FIRST ENGINEER ON RESERVOIR SPEAKS

H. A. Icke, Who Resigned Posi- STATEMENT BY tion. Makes Public Statement.

At Monday night's meeting of the city | CONTENDS COMPLAINTS council the following letter, addressed to Ald. Ross by H. A. Icke, the first engineer to be placed in charge of the Smith's Hill reservoir, was read:

"I resigned to avoid being responsible in any way for certain works and workmanship, the character of which I could not approve and which I had not the authority to alter. The occasion of my leaving was the commencement of the concrete lining of Smith's Hill Reservoir. While I had little confidence that even if every care was exercised in the execution of ious trouble would follow.

"With reference to what the water commissioner has said with regard to my not stating my reasons for my tained the section of their tracks runleaving, the commissioner well knew ning from Moss street to the cemetery that I was dissatisfied in many ways, according to promises. and when I called at his office to tell him that I wished to leave it was not my purpose to make any further May street and found it in bad condifuss. On returning to Smith's Hill, however, and re-inspecting the work, the work they ought to have done, and I felt that it was my duty to state which they promised to do. He favored emphatically what I thought of the the company being notified to put the concrete. I thereupon, before going street in proper condition at once to out to Elk Lake to square matters up the satisfaction of the city engineer there, rang up the water commis-sioner and told him that I did not ap-and charge the same to the company. prove of the character of the concrete and that he must consider the foreman responsible. I may say that the commissioner had dealt directly

"On leaving Is went for a trip to California, and when in San Francisco I called at the consulting engineer's office and was prepared to tell him, for his own protection, what I thought of the work, but I found that he was then in Victoria. That I had correctly guaged the situation that it was useless for me to take any stand is, I think, fully borne out by the following facts: The consulting engineer visited the works immediately after my leaving and that although Mr. Kempke was appointed to succeed me, no improvement was made in the character of the work and the leakage is actually worse than I had expect-

with the foreman all along.

Mr. Icke was anything wrong it has been found impossible to get any roads, streets or highways with the reservoir.

Mr. Icke Interviewed. Mr. Icke was seen by a Times re-Tuesday and asked if he had anything tained." to add to the statement which he had ments which had been made which the press.

not want to go over the heads of the responsible officials. The day he felt he had tried to see the mayor at the MANY SOLDIERS AT office when he might have offered some reason, for leaving so abruptly, but the mayor was not in his office and consequently he only had a few conversation with him the street. Mr. Icke was asked if he had anything to add to the statement in his letter as read on Monday, "the commissioner well knew that I was dissatisfied in many ways," but he did not care to amplify it. That state-ment, he said, was sufficiently clear.

Mr. Icke added that on returning

to Victoria about the time that the reservoir was completed and when rumors were current that it was leaky he had gone to the mayor and told him all that he had ever told Mr. Raymur about the condition of the work as he gineering works in England, South open fire on the Ohio militia stationed at chinery Depot at \$2,710.80, provided the times getting bad in South Africa, in consequence of the war he came to move on short notice. consequence of the war he came to The plants of the American Sheet and Canada and was divisional engineer in Tin Plate Company did not resume operacharge of the C. P. R.'s irrigation works in Alberta. Later he came to There are 1,500 state troops here. Victoria and entered the employ the corporation before Mr. Adams was given charge of the work of construct-

Asked if, in his opinion, it would cost a large sum to repair the faults which had been discovered in the toba, died on Sunday evening at Pasareservoir. Mr. Icke said a considereble sum would have to be expended, but the important thing for the city to look after in his opinion was to see that the work was done properly, as if another mistake were made the blunder would prove disastrous.

Adams Sending Letter. Water Commissioner Raymur last

evening received an answer to his telegram acquainting Arthur Adams, of San Francisco, with the condition of the Smith's Hill reservoir and the council's hope that he would come to Victoria at his own expense and endeavor to make good. Adams expreses an intention to come here and says he is writing. This letter, which should reach here in a day or two, is, no doubt an explanatory statement of Mr. Adams' position in

CITY ENGINEER

NOT WARRANTED

Not Fault of His That Surface Drains Are Not Completed.

