inimum of harm to property. It is ex- ke a week to bring he country.

ps are expected d then probably finish of the war. he large camps are d perfectly orderly. nish commander at ed from there in a him the family of stin. Gen. Monet he insurgent troops s and when chal- to be an insurgent Cavite. He was stop and refusing n by sentries, was he open bay in a arty were starving

al alleges that he a strong position reinforce them.

IC SERVICE.

rved With Delin- s That Other ld Off.

A London cable to iries show that it tate, as Hon. A. G. that the Canadian any show anxiety ntic mail project. d that efforts have of the Canadian the Canadian Pa- up, the contract on t the natural reply re, as of any other the hands of the be free from the which the govern- erson till May 31.

HE CAPITAL.

Exhibition—High -A New Hos-

he department of s sending out cir- trade calling at- African industrial at Grahamstown January 21 next. ll last session to South Africa. It be utilized in for-

ell known French s here to-day see- reference to his of the Queen for model is of beau- he price, $25,000,

ed the non-sectar- ke this afternoon.

SHOT.

d and Twelve ed Mutiny on arvard.'

A special de- Star dated off Antonio, Jamaica, he destruction of 50 of the men on placed as prison- For some reason se men mutined. of the Harvard owever, and the Six Spaniards 12 were wound- Spaniards a les-

Shafter, July 5. Spanish prisoners auxiliary cruiser escape last night. of them secured dash for liberty they were con- net by the deadly d six were killed The firing ended ans were hurt.

ANGED.

ven Up For Pris- Santiago.

Port Antonio.— rd Hobson, of men who compos- imac, which was companions in r of Santiago de by the Spanish , in exchange for American forces, were escorted ain Chadwick, of awaiting them. y was marked by rt of the Ameri- ide all semblance f their trenches, lla over in their ning heroes, and eer for the men ough the jaws of ry. agua in advance en on the New flagship's decks d men, and as side and stepping arbor rang with his comrades, he crews of the d little to say, comrades were rds, and were all

consented this on and his men, d for that pur- or the exchange the American irds of a mine erected by Col. near General The American rcedes hospital, go, where they this morning, in panish staff off- perfectly. The to the meeting adfolded. Col. Miller, accom- cstro, were in soners. These nello, Colez and ing to the 25th tured at Caney Adolfi Aries, of ona, one of the ns of the Span- ed officers and d a number of the fight at El ers were taken mounted and between Col. extremely cour- mpt was made s anything but lries was given lieutenants in was informed 14 men in ex- sailors. The ent. Aries and cers were con- was then not as everything o parties were rned and said, a tone which ice, and that ssion that he ewed at once: entlemen, that at 5 o'clock." tch and bowed ut making any ly back to the and his com- eeting of the ce of the pris- l view of both soldiers, who meeting place, s taken in the-

KINGSTON'S OVERHAUL

New Boilers to Be Supplied the "Old Favorite" of the Sound Route.

Wreck of Steamer "Iskoot" Sold to a Victorian—Four Northern Ships.

The new set of steel boilers which are being built at St. Paul for the steamer City of Kingston will be completed by August 6, when they will be shipped to Tacoma. The Kingston will be taken off the Victoria-Tacoma route during September to receive these new boilers and during that time the City of Seattle will replace her. At present the Kingston is running with two boilers, and as three news ones are to be put in she will make very much faster time. Even as it is, she is making good time as shown by her round trip to Seattle on Sunday. Leaving here at 7:20 in the morning and making a short stop at Seattle, she was back here again by 8 in the evening, and both coming and going there was a strong wind blowing.

SOLD AT AUCTION.

At auction the wrck of the steamer Iskoot brought $1,600 yesterday morning. The vessel was sold as she now lies ashore in the west harbor just this side of the Skeena river. The sale was conducted by Mr. Joshua Davies in the Board of Trade rooms and the wreck was "knocked down" to Mr. A. S. Reid, who is now building a river steamer in the upper harbor. As already stated the Iskoot cost $27,000 to build. It is claimed she can be floated and brought to port for $2,500—that she is not badly damaged. Nineteen frames have been broken on the starboard side and her hull has been pierced by rocks in a few places, but this, it is said, constitutes her principal injuries. The equipment of the steamer has been little injured.

FOUR SAIL.

Four steamships went North from here yesterday, in the City of Seattle, Cottage City, Barbara Boscowitz and Tees. The former two left early in the morning, but had little freight and only a few passengers from Victoria. The Boscowitz's load was entirely made of hay consigned to Hoa. Mr. Dewdney's company at Wrangel. On the Tees there was a large amount of general freight as she has calls to make at all northern ports. Her passengers included a party of French Canadians going inland over the Taku route. W. D. Moore, purser of the Charmer, who, with Mrs. Moore, will make the round trip.

MARINE NOTES.

The C.P.R. stamer Tartar, leaving Victoria this evening, goes direct to Wrangel and Skagway.

