PROVINCIAL HAPPENINGS

A reading room was opened at Alberni last week.

Ladysmith has adopted a sewer tax by-law.

Nanaimo's Eagles held their annual ball on Tuesday night.

Chilliwack city council has reappointed M. Murphy street supervisor.

A spur track is to be built this month to Tate's Mill, at Aldergrove, by the G.N.R.

Dedicatory services were held last Sunday in the new Sapperton Baptist church.

There is a marked increase in the Alberta demand for Ashcroft potatoes and other B.C. vegetables.

It is predicted that ten thousand people wil go into the Portland Canal country during the coming year.

The Vancouver Park Commissioners have decided to widen Stanley Park drive to a uniform fifty feet.

Rowland Dunning, a Vancouver boot rivetter, has been granted a divorce by the English courts.

Vancouver's new labor temple will be four stories in height and cost $80,000.

Over 250 attended the annual ball of the Chilliwack volunteer fire brigade last week.

The Great Northern has advised New Westminster that the service for the benefit of the city will be greatly improved in the immediate future.

Dominick Martsam, the Italian black hander, has been committed for trial from the Vancouver police court, on the charge of attempted murder.

Private advices from Ottawa to Mayor Lee, of New Westminster, indicate that the Coquitlam dam case has gone against the city.

John Smith has been sentenced to two years' hard labor for the theft of a quantity of hides from the Vancouver-Prince Rupert Meat Co.

William Brewer, who escaped from the New Westminster penitentiary in 1907, has returned and voluntarily surrendered himself at that institution.

Neat typographically and intelligently devoted to the interests of this district, the Portland Canal Miner, Percy F. Godenrath's new venture, is a distinct success in its journalistic field.

Harry Smith the pioneer merchant of the Portland Canal district, is here on a purchasing trip, and spent Sunday at his old home in Duncan. He returns north in a few days.

Unusually heavy snowfalls are heavily handicapping the operations of the G. T. P. railway builders in the north, and also interfering with the prompt delivery of the mails.

The coroner's jury investigating the tragic electrocution of Lee Weaver in the Barnet power station of the B.C. S.R. Co., a few days ago, has returned a verdict of pure accident.

The whaling station at Page's Lagoon will not reopen until the summer. During the past season 30 whales were killed and hendled at the station.

Several new business buildings are being erected in Alberni, among those who contemplate setting up in business there being Victoria Chinamen, who deal in fancy dry goods.

The new government road from the top of Oyster Harbor to Ladysmith, has been completed and is now in use. The road obviates the crossings at Brenton's and over the Wellington colliery track; is safer, and shortens the distance.

Herring are now running more plentifully in Nanaimo harbor, and if this continues, the interested firms hope to make up some of the deficiency in the early part of the season.

The Great Northern has begun work on its new depot at New Westminster. Wharf extensions will also involve an expenditure of between $2,000 and $3,000 in the royal city.

The finishing touches are being made to the engines of the Paystreak which is to alternate with the Beaver on the Chilliwack run, taking the place of the Strathcona, which was wrecked at Nicomin last November.

The complaints which are being made against the closing of the post office lobbies on Sundays are arousing the Lord's Day Alliance to counter action in support of the postmaster-general's position.

The Provincial Press, of Australia, has established a new bureau at Vancouver, with W. E. Vincent as manager and editor of the service. The news distribution agency is known as the Independent Press Cable Association of Australia.

Nelson has decided to look carefully into the subject before endorsing Vancouver's request for the provincial government to take over and operate all telephone services in British Columbia.

The versatility of the Chinaman is again demonstrated in the announcements of the Vancouver and New Westminster market reporters that "Chinese eggs are now being imported in quantity."

While playing with a dynamite cartridge, at the Fraser Valley nurseries, near New Westminster, Monday afternoon, S. S. Gordon's little son had the ends of two fingers blown off and received other minor injuries.

Wardner school reopened yesterday, having at last secured a teacher.

Last Thursday's payroll at the St. Eugene, Moyie, amounted to $31,500.

The British Columbia Copper Co.'s last week's payroll amounted to $45,000.

Prince Rupert has decided to form a Canadian club.

The Eastern Townships Bank will next month open a branch in Princeton.

Kamloops Presbytery meets at Kelowna on the 23rd.

Pansies are blooming in the open at Vernon.

Both Revelstoke and Creston now have picture theatres.

Fernie last year imported $50,000 worth of eggs.

A church, a brewery, and a hospital will this year be erected at Quesnel.

P. A. Paulson is putting in a $100,000 sawmill at Kitchener.

Nanaimo has now a third vaudeville theatre, the "Princess Auditorium."

