w

p the Mines.

nfirmation That the al Government In- ded to Do It.

the Order to Prepare hafts for the xplosives.

ay 10.—The Cape Argus port from Johannesburg een suppressed in the cross- Acting Minister Engineer in the recent mysterious Munnick testified that pre- been made to explode 25 t in the authority of State tz, he (Munnick) had al- hafts in eight. ned foreigners in Pretoria," espondent of the Cape Ar- nsider the mines safe. The cials have issued appeals to protect property, and al- rations were made to de- es, wiser counsels now pre- Engineer Klink declined to uties unless the dynamite and the government agreed d."

ay 9.—The request of the or permission to sell mining ices which should be ap- e government was rejected by a vote of 12 to 9. The sed.

ROSEBERY'S VIEWS.

Lesson of the War Must Taken to Heart.

May 10.—Addressing the the banquet of the Glasgow Club, given in London this d Rosebery said: "We shall the war with triumphs for d lustre for our national t we will lose the lesson it utilize it to reform and re- administration to meet the uirements of an enormously Empire." Lord Rosebery cases where the colonial onducted diplomatic negotia- were properly within the the foreign office, while the e was burdened with the ad- of vast colonial tracts. rs, he said, called for re- , and although the war office ed a praiseworthy work in r an immense army, this was dented business and it also e better for reform.

BOER PLANS.

Save the Mercenaries to De- end Johannesburg.

May 10.—The Standard pub- following, dated May 9, from :

agement on the Vet river Boers to be dissatisfied with n. I learn from Pretoria that intend to retire ultimately to giving the foreign mercen- sk of defending Johannesburg ria. The foreign mercenaries dvocating the sending out of rties from three hundred to nd strong, rather than a per- operations on a large scale, ers are not dashing enough for f work."

LAKE LEVELS.

ates Wants an International mission of Investigation.

gton, May 10.—The house com- foreign affairs to-day acted on the joint resolution author- President to invite Great Brit- n in the formation of an inter- commission, four from each nt, to consider the diversion of ng the boundary on the United Canada. The enquiry is de- incipally to ascertain the effect vel of the lakes caused by inc s at the Welland canal, Sault e canal and the Chicago drain- . The enquiry covers the en region, including the waters of and rivers which waters flow er St. Lawrence to the Atlan- The joint resolution has al- ched the senate.

NOTHER SKIRMISH.

and United States Troops ngage in a Small Fight.

, May 10.—The insurgents have a heavy loss at Tabako, near i, province of Albay, Luzon. dred riflemen and eight hundred were preparing to attack the d Captains Lester and Simons, company of the 47th volunteer , advanced to meet them, and any. The insurgent leader, a iest, was wounded and captured horse had been shot under him. mericans were wounded.

DIED SUDDENLY.

nderson Carried Off by Heart Disease.

r Own Correspondent.

uver, May 10.—John Sanderson lay twenty minutes after he took of medicine for dyspepsia. He ith his wife, asked her to give medicine he had just bought at s drug store, and after taking it he sofa and lapsed into uncon- ss, sinking rapidly until death. e-mortem examination by Dr. isclosed the fact that Sander- pposed indigestion was heart dis- e heart being found in bad con- A coroner's jury subsequently that death was due to natural At the inquest Coroner Mc- proved the harmlessness of the e supposed to have caused San- s death by dramatically swallow- se out of the bottle at the sugges- one of the jurymen.

OKING FOR TROUBLE.

Lodge Thinks a Navy May Be Soon Needed.

ington, May 11.—Senator Lodge rguing for a large navy, said this on: "I am by no means sure me European nation (perhaps one navy is now receiving such rapid e) may not test the Monroe doc-

The News From Ottawa.

The Four Canadian Troopers Declared Missing Have Since Turned Up.

Charge For Homesteading in the Railway Belt Is Now Abolished.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 11.—A cable was received from Sir Alfred Milner to-night stating that four members of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, Allan, Moorehouse, Delisle, and Milan, reported on Wednesday as missing since April 30, had rejoined the regiment.

The charge of a dollar per acre for lands homesteaded within the railway belt has been abolished by order-in-council.

John Boyd, F. F. Burns, S. Wye, G. E. Toms and A. Greenhalgh, Vancouver, are seeking incorporation as the Yukon Plumbing, Heating, Engineering Supply Company.