The steamer Alpha left for Vancouver yesterday evening and will immediately make ready for the voyage to St. Michael's.

The Sound papers chronicle the wreck of the schooner J. Eppinger of Astoria, a vessel familiar to the sealing fraternity of Victoria. She was run into by the steamer Columbia on her way to Astoria from San Francisco. The accident occurred in a fog and the Eppinger was nearly cut in two. Her crew were saved and taken to Astoria, and when last seen the wreck was floating out to sea, her hull just above water.

BAPTIST UNIVERSITY.

Steps to Be Taken Immediately Towards Securing It—Yesterday's Session.

The appointment of trustees and of a board of education was the first business taken up at the second day's session of the Baptist convention in Calvary church yesterday. The convention opened at 9 a. m., and continued until 9:20 at night. Those chosen as trustees were E. B. Morgan, Vancouver; W. Marchant, Victoria; Thomas S. Jones, Nanaimo; D. McMillan, Victoria; Mr. Denman, Alex. Sangster and J. B. McCarter, Rossland. A. J. Pineo (president, George H. Sluggett (secretary), O. H. Cogswell, A. Huggett, D. McKechnie, A. B. McNeill (treasurer), Rev. W. T. Stackhouse, Rev. C. M. Mitchell, and Rev. M. Van Sickle were appointed on the board of education.

Rev. P. C. L. Harris dropped into the meeting at this juncture, and, being introduced, gave a short address on temperance. After this, it was arranged to hold the next convention at New Westminster in July, 1899, the selection of Rev. Mr. Van Sickle, of Nanaimo, being made as preacher for the occasion. The report of the board of education was then taken up and the first clause read and adopted, when discussion on the report was suspended and adjournment taken. The clause was a very important one, and if carried out a Baptist university will be built in British Columbia and in working shape before another few years. According to it, the board is instructed to immediately institute steps towards the security of property and pledges, and the raising of funds for the purpose of founding, equipping and conducting a resident teaching university with a competent staff of instructors. The remainder of the report will deal extensively with the plans to be pursued in securing the institution, but just now nothing more can be said of it.

The afternoon's proceedings opened with service conducted by Rev. C. M. Mitchell, of Chilliwack. Reports from the young people's societies were then read, and showed good work being done by each. A general discussion followed, and it was recommended that there should be a young people's board, this being deemed advisable for the better handling of the work. A meeting of the B. Y. P. U., conducted by J. C. Nicholson, of Vancouver, an address by that gentleman on "What Would Jesus Do," and an address by Rev. Mr. Woody, editor of the Pacific Baptist, who spoke generally on the work of denominations on the Pacific coast, brought the afternoon's session to a close.

The devotional exercises opening the evening sitting were led by Rev. J. G. Matthews, and after that the report of the home mission board was given by the secretary, Rev. W. T. Stackhouse, its reading being received with applause. Following this came a well-rendered solo by Miss Noot, entitled "The Light of the World."

Rev. P. H. McEwen, the retiring president, who was sent to Ontario to represent the British Columbia Baptists at the convention of Ontario and Quebec, held at Hamilton, gave an excellent address. Among other things he said that the people of the Eastern provinces are greatly interested in visiting missionaries, and whereas they gave last year $8,000 to Manitoba and the Northwest, they intend to give $12,000 next year. The greetings and good wishes, prayers and money of these Eastern Baptists were sent to British Columbia by Mr. McEwen. His address was received with hearty and prolonged applause. Mr. Geo. R. Welch spoke of his work at Nelson, and said a church was being erected by the Baptists there that would be the best in the place. Two hundred dollars was given by persons in the audience towards the Nelson building fund.

Mr. O. E. Kendall gave an address on Klondike missions, and expressed the view that British Columbia should take the lead in this.

Rev. H. C. Newcombe spoke on "How to Establish Mission Churches," giving a bright and interesting address.

Rev. J. H. Best closed the meeting with a short address, followed by a most excellent anthem by the united choirs of Calvary and Emmanuel churches.

TO-DAY'S PROGRAMME.

To-day will wind up the work of the convention, the programme, as arranged, being as follows:

Morning Session.

9—Devotional meeting, A. Huggett.
9:30—Discussion on the report of the board of education, continued.
10—The relation of Christian education to home mission work, Pastor C. N. Mitchell.
10:30—Report of committee on literature, E. B. Morgan.
10:45—A denominational organ, Pastor R. W. Trotter.
11:45—Unfinished business.

Afternoon Session—Women's Meeting.

2—Devotional exercises, Mrs. C. F. Foreman.
2:15—Report of executive board.
3:15—Paper, "Beginning and History of Canadian Foreign Missions," Miss Trotter. Music.
3:30—Paper, "Canadian Missions in India," with map exercise, Mrs. Stackhouse.
3:50—"Our Responsibility to Our Work in British Columbia," Miss Noot. Music.
4—"The Sphere of a Woman's Circle in a Baptist Church," Mrs. Spofford.
4:30—Reception of delegates.