J. T. Black has been appointed chief constable for West Kootenay.

The provincial police are still dragging the river at New Westminster for the body of M. E. F. Darcy, musical director at the hospital for the insane, and uncle of Premier McBride, who was drowned on Saturday last, by falling from the trans-Fraser bridge.

N. F. Lang, assistant agent for the last three years at Nanaimo station of the E. & N. railway, has been appointed agent at Chemainus in the place of F. W. Finch, who has been given charge of the Nanaimo station owing to the resignation of W. A. Wood.

On behalf of the city council and the board of trade of New Westminster, Mayor Lee has despatched a telegram to the minister of marine and fisheries protesting against the new international fisheries regulations, and adding that alternative proposals will be submitted after the meeting of the fishermen today.

John Perry, a fifteen year old boy of Vancouver, is under arrest, charged with numerous robberies from the post office, forgery and obtaining money under false pretences. He had been in the habit of systematically rifling letter boxes which he found insecurely fastened.

W. T. Smith, perhaps better known to mining men as "Boundary" Smith, who has made and lost several fortunes in mining camps, is now swearing by the Portland Canal country, and is interesting Spokane capital in the wealth of that district.

If Vancouver CPR will sign an agreement not to allow any other company to place poles on Granville street, Westminster avenue and Hastings street, the B.C.E.R. Co. has offered to remove all its poles on those thoroughfares.

Important improvements were made to the Tyee smelter during the past month and the management expects to be able to blow in a furnace immediately. The outlook has never been so bright as it is for the coming year, and it is probable that one furnace, at least, will be running full time.

The Nelson city council has passed a resolution for the abolition of all saloon licenses by November 1. Mayor Selous would not at first admit the resolution, as he contended that the matter had already been dealt with, but a vote was taken on his ruling, and he was defeated and the resolution carried.

Ernest Lee, an Oriental jewelry dealer, is credited with having buncoed Vancouver wholesale jewelry houses out of goods to the value of $10,000. He bought on credit and sold for cash—at auction, buying from one place until his credit was exhausted, and then transferring his custom. Then he assigned for the benefit of his creditors, and they could find no assets.

The notorious Chaw Murphy, partner of Bill Miner, has been landed in the New Westminster penitentiary for a robbery for which he has been three years wanted, and for which he will now serve three years. Curiously enough he was arrested by Constable Munroe, whose life he saved when that officer was hot on Bill Miner's trail, Miner having the policeman covered and being about to shoot when Murphy intervened.

In a three-cornered fight on the Vancouver waterfront between one John Smith and George Barclay and George Somerville, the two latter of the tug Dauntless' crew, Barclay received a bad cut across the cheek and lost the end of his nose, while Somerville was stabbed near the jugular and had three fingers sliced off. The tugmen claim that the stranger attacked because they had refused to purchase forty fathoms of small line from him.

Tom Moore suffered rather a painful accident while at work in the slope of No. 1 mine, Nanaimo, on Monday. He was busy fixing the timber in his place, when a piece of rock threatened to come away on him. Tom immediately jumped, still holding his pick, and when he landed the point of the pick was driven through his throat into his mouth. He also sustained injuries to his knee and arm. He was taken to the hospital, where he is doing as well as could be expected.

Legal opinion favors the Nelson city council in the contest of that body with the local school board, who refused to furnish the council with a detailed explanation of its accounts, and threatened to prosecute the council for libel if the council did not withdraw its statement that the proceeds from the sale of an old school building had been "wrongfully appropriated and expended." The amount received from this sale was $562.24, and the city solicitor held that the board had no right to sell school property, let alone spend the money derived from such a sale. On Monday the finance committee was instructed to examine all the books, accounts, vouchers, and papers of the school board, in accordance with section 37 of the public schools act.

Greenwood has already decided upon a glorious celebration of Victoria day.

Vernon has, in Mrs. Prior, the first lady ever elected to its school board.

The Nicola Valley News, S. N. Dancey's new paper, has made its debut.

Construction has begun on the Joyce sawmill, six miles from Quesnel.

Construction of the new Digby Island (Prince Rupert) wireless station is well advanced.

Fernie's prospective winter carnival has been interdicted and postponed by a thaw.

The wedding of Mr. Daniel McKay and Miss H. C. Carlson was celebrated at Nelson on Friday.

The annual meeting of the Keremeos Conservative association is called for the 16th—tomorrow.

B. Fleming has been committed for trial at Grand Forks on a charge of horse-stealing.

A loss of $5,000 was incurred in the maintenance last year of Vancouver's infectious diseases hospital.

Vancouver's health committee is at a deadlock over the selection of an isolation hospital site.

