualified to choose the Mayor and council for 1899. They reason that as they receive such stated sums per month with board and lodging, the latter must represent indirectly the value paid back to the amount at which similar accommodation could be purchased elsewhere in the city, independent of the consideration of employment.

And as very few furnished rooms in the city could be rented for less than $5 per month, the door is opened here—as these interpret the householder definition—to a new and numerous class of voters.

Then there are others who go even further. One example will illustrate. A father and mother, both of whom qualify as householders in the Central Ward, have also a daughter who has lived all her twenty-one years of existence as a member of the family, never thinking that she was a householder or a contributor of rent to her parents or either of them. To this young lady come the message of enlightenment.

She is asked if she does not help her mother with the housework?

Why, of course!

And is she paid for the labor so performed?

Why, of course not!

Does she not get her board and room and clothing?

Why, certainly, but—

Well then does she not in reality pay in service for her room, and isn't the room worth $5 a month rental, and is she not therefore entitled to vote?

In several instances she has decided affirmatively, it is said, and the recorder of votes has had no option but to enter her name upon his roll.

The superintendents of the cemetery and the Home for the Aged and Infirm do not pay rental money for the dwellings that they occupy, the city while paying them small salaries providing them in addition with suitable residental premises. They look upon it that the amount at which these would ordinarily be rented for is contributed by them in service—that the rent in reality is deducted from the salaries—and therefore they qualify.

Many other uncommon examples of the householder might be instanced. The fact appears generally admitted that by its wording the definition section quoted contemplates the extension of the franchise to lodgers. Whether the wives of householders where the rental doubles the minimum set forth, daughters or sons of statutory age who "live at home," domestic servants, etc., are properly qualified requires more authoritative determination.

The householders' roll is unlike that of the property owners' inasmuch as no formal court of revision checks and passes it. The law provides merely that the time for registration shall expire on the first Monday in December, and that the "counted and revised" roll shall be certified by the Mayor on or before the third Monday in the month. The police magistrate is empowered to place upon the roll any name or names that may have been wrongfully or inadvertently omitted; it does not appear, however, that he has authority to question or strike off any name found recorded, and it therefore seems that challenge of individual names to the Mayor—with the purpose of inducing him to withhold his signature to the roll—is the only recourse for those who look upon the householder definition as having been wrongfull strained.

Whether such recourse will be taken this year remains to be disclosed. The roll is now in the printers' hands, with its 703 householders to 3,030 realty voters, and until it appears nothing practical can be done.

A MASTER OF HIS PROFESSION.

**McEwen, the Scottish Hypnotist, Presents a Remarkable Entertainment at the Victoria.**

Hypnotism, as illustrated and explained by Mr. P. H. McEwen, the Scottish student and exponent of psychic science, furnished an evening of fun and instruction combined for all who were at the Victoria theatre last night, not a dull moment being allowed to creep in until the final certain fall. It was not like similar performances previously presented, either, for Mr. McEwen is sufficiently the master in his profession to make hypnotism intelligible to his audience rather than obscure its truths in a maze of fine-sounding and many-syllabled words. He aims indeed to instruct quite as much as to amuse, and those who heard and saw him last evening went to their homes not only convinced that hypnotism and mesmerism are genuine, but also capable of distinguishing between them, and of comprehending in a measure how the hypnotic influence is exerted. There was a dash and go in Mr. McEwen's tests, too, that went a long way toward establishing his popularity as an entertainer, while as to the genuineness of the hypnosis produced he left no room for doubt. His subjects with but two exceptions were well-known townspeople, and the two exceptions were introduced as "professional" subjects, if the term may properly be used. The others were earnest and emphatic to a degree in their assumed roles, and even went out and about the audience to dispose of their imaginary popcorn or adjust imaginary grievances. The development of the class of circus ticket sellers and the cataleptic tests in which Miss Maynard proved a remarkable subject were perhaps the most cordially received tests of the evening, although every illustration was marvellously finished and complete. Mr. McEwen will be in the city and at the Victoria nightly during the entire week, and to-day at 9:30 has arranged to place a subject in hypnotic sleep in the window of the Victoria Furniture Co. on Government street, this subject remaining asleep with an absolute suspension of action of the stomach, kidneys and liver until evening. Realizing that objection might be raised to this test if a street blockade were occasioned, Mr. McEwen will have the front window closed, and all who desire to see the sleep are invited to go inside the store. The element of fraud or fake is conspicuously absent from McEwen's work all through. He is a successful and a wealthy man, and there is $1,000 waiting for any charity that may be named by any person demonstrating an element of fraud in his work.