Evening Session.

7:30—Devotional exercises, Pastor J. H. Best.
8—Address by chairman of Local Preachers' Association, John Sluggett.
8:10—Report of the secretary, A. J. Pineo.
8:15—Local preaching, Scriptural, Pastor P. H. McEwen.
8:30—Local preaching, necessary, J. Haynes.
8:45—"How to Start a Local Preachers' Association," W. Marchant.
9—Report of foreign mission board, P. H. McEwen.
9:10—Foreign missions among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem, Pastor R. W. Trotter.
9:25—"Mission Work Among the Japanese," E. Iwanaga.
9:35—The Canadian Foreign Mission Society of Ontario and Quebec, and our opportunity through it, Pastor M. Van Sickle. Unfinished business.
10—"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun."

The home mission, publication and educational board will meet for completion of business on Fridty at 10 a. m.

VANCOUVER AND VICINITY.

Steamer Changes Hands—Toughs From the Sound—The Campaign Quiet.

Vancouver, July 6.—The C. P. R. steamer Tyrrell has been sold to the British American Corporation for $40,000.

There is no great excitement over the election here, notwithstanding the tremendous efforts made by Mr. Joseph Martin to prove that he is a man compared with whose brilliant record not a single member of the government or its party can make the slightest show. Messrs. Cotton and Macpherson, though energetic enough are not so fervid as the man from Manitoba and Mr. Tisdall, the fourth opposition champion, not being a great platform man, has little to say. Meanwhile the citizens' candidates are making a quiet canvass, trusting more to this than to public meetings, which are here each time attended by much the same crowd.

Quite a number of toughs from the Sound are now in Vancouver and are giving the local police quite a little trouble, though the force has proved equal to the occasion, by keeping the disorderly element well in hand and making no numerous arrests. Notwithstanding this, Mr. J. G. Campbell's clothing store was broken into late on Monday night, many valuable articles being stolen. The police have a clue, which they expect to give results within twenty-four hours.

The appointment of Mr. J. B. Giffen as general manager of R. G. Dun & Co.'s mercantile agency, with headquarters in Vancouver, gives general satisfaction to the commercial community here.

Herr Trummler, of Vienna—a representative of Austrian capitalists—has just left Vancouver for the Kootenays to investigate the mining opportunities of the upper country, on behalf of his German principals.

An attempt has been made to establish a branch of the Daughters of the King charitable society in connection with Christ church in this city. Mr. Tucker has just initiated twenty-one ladies as members of the local branch of what is now a very powerful body on this continent.

Several prosecutions are proceeding in the police court of persons, who sold liquor without a license at Brockton point during the Dominion Day festivities.

The provincial police of the Vancouver district are about to investigate serious complaints made against the management of an inn which lies just beyond the city limits in the unorganized area between the city and South Vancouver. The complaints are made by neighboring residents, who wish that they were placed under one or the other municipalities.

Mr. James Stark, who was injured by being run into by a spurting bicyclist at Saturday's meet, is progressing favorably, but will not be able to be out for some days yet.

"I asked for a lock of your hair," he said, reproachfully, "and now I find that, instead of giving me a lock from your own head, you gave me a lock of false hair."

"And you doubt me because of that?" she asked.

"Naturally," he replied.

"But do you realize that the false hair is the more costly?"

Thus were his suspicions put at rest.—Chicago Post.

WEAK MEN

1876-1898

Time tries all things. Years will make a good reputation or establish a bad one. "You cannot fool all of the people all the time." If a thing is found to be good it will last as the years go by.

Time has Proved

beyond the shadow of a doubt that the claims made for **Dr. Bobertz's** treatment are supported by results. Time has shown that it is the best and most reliable treatment for every weakness of the system caused by overwork, indiscretion or excesses. Thousands of testimonials and the endorsement of physicians attest this great fact.

To-Day

you can reap the benefit of this experience. If you are suffering you now know where to look with perfect certainty for relief and cure. There is nothing like **Dr. Bobertz's** Treatment for effectually putting a stop to tired feelings, unnatural losses and the various symptoms resulting from abuse or excess. It is the only treatment that has ever been able to cure Impotency and restore perfect Vigor and Manhood. If you are weak and nervous **Dr. Bobertz** can make you strong and well.

He Cures

while others experiment. Consultation free. Valuable Book and proofs of success mailed free, sealed. Treatment forwarded to Canadian points free of duty. Call or write mentioning this paper. Address:

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VICTORIA'S SCHOOLS

City Superintendent Eaton's Interesting Report of the Work They Are Doing.

Some Solid Advice on the Three "R's" and the Teaching of Grammar.

The main subject that came up at the meeting of the school board yesterday was a very comprehensive report on the schools by City Superintendent Eaton, which furnished considerable food for thought. A number of routine matters also were disposed of including the passing of accounts. The resignation of Miss Annie Monro (now Mrs. Roe) as teacher in North Ward school was accepted and a resolution passed wishing Mrs. Roe success in life.