Summerland's fruit packing school is "in full swing" with an attendance of thirty students.

First buttercups are reported from Okanagan Falls. Victoria was a fortnight ahead with the pussy-willow.

The board of horticulture will not be able to give a fruit packing school to Penticton this season.

Merritt's citizens, in mass meeting assembled, have decided that now is the time to incorporate.

Vancouver's board of revision is considering applications for exemption from the city churches.

Vancouver has increased the license fee for employment agencies to $100 per annum.

Kamloops is complaining that the curse of Constantinople has descended upon it in a plethora of homeless curs.

The Kootenay Telephone Lines, Ltd. have just established connection between Cranbrook and Galloway.

The Cumberland News finds times so good that it is obliged to double its size in order to accomodate advertising.

Major Bell, of Enderby, has donated two handsome medals to the Okanagan Rifle Association, for the second and third prizes in the Duncan Ross match.

John Perry, the wayward lad arrested for pilfering letters from unlocked post boxes in Vancouver, has been sent to the reformatory for two years.

Harry Maintal, a Fernie miner, had his right leg broken in two places on Friday last, through a fall on an icy footpath.

Hazelton reports an exhaustion of the kerosene supply, and the citizens now depend on candles, luna and lucifers.

The engagement is announced of Mr. Ernest W. Robinson, D.L.S. for the Revelstoke district, and Miss M. E. McLaughlin, of Ottawa.

Invitations have been issued for the wedding of Miss Mary Irvine, of the staff of the Fernie Free Press, and Mr. Henry Graham.

Creston's board of trade has ordered 20,000 letterheads and envelopes bearing local advertising, for free distribution to the community.

At Cranbrook last week the wedding was solemnized of Mr. William D. Stewart, of Michel, and Miss Mildred Lillian Hall.

The townsite of Gerrard is being cleared by E. Mobbs, who is also erecting a residence at the new town for his own occupancy.

The directors of the Vancouver general hospital suggest that the city impose a special tax of one mill toward hospital maintenance.

Before Prince Rupert's existence as a city begins, it has a debt of over a quarter of a million in advances from the province.

The body of George Hamilton, Vancouver's waterworks foreman drowned in the flood three weeks ago, has been recovered from the waters of the Capilano.

Hereafter Cranbrook's principal place of amusement will be known as the Opera House instead of the Auditorium. It will be during otherwise dark nights a moving picture house.

It is announced that the C.P.R. will begin construction of its new wharf and warehouses at Summerland, as soon as the spring comes. Fifty thousand dollars will be expended.

The Vermillion Forks Mining Co. has given six lots, of a value of $1,500, toward the general hospital at Princeton, toward which also a grant is promised by the government.

Joe Fitzgerald, a Vancouver longshoreman, was drowned Saturday, by falling into the Inlet in a fit. He was engaged at the time in the discharging of the "Tropea."

Mrs. H. F. Hay, of Revelstoke, has received the astonishing news of the birth, to her brother's wife at Burke's Falls, Ont., of quadruplets, all girls, and thriving, as also is the mother.

Arthur E. Mackenzie, the Greenwood woman beater, who broke jail but was recaptured, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment, which he has begun at Nelson jail.

Nelson's board of trade has telegraphed a protest to Ottawa against the Sunday closing of the post office lobby. It has also asked for the establishment of a fruit fumigation station at Nelson.

David Roberts, a Cumberland miner and popular local elocutionist, has had his jaw broken by a coal fall. He was arranging an entertainment for the evening of the 23rd at Cumberland, which may have to be abandoned.

The Cumberland News urges Hon. William Templeman to vigorously oppose any application that may be made by the C.P.R. for an extension of time in which to extend its line northerly from Nanaimo to Comox.

One of Revelstoke's aldermen experienced a not altogether pleasant surprise a few days ago, when calling for a statement of unpaid taxes antedating ten years, he found himself first among the delinquents.

Masset natives have decided to abandon their impromptu strike, and have started fishing. They have accepted the price offered for the fish, one and a half cents, with the condition that heads shall be weighed.

The license of the Royal Hotel at Kelowna has been restored. This is the licence cancelled by the incoming commissioners, in consequence of which cancellation, the licensee threatened action for $25,000 damages.

The death has occurred at at Lillooet, of Nat Coughlan, one of the pioneer prospectors of the Bridge River country, and a third interest owner in the Lorne group at the time of his death. He was a Nova Scotian, and leaves a mother in Vancouver, while a brother was killed in a recent railway accident near Revelstoke.

