Shearwater From Behring Sea

Brought Scant News of the Schooners Engaged in Sealing.

Ship St. Francis at Dutch Harbor With Cargo on Fire ---Liners Arrive.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

H. M. S. Shearwater, which reached Comox on Sunday from the Bearing Sea, where she has been engaged in patrol duty amongst the sealers, brought very little news regarding the schooners from this port, nineteen in number—who are engaged in hunting the fur seal in the Northern sea. A special despatch to the Colonist from Comox yesterday from a correspondent at the coal port, states that the Shearwater met no sealers during the latter part of her patrol, and, in fact, spoke and boarded few vessels during the season. The largest catch heard of by the officers of the sloop-of-war from Esquimalt to September 3rd was that of a Japanese vessel, said to be the Seifu Maru, of which a local sealing man is navigator. This vessel had taken 340 skins to September 3rd.

Since the sealing schooners left the West coast of Vancouver Island little has been heard from them, and it was hoped that some news of the fleet would be brought by the Shearwater; the only local warship engaged in the patrol work, when she returned from the sea. Scant news was received from the Shearwater, though, and it may not be until the schooners commence to arrive in a week or two from now that news will be given of their catch.

Last year twelve schooners hunted in Behring Sea, seven less than the fleet of this season, and the catch amounted to 5010 skins, the highest catch being that of the Umbrina, which took 746 skins.

NEW AUSTRALIAN LINE.

Maori King Is to Be the First Steamer to Sail.

F. D. Cooper, of Tacoma, has received a telegram from R. A. Ady, stating that the British steamship Maori King had been chartered as the first of the new Tacoma-Australian liners, to be operated between Tacoma, Victoria and other Puget Sound ports, and Australia. Mr. Ady is at present in London, where he has been completing arrangements for the line of steamers, and expected to sail on the Lucania yesterday for New York, reaching home about October 10.

The Maori King, which is a steamer of 2,746 tons, owned by the Federal Steam Navigation company, is expected to sail from the colonies November 15 for Tacoma. It is also stated that three other steamers have been chartered to be operated in conjunction with the Maori King, thus affording monthly sailing. Tacoma will be the home port of the line on the Pacific Coast, and calls will be made both at Victoria and Vancouver. The Maori King will call at New Zealand and the Hawaiian Islands.

THE SAILORS.

Koko Head on the Ways—Mutiny on the Antoinette.

The barkentine Koko Head, chartered to load lumber at Chemainus, was hauled out to be cleaned and painted at Esquimalt yesterday. The schooner, which sailed with props for Santa Rosalia, on account of W. A. Ward, passed out to sea. The Chilian bark Antoinette, which reached Port Townsend on Sunday, 65 days from Iquique, had a mutiny on board during her voyage. When eighteen days out, two of the crew mutinied. They plotted to kill the captain, but were overheard by the carpenter, who informed on them, and they were put in irons and kept so until the arrival of the boat, when they were released. The bark Guy C. Goss, a cannery vessel from Chignik, Alaska, passed up the Straits yesterday from sea with a cargo of salmon for Seattle.

CRIMPERS' TROUBLES.

United States Immigration Officials to Retain Sailors.

The boarding houses and crimpers of the United States ports on the Pacific Coast, are in trouble, for their business is threatened as a result of a regulation just made by the United States immigration authorities. Port Townsend ship brokers have been notified that in future the masters of incoming vessels from foreign lands would be held responsible for the men they brought into the country, who will be looked upon as emigrants, and the masters will, under penalty of heavy fine, be expected to keep their men aboard and to take them out of the country.

As the present system of supplying sailors is worked through the shipment of men who leave incoming vessels, principally foreign packets, the business appears to have received its quietus. It is argued, however, that the law can not be enforced against any sailor who debarks for the purpose of again shipping on an outward bound vessel, but the distinction between these and those who desert their ships and make for jobs in the logging camps, sawmills, etc. of the upper Sound is something that will require the unremittent services of a large force of immigrant inspectors.

BARK ON FIRE.

St. Frances at Dutch Harbor With Cargo Burning.

H. M. S. Shearwater, Capt. Umfreville, which has been engaged in patrol work in the Behring Sea, returned to Comox on Sunday night from the Northern sea, via Dutch Harbor, bringing news of a marine casualty. The American ship St. Frances, a vessel owned in San Francisco, which was en route from the Sound to Dutch Harbor with a cargo of coal for the Alaska Commercial Company, took fire at sea on September 7th, when the vessel was about 600 miles to the south of the Gunalaskan port. The fire was discovered in the forward hold of the coal-laden ship, and the crew was placed at the pumps to throw water on the fire through the forward hatch. Work was maintained continuously and the fire was kept in check until the vessel reached Dutch Harbor, where the United States revenue cutter, also engaged in patrol duty in the Behring Sea, went alongside the coal ship, and was standing by preparing to flood the St. Frances when the British gunboat sailed from Dutch Harbor. It is not expected that the damage to the St. Frances will be great, and the extent of the damage to her cargo was not learned.