AN EDUCATIONAL DEPARTURE.

**University Association to Extend Its Influence to These Parts—Local Representative Named.**

The University Association of the United States has appointed Mr. R. E. Gosnell, late provincial librarian, as representative in British Columbia. This will inaugurate a new movement, so far as this province is concerned, for the diffusion of higher education. In some respects the system is similar to what is known as university extension work, but it is different in several important particulars. It is more popular in form, and so cheap as to be practically within the reach of all.

The association is the outcome of a congress of university men held during the World's Fair at Chicago, and has for its object the carrying on of what may be regarded as university education in a popular way outside of the universities, and includes among its associates a large list of university professors and specialists throughout the world.

The subjects so far taken up under this system are universal history, universal literature, political economy and social science. The curriculum will be enlarged from time to time. Accordingly as fields are followed, each subject is treated comprehensively, aiming to afford a general fundamental knowledge relating to it, and constitutes one course, which is taken up by others at a time, and thus present obvious advantages in concentrated effort. The system has met with good success in the United tates, where over 2,500 reading centres have been organized. Where centres are formed a resident instructor is appointed, and an examination held at the conclusion of each course, the entire cost of which is only $3.75. The course in political economy and political science has a number of special features, and is particularly popular. No books of reference are requires, as the lessons prescribed and included in the fee referred to contain not only the reading text, but liberal quotations from standard authors pertinent to all contents of each chapter.

The work will proceed in British Columbia without delay, and it is in contemplation to organize reading centres in every community where practicable.

THE PROTESTANT ORPHANAGE.

**Seasonable Charity From Nanaimo—Mrs. McGregor Chosen as Matron.**

The regular monthly meeting of the lady managers of the B. C. Protestant Orphanage was held yesterday afternoon in the committee room of the city hall. There were sixteen ladies present, Mrs. F. W. McCulloch in the chair. After routine business the following letter was read:

"Enclosed please find draft for $92.70, being the amount of net proceeds of a social held on Thanksgiving evening under the auspices of Meriam Rebekah Lodge, No. 3, I. O. O. F., Nanaimo, B. C., in aid of the B. C. Protestant Orphans Home, which the members trust will prove acceptable at this festive season of the year.

"FANNY NORRIS,
Secretary Meriam Rebekah Lodge, No. 3, I. O. O. F."

The communication was received and entered on the minutes and the secretary directed to tender the grateful thanks of the managers to the Ladies of Meriam, Rebekah Lodge, Nanaimo, for their timely and acceptable gift.

A communication was also received and accepted with thanks from Lieut.-Col. Gregory, on behalf of the First Battalion band, tendering their services, and the use of the Drill hall on Menzies street for a band concert and entertainment in aid of the orphanage on a date in December to be fixed by the committee.

A large number of applications for the position of matron of the home, vice Mrs. Walker, whose resignation was regretfully accepted at the last meeting, were received; and after considerable discussion the ballots were cast, resulting in the election of Mrs. McGregor, widow of the late Dr. McGregor, formerly city librarian.

The visiting committee reported 64 children in the home, and all well, and recommending that the usual Christmas festivities be held on Thursday, December 29, and that Mrs. W. R. Higgins and Miss Carr be a special committee to arrange the details. Mrs. Walker reported the receipt of the following donations for November, which were acknowledged with thanks:

Clothing—Mrs. T. Earle, A Friend, Mrs. Munsie; Bread, flour, fruit and milk—Mrs. W. R. Higgins, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. D. H. Ross, R. E. Knowles, Mrs. H. D. Helmcken, Mrs. Brown, McMillan Bros., A Friend, Books and papers—Miss Calder, Colonist Publishing Co. Cash— Mrs. Moxon. Special gift of new clothing from "Stoneyhurst Working Party," per Mrs. Harvey, 28 flannelette night-dresses, 28 grey flannel boys' shirts, 3 petticoats, 1 paid drawers.