BRUSSELS EXHIBITION

New System Introduced at International Exposition to Be Held in April

LONDON, Feb. 16.—The international exhibition which will be opened in April next at Brussels, will be of more than ordinary interest the world over. For the first time in the commercial history of England, the British section will be arranged and supervised by a government department—the newly-informed exhibitions branch of the board of trade—with the active assistance of the royal commission for the Brussels, Rome, and Turin exhibitions, of which the Prince of Wales is the president and Lord Lytton the chairman.

The Brussels exhibition will be of a comprehensive character, and will have its artistic, scientific, industrial, commercial, and colonial sections. The scheme upon which it is being arranged differs from that adopted at other international exhibitions. At the Paris Exhibition of 1900, and the St. Louis Exhibition of 1904, a number of isolated "allotments" were assigned to each participating nation, buildings devoted to groups of manufactures. At Brussels, the exhibits of each country will be grouped together in such a manner as to form a complete national display. An exception will be made, however, in the case of exhibits of machinery and rolling stock, which will be placed in separate buildings specially erected for the purpose. The exhibition grounds, which adjoin the Bois de la Cambre, are divided into two portions by the Avenue du Solbosch. The Belgian and the British sections will be situated south of this avenue, near the main entrance to the grounds, while the sections of other nations, and the machinery and railway halls, will be connected by a bridge spanning the avenue. The area of the grounds occupied is about 200 acres, and buildings covering about 50 acres are now being constructed.

The general scheme includes two large industrial halls, with imposing architectural facades. The first, having an area of 400,000 square feet, is situated on the south side of the avenue du Solbosch, in proximity to the main entrance. It will contain the Belgian and British sections. The second, which covers a slightly larger area, is in the northern section of the grounds, and is exclusively reserved for foreign nations. Germany, Spain, Holland and Portugal will occupy separate buildings in other positions. Adjoining the second building is a large international machinery hall, in which the machinery of all nations will be placed, and in which the plant for generating the electricity for the illuminating of the buildings and grounds and other purposes will be installed. In the immediate neighborhood is a building covering approximately 97,000 square feet, in which locomotives and other railway rolling stock and material will be shown. The grounds and gardens of the exhibition are undulating and well timbered, and provide a picturesque setting for the buildings.

KILLED HER COUNSEL

Russian Pole Accused of Strange Murder on Trial in Cracow

CRACOW (Austrian Poland), Feb. 15.—An extraordinary murder trial is in progress here. The accused is a young medical student, Mme. Jamina Borowska, who is charged with shooting a barrister named Lewicki, who had acted as her counsel in a libel action she had brought against the local Socialist paper. The newspaper had accused her of being a Russian spy.

During the action the plaintiff and her barrister became very intimate, and then one day, he was found dead in her apartments. The prosecution alleges that Mme. Borowska killed the barrister from motives of jealousy, and also because he refused to return her love letters, which she feared might fall into her husband's hands.

TO CHASE SMUGGLERS AMONG GULF ISLANDS

BELLINGHAM, Feb. 15.—Activity among the revenue service boats on the Sound in this vicinity marks an effort to break up smuggling, especially of opium. The service cutters are kept moving along the upper stretches of the Sound as never before in years, and every boat is being overhauled and searched.

The attention of the officers is directed to investigate small sailing craft. For several years small gasoline power boats were objects of suspicion, but the abandonment of business on unexplained missions by this sort of craft, and the quiet night trips of small sailing craft, together with the increase in smuggling has led to the belief that the old-fashioned system has been revived. These vessels have been frequent among the islands recently, and some have been found hidden in coves, settling sail at night without lights.

CRIED "VIVE LA FRANCE"

BERLIN, Feb. 16.—According to a telegram from Strassburg, a resident of Muhlhausen named Qogelin, who is said to be a naturalized Swiss subject, has been ordered to leave German territory as a result of his share in occurrences connected with a concert at a local hotel. It appears that the band played the "Marseillaise," after playing the German National Anthem, and that some person of persons cried "Vive la France!"

Although the details are somewhat obscure, Chauvinist journals here hasten to applaud the intervention of the authorities, while Radical journals protest against "fear of the Marseillaise."

The Swiss government interfered in the case and the expulsion of Wegelin was stayed.

BRITISH SETTLERS COMING TO ISLAND

Representatives of British Steel Interests States That Interest Is Keen and Many Are En Route

There will be a remarkable influx of English settlers to Vancouver Island beginning this coming spring, according to D. M. McGregor, representative of big British steel interests who has just come from the Old Country on behalf of his company, and who is now a guest at the Empress.

Mr. McGregor is not a stranger in Victoria. He has been here on several occasions. Last season he made an extensive trip to the Queen Charlotte islands, remaining some time looking over the ground and returning with a very high opinion of the possibilities of this part of the country.