Col. Tyrwhitt is lying dangerously ill in the hospital.

A deputation of newspaper men saw Mr. Mulock to-day and urged the removal of postage on newspapers. The impression is that the general rate will be reduced, possibly to one-eighth of a cent per pound.

The Brockville, West Huron, election frauds were brought up to-night. Mr. Borden, of Halifax, making powerful arraignment. The debate was adjourned.

The fire relief fund now amounts to $750,000.

G. A. Keefer, of Victoria, has been appointed resident engineer of the public works department for British Columbia.

ATLANTIC UNION.

Lord Monkwell Says Some Nice Things About the United States.

London, May 11.—Lord Monkwell presided last evening at a dinner given the Authors' Club by the promoters of the recently-formed Atlantic Union, which aims to offer hospitality to any colonial or American visiting London. He said the organization would draw the bonds between Great Britain and her colonies and the United States. He would yield to none, he declared, in his desire for the strengthening of the good relations between Britain and the United States. Some of the happiest day of his life had been spent in Boston, with Oliver Wendell Holmes. "We cannot ignore the fact that Anglo-American relations may at some time become strained. They have been so once since the civil war over the Venezuela question, and now the South African war is a little cloud upon the horizon, but I hope this will pass away. The English-speaking race shows the same characteristics on both sides of the Atlantic."

Sir Walter Besant proposed the toast of "Success of the Atlantic Union." The membership of the organization already included Lord Monkwell, Lord Kinaird, Lord Coleridge, Sir Walter Besant, Sir Lewis Morris, Sir Martin Conway and Dr. Conan Doyle.

CROSSING THE ZAND.

The Story of the Rout of the Boers.

London, May 11.—The Daily Express in its second edition to-day publishes a despatch, dated Riet Spruit, May 10, morning, describing the crossing of the Zand river by the British. It says:

"The rear guard of the Boers, with their guns, resisted the advance. The mounted infantry, two batteries and "pom-poms" cleared the way and the third cavalry brigade was as a screen before the main column. Gen. French was on the left and Gen. Hamilton on the right. The Boers had destroyed all the bridges during their retreat.

"It is impossible to ascertain the Boer losses, but they are thought to be heavy. Those of the British, considering the important advance made, are considered light."

A despatch from Riet Spruit, dated May 10, describing more fully yesterday's successful operations, says:

"Gen. Hamilton's scouts had on two previous days ascertained the Boer position and strength. On Wednesday night the Cheshire regiment crossed the river, entrenched themselves and prepared to hold the passage for the regiments following them. At daybreak on Thursday the main body crossed at two or three points. The mounted cavalry were then in action, driving off the advance Boers, preparatory to a general forward movement.

"The Boer right first gave way, but Tucker and Hamilton had a tougher task on the left. The Boers had six guns and served them well, working with great determination, but the British worked up closer and closer, their guns meantime firing incessantly.

"The East Lancashire and Sussex regiments, by 11 o'clock, had worked well to the front. The order was given and like a flash the two regiments sprang forward simultaneously, and in a few moments had secured two commanding ridges.

"The advanced line was now within twelve hundred yards of the Boers' main trench, and the latter were already losing heart from the demonstration on their flank, but they kept up a rapid, though wild fire. At this moment the final charge was ordered and away went the Lancashire and Sussex regiments again, but the Boers could not stand and they bolted, and the rout of the Boers along the whole line was then complete."

The British loss was insignificant. Gen. Hutton had a series of artillery duels, the Boers always retiring. Twenty Boers were taken prisoners. The advance continues.

The Boers are fighting half-heartedly. The Free Staters are sick of the war.

METHODIST CONFERENCE.

Little More Than Routine Occupied the Day.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, May 10.—Routine business occupied the greater part of the day with the Methodist conference at New Westminster. S. D. Scott, of Victoria, and several other young ministers were advanced a year in their conference standing. R. H. Hughes, of Victoria, was granted two years conference standing. The conference relations committee granted Revs. James Turner and J. E. Gardiner superannuation.

Rev. Dr. Whittington was re-elected president, and Rev. W. H. Barraclough was elected secretary.

KIDD AND COTTON.

The Chief Speakers at the Cottonite Meeting in Vancouver.