NORTHERN STEAMERS.

Danube and Tees Reached Port From Northern Ports Yesterday.

Two Northern steamers reached port yesterday, the Danube and Tees. The former brought a large amount of salmon, having landed 13,000 cases at Steveston, before proceeding to Victoria via Vancouver. The Tees had a smaller amount of salmon and a shipment of ore from the mines of W. H. Findley at Surf Inlet. Both steamers had a good complement of cannerymen, loggers, timber cruisers, miners and others from various points in the North. Included among those who arrived by the Danube were a party of prospectors from the headwaters of the Skeena.

The steamer Amur, which loaded a good cargo of general freight at Vancouver for the North, sailed yesterday. Another northern steamer which departed yesterday was the Cottage City. She also had a large amount of freight to be added to that piling up in the sheds at Skagway and White Horse.

THE LINERS.

Athenian Sails — Ningchow Brings Naval Guns—Aki Maru Due.

Steamer Athenian of the C. P. R. line, passed out yesterday from Vancouver to the Orient via Comox, without calling at this port. She had a good cargo and a fair complement of passengers. The steamer Aki Maru of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line, which sailed from Yokohama for this port on September 8th, is expected to reach port this morning, with general cargo and passengers from the Far East. The steamer Ningchow of the China Mutual line, which is in port from Liverpool, brought amongst her general cargo from England, two large 9.2 guns, which are to be mounted at the new fort being constructed on Signal Hill in connection with the defences of Esquimalt. The next steamer of this round-the-world-line expected here is the Deccalion due next month from Liverpool. She will be followed by the Catchas, due in early November. The China Mutual steamer Ganda left Liverpool on the 19th for Victoria and Puget Sound and the Peleus will leave for Victoria from Liverpool via Glasgow and Antwerp on October 17th.

EXPEDITION ABANDONED.

According to the Press Association's correspondent at Aden the Blue Nile exploration expedition, under the leadership of Mr. W. N. Macmillan, has been abandoned for the year, although the members by no means despair of ultimate success.

The object of the expedition was to examine the possibilities of a trade route between Egypt and Abyssinia, via Khartoum and the Blue Nile, and it started on its journey down the river in iron punts on June 26. After successfully passing eight rapids in four miles, two of the punts, which had on board half the total quantity of stores carried by the party, struck the rocks while passing through some rapids between precipitous cliffs, and both boats sunk.

The occupants, however, succeeded in swimming ashore, and the whole party landed on the beach, where they camped, there being no means of getting away. For 49 hours they existed on bread and jam, tinned meat and ginger. On the following night a hurricane swept the gorge, doing still further damage. Finally the expedition returned by forced marches to Addis Abeda, which was reached on July 4.

Gratulations to Revered Sister

Memorable Gathering of Former and Present Pupils and Friends.

St. Ann's Convent In Gala Attire Yesterday Afternoon for Happy Event.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

At St. Ann's Convent yesterday afternoon there was a distinguished gathering of old and present pupils of the convent and a large number of distinguished guests, some of them from very long distances. The occasion was a very happy and almost a unique one, namely, the presentation to Sister Superior Mary Providence of St. Ann's of a purse of gold and an address on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of her taking the veil.

The affair was entirely arranged by the former and present pupils, under the capable direction of Mrs. H. D. Helmcken, who was indefatigable in her efforts to make the event completely successful. It is a pleasure to record that those efforts were in every way most happily successful, and that the event was one which will live in the memories of all who were privileged to be present.

The little hall at the west of the main building had been, thanks to the kindness of Admiral Bickford, gaily decorated with bunting, the colors of which were admirably set off with evergreens and flowers, the general effect being of the most pleasing description. As might have been expected where the ladies had so much to do with the arrangements, the refreshments were abundant and recherche, and, of course, were heartily appreciated by the many guests who partook.

Amongst the guests present were noted Lord and Lady Lyveden, Lord and Lady Braye, Admiral, Mrs. and Miss Bickford, Lieut.-Governor Joly, Mayor McCandless, Bishop Cridge, nearly all the physicians of the city, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Helmcken and many others well known to Victorians.

The presentation was made by Mrs. Harrison in a very graceful manner, Mr. H. D. Helmcken replying to the address in his usual felicitous manner, for Sister Mary Providence, who was deeply affected by the demonstration of affection and esteem.

The proceedings were opened with a musical programme, carried out by the pupils very creditably. The singing of Mrs. Beckingford, of Seattle, was very much enjoyed, as also was that of Miss McAlpine and Miss Emma Sehl.

The credit of arranging this delightful affair is due to Mrs. H. D. Helmcken; Mrs. Luby, the honorary president; Mrs. McMicking, vice-president, and Miss Maxwell. Everyone who attended expressed the pleasure felt at the success of the affair, and personal congratulations were showered upon the reverend mother, who seemed to be greatly delighted to see around her again so many familiar faces of those whom she had known and taught in the years gone by.

