EXPLORERS TO DEPART TODAY

Schooner Duchess of Bedford Starts for Arctic This Afternoon.

SEARCH FOR MORE LAND

The Scope of the Great Project Is Again Briefly Outlined.

(From Friday's Daily)

THIS afternoon at 2 p.m. Capt. Eijnar Mikkelsen, Ernest Leffingwell, Eijnar Ditlevsen, and their gallant associates will start for the Arctic on a voyage of discovery, beset by no mean hardships, which they hope will result in the discovery of a large tract of undiscovered land that will extend the borders of Canada. The schooner Duchess of Bedford will be towed from Porter's wharf to the straits, whence she will proceed to Kadiak, thence to an Eskimo village of the Siberian coast washed by the far-away Sea of Anadir, where sixty well-bred huskies will be embarked, and then, through Behring strait, the explorers will voyage into the ice-filled Arctic, skirting the Alaskan coast past Point Barrow and keeping in the shoal water between coast and ice-field until the Mackenzie river is reached in August, and Mr. Stefanssen, ethnologist, will join his co-workers in the struggle to enrich science and enlarge Canada. The vessel will then proceed to

A Winter Station

probably at the northwest corner of Banks island, where a depot will be made from which the geological, zoological, geographical and hydrographical, ethnological and other scientific work, will be carried on until the spring of 1907, when Messrs. Mikkelsen and Leffingwell, the heads of the expedition, will start across the ice pack to withstand ice-blink and other hardships, seeking a great stretch of land which they believe to exist in the Beaufort sea, northwest of Alaska and the Canadian Yukon. On this trip they will take provisions for 140 days, everything being prepared in the most compact manner possible, and soundings will be made where opportunity offers to discover the edge of the continental shelf, and—it is firmly hoped—the land the young explorers seek.

This Is the First

Arctic expedition that has started from Victoria, and doubtless this historic fact will result in many assembling to bid "God-speed" to the explorers who leave on the Duches of Bedford. The former sealing schooner—the change of registration from Beatrice to Duchess of Bedford was completed on Friday, has her hold filled with a most varied assortment of freight, and arrangements have been made for a shipment of further supplies by steamer, a call being made at the northern port before the schooner enters the Arctic. There are sledges with German silver runners, specially built for lightness and strength, skis that were sent for the land of ski-runners, kayaks built of tautened canvas, drawn tight over frames of hardwood and fashioned similar to those kayaks in which the Aleuts make such long trips in

The Cold Northern Seas

whaling implements, firearms, small mirrors, sewing gear, etc., which are articles of more value than money for trading with the far northern natives for the needed dogs and other things the explorers expect to secure from the villagers of the northern coasts. There is malted milk, shipped from the makers, and corn meal sent by a Seattle mill for dog food, cases of instruments, aerometers, and highly sensitive barometers and other scientific instruments, even bags of grass that came from across the ocean for packing the fur moccasins of the ice-walkers—a varied and strange cargo for the holds that one time held the peltries speared and shot in the watens of the North Pacific and Bering Sea.

The Discovery of the Pole

is not part of the project. Its object is one of much more value to science. The discovery of a land where Capt. Mikkelsen and Mr. De K. Leffingwell expect to locate terra firma will be a boon to scientific men, especially the geologists. The Arctic is now the home of mystery, and if the land the young explorers who leave today are to seek is located science will be considerably enriched. That science needs Arctic expeditions is now well known, and the disposition to regard Arctic voyaging as a fad has passed with knowledge of the aid the discoveries have been to science. To Canadians there will be another feature of the work, that is, the enrichment of the map of Canada with new geograpical discoveries. Of course the limits of the unknown are becoming less, and young explorers who love the sensation of seeing what is beyond the furthest new-discovered cape, are forced further into the unknown.

That There Will Be Hardships

to endure all those who remember the cruise of the ill-fated Jeannette will be well aware. The language of the agreement that was made on Friday unauspiciously in a room of a local hotel between Capt. Mikkelsen and a young Scottish scientist now in Victoria, Dr. McLaren of Glasgow, conveys this fact clearly to the mind. The plans of the schooner Duchess of Bedford are that when Messrs. Mikkelsen and Leffingwell have started out alone over the ice into the unknown to the north northwest, seeking a new land, the vessel is to start at once for Victoria, calling at Cape Nome for the purpose of sending a cablegram to Dr. McLaren at Glasgow, so that he may start at once across the Atlantic for Victoria to take the schooner north again after her arrival here.