From Our Own Correspondent.

ancouver, May 11.—A meeting was held in the city hall to-night in the interest of the "Provincial Party." Messrs. Semlin, Forster and Alex. Henderson, who were expected to speak, did not turn up. F. Carter-Cotton and Thos. Kidd were the principal speakers. The audience was composed of followers of all parties in the field and were not at all enthusiastic, but were very orderly. Mr. Cotton said Mr. Martin had adopted the Semlin government platform, slightly altered it and inserted one plank. To build the V. V. & E. Ry. would require a sum of money which would starve one section of the province for the benefit of another. He spoke at length on the Crow's Nest land grant, in an attempt to prove the Semlin government had tried to get out of executing it in every conceivable way. He went into the New Vancouver Coal Company land grant, and stated that the Semlin government had given the company authority they had been entitled to, and it had been the desire of the Semlin government to demonstrate by the grant of land that titles to similar lands must come from the Province, not the Dominion. He said his action in the Deadman's Island affair was to secure for the province the title to Stanley Park, Point Grey preserve and Deadman's Island, which fully belong to the province. He denied Martin's statement that no royalty could be collected on the Crow's Nest coal. A royalty was now collected of 5 cents a ton. He defended the Semlin government from the charge of favoritism to the C. P. R., and read a letter written by himself to the C. P. R. insisting upon the immediate payment of Crow's Nest timber royalties. He wound up his speech by referring at length to the record of the Semlin government, which he said had obtained the most favorable loan in England ever secured by British Columbia.

GEN. HUTTON'S REPORT.

Advice for Improving Canada's Defence Force — Khaki and Pom Poms.

In view of the part Canada is taking in the war in South Africa and the consequent increased interest in affairs military, the annual report of General Hutton, which was presented to parliament last week, is of more than usual import. The following synopsis of this report taken from the Mail and Empire gives a better idea of the changes proposed than the shorter accounts by wire already published.

"Gen. Hutton's report which has evidently been edited, is dated January 1st. He recommends that the militia be trained for 16 days, and that every encouragement be given to officers commanding regiments, to carry on the system of a regimental mess tent, tables and forms. Commanding officers should have permission to draw the allowances at 48 per company for the purpose of developing such a system. A special tent, etc., of an authorized pattern, should be adopted as the universal pattern in order to insure uniformity in all camps. The serge frock has been definitely adopted as the universal uniform coat of the entire militia. It is very desirable that while retaining the uniform and the characteristics in dress of the Imperial army with which the Canadian militia have always been so closely identified, some badge or device distinctive of Canadian troops should be superadded. The general recommends that the helmet (Imperial pattern) should be adopted as the headdress of the militia upon which a small puggaree of linen (silk for officers) will be worn. A different arrangement of color for these puggarees should be adopted for each branch of the service.

"A headdress has not, up to the present, been issued by the government. It has hitherto been left to the zeal of individual corps to provide themselves with a headdress, other than a field cap, and he recommends that in future a helmet, except in case of a certain specified corps, should be issued to the Canadian troops in addition to the field cap. A "tuque" for winter use, which can be easily procured in large quantities and at small cost, should be issued when necessary.

"The general commends the use of a fatigue suit of khaki, consisting of a loose jacket with stand and fall collar, available for fatigue purposes in peace, or for campaigning and field service in war. This suit could be washed and put away after each training, and would be undoubtedly popular with all ranks. Each man would thus possess a suit of serge clothing for parade and ceremonial occasions, and a suit of strong khaki for fatigue, for sleeping in or for a campaign. The provision of such a suit would practically be covered by the present suit of serge clothing being made to last for four years in place of three so that little, if any, extra cost would fall upon the public.

"In the case of the city corps he recommends that the issue of khaki or fatigue suit should be optional, and that the system now in existence, by which a serge suit is issued every three years or the money granted in lieu, shall be continued. The present tunic, belts, etc., may in this case continue to be worn. The general is confident, however, that all the city corps, Highlanders, perhaps excepted, will ere long adopt the plan now recommended for rural corps.

"The general recommends the purchase of three more batteries of field artillery and eight 5 inch B. L. howitzers for the garrison artillery, besides six pom-poms.