At Monday night's meeting of the city council C. H. Topp forwarded a couple that it would be entirely of communications setting out reasons successful, I felt certain that if it why work had not progressed in was carried out as it had begun ser- certain sections of the city as he would have wished. He declared that the B. C. Electric Company had not main-

> Ald. Turner said that he in compan with the city engineer had inspected tion. The car company had not don Ald. Henderson said he was glad that the city engineer had at last taken a firm stand in the matter of the condition of May street. He had called attention to the matter six months ago. In a further communication the city

"With regard to the numerous complaints emanating from the public and the press relative to the uncompleted condition of the surface drains during the recent rainstorms, I think it is only fair to myself to make known a few facts concerning these darinage Mayor Hall Scents a Conspir-

"In my prefiminary report some years ago plans and estimates were prepared for some of the most necessary main surface drains. A by-law was then submitted to the ratepayers and feated, consequently nothing could be done. Last year the estimate was

before such reports are brought before pointed out that the powers sought by the public the facts relative to the the municipality may seriously affect Driver of Express Wagon Who porter at the King Edward hotel on matter should be more accurately ascr- the jurisdiction of the city over its

handed to Ald. Ross. Mr. Icke said that this statement from the city en- transportation companies of the city. were one or two misstate- gineer would be given due publicity by His Worship, on the

Report That Strikers Are Preparing to Attack the Militia.

Charlestown, W. Va., Des. v.-In a telegram to Governor Glasscock to-day Gov- on Government street from the presernor Harmon, of Ohio, says he has been ent main on Herald stret down as far informed that some of the strikers and as Discovery street, if the necessary strike sympathizers at Bridgeport, Ohio, funds can be raised. saw it when it was being constructed. have planned to congregate on upper. The contract for the supply of brass Mr. Icke, who is an Englishman by Wheeling island, on the West Virginia goods for the waterworks department made an early effort to rescue the minbirth, has had large experience in en- side of the Ohio river, and from there to will be awarded to the Victoria Ma-

Africa and Canada. He was in charge of large waterworks projects in Engof large waterworks projects waterworks projects of large waterworks projects in Eng-land and was engineer-in-charge of a matter with the Sheriff of Wheeling, who tween A. Shret and the Colbert Plumbhuge waterworks scheme at Pieterhuge waterworks scheme at Pieterhuge waterworks scheme at Pieteris investigating. The commanding officers have been ordered to keep in touch
with their companies so as to be ready to

The cemetery committee will take

tions yesterday, as reported they would. tery purposes. He will sell 28 acres from the third vein in case of fire, was

MRS. H. M. HOWELL DEAD, (Special to the Times.)

PROSPERITY REIGNS

New York, Dec. 7.-That industrial prosperity rules throughout the United States and that the business men of the country perity rules throughout the United States and that the business men of the country taking that no claim would lie against from 3,000 representative firms, compiled by the National Association of Manufacturers and just made public here.

there if the city would give an undermounced in the House of Commons yesterday afternoon that the budget speech will probably be delivered on Tuesday of next week. It is hoped to finish the deturers and just made public here.

Thornton Eell, sollcitor for Lemon,



MEASURING STRENGTH!

HAS AN EYE ON OAK BAY

DANGER OF TAIL WAGGING THE DOG

acy and Warns Council.

Mayor Hall took occasion at Manday This letter was written from the again submitted to the council asking evening's meeting or the city council for \$174,101, of this amount only \$150,- to utter a warning about the possibil-King Edward hotel the day previously and Ald. Ross explained that he sup- and Ald. Ross explained that he sup- in October, 1908, the outaly of which securing powers inimical to the city of Ring Edward notes the day, and Ald. Ross explained that he supposed it was brought out in consequence of his reference to Mr. Icke's connection with the work at the last meeting of the streets, bridges and sewers committee of the council.