The gathering broke up about half-past five.

The following is the address.

Reverend Mother Providence, Ex-Principal of St. Ann's; Superior of St. Joseph's Hospital.

Honored Mother,—To the measured beats of time, amid blessings and trials, joy and sorrow, toil and leisure—all fraught with eternal issues—our lives have glided on since we passed from these protecting convent portals to our sphere of action in the social world. Wending our several ways of duty it has been a common experience that our burdens have been lighter, our visit clearerfl for having, in the halcyon days of our youth, drawn at the treasure of your wonderful heart and mind.

Fitting, therefore, it is that we, your pupils of by-gone years, should at this harvesting of your fiftieth golden sheaf, blend our life-long gratitude with our whole-souled congratulations, congratulations which well from our hearts' deep reverence name, as a benediction, first fell upon this neer Sister of Mercy and Educator in this island.

Hallowed was the day of your landing on anthropic lines, with a reserve force still name, as a benediction, first fell upon this city! For who has since approached you but thereby to be benefited? Who in affliction that you did not console? Dejected, that you did not comfort? Homeless, that you did not harbor?

When hardly out of the flush of girlhood you came to us as a heritage, and unremittingly have you since followed these philthe joy of citizens and cloister.

for many years of active service, much to the poy of citizens and cloister.

The efficient Perfect of this school for half a lifetime, yours was the responsible duty of leading the tiny child through life's various phases, even to woman's realm. Irrespective of race, castes or creed, you opened to all the resources of heart and intellect, and gave to minim as well as to senior, the deep, the practical and wide-spread sympathy of your all-embracing kindness.

A result of your masterful supervision was the development, physical and educational of the institution, while the homelike atmosphere pervading lent a charm that years cannot efface, forming indeed, one of our strongest links to Alma Mater.

Could any one chord be fuller than another in the chorus of harmony arising today, it would doubtless be that struck by the orphan and the outcast, so many of whom found in your vigilant counsel and care, the parent or guardian denied them by an unkind fate.

To the calculating onlooker, it must at times, have appeared that some secret, plentiful source was at hand to supply wants at need, now for the housing of the homeless, then for the care of the sick and dying, again for the intellectual development of the youth of our sister cities of the province, but we who were privileged to live in the inner household, to bask in the sunshine of your presence, realized that the levers on which your action moved, your real secret source was your implicit trust in God and in prayer, and your unwavering fidelity to duty and to charity.

By these means were accomplished the works for which we do heartily congratulate you, Honored Mother Providence, on this occasion of your fifty years' service to God and to society, may this fiftieth anniversary bring you a rich increase of Heaven's blessings, and may your life's chain be extended until the golden span the diamond link.

INTERESTING REMINISCENCE.

In connection with the foregoing interesting proceedings in honor of one who has completed half a century of useful labor at the institution, which she herself was mainly instrumental in founding, the following report of the ceremonies at the laying of the foundation stone of St. Ann's Convent, as it appeared in the Colonist of the year 1871, will be of interest. This report was cut out and pasted in the scrapbook of the late James William Douglas by Mrs. M. R. Douglas :—

At 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, in the presence of a large and interested concourse, His Honor the Lieut.-Governor laid the cornerstone of the convent school of St. Ann. Father Seghers, Father Kirley, Father Jonckau and Father Brabante, Messrs. F. Garesche, L. Lowenberg, E. Granelui and F. McQuade (committee), and Mr. Vereydhen, architect, received his honor, who was accompanied by the Minister of Public Works, and escorted him to the platform, where Father Seghers delivered the following address, the sentiments of which will, we feel sure, find a response in every heart :—

"To His Honor the Lieut.-Governor of British Columbia :

"With heartfelt pleasure do we hail the presence of your honor on this solemn occasion of the laying of the cornerstone of St. Ann's Convent School. It is a proof of that good understanding which has ever reigned between all classes, denominations and members of this community, and it is an earnest of the continuance in future of the same good understanding which has rendered his place truly dear to all that have lived therein.

"The building which is now in process of erection is devoted to a twofold object—charity and education.

"It is destined to be a school for the education of young ladies. There is a sort of education, incomplete, and therefore, fruitless, which contents itself with imparting knowledge to the mind, and in some instances it becomes, when wielded by the wicked, a weapon most dangerous for the welfare of society. That is not the education which it is intended to give in this institution; but it is one which both adorns the mind with knowledge and implants in the heart the seed of virtue, which, irrespective of creed and religion, renders woman both a useful member of society by her learning and acquirements, and a virtuous mother of family, a blessing in the household, a source of joy and happiness in domestic life.

"But, independent of the young ladies' department, there will be in this institution an asylum for fatherless children, for needy orphans. One shudders when thinking on the woful lot that threatened many a forsaken child in this country had not the good sisters of St. Ann taken them under their fostering care and maternal protection. I forbear bestowing praise and encomiums on the good work; self-denial and devotedness, when true and real, shrink from the eulogy of men, lest before God their merit be lessened. Suffice it to say that the locality at present occupied by the sisters, proving too small for the necessities of its inmates, and more so for the applicants, it has been deemed indispensable to erect on this spot a dwelling more spacious, more commodious, more healthy.