The Two Explorers

will have journeyed across the ice until their provisions permit of no further travel, and made their way to Wrangel island and as far south on the ice-pack as tney can get, to await the coming of the schooner on her relief voyage. Will they be able to make the necessary connection? Will they be able to secure sufficient food? These are but two questions to be asked to show an inkling of the hardships they must endure. But the explorers have weighed all the dangers, and laugh at them; they are hopeful that success will make them forget the hardships they will have had to endure to gain it.

NOVA SCOTIA BOY'S SUCCESS.

London, Eng., May 18.—Ross Faulkner, Nova Scotia, after only five months' work at King's college passed the primary examination for Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons. This the Canadian Associated Press understands is considered an exceptionally fine performance.

FIRE AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, May 18.—The eastern section of the warehouse of the A. D. Jall Petroleum & Chemical Company, comprising Cooper's hop shipping department and office, were destroyed by fire at St. Louis du Mile End, a northern suburb of the city, early this morning. At the risk of their lives the firemen saved the western section of the warehouse, which was separated from the seat of the blaze by a thick brick wall. This section contained about 1000 barrels of inflammable petroleum, including benzine and methylated spirits. The total damage is estimated at from $10,000 to $12,000.

FOREST RESERVES.

Ottawa, May 17.—(Special)—Hon. Mr. Oliver's bill for the creation of forest reserves created a long discussion, which developed the fact that out of 5000 square miles to be set apart by the government, only 1000 miles consisted of forest land, half of which was under lease in perpetuity. One of the lessees is Mr. Burrows, the member for Dauphin and brother-in-law of Mr. Sifton.

The opposition severely criticized the proposal to protect these timber lands so as to enhance the value of land held by limit-holders.

NEW TRAIN SERVICE.

Great Northern to Run From Chicago to Seattle Direct.

St. Paul, May 18.—Arrangements were completed at the Great Northern general offices today for a through train from Chicago to Seattle, Darius Miller, vice president of the Burlington system, and James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern, had the negotiations in hand.

The train will leave Chicago every day, connecting direct with a Great Northern train at St. Paul, to make a run of 2,260 miles from Chicago to the coast, with only time to change engines at the union depot.

This means more and better Chicago-St. Paul-Seattle service for passengers, baggage express and mail.

Officers of both roads today said that the deal had long been contemplated and that it would now be carried out according to Mr. Hill's plans.

The new train will probably be in operation within a few weeks.

On the eve of the announcement of the new train comes the announcement of the dismissal of 155 cooks, waiters and porters, both negroes and whites, on the Great Northern. Japanese will displace the discharged help.

"I Found No Poisons In Steedman's Soothing Powders"

Evidence of Dr. Chas. J. Fagan, Secretary Provincial Board of Health.

The jury returned the following verdict at the adjourned inquest on the infant May Duval, who died in Victoria, B. C., on January 7, a Steedman's Soothing Powder being the last medicine given:

"THAT THE CHILD, MAY DUVAL, DIED FROM NATURAL CAUSES, AND FROM THE EVIDENCE GIVEN THERE IS NOTHING TO INDICATE THAT THE CHILD'S DEATH WAS CAUSED BY THE USE OF STEEDMAN'S SOOTHING POWDER."

In consequence of the wide publicity given to this case and the fact that the unduly prolonging of the inquest, has given opponents an opportunity to impugn the composition of the GENUINE STEEDMAN'S (twe E.E.'S) SOOTHING POWDERS (Walforth, Surrey, England), the proprietors are desirous of placing the facts before the public.

The Public Analyst stated upon oath that he found NO POISON IN STEEDMAN'S SOOTHING POWDERS and the verdict of the coroner's jury given above clearly exonerates Steedman's Soothing Powders.