Mayor Hall was the only member of the board to offer any comment on the letter. His worship said that Mr. Icke, if his allegations were true, should have come to him and told him of what he suspected before he went away. He had, however, bade him was the one of the council work extended according to the by-law, to cover the cost of the main surface drains only. I have therefore confined my attention to the completion of the mains surface drains only. I have therefore confined my attention to the completion of the main surface drains only. I have therefore confined my attention to the completion of the main surface drains only. I have therefore confined my attention to the completion of the main surface drains only. I have therefore confined my attention to the completion of the main surface drains only. I have therefore confined my attention to the completion of the main surface drains only. I have therefore confined my attention to the completion of the mains; and upon preparing a state-ment I find there is approximately \$20,000 left for this work, entirely apart from the connections, and there still remains a considerable amount of what he suspected before he went was a considerable amount of what he suspected before he went was a considerable amount of what he suspected before he went was a considerable amount of when the other was the other was made when a communication was read from the city soliciors calling attention to the city soliciors. This reference was made when a communication was read from the city soliciors calling attention to the city of victoria. This reference was made when a communication was read from the city soliciors calling attention to the city soliciors calling attention to the city soliciors calling attention to the city soliciors calling attentio good-bye and asked him for a recommendation to someone in California,
which he had given him. He had
was the severest during the season.

Coast. Officers of the steamer say the storm was the severest during the severest duri rever said a word to him about there be one cent available for the laterals acquiring waterworks or water supply of the ice. Ald. Mable remarked that possibly "I might also state that owing to the from waterworks or from any point where was not so sure then as large demand on the Pottery company where water is to be supplied through TWO KILLED BY th the reservoir.

The letter was then received and expeditiously.

"In conclusion I think in all fairness for such purpose. The city solicitors nointed out that the powers sought by reads and streets and furthern Ald. Raymond expressed the hope seriously affect the interests of the read, remarked that if this application Mayor Hall said it was wrong to were granted by the legislature it In regard to the observations of the mayor that he had not, when leaving, said anything about his dissatisfac-

ing could be done to prevent them. It was decided to ask the city solicitor SCENE OF STRIKE | and the barrister to watch the city's

interests in the matter. The application of the W. C. T. U. for the sum of \$500 which has been previcusty voted but refunded, was granted, it being explained by a deputation that the money was now need to assist in paying for the building which has been acquired on Store street. The board was thanked in becalf of the deputation by Mrs. Willis-

The salt water mains will be extended by running an eight-inch main

goods are made in Victoria. The con- testified that she had seen coal

The cemetery committee will take

Kent, James McL. Muirhead was ap- sible for the printed clerk in the treasurer's office Winnipeg, Dec. 7.—Mrs. H. M. Howell, on the permanent stan. In ... wife of Chief Justice Howell, of Mani-taba died on Sunday evening at Pasa-taba died on Sunday evening at Pasa-taba died on Sunday evening at Pasathe railway bridge which had been constructed by the city encroaches of Mrs. Munn's property to the extent of three feet, and that the owner would ha satisfied to let the bridge remain

Gonnason & Co., and the Taylor Mill CREW OF WRECKED eed to the execution of the lease of the foreshore which had been prom sed the milling companies. Mr. Fell pointed out that his clients did not ask the city to give any right which t did not possess, but they did insist that the council should be willing to go as far as it coud to living up to the erms of a former agreement.

Mayor Hall explained that the mat-

ter was now receiving the attention of the city barrister. BLIZZARD SWEEPS SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA

Steamer Jefferson Reports Stormy Trip From the North.

EXPLOSION OF BOILER

Was Passing Scene One of Victims.

Kansas City, Mot, Dec. 7.-Two men Mayor Hall said it was wrong to blame the city engineer for the lack of attention being given to the works he had not, when leaving, said anything about his dissatisfaction with the work being done at the reservoir, it was true that he had not mentioned it to the mayor at the time mentioned it to the mayor at the time had not done work that he had been he was leaving, for the reason he did not want to go over the heads of the single to the works and will attempt to float the would mean that Oak Bay could "do practically what it liked with Victorial West end with Victorial West end of the legislature it would mean that Oak Bay could "do practically what it liked with Victorial West end of the legislature it would mean that Oak Bay could "do practically what it liked with Victorial West end of the work she had our other singured following the explosion of a boiler in the had mentioned. The city did not have the work being done at the money. That was the long and short of it. It was not that the city engineer for the lack of attention being given to the works he had mentioned. The city did not have the will was true that he had not of it. It was not that the city engineer for the lack of attention being given to the works he had mentioned. The city did not have the work being done at the money. That was the long and short of it. It was not that the city engineer for the lack of attention being given to the work being done of a boiler in the work being done at the work being done at the money. That was the long and short of it. It was not that the city engineer for the lack of the work being done of a boiler in the world with the work being done at the money. That was the long and short of it. It was not that the munity of it. It was not that the money. The world were killed and four others injured for the world with the work being done at the money. That was true that he had not one work that he had not work the world with the work being done at the world with the world were killed and four others injured for the mains right through the streets of Wagon. The other victim and the injured were artisans employed in remodelling the building. The entire lower floors, which were vacant, collapsed.