"Therefore, in the name of education, the true foundation of civilization and society, and in the name of the heaven-born virtue of charity, I have the pleasure of publicly begging your honor to lay—and the Honorable Minister of Public Works to assist in laying—the cornerstone of this new convent school."

His honor replied as follows :—

"Reverend Sir,—I accept with much pleasure the honor you confer on me in asking me to lay the cornerstone of St. Ann's Convent School. It is a source of much gratification to me that this—the first public act done by me in my official capacity—should be one in connection with a work which, I feel sure, every member of our community will join with me heartily in wishing success to.

"It will always be my desire to assist by every means in my power the cause of education, the importance of which you so rightly estimate, and which is indeed amongst the highest duties of every people, and especially of a community like ours in its infancy. And, Sir, it is impossible to overrate the benefits conferred by the Sisters of St. Ann in their care of orphan children amongst a population so liable to risk of life as that of this province in great part is.

"I most gladly bear testimony to the good effected in our midst by the institution, and the cornerstone of whose new edifice I now proceed to lay, and I rejoice that the prospects of the considerable extension of their good work have rendered it necessary to provide for increased accommodation."

At the conclusion of his remarks, the lieut.-governor was presented by the architect with a silver trowel, bearing an inscription that it was presented to the lieut.-governor of British Columbia on the occasion of the laying of the cornerstone of St. Ann's Convent. A tin box, deposited beneath the stone, contained the following articles :—

A Daily and Weekly British Colonist, a Daily Standard, some coin of 1871, some relics from Father Seghers and Sister Mary Providence and a minute of the ceremony on parchment, as follows :—"This day, the 12th of September, 1871, was laid this cornerstone of the Sisters of St. Ann Convent School by Joseph W. Trutch, lieut.-governor of British Columbia, and the Hon. H. L. Langevin, Minister of Public Works, assisted by Chief Justice Begbie, Sir James Douglas, Judge Crease, Hon. David Cameron, also the committee—Father Seghers, Messrs. Garesche, Granelui, Lowenberg, McQuade and Mr. Vereydhen, the architect of the building."

His honor then proceeded to lay the cornerstone, using the trowel and level with apparent skill and, finally, having declared the stone laid, Hon. Mr. Langevin advanced and struck the stone with the mallet. He was followed by Sir James Douglas, Hon. David Cameron, Hon. Dr. Helmcken, the hon. attorney-general, and other gentlemen.

RABBITS FULL OF GERMS.

"Don't eat rabbits" is the warning that the Madrid papers address to their readers, and the reason they give for this advice is the following:

Some nights ago the Bacteriological Institute there was broken into, and forty-seven rabbits were stolen, and neither the rabbits nor the thieves have been found.

All the available police in Madrid were mustered, and a search was organized for the recovery of the rabbits—experience has taught the police that it was vain to look for the thieves, so they were left out of the chase.

It was very necessary, however, to find the rabbits, as these were inoculated with the germs of most deadly diseases, such as rabies, typhus, smallpox, and tuberculosis, and it was feared that the animals had been sold for food.

The search has been vain, and now all Madrid is fearful lest an epidemic may the animals by unsuspecting persons.

White Children Held By Indians

Foundlings Were Given Into Possession of Natives for Adoption.

Indians Assert That Children Were Secured From a Missionary.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

Among the passengers who arrived from the North on the steamer Danube were an Indian woman and a white child of about 5 years of age. A story, that does not make good reading for those whose skin is white, attaches to their coming. The woman, one Annie, of Port Essington, a pure-bred Indian woman of the Tsimpseans, is bringing the boy, a bright, clear complexioned little chap, to assert her claim to the ownership of the child, which as a result of the prominence attached to the fact of the white child being given to her, has been questioned in the North.

It seems that through some unfortunate circumstance the child was taken when a baby from a foundling institution in Vancouver through the offices of a missionary then engaged in work among the northern Indians, and given to the woman, Annie, who since that time has been abandoned by her Indian husband, who has gone to Alaska, where he has a wife and family, and she is now living with a white man, who is engaged in mining at Lorne creek when he returns to spend his off-seasons at Port Essington.

This white child, who is now about five years of age, and who was given into the charge of the woman when a baby of five months and has since been reared by the woman whom he has been taught to call "mother," is not the only white child held under similar circumstances among the Indians of Northern British Columbia coast ports. A gentleman who has just returned from the North was informed at Port Essington that there are two other white children held at that village and two also held at Port Simpson, which were taken from institutions in Vancouver, through the offices of the same missionary.