Sworn testimony was submitted by the manufacturer's counsel, Mr. Rogers, as to the great care exercised to ensure perfect division in the preparation of the powders which have been manufactured for eighty years.

HAD TO FLEE FROM GERMANY

Patriot Preston's Narrow Escape When Trying to Populate Canada.

NORTH ATLANTIC TRADING CO.

Sensational Testimony Before Colonization Committee at Ottawa.

OTTAWA, May 18.—(Special)—There were spicy, not to say sensational, developments at the meeting of the Commons committee on agriculture and colonization this morning, when W. T. R. Preston was called to tell what he knew about the North Atlantic Trading Company.

Mr. Preston said the inception of the company was the outcome of a visit which he paid to Hamburg in 1899. Discussing immigration matters at a dinner one evening with a number of continental booking agents, one suggested tnat it might be just as well for him to hasten back to London, otherwise he might find himself in the clutches of the police. He was then told of the peculiar circumstances which had arisen in a previous year in connection with the visit which Lord Strathcona and J. G. Colmer had paid to Hamburg, where they had a meeting with some of the continental agents. This meeting was afterwards the subject of diplomatic correspondence; and it was intimated to Lord Strathcona by Count Hatzfeldt, the German ambassador, through the Imperial authorities, that it might be inadvisable for him to set foot in Germany again. His story greatly interested the members of the committee.

STRATHCONA GIVES PRESTON THE LIE

Montreal, May 18.—A London cablegram says that Lord Strathcona gives an emphatic denial to the statement of Mr. Preston before the public accounts committee at Ottawa yesterday that the high commissioner had admitted that the letter stolen from Preston had been traced to his office.

"Never, never," said Lord Strathcona, "neither unofficially, officially or personally am I aware that Griffiths (his secretary) ever had letters obtained in such a manner as Preston asserts."

Refuses to Divulge Names

Mr. Preston point blank refused to give the names of the men composing the company, and when Mr. Monk moved to refer the matter to the House, some Liberal members of the committee sought to sidetrack the motion by an absurd amendment which even Chairman McKenzie could not swallow.

After a very warm discussion Mr. Monk's motion was defeated by 43 to 30, two Liberals, Messrs. McIntyre and Ralph Smith, voting with the opposition.

Further testimony showed that Salenger, the interpreter in the Liverpool office, was in the pay of the North Atlantic Trading Company; that Preston's son-in-law, E. A. Alexander, was solicitor of the company; and that the notorious Leopold of the Canadian labor bureau is now the London agent of the company.

Mr. Preston declared that Lord Strathcona was cognizant with every move in connection with the inception of the company and the agreement with the Dominion government.

Sir Frederick Borden gives notice of a resolution to amend the Militia Act, providing that time served in the regular forces may be counted in term of service for pension in case of officers, non-commissioned o cers and men transferred to the permanent force in connection with the taking over by Canada of the garrisons at Esquimalt and Halifax.

Has a String on It

The expectation that Sir Wilfrid Laurier would move for a thorough investigation into the mismanagement of the marine department, as promised the other evening, were rudely shattered today, when he presented a resolution restricting the investigation to the purchase and disposition of supplies for the steamer Arctic on the "half-a-loaf" principle. The Conservatives accepted the government's proposals, but not until the supporters of the ministry had been placed on record as opposed to a full and satisfactory invetigation into the notoriously loose and costly methods of the marine department.

Some Vigorous Speeches

Such vigorous speeches as were delivered by Messrs. Borden, Foster, Northrup and Reid this afternoon are rarely heard in the commons. Incidentally, Hon. Mr. Fielding mentioned that the names of North Atlantic Trading company's directors would not be divulged without the company's consent.

Conservative Senators presented Sir Mackenzie Bowell with a magnificent hall clock costing over $500, this afternoon, as a mark of esteem, affection, and confidence in him, on the occasion of his retirement from the leadership of the opposition in the upper house, and a recognition of forty years' continuous service in parliament. Sir Mackenzie, who was deeply touched, made an appropriate reply.

Sir Charles Ross, inventor of the Ross rifle, has offered to present one to each member of the Bisley team.

The Lieutenant-Governorship

Hon. James Dunsmuir's appointment as Lieut.-Governor of British Columbia will be gazetted tomorrow.