"The general also makes suggestions regarding the organization of an army service corps, an ordnance store corps, army medical services, army pay department corps of engineers, and a veterinary department. The government cartridge factory turned out over three-quarters of a million of 303 cordite ball cartridges, and half a million blank cartridges during the six months, 3,114 R. M. L. 9-pounder shrapnel shells, 718 R. M. L. common shells, and 1,236 shrapnel 12-pounder shells were made up in the same period. A small supply of 6 pounder shells have been manufactured and work begun on 5-inch howitzer shells.

"A supply of material required in making up empty silk cloth cartridges was issued from the war office; in future these cartridges, instead of being procured from the war department, England, will be made up in the cartridge factory.

"An order has been placed in England for a rolling mill plan, this, when installed, will materially add to the facilities for the manufacture of small arm ammunition."

KILLED WHILE ESCAPING.

Jamestown, St. Helena, May 11.—Tuesday night one of the guards shot a Boer prisoner as he was attempting to escape over the boundary fort. The sentry challenged thrice, but received no reply, and then fired at him. The matter is being investigated by a court martial.

Manitoba Budget Speech

Treasurer Davidson Takes the Greenway Administration to Task Sharply.

Looseness of Business Methods and Misleading Statements the Charge.

Winnipeg, May 10.—Treasurer Davidson delivered the budget speech in the legislature to-day, dealing chiefly with the financial administration of the late government. He defended the appointment of the financial commission, and charged the former government with making misleading statements of the position of the province, and also with looseness in their business methods, particularly in the use of unaccountable vouchers and in dealing with public works contracts. He figured out that the liabilities of the province were so great as to necessitate new methods of raising revenue. Negotiating a small loan was proposed, and a measure of taxation (taxation of railways understood to be included) of such a character as would meet the general approval of the house would be submitted, he said. A decrease in the estimates of expenditure of $62,000 was claimed, though some departments would be increased.

The late treasurer, Col. McMillan, will reply on Friday.

OFFICERS' GRIEVANCE.

Sixth Rifles Have Not Been Well Treated by Ottawa.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 10.—Col. Prior succeeded to-day in eliciting the fact that the officers of the Sixth Rifles have a just grievance against the militia department. When two Montreal regiments amalgamated, the officers of the Fusiliers were allowed two-thirds the cost of uniforms, which exceeded $100 in each case. In Vancouver the officers only got $28.90 each for the change of uniform.

The government has now appropriated all working days for ministerial measures, except one day to finish the prohibition discussion. To-day's sitting was mostly occupied in considering ministerial measures.

ATLIN MINING.

Preparations Being Made by Hydraulic Companies for the Season.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Atlin, April 29.—A cold spell has been experienced here during the last few days, which has helped to preserve trails and has kept the ice in perfect condition, enabling men and teams to bring in large quantities of supplies, principally mining machinery. The principal consignees are Mostyn Williams, The Willow Creek Hydraulic Mining Co., and Mr. Christopher. They have now all the requisite hydraulic machinery necessary for the working of their various properties, situate respectfully on Birch, Willow and Wright. Mr. Christopher begins operations on May 1 with a large gang of men.

The new post office is nearly completed and is a credit to the town.

Messrs. Richardson, Cumming, Link and Peet have a fine two-storey building now in course of contruction on First street.

Saw mills have more than they can do preparing for the spring trade.

From winter drifting on Spruce creek results have been obtained which alone will make a permanent camp of this place, in fact, we believe the best hydraulic camp in British Columbia.

On 70 below tunnels have been run in the hillside for over 200 feet, disclosing a continuous paystreak of 7 feet deep; and no bed rock in view.

VANCOUVER NEWS NOTES.

Big Lumber Freight For the Oriental Trade—Want Kindergartens.

Vancouver, May 10.—The steamer Cutch arrived from Skagway yesterday, bringing the news that the mail that left Dawson on the 25th of April will be the last one out before navigation opens. The Cutch brought the following passengers: J. O. Boy, W. Hill, W. Dease, D. G. Dick, W. E. Meek, T. W. Trounce, Seattle; C. Schwartz, San Francisco; J. Bagnall, Quebec; A. M. Bannerman, Victoria; A. Bogle, A. M. Oleson, Mrs. A. Berthant, Rev. Mr. Raley and Mrs. Raley, missionaries at Hartley Bay.

The Local Council of Women have passed a strong resolution favoring the addition of the public kindergartens to the public school system.