"Much has been done in the past year to give the people of England an intelligent notion of what western Canada really means," said Mr. McGregor yesterday. "Notwithstanding the efforts that were put forth heretofore there seemed to be a prevailing lethargy on the part of desirable people who would better themselves immensely by coming to this country and who would also be desirable settlers here. This lethargy seems to have been dissipated very largely during the past twelve months and from what I learned during my stay in England the emigration from that country to Canada this coming summer will be most remarkable. Very much has been learned about British Columbia and Vancouver Island in England and some people would be surprised to learn how well acquainted with your home island many English people who have never seen it have become. Fruit ranching and dairying make the strongest appeals to many of these people, I think, and, combined with the fine climate of this island those industries will pull a big increase in your population. Then there are many people with money to invest who have been attracted by the opportunities here.

"One thing should be closely guarded against, especially at this time. That is the danger of consciously or unconsciously giving an erroneous impression of your island. This island has natural advantages enough without stretching them and the injury worked by landing one man here who finds that he has been 'done up' by wild-cat promises that cannot materialize, is inestimable."

ON THE WANE

Civilization Decaying and Mankind to Relapse to Barbarism, Says Medium

ROME, Feb. 13.—Great attention is being attracted by the seances of Mlle. Tonica Markovitch, one of the most prominent of the many spiritualistic mediums who have arisen in Rome since the late Professor Lombroso set the fashion.

Mlle. Markovich claims to write at the dictation of a young man named Dusck, who died ten years ago at Agram. Her method is to hold in her right hand a pencil, stretching her arm across a small table, the pencil remaining motionless while "the writings of the spirit" are recorded by the movement of the table.

Some serious prophecies have been recorded through the medium of Mlle. Markovich, the "spirit" being very pessimistic about the future of Europe. The spirit declares that humanity is now satiated with civilization, and has reached a limit impossible to pass. Indeed, the development of the human race will shortly be arrested, and the world will relapse into barbarism.

The spirit proceeds to explain that up to the present men have continued to increase in numbers. That increase will now stop, and there will begin a gradual diminution, coincident with which will be a series of events tending to the degeneration of mankind.

Mlle. Markovich's spirit states that aviation will be largely responsible for the decadence of civilization, for the science, when perfected, will result in the destruction of all law and order. The wickedness of mankind will find its triumph in the flying machine. The great cities, London, New York, Paris, Chicago, Berlin, Rome—will be first to decay, and will gradually become depopulated.

Mlle. Markovich's reputation is increasing daily, and there are many who place implicit credence in her demonstrations.

HUMBOLDT MAY REDUCE THE RATES

Manager Max Kalish Says He May Make Cuts to Meet Tariffs of Companies in Rate War

SEATTLE, Feb. 14.—Max Kalish, manager of the Humboldt Steamship Company, who arrived from San Francisco Friday night, stated last night that he had under consideration a revision of the current tariffs on the steamer Humboldt between Seattle and Skagway. This is taken to mean that it is probable that a cut will be made in the rates of that company to compete with those of the Alaska Steamship Company and the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, which are now engaged in a rate war for freight and passengers.

The fight was started last fall, but the Humboldt ran at her regular rates, independent of the other lines, until she went south for an overhauling. She arrived in port Friday morning, resplendent in a new coat of paint, thoroughly overhauled and with a new cylinder, prepared for a season of heavy business. She will leave out for Skagway on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. Mr. Kalish said his decision will be made in the interim.

"One thing is certain," he stated with emphasis last night, "the Humboldt is going on the run to stay."

Pathetic Wedding

GENEVA, Feb. 13.—A wedding has taken place under pathetic circumstances at St. Julien, a French town a few miles from Geneva. The bridegroom was an Italian, named Pramotton, who is awaiting trial for murder. Mlle. Pegard, Pramotton's sweetheart, refused to accede to the wishes of her family and break the engagement, and she agreed to marry him this week. The ceremony took place at the town hall, where the bridegroom appeared, escorted by two gendarmes. An affecting scene followed the wedding, when the bride begged the gendarmes to release her husband, declaring that he was not guilty of the murder. Eventually, Pramotton was taken back to jail to await trial.

BACK FROM ERECTING BIG COAST LIGHT

Mr. Cullison and Other Lighthouse Builders Returned Yesterday From Estevan on Newington

The steamer Newington, of the marine department's fleet, is back from the west coast of Vancouver Island bringing L. Cullison and the party of workmen who have been engaged for some weeks in installing the great lantern on the high octagonal cement tower built by Luke Humber at Estevan Point. Mr. Cullison, who has charge of the work of erecting the lanterns of British Columbia's lighthouses, superintended the establishment of this big first order light at Estevan, most powerful of all the coast lights.