Upon motion of Trustee Belyea it was decided that no deductions should be made for absence of teachers during a term from sickness or other unavoidable cause provided the absence was not longer than ten days.

The superintendent's recommendations for providing increased accommodation for pupils at North Ward school were referred to the alterations committee to report and it was decided to appoint an additional teacher to Spring Ridge school.

In line with City Superintendent Eaton's report it was decided on motion of Trustee Belyea to ask the department to allow the principal of the High school to hold the supplementary entrance examinations at the beginning of the next term instead of in January.

Superintendent Eaton's report on the schools was received and will be printed in the annual report. It is as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen of the School Board.—I have much pleasure in submitting to you a report on certain phases of the work of your schools, as manifested during the past year. I must first testify to the general excellence of the teaching, to the very satisfactory character of the discipline, and to the good progress made by the pupils in the various departments. Besides, there is ground for satisfaction in the fact that no serious interruption in the school work by reason of epidemic disease or from any other cause; and from the further fact that the number of days' absence from duty on the part of teachers, for illness or other imperative circumstance has been remarkably small.

THE HIGH SCHOOL.

Several circumstances in the year's history of the High school deserve mention as realization of the aim and purpose of the institution. The first of these was the appointment to the staff of a young woman of high scholarship, possessed of unlimited enthusiasm and almost unlimited capacity for work, and an excellent all-round teacher. Her womanly influence on the school has been of so distinct an advantage as to fully justify the board's departure from its previous custom of appointing only men to the staff. Early in the year a revision of the course of study was adopted, with the approval of the department. The new course, while it gives a reasonable range of options on the classical and scientific sides respectively, contains a liberal and well defined imperative course in English, in order that, whatever choice is made as to the two optional sides, every student who takes the regular work shall become a good English scholar.

During the year the board made provision for the rational teaching of elementary science, by equipping, at a very moderate cost, a working laboratory. I have been glad to note that the students have been greatly interested in this new department. Though the work began late in the year, the results not only fully justify the expenditure already made, but are such as to warrant the further outlay of moderate amounts from time to time, in order to gradually increase the facilities for that practical teaching of science which is fundamental to every branch of technical education. At the closing of the school reference was made to the disparity of the numbers of boys and girls, respectively, in attendance. The number were, for the last term, 35 per cent. boys and 65 per cent. girls, while in the lower schools there is substantial equality in this respect. A partial reason may probably be found in the fact that business life offers more opportunities of employment to boys of High school age than to girls, and so the former leave school, while the latter remain. There is something, no doubt, in the fact that the course of study has not hitherto been sufficiently attractive to hold boys who had no inclination towards a university career. With the establishment and the gradual extension of facilities for teaching the elements of physics, chemistry and mineralogy, it may be confidently expected that a relatively greater number of boys will be found entering the high school and continuing the course to the end. At the recent closing of the High school, departmental diplomas were awarded for the first time, to those who had completed the course of study, and had passed the departmental examinations thereon. This innovation means a great deal for the future of secondary education in British Columbia. It will doubtless be many years before the province can offer facilities for higher education, so-called, and it is very desirable that the education given in the high schools shall in the meantime be made as varied and as efficient, and withal as practically valuable as possible. It should not require a great deal of effort, judiciously directed, to secure from the universities, from the law and medical societies, and from other similar professional bodies recognition of the high school leaving diploma, in lieu of the preliminary examinations which they now respectively require. Indeed, I regard this recognition as inevitable, as it is also logically inevitable that the Education department itself must recognize its own diplomas, thus granted, as being, pro tanto, sufficient guarantee of the holders' scholastic qualifications for teachers' certificates. Thus the attainment at the end of his course of a diploma, bearing the imprimation of the Provincial Educational department, which will have a definite and positive value in practical commercial and social life as a credential of education, and which will admit him within the portals of the various departments of professional study, will be a stimulus to the High school student, and give coherency and persistence to his studies throughout his entire course. The significance of the fact that 58 pupils of the graded schools qualified at the recent examinations for admission to the High school, in its relation to the imperative need for more and fitter accommodation, will be appreciated by your without further remark from me. In this connection, I may observe that serious regret is felt by the High school staff, and, I believe, by the principals of the graded schools, that the department has not yet seen its way to allow the supplementary entrance examinations to be held at the opening of the school year, instead of at the beginning of the second term. It is claimed that the influx of 15 or 20 new pupils after the year's work has been five months or more under way, is a serious hindrance to the efficiency of the schools, and that the pupils so admitted would themselves have been much better off in the High school during the autumn months than in the graded schools, where special classes cannot be formed for their benefit. My general remarks at the beginning of this report, in respect to the efficiency of the teaching, and the wholesomeness of the discipline, apply with special emphasis to the High school. The work done has been of gratifying excellence, and the moral tone of the school unexceptionable.