In one case it has been shown that the child which is held by the Indians is treated with scant consideration, if not cruelty, by the Indians who hold the unfortunate white orphan in what it appears is nothing better than a state of slavery. The unfortunate child is living with the Indian family into whose keeping it was given by the missionary on the Indian reservation, and according to stories told by reliable persons, has been forced to carry heavy loads of driftwood and other burdens that were the limit of the child's carrying capacity, while the off-spring of the Indian trotted alongside, sending the unfortunate white child, who was the menial of the camp—a modern example of the old-time slavery.

The boy who was brought down from Port Essington on the steamer Danube by the Indian woman, has been taught to speak both the English and Tsimpsean tongues—his father being a white man. His foster mother, Annie, when questioned regarding the boy, said: "My name is Annie. I live at Spokeshuit (this being the Indian name for Port Essington), in the Indian reservation. I live with a white man. He is mining the Skeena river in summer. My husband left me. He gone to live in Alaska with another woman. He got two kids. I got no kid, and I get this little kid from Mr. Green from Vancouver when he's a little kid of about five years old. I like this little kid, for I got no kids of my own, and when Berryman (meaning the police officer at Port Essington) tell me I got take him down, 'cause some people is speaking, I feel pretty bad, and if they take this kid away they got to pay me for keep him. I want keep this little kid 'cause when I get old he look after me."

The Indian woman was asked if she knew of other white children being held by Indians in the North. Seh replied: "There are two white kids in the camp at Simpson and two more at Spokeshuit. One was taken down last summer 'cause someone make kick. Some people don't treat these kids right, but I treat this little kid all right."

The little fellow was well clothed in a sailor suit, and was kept close to the woman by her, she calling him away from other passengers when they started to question him. The answer to some questions by passengers he said: "Annie was his mother and he lieved at Spokeshuit."

Some residents of the northern British Columbia ports, when questioned regarding the white children being held by Indians, said that as far as they could learn the children had been given to the Indians through Rev. A. E. Green, who had been a missionary on the Northern coast. They could not say how the children were treated on the whole, but could tell of some instances of cruelty practised by the Indians on one or more of the children, who were held in such degrading conditions among the northern Indians.

CONSOLIDATED LAKE SUPERIOR

Stockholders Entirely At the Mercy of a Banking Firm.

New York, Sept. 21.—The directors of the Consolidated Lake Superior Co., after a two hours' meeting today, gave up the attempt to find some plan for saving the properties of the company which are in the hands of Speyer & Co. and collateral, for a loan of $500,000, and announced that the stockholders are entirely at the mercy of the banking firm, which can sell the stock and bonds of the operating companies in the Consolidated Company at any time.

An acknowledgment was made that the directors believed that their plans for placing the company in a sound position had been blocked by the great financial interests that are behind the rival steel companies.

After the meeting, speaking for the other directors, Vice-President Sanborn said :—"Nothing has been done because there was nothing that could be done. We did not come here to consider any plan that had been formulated. We came here to try to find one, and we did not. The whole situation is now in the hands of Speyer Co."

Mr. Charles H. Tweed, representing the Speyer syndicate, referring to the action of the directors of the Consolidated Lake Superior Company, said today:—"We have been very lenient with the company. We will probably foreclose the loan, selling the collateral pledges at auction. The syndicate will seek reimbursement for its outlay."

A suggestion that the syndicate might take over the company and run it, pending a reorganization, was not seriously entertained by Mr. Tweed.

EXCHANGE OF LAND.

Ottawa, Sept. 19.—(Special.) — The British Isles, being declared free of contagious pleuro-pneumonia affecting cattle, the period of Canadian quarantine has been reduced to sixty days.

An exchange of land at White Horse has been authorized between the government and the British Yukon Land Co. Certain lands of the latter company are required for Mounted Police purposes.

Liberals Talk On the Issues

Grit Candidates Hold a Public Meeting At the Institute Hall.

R. L. Drury Given Back Seat ---An Evening of Eccentricity.

Those who attended the meeting of the Liberal candidates in Institute Hall last night came away after it was over with a strong uncertainty as to whether they had been attending a Liberal meeting or a labor meeting with strong Socialist leanings. The doubt was excusable, for such expressions as "bloated capitalist," "greedy monopolies," "government ownership," and other catchwords of the many-headed, filled the air. And it was hot air, too.

The meeting was small, the hall being only about two-thirds filled. It was a quiet, little crowd, and took its medicine without much enthusiasm. The good work began at the door of the hall, where each arrival was handed a neat, white dodger with black letters on it, which said, "Workingmen, Conservatives refuse to have a labor candidate on their ticket," and then proceeded to show how some of the candidates (which the dodger said were labor candidates, though they themselves had said they were Liberals or Conservatives) had been turned down by the Conservatives and nominated by the Liberals. The dodger concluded with an impassioned appeal to "support the party that considers your welfare," without specifying which party that was. It was one the funniest little bits of campaign literature on record.