For forty miles at sea this light of Estevan will be visible, and is expected to be of much assistance to mariners making these shores. The tower on which it stands, most solidly built of cement in octagonal form, with great buttresses reinforced with steel, is one hundred feet high on Estevan Point, and the lantern stands thirty above the top of the cement tower, being 130 feet high. The glass and iron work of the lantern and its frame weighs 25 tons and the work of installing the great cut glass lenses and frame, each part being hauled to the roof of the tower and assembled in place, was not an easy task.

The lense is of cut glass and was manufactured by the famous lighthouse lantern manufacturers, Chance Bros. of Birmingham. The cost of the lantern alone exceeded $35,000.

The workmen who returned on the Newington state that during the most severe gales the lighthouse tower scarcely vibrates, so solidly has it been constructed.

SEEK ABDUL'S TREASURE

Turkish Government Takes Action to Recover Millions on Deposit in German Bank

BERLIN, Feb. 15.—Formal notice has been given to the German Imperial Bank of the Turkish government's legal proceedings to compel the bank to hand over the deposit of several million dollars standing to the credit of the ex-Sultan Abdul Hamid. The bank has hitherto not recognized the Porte's claim to the funds, on the ground that Abdul Hamid made withdrawal conditional upon the production of a certain private seal, and as the seal is missing, the bank contends that it cannot pay out the deposit until the courts decide how far Abdul Hamid is acting of his own free will in demanding payment.

The bank also takes the position that it would theoretically be liable for the money, if affairs in Turkey underwent another revolution, and the sultan or his heirs demanded the amount of the deposit.

Abdul Hamid's deposit in the Deutsche Bank was paid to him in the presence of representatives of the Turkish government at Salonica several months ago.

IMPERIAL JESTS

BERLIN, Feb. 13.—An amusing ceremony took place at the Emperor's hunting lodge at Letzlingen, during the visit there of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the Austrian heir apparent. A large bowl, which was purchased by King Frederick William III., is always produced at the lodge on these occasions, and guests who are on their first visit are expected to drain it of champagne.

The bowl, however, is so moulded with stag horns that it is extremely difficult for a drinker to empty it without dribbling the wine over his clothes.

As the drinkers stand before the Kaiser, with the rest of the guests around him, the occasion is one of much great merriment. Among the victims who were obliged to undergo the ceremony during the recent visit were the Crown Prince of Greece, the Kaiser's third son, Prince Oscar, the Austrian ambassador, and the imperial chancellor, Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg.

Battle Beginning.

SAN JUAN DEL SUR, Nicaragua, Feb. 14.—The government forces composed of 3,000 men under command of General Lara Chavaria and Porta Carrero, this morning began an attack upon Matagalpa, which was captured by the insurgent general, Chamorro on Feb. 8. The non-combatants at Matagalpa left the city on receiving the government's notification that the bombardment was to be commenced.

No. 1.

COAL PROSPECTING NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that thirty days after date I intend to apply to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands for a license to prospect for coal on the following described lands foreshore and lands covered with water:

Commencing at a post planted near the north shore of Oyster Harbor, Oyster District, Province of British Columbia, at a point about one half mile east of Sickameen Indian Village, marked A. L/S. S. W. Corner, thence north eighty chains, thence east eighty chains, thence south eighty chains, thence west eighty chains to the place of commencement, intended to contain six hundred and forty (640) acres more or less.

ROBERT KENNETH LINDSAY.
JOHN CUNLIFFE, Agent.
February 2nd, 1910.

No. 3.

COAL PROSPECTING NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that thirty days after date I intend to apply to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands for a license to prospect for coal on the following described lands foreshore and lands covered with water:

Commencing at a post planted at or near a point twenty-five chains from the junction of the Government Road with the Chemainus Lumber Company Railway, in a westerly direction and marked L. L'S S. W. Corner in the Oyster District, Province of British Columbia, thence east eighty chains, thence south eighty chains, thence west eighty chains, to the point of commencement, intended to contain six hundred and forty (640) acres more or less.

LAURA LINDSAY.
JOHN CUNLIFFE, Agent.
February 4th, 1910.

No. 4.

COAL PROSPECTING NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that thirty days after date I intend to apply to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands for a license to prospect for coal on the following described lands foreshore and lands covered with water:

Commencing at a post planted on the south shore of Oyster Bay, on the north boundary of the City of Ladysmith, in the District of Oyster, in the Province of British Columbia, and marked P. M. L/s. N. W. C., thence east eighty chains, thence south eighty chains, thence west eighty chains, thence north eighty chains to the place of commencement, intended to contain six hundred and forty (640) acres more or less.