The senate today refused the divorce application of Capt. Spain, of the fisheries department.

An order-in-council has been passed transferring to the Grand Trunk Pacific all mining rights in lands required for the right of way of the western division and for stations, station grounds, workshops, buildings, yards, etc. The alleged reason for this

Extraordinary Concession

is that the company does not desire to be embarrassed when constructing their railway by other parties being permitted to acquire mining rights under the land which the company may desire.

The vote for the fisheries led to a statement tonight by Hon. Mr. Brodeur that negotiations between the provinces and the Dominion were in status quo, no progress having lately been made. It was expected, however, to have the matter settled by a conference in the near future. The minister announced that no long-term licenses would be granted to fishing companies herafter.

The senate divorce committee reported in favor of the application of Mrs. Charles Lawrence Mackintosh, formerly of Rossland.

Mr. McPherson's bill to incorporate the Pacific Marine Insurance company was amended. The company must have a capital of fifty thousand to commence with, increasing to one hundred thousand by the end of five years.

L. G. Hill has been appointed harbor master at Chemainus.

SIR THOMAS ENTERTAINS.

Quebec, May 18.—The council of the board of trade and harbor commissioners and a number of prominent citizens were guests of Sir Thomas Shaughnessy tonight at a dinner on the Empress of Britain. Tomorrow morning a number of members of the parliament and prominent Montrealers are coming down to attend a dinner to Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, which promises to be one of the most important affairs of the kind in the history of Quebec.

THE RAIN-MAKER.

C. M. Hatfield Has Left for Yukon on Unique Errand.

C. M. Hatfield, who has been engaged by the Dominion government to make rain in the Yukon this summer, came in from the South on Tuesday, and went North on the Princess Beatrice, en route to Dawson.

In the terms of the contract, Hatfield is to receive $10,000 provided he makes rain to the satisfaction of a board of seven men, three of whom shall be chosen by the government of the Yukon, three by Hatfield and one by the first six. The contract is made on the terms of no cure, no pay. Should Hatfield fail to produce rain to the satisfaction of the board or the majority of the board he will receive only his cost of transportation to and from the Klondike and maintenance for himself and assistant and cost of shipping the apparatus.

Of the $10,000, half is paid by ten of the largest mining operators in the Yukon. The other half is to be paid by the Yukon government. The funds for the government share were voted at the last session of the Yukon council. The other half was subscribed by the mining people during the big drought of last summer.

Hatfield agrees to produce rain to the satisfaction of the board. No stipulated quantity of rain by inches is required, but it is specifically stated in the contract that he "shall increase the rainfall and renew it from time to time for four months as may be named by the board and sufficient to insure as far as ample rain will, a successful and prosperous summer for placer mining industry of the Dawson district." Five days will be allowed after each seance for the rain to come. Ten days after Hatfield comes the money subscribed by the big companies is to be paid into the government comptroller's hands.

The rainfall is an important consideration in the Yukon, as the miners need water for their operations, and a wet summer is as advantageous as a dry one is the reverse. So far as observations extending over a very few years can serve as an indication, wet and dry summers roughly alternate. The summer of 1905 was marked by a drought, so that the balance of probabilities is in favor of a rainy summer this year.

Southern California for some time has been the home of "Rain-maker" Hatfield, whose method of operation seems to be the liberation of certain chemicals, which are supposed to induce showers. Mr. Hatfield claims that he has made thirty-seven successful tests of his system of producing rain in southern California.

EXPLOSION OF DYNAMITE.

Kenora, Ont., May 17.—An explosion of dynamite at Viden & Parsons' construction camp, Parrywood, about 40 miles east of here, yesterday caused the death of John Arcotte and badly injured the face of Frank Viden, the foreman. Charles Berge, another workman, was only slightly injured. The men were engaged in taking powder out of an old hole that refused fire the previous night when the explosion occurred.