Charles Wilson, Stewart Livingston and W. J. Bowser left for a campaigning tour through the Fraser valley yesterday. They will speak at Abbottsford, Fort Langley, Chilliwack, Surrey Centre, Langley Prairie, Pt. Haney, Agassiz and Mission City.

The remains of the late Miles Rombough, who lost his life in the Sandon fire, arrived by to-day's Pacific express. They were met at the station by a large number of the fraternity of Eagles, an order of which the deceased was a prominent member.

Word has been received that Harry Edwards, late manager of the Oriental hotel, who disappeared lately, short in his accounts, sailed for South America three weeks ago.

The steamship Tartar is loading a quarter of a million feet of lumber at the Moodyville mill for Shanghai, to be used as flooring. The big steamer Oakbranch is expected in on Saturday to load three million feet of lumber for Shanghai, to be used in construction work on the trans-Siberian railway. Messrs. Ward & Company report that they have eighteen charters between now and November. The ships will all load at Moodyville mills for foreign ports, and will take away 22,000,000 feet of lumber.

The Hastings mill, owing to the capacity of the mills being much larger, may possibly bring the total output of lumber from this port between now and November up to 40,000,000 feet. Orders for 10,000,000 feet were declined by Ward & Co., owing to the Moodyville mills not being able to supply the demand.

CANADIANS CHEERED.

London, May 11.—A contingent of Canadians belonging to Strathcona's Horse were heartily cheered as they disembarked to-day at Liverpool to sail from London for South Africa by the British transport Assaye.

PROVINCIAL NEWS.

Sandon Fast Building Up Again —New Mining Discovery.

Many of the merchants have temporary stores going up fast in Sandon, and quite a lively town is once more appearing between the steep silver mountains; but none of these buildings will be allowed to remain up long. The citizens, in public meeting assembled, have decided to take steps to build a city beautiful. In the canyon in which the town is situated there is room for two broad streets, each 60 feet wide. By building the principal street directly over Carpenter creek, these broad thoroughfares can be obtained, and then there will be no fear of a future fire leaping across the street. Arrangements will be made with Townsite Owner Harris to resurvey the land and put the townsite up to auction, the highest bidder to get the choice places. The town will be newly laid out, and then Sandon may become a city of brick instead of wood.

The Nelson boys who went to Victoria to join the provisional Canadian regiment for garrison duty are having a rattling good time. They are quartered in the Marine hospital, opposite Victoria harbor, where the Western section, 150 strong, are located. Victoria is close at hand and the officers in charge are liberal in the matter of leave, so that the militiamen are enjoying themselves immensely. The garrison is uniformed in scarlet, and the outfit is pronounced to be as smart and soldierly a lot as ever donned the Queen's uniform.—Nelson Tribune.

News has reached here, says the Rossland Miner, from Sophia mountain of a surface find of considerable importance, which has been made on the Velvet. It was made while excavating for a stable at a point 80 feet to the southwest of the most southerly workings on the property. The find consists of eight feet of ore. It is a quartz carrying gold, and assays show that it carries $60 in bold to the ton. The walls are well defined, and when the Miner's informant left the ledge had been stripped for a distance of about 20 feet. It is thought to be the same ledge that was recently found on the 300-foot level of the Velvet. The management is greatly pleased with the discovery, as it reveals that the ore shoot is one of considerable length, and that it is of a high grade wherever it has been uncovered.

The Labor party (organized) has decided to run two candidates in Vancouver city at the approaching general election. This decision was arrived at at a special meeting of the Trades and Labor Council on Wednesday evening, when a large attendance was present. The ticket will be the Independent Labor ticket. A convention will be held on Wednesday evening next, May 16.

METHODIST CONFERENCE.

The First Draft of Stations for Victaria District.