PERCIVAL MERRICK LINDSAY.
JOHN CUNLIFFE, Agent.
February 2nd, 1910.

No. 5.

COAL PROSPECTING NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that thirty days after date I intend to apply to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands for a license to prospect for coal on the following described lands foreshore and lands covered with water:

Commencing at a post planted on the north shore of Oyster Harbor, Oyster District, Province of British Columbia, at a point about one mile northwest of post marked G. L/S. S. E. Corner and marked A. L/S. S. E. Corner, thence north eighty chains, thence west eighty chains, thence south eighty chains, east eighty chains to the place of commencement, intended to contain six hundred and forty (640) acres more or less.

AGNES LINDSAY.
JOHN CUNLIFFE, Agent.
February, 4th 1910.

No. 6.

COAL PROSPECTING NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that thirty days after date I intend to apply to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands for a license to prospect for coal on the following described lands foreshore and lands covered with water:

Commencing at a post planted near the north shore of Oyster Harbor, in Oyster District, in the Province of British Columbia, at a point about one-half mile east of Sickameen Indian Village, and marked G. L/S. S. E. Corner, thence north eighty chains, thence west eighty chains, thence south eighty chains, thence east eighty chains to the place of commencement, intended to contain six hundred and forty (640) acres more or less.

GEORGE LINDSAY.
JOHN CUNLIFFE, Agent.
February 4th, 1910.

No. 7.

COAL PROSPECTING NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that thirty days after date I intend to apply to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands for a license to prospect for coal on the following described lands foreshore and lands covered with water:

Commencing at a post planted near the north shore of Oyster Harbor, Oyster District, Province of British Columbia, at a point about one half mile east of Sickameen Indian Village, marked A. L/S. S. W. Corner, thence north eighty chains, thence east eighty chains, thence south eighty chains, thence west eighty chains to the place of commencement, intended to contain six hundred and forty (640) acres more or less.

AMANDA LINDSAY.
JOHN CUNLIFFE, Agent.
February 4th, 1910.

No. 8.

COAL PROSPECTING NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that thirty days after date I intend to apply to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands for a license to prospect for coal on the following described lands foreshore and lands covered with water:

Commencing at a post about one mile north of George Lindsay's southeast corner, near the north shore of Oyster Harbor, Oyster District, Province of British Columbia, marked W. J. L'S. S. W. Corner, thence north eighty chains, thence east eighty chains, thence south eighty chains, thence west eighty chains to the place of commencement, intended to contain six hundred and forty (640) acres more or less.

WILLIAM J. LINDSAY.
JOHN CUNLIFFE, Agent.
February 4th, 1910.

No. 9.

COAL PROSPECTING NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that thirty days after date I intend to apply to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands for a license to prospect for coal on the following described lands foreshore and lands covered with water:

Commencing at a post planted about one mile north of George Lindsay's S. E. corner post, near the north shore of Oyster Harbor, in the Oyster District, in the Province of British Columbia and marked M. J. C'S. S. E. C., thence north eighty chains, thence west eighty chains, thence south eighty chains, thence east eighty chains to the point of commencement, intended to contain six hundred and forty (640) acres more or less.

MARY JANE CUNLIFFE.
JOHN CUNLIFE, Agent.
February 4th, 1910.

No. 10.

COAL PROSPECTING NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that thirty days after date I intend to apply to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of lands for a license to prospect for coal on the following described lands foreshore and lands covered with water:

Commencing at a post planted about three miles north of George Lindsay's S. E. C. post, near the north shore of Oyster Harbor in the Oyster District, in the Province of British Columbia, and also near the north shore of Chemainus Bay and marked F. C. C'S. N. E. C., thence south eighty chains, thence west eighty chains, thence north eighty chains, thence east eighty chains to the place of commencement, containing six hundred and forty (640) acres more or less.

FRANK C. CLARKE.
JOHN CUNLIFFE, Agent.
February 4th, 1910.

The confidence felt by farmers and gardeners in Ferry's Seeds to-day would have been impossible to feel in any seeds two score of years ago. We have made a science of seed growing.

FERRY'S SEEDS

always do exactly what you expect of them. For sale everywhere. FERRY'S 1910 SEED ANNUAL Free on request.

D. M. FERRY & CO., Windsor, Ont.

COAL PROSPECTING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that thirty days after date I intend to apply to the honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands for a license to prospect for coal in the following described lands, foreshore, and lands covered with water:

Commencing at a post planted about three miles north of George Lindsay's S.E. corner, post, near the north shore of Oyster Harbor, in the Oyster district, in the Province of British Columbia, and also near the north shore of Chemainus Bay, and marked C. M's N.W.C., thence south eighty chains, thence east eighty chains, thence north eighty chains, thence west eighty chains to the place of commencement, containing six hundred and forty acres more or less.