PONTON A HERO.

Belleville, Dec. 5.—Ponton arrived here accompanied by Solicitor Porter, his friends and a large party of Napanee friends. At the station he was cheered by fully 500 friends and his hand shaken by half of them. The sentence imposed on Mackie and the disagreement in regard to Ponton are the only two subjects of discussion in the city. The excitement here yesterday was something never before equalled.

# A TROUBLED VESSEL.

**The Bark Walter H. Wilson Has a Voyage With Unpleasant Results.**

**A Cutting Scrape—Crew Refuse Duty and a Resort to the Police.**

There is any amount of trouble aboard the British bark Walter H. Wilson, which reached the Royal Roads on Sunday from Manila. Not only was the weather tempestuous and the wind boisterous, but now at the end of the voyage there is a cutting case, complaints of the men about their bad treatment aboard, and a wholesale refusal of the crew to do duty, with accompanying arrests. As a result, the provincial police took a hand in the row, and the muddle is in process of being straightened out.

The first thing that cropped up after the bark reached the Royal Roads, awaiting orders, was a letter which one of the crew managed to get to the captain of H. M. S. Egeria, lying in Esquimalt. This letter was from W. Veitch, one of the Wilson's crew, complaining that he had been stabbed in the head by the cook, and that Capt. Doty, of the bark, had refused Veitch permission to see a doctor, or to have George Ray, the cook, arrested.

On receipt of this letter, a boarding party was promptly ordered out on the man-of-war, and in a short time a couple of boats manned by bluejackets were alongside the Wilson, and Veitch's complaint was made known. Capt. Doty was carried aboard the Egeria and the provincial police notified.

Sergeant Langley and Provincial Constable Murray started off for the scene, but before they left the shore for the bark, Capt. Doty claimed that, as the bark had not entered at the customs, the local police had no business to interfere. Sergt. Langley accordingly made enquiries and found that the police had authority, and accordingly on Sunday morning went aboard with provincial officers Murray and Ireland, arrested Ray, the cook, who is a Jap, and brought him ashore. Veitch, the wounded man, in the meantime was sent to the marine hospital and had his cuts dressed. A complaint was made against Ray of cutting Veitch, and everything was put in train for proceedings yesterday afternoon. Veitch claims that he went into the galley with his cup of lime juice and asked for a little more sugar, and that the cook, instead of giving him the sweetening, called him an unpleasant name and hit him with a dish of potatoes, afterwards cutting him twice on the head and firing a bucket of potatoes after him as he left the galley. The first officer acted as surgeon, according to Veitch, and stitched up the cuts, but the captain, according to Veitch's story, refused to let him go ashore to complain, hence the letter to the Egeria for help.

George Ray, the cook, on the other hand, claims that Veitch was the aggressor and attacked him first, and the stabbing resulted, as Ray had a knife in his hand.

Later in the day a couple of the crew were in town, saying they intended to complain about rough treatment from the mates aboard. However, no formal charge was made up to last night on this head. When Sergt. Langley and Officer Campbell went down in the police launch late in the afternoon to get some witnesses, they found that there was a general strike aboard. One of the men said that 13 of the crew had refused duty, as they would not put up with the bad treatment they had received. They got poor grub and hard knocks all the way from Philadelphia to Japan, and then across here to British Columbia. They had not complained before the British consul in Kobe because they feared they would not as likely get justice as in a regular British court, and intended to keep their grievances for the Board of Trade when they got to England. However, when they reached British Columbia they concluded that as they were in a British port they would get fair play, and this is the result.

It seems, too, that about three weeks ago, in heavy weather, one of the crew, a Malay, was knocked over by a roll of the ship and had his head very severely injured. The crew say the man is really out of his head from the injury. This man had not been sent to the hospital late yesterday afternoon, though the police who saw him considered that the captain should have put the man in the marine hospital.

The captain, on his side, made charges against four of the men last night of refusing duty, and they were locked up in the city police cells till this morning. They are Gus Peterson, Henry Baxter, J. Sendrickson and Xenizeh Koch.

The hearing of the cutting row opened before Magistrate