> MINE OFFICIALS ACCUSED OF NEGLECT

Failure to Operate Cage Alleged to Have Been Responsible for Loss of Life.

Cherry, Ill., Dec. 7 .- The testimony yesterday at the coroner's inquest into the St. Paul coal mine disaster, in which 300 lives were lost, was directed towards showing that officers of the mine had not

Mrs. Jemima Miller, widow of a miner, two or three hours after the fire was dis- ably visit some of the principal fruit

George Jones, a carpenter, employed into consideration the offer of William that was supposed to be attached to the bottom of the main holst to lift miners ery purposes. He win sen 20 not attached. The alleged lander to land on the Cedar Hill road for not attached. The alleged lander to land on the Cedar Hill road for keep the third vein cage in working or keep the third vein cage in the third vein cage i \$14,000 or 20 acres for \$10,000.

On recommendation of City Treasurer der is said to have been directly results. employed in the third vein level.

> BUDGET SPEECH IN COMMONS NEXT WEEK

Ottawa. Dec. 7.-Hon. W. S. Fielding next week. It is hoped to finish the de- for two years)-T. J. Trapp, P. Peebles

STEAMER SAFE

VESSEL DRIVEN ASHORE ON CALIFORNIA COAST

First Mate of the Majestic Has Narrow Escape From Drowning.

Monterey, Cal., Dec. " ptain E. Keegan and his crethe wrecked ste at Monterey, 25 miles north of the scene of the disaster, late yesterday, and told the story of the wreck.

Captain Keegan said that he deavored to keep his vessel 12 miles early in the season. off shore, but the strong westerly current, combined with the wind, carried her toward the land. One blade of the propeller had been lost during a re cent trip from Puget Sound, and in the steamer's crippled condition it was impossible to keep her on her course dur-ing the storm. The seas were breaking

soon striking on the rocks.

up the face of the bluff he fell a distance of 20 feet into the sea, but was pearances indicated a carefully rescued by the sailors at the risk of

their lives. The stranded steamer, which has been carried up on the sandy beach under the bluff by the heavy seas, probably will be a total loss. The Majestic was built only a year ago. She cost \$150,000. The revenue cut-

was driven ashore at Moss landing GRAIN CARRIER during the same gale that wrecked the Majestic, but was floated.

FRUIT GROWERS ORGANIZE.

Nelson, Dec. 6.-At a well attended neeting of the syndicate of fruit growers who marketel small fruits by the co-operative method the past season, held at the board of trade offices, with W. Busk in the chair, those present organized themselves into a committee take up the organizing of an association for the purposes of co-operation in marketing fruit, and in purchasing boxes, fertilizer and other necessary supplies for the cultivation and packing of fruit. The details of the organization will be carefully worked out, but the general plan operated upon the past cover how large a membership can be secured for the association.

To promote the undertaking, E. K. was syndicate the past season, will probgrowing points in the district, Harrop, Crawford Bay, Thrums and others and hold meetings.

> CIVIC NOMINATIONS J. A. Lee Opposes Mayor Keary in Con-

test at New Westminster. New Westminster, Dec. 6.-Civic nominations to-day were as follows: For mayor, Mayor W. H. Keary and

dine, A. Hardman, M. Sinclair, J. Cameron, H. Gilley, J. N. Aitchison, C. A. Welsh, J. C. Blair, T. H. Smith, J. S. Bryson, R. Watson. For school trustees (two to be elected

and Dr. T. B. Green.

COMMERCIAL COUNCIL.

London, Dec. 7 .- Sir Alfred Spicer has returned from Australia, where he presided at the congress of chambers of commerce of the Empire. He says he favors the idea of establishing an imperial commercial council so that PROPOSED CONFERENCE the work of the congress, which meets every three years, may be followed during the intervening period.