GRADED SCHOOLS.

In reporting on your graded schools, I shall first deal with certain criticisms that are made, with more or less freedom, and with more or less publicity.

One of these familiar criticisms is that there are too many subjects in the curriculum; that the superfluous, if not useless ones, should be eliminated, and so more emphasis laid on the essential subjects, whatever they may be. The only subjects taught in your graded schools are the following: English language, including reading, spelling, composition and grammar; arithmetic and bookkeeping; writing and drawing; geography and English and Canadian history; hygiene and calisthenics. These are all the subjects taught, and each holds its place in every scheme of school studies so firmly that it would be difficult to dislodge a single one of them on the ground of inutility. Differences of opinion there may well be as to the proper sequence of these subjects; the best methods of instruction; the time allotted for each, and the extent to which any one of them should be followed, but the general charge of superfluity must vanish, I apprehend, in the first effort at elimination.

Writing.—The need of a reformation in the penmanship of the public schools of Victoria has been the subject of much private and some public emphasis during the year; and quite recently a writer in the local press, endorsing the remarks made at the school closing by the Lieutenant-Governor, in regard to "the defective writing" in the schools, recommended the board to look into the matter. Now, without calling in question the bona fides of the rather severe animadversions which have been made upon this phase of our school work, I cannot refrain from the suggestion that they have been made without recalling the distinction between "was" and "is." Had our critics based their judgment upon a recent examination of the character of the writing that is now produced in the schools rather than upon a tradition of former conditions, it is highly probable that their criticisms would have been more favorable. Indeed, with a view to facilitate a looking into the matter by the board, and by anyone else sufficiently interested, I have secured specimens of the handwriting of some 1,500 pupils. The evidence of these specimens will, I am sure, satisfy those who examine them that the desired reformation has become already, in gratifying degree, an accomplished fact. The reformation began three years ago, when the board recommended the general adoption of the vertical system, and it has been virtually completed this year by the recognition on the part of nearly every teacher in the city—who had not already recognized it—that, to secure good results in penmanship, every written exercise must be regarded as a writing exercise; that every exercise not neatly and legibly written must be rejected; and that every acceptable paper, on whatever subject, has its value enhanced or diminished by the character of the writing it contains. While I am satisfied that, whatever may have been true in the past, the average results obtained in penmanship this year in the various grades are most creditable, alike to teachers and pupils, and that they will compare very favorably, grade for grade, with results obtained in public schools anywhere, in Canada or out of it. I venture to point out one or two respects in which further improvement is desirable. You are aware that the vertical system is the only one now taught in the schools, but I have observed a very marked tendency to pervert the upright into a back slant. This has come about chiefly throug the use of a stub pen by the younger pupils, who, in order to avoid too heavy strokes, roll the hand over and write with the side of the pen. The remedy is the use of a finer nib—say a 404 and the exercise of greater care in regard to the position of the body, the paper and the pen. Another suggestion: It is not enough that pupils shall be able to write a line or a page of plain prose legibly and neatly. They should acquire "good form" in the arrangement of more complicated manuscript matter. In the reproduction of arithmetical processes, in the tabulation of figures with necessary rulings, and in the arranging of subject matter generally, not only symmetry of form is of the greatest consequence, but of almost equal importance is the accurate use of all the conventional signs and marks that enter into the details of good manuscript. Lastly, the task of learning to write well should be accomplished before the pupils reach the upper grades of the public school. If only that "eternal vigilance," the cost at which the best results are obtained, is exercised by the teachers in all the earlier stages of writing instruction, pupils will have become good writers before they are ready to leave the Third reader classes.

Reading.—The committee by whom the award in the reading competition was initiated, recommended in their report that in future "greater care be given to rectifying what may be called every-day faults" in reading, "especially those of pronunciation and expression—faults all too apparent in the majority of the competing scholars." This criticism, I am inclined to think, was not undeserved. Indeed, I fear that if the examination had taken a wider range, it had included a fair representation from the various grades of all the schools, the judgment of the examiners would not have differed materially from that arrived at after hearing only first grade pupils. Indeed, to express my own judgment a little more definitely, the results of the teaching of reading in the schools are, with some distinct exceptions, very unsatisfactory. Much is made, and properly so, of the reading lessons as language lessons; great pains is taken that the children's vocabularies shall be enriched, and that they shall comprehend the sentiments of the lessons as a whole; nevertheless, the reading is not good. Listening to the recitations of the children, as well as their reading, one is impressed with the fact that they are generally deficient in the art of vocal expression, regarded as a purely physical effort. Distinct articulation, clear enunciation, fullness and resonance of tone—these qualities are too generally lacking. I know that habits in these respects are largely acquired out of school, as are those of faulty pronunciation and bad grammar; and I know, too, that the difficulty of eradicating such habits far exceeds any other difficulty of the average schoolroom; and yet I am of opinion that after pupils have had the benefit of reading lessons, practically every school day for eight or nine years, it ought not be that competent and friendly critics should be able to say of a picked class representing the first divisions of all the schools of the city, that every-day faults of attitude, enunciation, pronunciation, omission and substitution of words and expression, including time, tone and inflection, were all too apparent in a majority of them. The remedy? Phonic drill should be continued for several years, instead of being dropped at the end of the first or second. But the hope of a cure lies again mainly in the "eternal vigilance" of the teacher in observing and correcting the pupils' faults of expression. The idea must enter deep into the teacher's consciousness that in all oral, as well as in written exercises, the form is scarcely less important than the matter; that not what is said only, but how it is said, must be matter of unremitting concern. So far, I have dealt with reading from its physical side merely as a form of vocal expression. But reading, as taught in the schools, should contemplate something more than the formal acquisition of ability to read. It should aim, as well, at informing the pupils with a taste for real literature, and with a familiar knowledge of some of its masterpieces. For this, suitable courses in supplementary reading are necessary, and should more and more constitute an element in the school progrtmme.