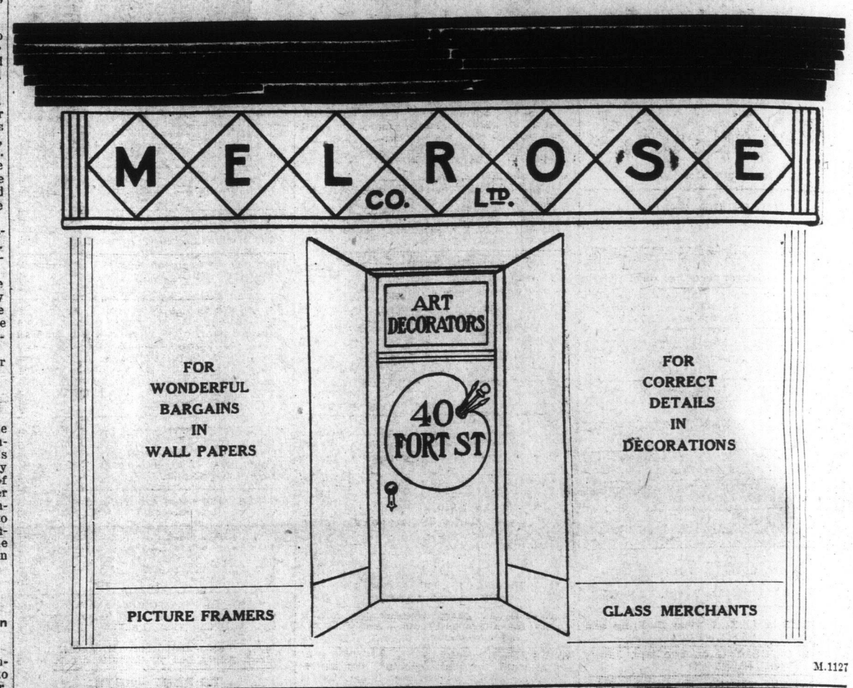
LIFE PRISONER RECAPTURED.

Chartrand's Liberty From Kingston Penitentiary Has Ended.

Brockville, Ont., May 18.—Chartrand or Charlabrand, the life prisoner from the Soo, who escaped from the Kingston penitentiary on the evening of May 6th, was captured about nine miles west of here. Detective Foster, of the Dominion police, since Thursday had been continuously on the trail of the reprieved murderer. About 5 o'clock in the afternoon Chartrand applied at the home of a farmer named Davidson for supper, and this he ate with the family. Mr. Davidson, from reading the occurrence in the local papers, strongly suspected that his visitor was the missing convict and at once sent word by the hired man on horseback to Detective Foster, who was then at Yonge Mills Bridge, about two miles away. Before the detective arrived Chartrand had finished his meal and taken his leave, but on the way down the road a neighbor named Robert Eyre met the prisoner and immediately stopped him, holding him in conversation until County Constable Mallory, of Mallorytown, arrived. The two then accused Chartrand of being the escaped convict, but this he denied until Detective Foster arrived a few minutes later and identified him. Chartrand did not offer any resistance and upon the detective's identification owned up. He was not armed, and accompanied the officers to the residence of Mallory peaceably, where he remained until the arrival of the midnight train, when he was taken back to Kingston by the constable and detective.

How Chalabran Escaped

Kingston, Ont., May 18.—Chalabran, the reprieved murderer who escaped from the penitentiary a week ago and who was captured at the Yonge mills in Leeds county, was brought here and put back in prison. He says he was unaided in his escape. For weeks previous he had filed the iron bars of the windows with a fine file left him by a departing prisoner.



HAPPENINGS ON THE PACIFIC COAST

Pacific Coast Lumber Manufacturers Propose Increase in Cargo List.

SEATTLE, Wash., May 18.—The cargo committee of the Pacific Coast Lumber Manufacturers association held a meeting this afternoon for the purpose of advancing the cargo list price to $1 all around. The committee will in turn report to a special meeting of the association to be held tomorrow, when it is expected the work of the committee today will be ratified.

Seattle Quits Coast League

Portland, May 18.—In an interview today James Agnew, business manager of the Seattle baseball team declared Seattle would quit the Coast league and would apply for admission into the Northwest league. He declared Seattle had sunk a great deal of money in the Coast league and would no longer remain in the organization.

The announcement of Agnew is at direct variance with statements accredited to him following the meeting of the Pacific Coast magnates at Oakland, when it was reported he had expressed the intention of remaining in the Coast league.