CHARLES MERRICK
February 4, 1910 John Cunliffe, agent.

LEGISLATION INEFFECTUA

So Says Mr. Hawthornthwai as Regards the Eradicatio of the Drink Evil—Govern ment's Liquor Bill

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY BRINGS MISSIVE

Much Business Transacted the Sitting of the Legislatu Yesterday — Measures A Advanced

The unqualified and unstinted co demnation of legislation as a non-e fective weapon for use in the battle o temperance reform, voiced by Mr Hawthornthwaite in his consideratio of the motion for second reading o the license bill, and a directly contr speech by Dr. McGuire, fifth membe for and special champion of the prohi bition element in Vancouver City, i which the acceptance of the bill by th Local Optinists was plainly indicated— these constituted unquestionably th features of Monday's session of the legislature. The leader of the Social ists spoke at unusual length and spok most energetically. He did not den to the government all credit for excel lent intention, but he took pains to cal all spades by the name of spades, and accepted the mantle of prophecy in sayi ing that were the government to en force this proposed new law to the letter it would prove so reactionery as to immeasurably set back the caus of temperance reform. Curiously enough Dr. McGuire, while accepting and heartily commending the bill from the standpoint of temperance advance, held also that it was in some respects over-radical, especially in the extraordinary power of latitude conferred on the police. The bill was left at the second reading stage, adjournment of the debate being moved by Mr. Brewster of Alberni.

Aside from the business of the session, the day gained unexpected transient brightness through someone having remembered that 'twas St. Valentine's.

The members were idolently listening to Mr. Hawthornthwaite's energetic denunciation of Capitalistic systems—capable of producing lasting reforms—the Attorney-General was occupied with his seemingly interminable side-occupation, during the House proceedings, daintily signing a vast accumulation of provincial checques—peace and a stately dignity brooded o'er the scene, when entered a page who left upon each desk a missive in square white envelope. Business-like members methodically applied the knife or cutter forthwith, with business zeal. Some others cast surreptitious glances round them, and stealthly approached the solution of the mystery. The President of the Council scornfully cast his envelope to the outer edge of his statistics-piled desk.

Then, as though some eclectic current controlled the common impulse, a broad smile circled the Chamber.

"Let me see yours," became the general entreaty, and vividly colored, uncomplimentary posters in miniature were compared with childish glee. Those among the house who at heart resented the familiarity or the jibe, for politic reasons affected to see the joke and to enjoy it hugely. The Minister of Lands gleefully exchanged with the Provincial Secretary. The Finance Minister discovered to his amazement that he had received a precisely similar token to that drawn by the Attorney General and also the Minister of Agriculture and the Commissioner of Fisheries. He brought the matter privately to the attention of the Chairman of the Private Bills committee, and while they twain were debating precedents and points of law on the subject, they noticed the unopened envelope on the desk of the sedate and austere President of the Council.

It was the Attorney General who whispered, just loud enough for the words to reach the press gallery at the end of the chamber.

"Why don't you open it?"

Whether for natural coyness or for other reasons, the Honorable Minister without portfolio demurred.

He smiled—yes, truly!—and shook his head withal, the manner of both smile and negative gymnastic being freely to be paraphrased as meaning, "Now run away, children, and play; such nonsense is scarcely meet for men and statesmen."

All the other valentines were opened and inspected with glee (real or assumed) within the short space of ten merry minutes.

When the house arose the envelope addressed to the President of the Council lay, scorned still, upon the outer rim of his papers-piled desk.

Whether he opened it later, in solitude and alone, is matter beyond the record and not for the public to know. For the minister is wise in his day and generation, and perhaps has had experience with Feb. 14th missives.

The Socialist Leader.

Resuming consideration of the motion for second reading of the license bill.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite agreed that this was probably one of the most important bills that had been or could be passed upon by the legislature. It was without doubt very comprehensive and also very radical. He conceded that much thought had been bestowed upon the subject by the government, and great care had obviously been taken in the preparation of the legislation as it was offered to the House. It would no doubt be received with considerable satisfaction by supporters of the government and doubtless also by a considerable section of the country. The question dealt with was one daily and yearly becoming more and more prominent in the economy of civilized countries, and he regretted to say that this question was not, in his opinion, one for which a cure or remedy could ever be provided—that was for the evils arising out of drink and its misuse—by legislation such as this. When this matter was under consideration at the last session of the House he had asked by resolution for the appointment of a commission of competent students of such vital matters, to carefully investigate all facts in relation to the