Arithmetic.—A frequent criticism of the public school purports to be based on the experience of business men who have not found boys trained in the schools to be accurate in the ordinary computations of office work. It is, therefore, charged that arithmetic is inefficiently taught. I am pleased to report, however, that almost universally throughout your schools the teaching of this subject is most painstaking; and that especially the greatest possible care is taken in the lower and middle classes to train the children into habits of absolute accuracy in the mechanical processes of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, and that practise in these elementary operations is kept up long after the pupil has passed to the study of more advanced arithmetical topics. Two suggestions, however, I would offer: First, that often too much is expected of children by their teachers in the matter of problem work. The difficulty of a problem is usually a language one—that is, the language in which the problem is expressed is either so condensed or so technical that the child fails to grasp the mathematical relations of the numbers involved. These relations would appear simple enough if only the terms in which they are expressed were understood. I am satisfied that much energy of teachers and pupils is often wasted because the language of the arithmetical problems is beyond the attainments of the children. The other suggestion is that already made incidentally in connection with the writing—namely, that the importance of good form, i. e., of methodical, symmetrical and logical arrangement in all arithmetic work be rigidly insisted on.

Grammar.—There is no subject more laboriously and conscientiously taught in your schools than English grammer. But it is to be regretted that the time and energy of teachers and pupils given to this study are not more profitably applied. The most important acquisition of school life is the ability to speak and write correctly and effectively; but whatever the educational value of grammar may be in other respects, it is almost useless as an aid to the acquisition of good English. On this point all the highest educational authorities are agreed. Let me quote briefly two or three: Prof. W. D. Whitney, one of the most distinguished philologists in the world: "No one ever changed from a bad speaker to a good one by applying the rules of grammar to what he said." Dr. W. T. Harris, commissioner of education at Washington, and recognized as the greatest educational authority in the United States: "In the admitted fact that the formation of habits of correct speech is not dependent upon a knowledge of rules and definitions relative to the construction of language, is found the justification for the lessened weight attached to such study." And, again, Sir J. G. Fitch, knighted a few years ago for his distinguished services in the cause of popular education: "The practical art of using language in speech or writing with good taste and correctness will certainly not be attained by setting the pupils to learn Murray's or any other grammar. The technical rules of etymology and syntax are almost useless in themselves." The study of grammar, like those of rhetoric and logic, belongs to a period of the child's education when he has already acquired a practical mastery of the English language, and has become somewhat familiar with real literature." To quote once more: "The great majority of children of 12 or 13 years of age are incapable of clearly comprehending definitions which, to be accurate, must be expressed in language highly technical and beyond their experiences. To introduce a subject into the course of study before the pupils are sufficiently matured to profit by it is a grave mistake. Let grammar wait its time—the later the better." I would, therefore, lay less emphasis in the teaching of language in the public school upon formal grammar, and much greater emphasis upon practise in the use of language. Besides, as I stated in connection with the reading, I would have the children read real works of literature as soon as they are able to comprehend them. There are English classics suited to the comprehension of children of almost every grade, and these should enter into the regular work of every school.

Drawing.—Until last term, the very important subject of drawing has never been regularly taught in the Victoria schools. And no single circumstance of the year's history gives me greater satisfaction than the completeness of the reform that has been accomplished in this respect. With a possible exception or two, every class in the city below the first divisions has had, during the past term, definite and systematic instruction in drawing; and with most gratifying results, for not only has the subject been taken up by the children with great enthusiasm, but even within the limits of a single term many of the classes have made remarkable progress. Nor can I pass without mentioning the fact that many of the teachers who were not satisfied with their qualifications for teaching drawing have, with commendable zeal and enterprise, themselves taken private lessons from a competent instructor throughout the term.