Yacht Race Postponed

San Francisco, May 18.—The proposed international yacht race from here to Honolulu did not begin today, the time originally fixed by the Hawaiian Promotion committee. Only one yacht, the La Palmo, has yet arrived. The Anemone is still at San Diego and the Lurline has not arrived from Santa Barbara. Both are entered for the race and will be here within a few days. Efforts are being made to have the contest take place within the next month. Representatives are here from Hawaii for the special purpose of bringing the event off as soon as possible.

Lunatic Runs Amuck

Los Angeles, May 18.—A thousand dollars' worth of Southern Pacific property was destroyed by a supposed lunatic named Hancock at Ingio, in San Bernardino county last night. He smashed and burned everything that lay in his path until he was finally captured.

PRAISES IMPERIAL SPIRIT.

London Standard Says Canada Has Done Much for Imperial Unity.

London, May 18.—The Standard publishes an article from its Ottawa correspondent on the working of Canada's reciprocal preference with New Zealand and South Africa. While showing that the West Indies, British Guinea, British India, Ceylon and the Straits come under British preference, and editorially commenting thereon praises the imperial spirit of Canada, and says that in their magnificent lead in the direction of commercial union of the empire, "Canadians have earned the gratitude of every lover of the empire, in that they have acted while others talked."

ACTIVE LIVER, GOOD DIGESTION

In calling your attention to Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills it is only necessary to point to their success in the past, for they are known in nearly every home.

By means of their direct and specific action on the liver—causing a healthful flow of bile—they regulate and enliven the action of the bowels and ensure good digestion in the intestines. At the same time they stimulate the kidneys in their work of filtering poisons from the blood.

This cleansing process set in action by Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills means a thorough cure of biliousness, intestinal indigestion, torpid liver, kidney derangements and constipation.

It means a restoration of health, strength and comfort where there has been pain, weakness and suffering. It means a removal of the conditions which lead to backache, rheumatism, lumbago, Bright's disease, appendicitis and diabetes.

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, one pill a dose, 25 cents a box, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

STONEMASONS STRIKE.

Calgary, May 18.—Stone masons have struck for an increase to 60 and 75 cents per hour.

FIRE AT COBALT.

North Bay, Ont., May 18.—Word has been received here that Cobalt has been wiped out by fire. Several people were reported killed; no details yet received.

GOOD DIGESTION.

If you can keep your digestive system in proper condition the body will be well nourished and you need have little fear of disease. By regulating the kidneys, liver and bowels, Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills ensure a healthful condition of the organs of digestion and for this reason are indispensable as a family medicine.

CALGARY-EDMONTON LAND CO.

London, May 18.—C. D. Rose, M. P. presiding at the annual meeting of the Calgary-Edmonton Land company, said that the profits for the year were £50,071. Referring to the recent lengthy law suit decided in favor of the company, Mr. Rose stated that the government had disposed of some mineral lands in their area and would have to return them to the company.

HOT IN NEW YORK.

Eighty-Seven Degrees Registered by the Thermometer Yesterday.

New York, May 18.—The hottest May day since 1903 was recorded here today, when the United States weather bureau reported a fraction under 87 degrees of heat. In the street the thermometers were above 90 degrees, and one case of heat prostration was reported at Bellevue hospital.

SESSIONAL INDEMNITY.

London, May 18.—Discussing the Ottawa sessional indemnity, the Dundee Advertiser says: The payment to the opposition leader is a peculiarity which must be distinctively Canadian. The introduction of this plan at Westminster would lead to situations so piquant as to almost lead to an inclination to adopt it. If discontented, the followers of Mr. Balfour might move to reduce the salary on the ground that the leadership was not worth it; then the duty of the minister would be to defend the Balfour leadership.

DISASTROUS FIRE.

Reported That Three Small Towns in Michigan Are Destroyed.

Detroit, Mich., May 18.—Fragmentary reports have reached the Detroit News and Free Press from Escanaba and Gladstone, Mich., stating that a disastrous fire is raging in the upper peninsula in the neighborhood of the two cities mentioned. It is reported that three towns have been destroyed, that 30 square miles of territory have been devastated, and that several persons have been burned.