SNOWSTORMS ON PACIFIC COAST

SERIOUS DAMAGE REPORTED IN OREGON

Los Angeles Experiences Coldest Day in Thirty-two

Seattle, wash., Dec. 7.-Snowstorms, accompanied by high winds and low temperatures, prevailed this morning along the greater extent of the Pacific coast. In this city snow began falling early in the morning, following a night of extremely high wind; and at noon the ground was covered with | tion" to determine the exact truth and a light fall of flakes.

A blizzard struck Portland at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon and con- American interests and its moral oblitinued with lessened intensity this gations to Central America." morning, six inches of snow having fallen. The damage wrought in the city and the Willamette valley is estimated at several thousand dollars. All the telephone and telegraph wires to the south are down. The storm seems to be general over Oregon and Southstorm is the severest experienced in years and street car service to-day is and its moral obligations to Central predicts that the temperature will rise o-day and that by to-morrow normal

conditions should prevail. Reports from California show an unrecedented snowfall, eighteen inches being recorded throughout Shasta, Trinity and Siskiyou counties. The wind came up yesterday evening and the snow was reported last night to vation and protection of the fur seals be drifting badly. Railroads and stage in the North Pacific are in progress lines will be hampered by the drifts. Los Angeles yesterday the temperature hope for a satisfactory settlement of dropped to a maximum of 45 degrees this question as the ultimate outcome and a minimum of 31, which is said of the negotiations. to be the coldest day in that city for 32 "The question ari years. Pasadena and Radlands reports gian annexation of the independent ed temperatures of 37 degrees. Mount state of the Congo, which has so long Wilson is covered with 10 inches of and earnestly pre-occupied the attension and Mount Lowe six inches on the government and enlisted the many places orchardists fought the sympathy of our best citizens is still frost with smudges all last night. Dawson, Yukon, reports a tempera-ture of 40 degrees below zero almost striking at many of the evils known constantly for the past three weeks. This weather is unprecedented for so

DROWNS HERSELF IN CISTERN. Body of Missing Girl Found in Six Fee

of Water. Fishkill Landing, N. Y., Dec. 7.—The body of Margaret Dauerty, the Vassar student, who disappeared Sunday, was found late yesterday in the cistern of her forther throughout the world."

Relations With Orient. ather's home at Hudsonville. Miss Dauerty, who was the daughter of with the Orient the president says:

verwork.

A detective found her body in six feet policy we pledged the interested powof water at the bottom of the cistern. Appearances indicated a carefully planned

suicide, and no evidence of foul play was Japanese Empire continue cordial as found. AGENTS OF USURER FINED.

Montreal, Dec. 7.-Tessey Davaney and Josephine Lamoureux, who pleaded guilty while acting as agents of D. H. Telman,

to lending money at extortionate rates of interest, were yesterday fined \$500 each, with the proviso that they remain in custody not more than three months if the fines are not paid. The sentence comes at the end of a long fight put up by Tol man to do usury business in Montreal.

GROUNDS ON SHOAL

Snowstorm Forces Number of Vessels to Remain in Port.

hortly after leaving New Ontario dock, on the Canadian side, early this morning, grounded on a shoal between the government and ferry docks on the same side of the river. Two tugs failed to move her as she is out three feet and with have to the lightened. She is leaded with the leaded with th the general plan operated upon the past season will be followed. In the mean-time a canvass will be made to disrather than risk the heavy weather out-

WOODSMAN KILLED.

Baker City, Ore., Dec. 7.—Thomas Gamble, a woodsman, is dead, with his body act, and also to assist officers of the severed just below the waist line. Gamble, while splitting logs yesterday, the entire law. An examination of the was using dynamite to aid him in the law and an understanding of the napocket ignited. Gamble was 53 years of

DESTRUCTIVE BLAZE.

Essex, Dec. 7.-Fire, probably caused by and encyclopedia of the terms used and the explosion of a gasoline engine in Nay- articles embraced in the tariff and selor's mill on Sunday, threatened for a time to destroy the entire village. The public electric light plant, a flour mill, and a sash and door factory, all owned by Nay, and the cost of their production in for-For aldermen (seven to be elected) sash and door factory, all owned by Nay-lor, were entirely destroyed. The total loss is estimated at \$50,000, with insurance pointed a tariff board consisting of short 10,000. of about \$10,000.

TWO BOYS DROWN.