Mr. McMicking occupied the chair and fulfilled the duties well and pleasantly. It is to be regretted, however, that he had not arranged the speechmaking on a different plan. For instance, many of those present, both Liberal and Conservatives, came there with the desire of hearing Mr. Drury, who is an eloquent and able speaker and always well worth listening to, whether one agrees with his opinions or not. But, through some inexplicable shuffle, Mr. Drury was not called upon till the very last, when at nearly half-past ten o'clock, the best speaker of the Liberal ticket was put on to run for ten or twenty minutes, like a stop-gap in a delayed theatre programme. It was very bad management, if nothing worse, and Mr. Drury himself could not help referring to it with some vexation on the platform. The audience, when they got outside, expressed their feelings a good deal more plainly in the matter, stating forcibly that they had come there to hear the views of the Liberal candidates, not to listen to a deputation of rejected nominees.

The following gentlemen were present on the platform, besides Chairman McMicking: Messrs. Fullerton, F. Higgins, N. P. Shaw, Drury, Hall, McNiven, Cameron, Conners, Nicholls, Humphrey, Courtney, McImoyle, Capt. Cox, E. Dier, W. A. Robertson, W. E. Ditchburn, Dr. Jones, Dr. Humber and Gregory.

Mr. McMicking, having called the meeting to order, opened the proceedings with a few remarks. He eulogized the Liberal party as having always been the equilibrium of the political world, to which they owed pretty near all the political privileges they now enjoyed. They were now, however, in a new connection with the great party. The two big political parties had for the first time come together on the local political field. He sincerely trusted that the conflict now open would be conducted without bitterness and with a single eye to what each man believed to be the best interests of the country. He called upon Col. Gregory for the opening speech.

Colonel Gregory expressed his sense of the great privilege of opening the present campaign, and was sorry the chairman had not selected a more worthy opponent. It was true, as the chairman had said, that they were now definitely connected with the great party whose name they bore. But, while the lines were the same, it did not mean that the issues were the same; the jurisdiction of the Dominion Liberals was different from that of the provincial Liberals. It was true, however, that the fundamental principles underlying Liberalism were the same in the local party as in the Dominion party. The Conservatives believed in trampling upon the working classes and building up industries at the expense of the people; they did not openly confess it, but their votes showed it, and upon these principles the province had been run for many years. The party in power in the province had always been practically composed of Conservatives, and scant sympathy had those who now called themselves Liberals had been the main strength of the Opposition. He wished heartily that they might start with a clean sheet, forgetting the past; but it was necessary to refer to the back records to arrive at a true estimate of the situation. Mr. McBride's present position had been obtained through directly constitutional methods, but the old-line Conservatives disapproved of him, and they were already quarrelling among themselves. He would read them an extract from the Nelson Tribune, accusing the News-Advertiser, of Vancouver, of disloyalty and attacking the Nelson Economist on the same grounds. The Tribune was run by John Houston, a man who was a disgrace to the province at large, a man whom none of those present would allow inside their doors. The man's mouth was full of profanity and filth, and yet the Conservatives had selected him in preference to a decent man.

SPEAKER READ THE EXTRACT.

He denounced the government as having no platform, other than one made months before party lines were introduced. He had turned up the journals of the House for 1900 and found a resolution to recommit the Omineca railway bill for reconsideration of a clause requiring everyone to be able to read the provisions of the bill before they could be employed, against this clause, which was for the direct protection of the white workingman, Messrs. Green, Tatlow, Helmcken, Pooley and Hunter had voted. The speaker quoted several other instances in which he alleged the present Conservatives had always opposed the rights of labor. Hon. A. E. McPhillips' recent action in regard to the employment of Chinese underground in the collieries was the most open election dodge. He could have commenced proceedings months ago. He denounced the Colonist for blowing hot and cold with the same breath, as it was now supporting the very men it had most vehemently opposed a few months ago. Mr. Jos. Hunter was right behind the capitalist all the time. You knew where to find him. He did not suppose Mr. Hunter would even ask the laboring man for his vote. He was a man of one idea, but the speaker was free to say that he offered his opinions in a manly, straightforward way. The speaker did not want to be understood as an enemy to capital, but he thought capital and labor should march side by side. As for Mr. Helmcken, he would come to a meeting, offer some glittering generalities, tell a story or two, and sit down. The man was noted for his happy-go-lucky disposition and the promptness with which he paid his bills. He was not a safe man to put in the legislature. The speaker urged the audience to do something that would make people point at the province. He referred to the recent government excursion given to the Chambers of Commerce delegates, and said that he was informed and verily believed, that one of the civil servants in charge thereof was extremely drunk. The whole civil service wanted reforming, they were idle, worthless, incompetent and an expense. The civil servants were, however, a remarkably fine body of men for all that. He thought the gentlemen behind him had something to say, and feared that he had not done his work thoroughly.