CONGRATULATORY ADDRESS.

Lord Mayor of London Welcomes the Prince and Princess of Wales.

London, May 17.—The lord mayor and corporation this afternoon entertained the Prince and Princess of Wales at the Guildhall, and presented them with a congratulatory address in commemoration of their Indian tour. The reception was preceded by the usual procession through decorated streets. About eight hundred persons sat down to the luncheon at the Guildhall, including the German burgomasters, who are now visiting the city. They were the only foreigners present.

SHOULD PRAY FOR EDITORS.

Bishop Fallows of Philadelphia Advises a Prayer Book Revision.

Philadelphia, May 18.—Ministers were exhorted to take a lesson from the modern newspaper by Bishop Samuel Fallows in a sermon delivered at the evening session of the general council of the Reformed Episcopal church. The bishop said that the press in some respects had superseded the pulpit, and now exercises many of the functions which the pulpit has lost.

"The preacher of today can learn many valuable lessons from the modern newspaper," he said. "Emulate it and adopt its style. The ideal newspaper articles are sharp, short, pungent and to the point. The sermon should have all of these characteristics."

"When the prayer book was first compiled," he said, "journalism had scarcely begun its existence. Hence no mention is made of editors in the enumerated list of persons needing the prayers of the church. No revision ought to be deemed complete which does not include them, for no class requires more intercession by the saints."

ISSUE IN RUSSIA HANGS IN BALANCE

No Answer From Emperor to Demands of Parliament.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 18.—The issue of the first encounter between the monarch and the representatives of the people hangs for the minute in the balance. Though the representative chamber of parliament and the council of the empire adopted addresses in reply to the speech from the throne, no answer has been given to either address and none is expected before Monday. President Morontheff, who had hoped to obtain an audience with the emperor today for the presentation of the address of the lower house, received instead an invitation to a gala birthday luncheon at Peterhoff tomorrow, an official function to which no other high functionaries have been invited. He is likely to be given an audience before Monday.

It is said the president was informed tonight that the Imperial reply, which will be delivered through the medium of a speech by Premier Goremkyn, probably at the first session of the house after President Morontheff has been received at Peterhoff, will, as already predicted, be temperate and deliberate, seeking to avoid occasion of rupture, but on the other hand not concealing the emperor's view that parliament in many respects has attempted to infringe the Imperial prerogative. On these points the response will be calm. The emperor will regard it simply as declarations of the policy of parliament which do not require Imperial notice until presented in the course of legislation.

In regard to the expected amnesty the Associated Press learns that the cabinet, though it has discussed the question several times, has not adopted any recommendation, deciding that it is entirely a matter of the emperor's personal prerogative.

Some of the leaders of the court party and even members of the ministry are seeking to prove that an imperial amnesty is unnecessary in view of the general house-cleaning of the prisons last November, and the present release of hundreds of those who had been administratively detained. This was the view of the reactionary faction of the council of the empire who presented the draft of the council's response to the speech from the throne, not mentioning amnesty.

IMPERIAL BANK STATEMENT.

Toronto, May 18.—The Imperial Bank is out with its thirty-first annual statement which covers the eleven months ended April 30, 1906. The profits were $535,786, against $510,951 for the full twelve months ended May 31, 1905, an increase of $24,835. The premiums received on new stock was $927,741, which was transferred in bulk to reserve, bringing that account up to $3,927,741, paid-up capital being an exactly equal sum. The sum of $100,000 was written off bank premises, and $276,896 carried forward to profit and loss. Deposits grew nearly $5,000,000 and loans about the same amount.

Handbook of British Columbia.—This is the title of the latest bulletin to be issued by the provincial bureau of information. It is a well illustrated pamphlet of some 70 pages, and contains chapters dealing with all the principal industries and attractions of the province. Distribution will be largely made through the office of the agent-general, in London.

The Celebrated English Cocoa.

EPPS'S

An admirable food, with all its natural qualities intact. This excellent Cocoa maintains the system in robust health, and enables it to resist winter's extreme cold.

COCOA

The Most Nutritious and Economical.