Bookkeeping.—Many pupils end their school career with the graded or common schools. It is, therefore, very desirable that every possible facility should have given them for making such acquisitions as will most completely equip them for the practical business of life. It is important that everybody should be familiar with the ordinary commercial forms and with proper methods of ordinary accounting, and it is with pleasure that I call your attention to the fact that during the last year every first division pupil received instruction in elementary bookkeeping. This innovation was brought about by the department adding the subject to the requirements for admission to the High school.

The Marking System.—It would surprise the members of the board to learn how large a part of the total energy and intellectual force are absorbed in the utterly profitless business of manufacturing rank lists. The persistence with which the fetich of marks is held up before the pupils from the day they enter school till the day they leave it, some eight or ten years after; the anxious and laborious toil that is given by the teachers to the construction of innumerable and relentless rows of percentages and averages; the ready confidence with which the public bases its judgment of the competency of the teacher and of the intellectual and moral progress of the pupil upon a numerical abstraction, indicate a blind faith in the magic of marks that it little shows. Many of the teachers recognize that they are under the thrall of a system of which they cannot approve, because it limits the freedom of their teaching, and because it fosters in the children the lower rather than the higher ambitions and motives. And yet so strong is the grip of traditional usage that few, if any, have fully availed themselves of the large measure of freedom which the regulations of the department give them to modify the general practice in this matter. And a good many have still to learn that the marking of per cents is no more necessary in teaching than the fungus or dry rot to the life of a tree; but, rather, like the latter, it is an excrescence; it destroys life; it is a disease.

Drill and Calisthenics.—In concluding this report, I wish—as I have a previous occasion—to express my very great satisfaction with the work done in calisthenics and drill. I regard this as a most important feature of the school work, contributing so directly as it does to the present and future health of the children. Most of the primary teachers evidence the instruction given by Mr. Sinclair. With daily exercise in some of the most convenient movements, I see no reason why all of the classes might not be given such daily practice by their respective teachers.

FRANK H. EATON.
City Superintendent.

It is Highly Palatable...

Don't be under the impression that Abbey's Effervescent Salt is unpalatable. It is a most delicious preparation to the taste—so pleasant, in fact, that it is oftentimes taken as a beverage. It is an unequalled thirst-quencher. But aside from these excellent qualities, it is the most wonderful regulator of health known.

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THE FARALLON ARRIVES

Another Steamer From the North—News of Many Accidents Brought Down.

The "Ora" Now Being Looked for With the First Yukon Mail.

Quite unexpectedly the steamship Farallon arrived from the North last evening with a large number of passengers, more than a score of whom go over the C. P. R. to-day en route home. George Langley, who is better known as "Happy George," was among the passengers, and was the nearest approach to a Klondiker. He and his train of nine dogs have been back and forth over the northern trails many times, but his last trip was made in February. He has been at the White Horse rapids until very recently working principally as a pilot. He reports five drowning accidents as having occurred in these dangerous waters and a greater number would have happened had it not been that Capt. Jarvis, of the North West Mounted Police, prevented anyone acting as pilot who had not acquired two weeks' experience of the rapids. The most recent disaster "Happy George" reports was that to a negro called Field, who hails from Seattle. Two weeks ago last Thursday Field was assisting a party through the rapids when the boat upset and threw several into the water. All escaped but the negro who being caught in the swiftest part of the current was carried beyond reach. Another accident happened about June 4, when two San Francisca wmen whose names Langley could not recall were drowned. There was another drowning at Squaw rapids last week, Langley says that the Ora should be arriving back at the White Horse rapids from Dawson City about this time and he thinks that the next steamer down will bring from Skagway a Yukon mail. Another passenger on the Farallon was P. E. McCann, who with Dr. Reynolds, had a very rich hydraulic property on the Goose-de-sack river, thirty miles from Dalton Post. He has just sold out his interests to a wealthy syndicate and will devote his attention to another mining scheme. He says placer diggings on the first property were averaging $6 a day sluicing. He brings the news of a young German, whose name he has lately heard as Albert Gerhardt, bring met his death in attempting to cross over a trail bridge on the Clan-hena river. The bridge was known to be a dangerous one and the German had been warned time and again about it.

According to a Dyea paper the Indians on the Dalton trail have sworn to take the life of Jack Dalton, claiming that he has made them many promises which he has never kept. Last week an Indian named Charley took a shot at Dalton, but fortunately took a shot at him, and it was found necessary to call out the soldiers to prevent the Indians from succeeding in their bloody work. The Indian Charley was arrested and sent to Juneau, and this has aroused the savage blood of all Indians around the Pyramid Harbor, and the white freighters are vainly trying to have Jack Dalton settle with the Indians.

There has been no cessation in railroad work at Skagway. Five miles of the road has now been built and 885 men are at present employed at the undertaking.

The Farallon reports that the tug Discovery is now on her way down to the Sound with a large number of disappointed miners from Copper River. She also has some indirect information of rich finds of gold in the Cassiar country and of some new gold discoveries on Prince of Wales island. A big syndicate of capitalists is here operating and it is understood propose extensive developing their properties.