Vancouver, May 11.—The Methodist Conference continued its sittings to-day at Westminster, and to-morrow the Theological Union has a meeting in the evening. The first draft of stations has the following arrangement for Victoria district: Victoria, Metropolitan, Elliott S. Rowe; Victoria Centennial, William H. Barraclough, B.A.; Cornelius Bryant, superannuated; Victoria West, John D. P. Knox; Victoria, James Bay, Robert Hughes; Victoria Chinese mission, one to be sent (T.C.T.); Victoria Japanese mission, under superintendent Metropolitan; Saanich, Joseph W. Winslow; Cowichan, Allen C. Sharp, A. Seymour; Salt Spring Island, David W. Scott, under superintendent Saanich; Mt. Sicker and lumber camps, Chas. W. Nelson; Nanaimo, Wallace street, Walter W. Baer; Nanaimo Haliburton street, James Calvert; Nanaimo, Chinese mission, one to be sent, under superintendent Wallace street; Nanaimo Japanese mission, to be supplied under superintendent Wallace street; Wellington, James Hicks; Cumberland, William Hicks; Cumberland Japanese mission, under superintendent Cumberland; John P. Hicks; chaplain to the Wesleyans H. M. fleet at Esquimalt, by permission of conference.

GRAND FORKS.

News From the Thriving Town in the Boundary Country.

Grand Forks, May 9.—New passenger cars will shortly be put on the Greenwood-Rossland run. The antiquated carriages now in use will be transferred to the Phoenix branch.

The local fire brigade was reorganized last evening. Fire Chief Sheads resigned, and his position will be filled temporarily by the assistant chief, Fred. Wollaston.

John Hoffman, who was shot in the jaw April 20, while resisting the attempt of an unknown man to rob him, died rather suddenly Saturday night. Death was caused by blood poisoning. Throughout his illness Hoffman declined to remain indoors and was around town until an hour before his death.

W. H. Covert has just finished the task of planting fruit trees in a tract of 120 acres. His fruit farm is the largest in the Boundary country.

OPPOSITION RALLY.

Meeting on Tuesday at Central Committee Rooms—Mr. Peatt Explains.

A grand rally of the supporters of the opposition candidates will be held on Tuesday evening in the Central Committee rooms, Foresters' hall, when short addresses will be delivered by workingmen on questions of interest to their fellow-workers.

James McPhee has been nominated by the Liberals of Comox, George Howe having withdrawn his name.

Mr. J. F. Bledsoe is spoken of as the most likely Martinite candidate in Alberni.

The Martinites of Revelstoke riding of Kootenay have nominated W. M. Lawrence to oppose Thomas Taylor, the Conservative nominee.

The following letter has been received by the Colonist from Mr. Peatt:

Sir: Kindly contradict the statement that appeared in your issue of the 9th, that I am a supporter of Joseph Martin. I wish it to be distinctly understood that I am coming out as a staunch Independent, as it is the wish of my friends.

By kindly inserting the above, you will greatly oblige,

ARTHUR N. PEATT.

Colwood, May 11, 1900.

Judge Feedman of the New York supreme court has been censured by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers for issuing an injunction preventing the Cigar Makers' Union from contributing aid to the recent cigar makers' strike.

H. H. Norrie, manager of the Union Bank of Scotland, was found dead yesterday morning, his head half blown away by a shot gun. He had apparently committed suicide.

The Army Commissions.

True Inwardness of Churlish Behavior of the Dominion Government.

Standard Oil Company—Liquor at Militia Canteen—Dominion Nurses Association.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 10.—The budget debate, which closed on Thursday evening, has been in progress since March 23, the discussion centring chiefly on the subject of preferential trade, and in which the views of the two political parties were sharply defined. The Conservatives stand for a preference which will be of mutual advantage to all the parties in the compact. The Liberals insist upon giving Great Britain a preference in this market for nothing, and as under the existing arrangements only 25 per cent. of British labor or material has to be involved in the British goods, so-called, to entitle them to the preference of 33 1-3, the government's policy really means that the cheap labor of Cantinental Europe is getting this preference in the Dominion, to the detriment of the Canadian workingman. This will be the issue between the two parties at the coming general election, and is one on which the Conservatives stand on sure ground.

A return brought down this week shows that from the list of June, 1898, to the 31st June, 1899, sixty-three mails were sent out from Victoria to Dawson, but by the mismanagement of the postal department and the failure to facilitate the progress of the letter bags when they arrived in Dawson, it was in a collective form, the total arrivals there being only nineteen. There were thirty-two mails sent from Victoria to Dawson during that period, with twenty-five arrivals.