Tweed, Ont., Dec. 7.—Two sons, aged 5 and 7, of Edward Kehoe, of Actinolite, about five miles from here, were drowned. Sunday while skating on thin ica,

PRESIDENT TAFT'S FIRST MESSIGE

ON FUR SEALING

New Tariff and Reform in Administration of Law Dealt With.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7 .- President Taft's first regular annual message to congress was sent to that body to-da It consists of about 20,000 words, an at that leaves for subsequent discu sion in special messages the imporant subjects of anti-trust and inter state commerce legislation as well as legislation for further laws to promote the conservation of the natura resources. These questions are most ly referred to incidentally in the pres

ent message. With regard to Nicaragua, President Taft refers to the "sad tale of the unspeakable barbarities and oppression alleged to have been committed by the Zelaya government," and to the fact that two Americans were recently put to death by order of Zelaya himsel and says that this government is proceeding "with deliberate circums the course to be pursued "most con-

"At the date when this message is printed this government has terminated diplomatic relations with the Ze public in a communication to the former Nicaraguan charge d'affaires, and is intending to take such steps as will Washington. In Portland, the be found most consistent with its digall but tied up. The weather bureau America and to civilization. It later may be necessary for me to bring this subject to the attention of congress in

a special message." Sealing Problem. The message in part is as follows: "Negotiations for an international conference to consider and reach an arrangement providing for the preserwith the governments of Great Britain, From Southern California comes re- Japan and Russia. The attitude of the ports of unusually cold weather. At governments interested leads me to

> "The question arising out of the Belopen, but in a more hopeful stage. The to exist, are an augury of better things. The attitude of the United States is one of benovelent encouragement, coupled with a hopeful trust that the good work, responsibility undertaken and zealously perfected to the accomplishment of the results so arlently desired, will soon justify the wisdom that inspires them and will sat-

On the relations of the United States At daylight a boat carrying a line succeeded in reaching the shore, but it was nearly four hours later before the crew was landed.

Rev. William H. Dauerty, wandered away from the care of her friends yesterday morning. It was known that she had been forced to abandon her studies at Vassar because of mental strain due to vassar b

ers of both East and West. "Our traditional relations with the usual. The arrangement for a cooperative control of the immigration of laborers to the United States has proved to work satisfactorily. The matter of a treaty between the United States and Japan which is terminable n 1912 is already being studied by

both countries. "The actual cost to date of the Panama canal, which is now half done and which will be completed January 1, 1915, shows that the cost of engineer 000 instead of \$139,705,200 as originally

New Tariff Act. "Two features of the new tariff act call for special reference. By virtue of the clause known as the 'Maximum and minimum' clause, it is the duty of the executive to consider the laws and practices of other countries with reference to the importation into those countries of the products merchandise of the United States, the minimum duties provided in the bill are to go into force. Un-Soo, Mich., Dec. 7.—Steamer Wexford the maximum duties provided in the less the president makes a finding, then bill, that is, an increase of 25 per cent. ad valorem over the minimum duties,

need not be anticipated. "The new tariff law enables me to appoint a tariff board to assist me in connection with the department of state, in the administration of the minimum and maximum clause of the government in .the administration of ture of the facts which has been considered in discharging the functions imposed upon the executive show that I have the power to direct the tariff board to make a comparative glossary pointed a tariff board consisting o three members and have directed them to perform all the duties above de-

scribed. Army and Navy. "In the interest of economy and because of the prospect of a deficit, I

Concuded on page 3.)

COUNCIL

BY-LA

ON

System H

The city Monday's prepare a board of to the co date. If can be mad by the co the elector municipal forwarded the system ing, and arguments number of ceived fr in Canada der the b Hanna, w ience, was been pro ing to the

in this c solicitors We hav statutes by-laws of trol, gathe can. We l council o tario stat charter. municipa The ald from us a (in the fo for the c

mittee s 1910, which We hav tle inform & Labor nipeg alor whom the informat trol. Oth the Unite We ha that the act, auth of contro This will three me occur, no member same res Further the recal

municipa torate c There provision arising council by a in any

We re sitating the defe cil. if passing We de plained desire is to ha an up-t qualifie ernmen with growth is in n upon t The

act und by the sary, v

ensuin of cont elected (1) D