A SAILOR'S WEDDING.

Captain Alwen and His Bride United After Many Disappointments.

St. James' church was the scene of a quiet wedding last evening, when Captain John Alwen was united in marriage to Miss Hephzibah Woods. The Rev. J. H. S. Sweet officiated, and the bride was given away by Mr. A. W. Hardie of this city, whilst Mr. Norman Hardie supported the groom, and the duties of bridesmaid were ably attended by Mr. Thos. A. Johnston. More than ordinary interest centres round this wedding owing to the rather extraordinary circumstances under which the two young people have come together. Capt. Alwen was for a number of years employed by the Mogul Steamship Company of London, England, and visited Victoria about five years ago in the old steamship Mogul, chartered by the Northern Pacific Steamship Company. The latter made seven trips between Victoria and the Orient, extending over a period of years, and after leaving that route was placed by her owners on the Hongkong-Australia run. Whilst trading down there Mr. Alwen made the acquaintance of Miss Woods, the only daughter of a wealthy merchant of Sydney, and becoming satisfied that life without her would not be worth living, arranged that she should follow him to London to be married amongst his own people. Unfortunately these plans were upset by Mr. Alwen's steamer being ordered from London to Hongkong and thence to Tacoma. Here Mr. Alwen severed his connection with the Mogul Steamship Company and entered the service of the Northern Pacific Steamship Company. Early this year it was agreed that Miss Woods should leave Sydney and join her future husband on his arrival here early in May on board the Tacoma. This plan again failed owing to Mr. Alwen being promoted to the command of the Northern Pacific Steamship Company's steamer Columbia, and having to leave this port for China two days previous to his fiancee's arrival by the steamship Aorangi's last trip. The Columbia was turned around in Japan and loaded with a full cargo of tea for Tacoma, where she arrived on the 27th ult. As soon as his cargo was discharged Capt. Alwen lost no time in coming down to Victoria to claim the bride who had missed him twice already. No further hitch occurring the couple were married last evening. The bride was attired in a most becoming suit of grey silk trimmed with Valenciennes lace and hat to match. She carried a lovely bouquet of white calla lillies and wore a diamond necklace, the gift of the groom. After the ceremony the happy couple drove to the residence of Mr. H. Glyde, James Bay, where a host of friends were assembled to wish them long life and prosperity, and when the wedding supper was partaken of dancing was kept up till the sma' wee hours, and Capt. and Mrs. Alwen left by the Charmer this morning for Vancouver en route to Harrison Hot Springs and other places of interest on the C.P.R. Numerous gifts were received in token of the popularity of Captain and Mrs. Alwen, the fellow officers of the groom aboard the Tacoma showing their appreciation of his sterling qualities and the esteem in which he is held aboard the good, old ship, by presenting him with a handsome marble clock suitably inscribed.

A VICTORIAN LOST.

A Lady From This City Was One of the Unfortunate Passengers.

There is keen anxiety among the friends and relatives of Mr. C. Pichon, the gunsmith, residing on Superior street in this city, for there seems to be no reasonable doubt that that gentleman's mother, who left here via the Canadian Pacific on the 18th ultimo, was among the ill-fated women passengers of the lost Bourgogne.

Mrs. Pichon was on her way to Paris after a visit to her son, and when the latter telegraphed yesterday to the hotel in New York of which she had been a guest, he received the dreaded assurance that all the party of which Mrs. Pichon had been a member left on the Bourgogne for France. Mr. Fernard Brochard and Miss Leonie Brochard, who were among the first class passengers, also have friends here, having visited in Victoria only a short time previous to their departure for New York to secure passage on the ill-starred liner.

THE NEWS IN PARIS.

Consternation in the City—Sympathetic Message From the President.

Paris, July 6, 6 p.m.—The news of the catastrophe to La Bourgogne threw this city into consternation. Special editions of the newspapers giving details are selling like wildfire. The police are controlling the large crowds besieging the offices of the steamship company still without news as to the passengers who were saved. The company has only received a despatch describing the collision and the number of the saved.

President Faure sent the following telegram to the company: "I am grievously affected over the terrible news and feel very keenly the disaster that has plunged so many French and American families into mourning."

New York, July 6.—The officials of the company to-night gave out a list of passengers saved. They are all second and third class. The second class are: Albert Gaidot, Mme. A. D. Lacasse, Antoine Archard, Oswald Kirner, Charles Lebeau, Jacques Bacarart, Otto Seager, Lucon Verland, Patrick McKeown and Brother Germain.

GHOSTS AND SPOTS.

In his book entitled "More Ghost Stories," Mr. Stead tells us that in any case very few persons are able to see ghosts. That is they are not properly constituted. A ghost is too thin for common vision. If you see ghosts at all, you have to see them, as you see things in dreams, out of the back of your head.

Yet what are those "spots" floating in the air before the eyes, which all of us have seen? A woman writes that they cause her much annoyance