The chairman called on Mr. Richard Hall, who referred briefly to the length of time during which he had had the honor to be one of the city's representatives in the local House. He stood before them tonight, not merely as an opponent of the present government, but as a Liberal and as a supporter of the Liberal government at Ottawa. In all things pertaining to Liberalism he was a supporter of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

He claimed, however, the right to stand up for the rights of the province he represented; a right very clearly laid down by that great Liberal, Sir Oliver Mowat. The speaker based his plea for support almost entirely on Dominion politics. He dwelt at length on the Grand Trunk Pacific and the benefit it would confer on this province. He referred kindly to his colleagues on the Liberal ticket, particularly Mr. Cameron, with whom, he said, he had been at school, but knew nothing to his discredit. He agreed with the last speaker as to the necessity for civil service reform, and referred to the need of reform of the land act. He spoke strongly as to the need for reform in the provincial police. The authority over this body had, by a high-handed piece of legislation, been taken out of the control of the superintendent, and what had been a magnificent force was now badly demoralized. This should be at once remedied and the police removed as far as possible from political influence. The speaker also strongly advocated a reduction in the membership of the house. The legislature cost too much. Twenty-two members would be sufficient. He spoke strongly on the question of fish-traps, supporting their use as an absolute necessity. He desired to place himself in a right light before the Trades and Labor Council, who thought they had a grievance against him. He had promised them to introduce a bill to do away with the $200 deposit required from candidates. Unfortunately he had promised to introduce another bill in connection with women's franchise, and the two were placed by the deputy attorney-general on the one bill, unknown to him. The ladies' bill was defeated, and, of course, the other matter went down with it. The Trades and Labor Council thought he had done this on purpose, but he could assure them to the contrary, as he was not the man to lower his position to play tricks like that. He thanked his audience for their hearing.

The chairman called on Mr. McNiven, who received an ovation as he came forward. He thanked the last speaker for his compliments, which he reciprocated. He was a Liberal, believing the Liberal party to be the best party. He spoke strongly of the necessity for party lines. What good had the last four years achieved in the house. Members had been on each side of the house in turn, but mostly on the fence. He took a great interest in the labor question. In the selection of the Liberal ticket they had endeavored to place men of different interests upon it. He was not put on himself by organized labor, but he believed that it was done by the efforts of labor people. He was practically unknown in the city, but hoped to make himself better acquainted. As for the labor people, who did not know him, he could with confidence leave himself in their hands. If he had been faithful in the past, let them trust him to be faithful in the future. If not, let them defeat him.

The chairman called upon W. F. Fullerton. He was there as a workingman to give his voice and assistance in the cause of Liberalism. He paid his compliments to the large and intelligent audience. Workmen of the city felt that the Liberal party had risen to the occasion by placing a laboring man on their ticket, and he compared their action with that of the Conservatives. He dwelt at length on the good deeds of the Ottawa government, particularly the Chinese head tax. He approved of civil service reform. With regard to the land question, he advocated a law on the same lines as New Zealand. He was pleased to find that technical education was approved of by the Liberal party. Government ownership of public utilities he approved of, but thought it did not go far enough, and should have been government operation. He quoted the case of New Zealand railways in support.

The chairman called on Mr. W. G. Cameron. This gentleman felt the large and representative audience was a compliment to the Liberal party and the men on the platform. The present provincial government was not worth the confidence of the people. He denounced Tatlow for having, after acknowledging that the finances of the province were in a deplorable state, nevertheless asked the people to return his government. He referred to the Songhees reserve, which the Dominion government had passed over to the provincial, which had done nothing with it. He denounced the Premier for his declaration regarding fish traps. He approved heartily of the Dominion railway policy.

Mr. F. Higgins made a rousing speech, and was followed by Mr. R. L. Drury, who made excellent use of the extraordinarily short time allowed him by the chairman, to which we have already alluded.

The meeting then closed with "God Save the King."

Pot is Boiling At Essington

Peter Herman's Candidature Causing Much Amusement to Residents In North.

Liberal Aspirant Promised Many Things to All Who Will Vote For Him.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Port Essington, B. C., Sept. 16.—The political pot is simmering in the Skeena district. In the Caledonia hotel, at Port Essington, where Peter Herman, the Liberal candidate, is proprietor, a good word for the Liberal candidate is now sufficient to have the bartender "set 'em up again," and there are many free drinks drank at the expense of the Liberal candidate. The methods of the candidate of the Liberals at the Skeena are nothing if not peculiar, and the promises made would fill many tomes of large volumes, in fact, every friend, or every man who has spoken favorably of the cause of Mr. Herman, has been promised every sort of thing, from the position of government agent to first claims to the patronage that the canneryman who represents Victoria interests on the Skeena expects to control.

There is much amusement at way ports on the northern coast, in the precincts of the Skeena electoral district over the pronunciamento of Peter Herman—the work of some of his friends, for Mr. Herman himself has scant ability to frame such works of art. One clause is much admired. This clause of a document yclept the platform of Peter Herman, reads as follows:

"The construction of a plank walk, passable at all seasons of the year, crossing the tide flats from Grave Yard point at Port Essington to Orwigs, shall ceive my immediate attention."

The quaint naivette of this clause of the pronunciamento of the Liberal candidate is not clear until it is pointed out that this plank walk would be carried for a distance of eight or nine miles for the sole benefit of Mr. Orwig and wife, who are the inhabitants of Orwigs. As the bystander puts it, the cost of the vote of Mr. Orwig is evidently considered worth much expense if the Liberal candidate had his hand on the money-bags.

At the majority of the points other than at Port Essington, where Mr. Herman has a strong following of employees and some Liberals who follow blindly in the train of party feeling, and at Bella Coola, where some of Mr. Herman's fellow countrymen look favorably upon his candidature, the Liberal candidate is looked upon without the due seriousness that one might expect to be attached to a candidate for political honors, despite the energetic work of the heelers who are carrying on the Liberal campaign.

It is well known in the north that the effusions which have been sent to a local newspaper and which have been signed Peter Herman and other signatures, are from the pen of some of these heelers. As prominent coast residents who are familiar with the illiterateness of the Liberal candidate will tell those who ask their opinion, Mr. Herman is hardly capable of putting so much language together, and they say the interests of the northern district would hardly be in good keeping in such hands.

Mr. Clifford on the other hand is highly spoken of, not alone for his ability and integrity, but for his energetic work in the interest of the industries and the development of the northern coast and the majority of the coast residents who have the interest of their district at heart are favoring the Conservative interests as represented in the Skeena district by Mr. Clifford. It is stated by those who have followed the situation in that district that Mr. Clifford will poll the majority of votes in nearly every polling booth. In some of the polling districts it is expected that the Conservative candidate will carry the whole section, this being particularly true of the River's Inlet section, where despite the fact that many of the cannerymen and others who are registered voters of the district have come down to Victoria and Vancouver and may not be able to get back to the polling districts in time to vote. It is expected that Mr. Clifford will have a walk-over.

In Port Essington and Bella Coola, where Mr. Herman is stronger than elsewhere in the district, Mr. Clifford is expected to poll a good vote, and is expected to lead his opponent in even his strongest districts. At Port Simpson, Naas, Namu, Surf Inlet and other points Mr. Clifford's supporters are stated to be much stronger than his opponents. In summing up the situation on the northern coast, those who have been following the contest there say the election of Mr. Clifford is assured.

The election of Mr. Clifford will greatly disappoint many of those in the train of the Port Essington Liberal, for they have been many promises of positions if Mr. Herman happened to get elected. There were government agents to be exposed and other officials to be decapitated—in fact, if Mr. Herman happened to get elected, say his heelers, there will be "jobs for lots of us,"—and the graft is expected to be otherwise distributed. If Colonist readers looked in the advertising columns of Vancouver and other newspapers they would see advertisements of applications for foreshore rights, land grants and other applications looking to the securing of lands along the Skeena and at other points where, in the opinion of these heelers of the Grit candidate for Skeena district, there was a chance of the proposed Grand Trunk Railway passing or touching the vicinity. These advertisements are signed for the most part with the names of prominent supporters of the Liberal candidate in the Skeena district, and it is said at Port Essington, whether with truth or not it is difficult to say, that Mr. Herman has promised in the possible contingency of success, that he will endeavor to secure all these things for his friends. Like the plank walk for Mr. Orwig things will receive his immediate attention.

BORDEN STRIVES FOR AMENDMENTS

Conservative Leader Tries to Improve Grand Trunk Bill But Fails.

Ottawa, Sept. 21.—In the Commons today Mr. Borden moved an amendment imposing on the Grand Trunk Co. responsibility for carrying out the contract with the Grand Trunk Pacific. He emphasized the commanding position which the Grand Trunk will occupy by virtue of the nominal charter which it is retaining through the Grand Trunk Pacific. Mr. Borden repeatedly asked the government to state their objections to an acceptance of a proposal which will mean a Canadian traffic for all Canadian ports, but without success. No arguments were advanced, and Mr. Borden's amendments were simply voted down.

The House will be up by October 15; the sessional indemnity expires on October 9. Mr. Borden has gone to Canning, N. S., to attend the unveiling of a monument to his son.

James Latchford, father of the Ontario Minister of Public Works, died today aged 98.

Hon. Mr. Ross, member for the Yukon, is expected in Ottawa in a few days.

Auction Sale —OF— Farm Property

There will be offered for sale by Public Auction by

JOHN A. LEE

At his Auction Rooms, Columbia Street, New Westminster, B.C., on Friday the 25th day of September, 1903, at 12 o'clock noon the following property:

ALL AND SINGULAR those certain parcels or tracts of land and premises situate, lying and being in the District of New Westminster, in the Province of British Columbia, and being composed of Lots Numbers one hundred and twenty-six (126), Fifty-three (53) and the north Ninety-six acres of Lot Number One hundred and twenty-five (125) all in Group II., New Westminster District, containing 388 acres, more or less. There are about 75 acres under cultivation, with barn and house on the property.

For terms and conditions of sale apply to the undersigned.

CORBOULD & GRANT,
New