The attempt of the Dominion government to apply the spoils system to the granting of commissions in the British army to Canadian officers, was promptly frustrated by the Home government. The original offer of 44 commissions came on March 20, candidates to "selected by your coming Imperial officer, commanding the local forces." This intimation, excepting the last clause, was conveyed to the public in the shape of a militia order, and then suddenly Dr. Borden discovered that he was not to have any hand in the matter, and the official notification was withdrawn. The views of the government were embodied in a despatch of Lord Minto's, dated April 6, in which he says: "They (the ministers) submit, however, for the consideration of the Imperial authorities that the Imperial officer for the time being in command of the militia of Canada is an officer appointed by the government of Canada and is, and necessarily must be, subordinate to the Minister of Militia. My ministers observe that if it is the desire of the Imperial government that the government of Canada should be in any way responsible for the nominations of students of the Royal Military College and gentlemen to these commissions, it is essential that they should be recommended by the minister at the head of the department. They submit that the minister would as in other cases consult with his military advisers and be largely guided by their advice, but the responsibility would rest on the minister, and therefore the minister and not his subordinate should make the recommendations to the Imperial authorities, even if, however, the Imperial authorities do not desire that the government of Canada should assume any responsibility with respect to these nominations, it becomes a matter for serious consideration whether an officer holding the position in the department of Militia such as that of the G. O. C. should have handed over to him the selection of cadets of the Royal Military College and other gentlemen of Canada for commissions in the Imperial army?" On the 9th April the Colonial Secretary sent the following to the Governor-General:

"The candidates should be recommended by you after consulting with your ministers and Imperial officers. You should communicate to your ministers suggestion in your confidential despatch of the 24th ult as to board for wise selection of candidates, and lists should be submitted to you through your ministers with their recommendations, the responsibility for final selection remaining with you." On April 14 the Governor-General sent the following cable to Mr. Chamberlain: "Am forwarding by mail fourteen names of candidates for commission from Royal Military College approved by my government and recommended by commandant. Prime Minister also accepts conditions of your cablegram of April 9th, except that my government prefers that recommendations should rest entirely with me, as in case of naval cadets, rather than that my government should recommend subject to final approval by me. Prime Minister promises official reply in above sense. I told Phime Minister I hoped Minister of Militia would agree to consult with me, and that department of militia would assist me, and he agreed."

The following is the proposal which Lord Minto had made for the election of the 24 candidates, and which plan is being carried out: "Would suggest that Lord Roberts be asked to send me personally 24 names of candidates for commission from among the officers and privates of the Canadian corps, naming branch of service." On April 15 the Governor-General sent the following despatch to the Colonial Secretary:

"My ministers have already recommended all the cadets of the Royal Military College who are regarded by the Commandant as eligible. As regards other gentlemen, if the Imperial government desire to distribute these commissions on the personal recommendation of the Governor-General, they have no observations to make, but if the advice of the government of Canada is desired, or they are to be held in any way responsible, my ministers repeat their strong opinion that the usual rule governing ministerial responsibility must prevail, and nominations should be made by the Governor-General on the advice of his council. The proposal that appointments should be made by the board consisting of gentlemen who hold office in the department of militia does not meet with their concurrence."

On April 17 Mr. Chamberlain sent to the Governor-General a definite statement of the views of the Home authorities in the following words:

"Inform government Her Majesty's government desires to appoint on recommendation of Governor-General, but trust that Dominion government will give assistance and advice. Confidential: Referring to your telegram 14th April, presume that you will communicate with Roberts direct."

This closes the correspondence, and it shows the government in anything but an enviable light.

The Standard Oil Company, the gigantic octopus whose tentacles have fastened on the Dominion, has received a staggering blow, but not sufficient to knock it entirely out of the ring. This blow is in the shape of an important deliverance by the railway committee of the privy council, confirmed by the Governor-General-in-Council, on the complaint against the railway rates on coal oil. It will be remembered that about a year and a half ago the railway companies reduced their tariff on coal oil from Sarnia and Petrolea to Montreal and other points East which were open to competition by water. The rate originally charged from Sarnia was 35 cents per 100 pounds in oil, but after the Standard company had acquired the refineries at Petrolea and had re-established the business of refining at Sarnia, they prevailed upon the railway companies to reduce the rate to between 20 and 21 cents. The reason assigned for this was that the Standard company was contemplating putting on tank steamers for the carriage of oil to Montreal and other points accessible by water. At the same time the railway companies raised the rate from Table Rock, Suspension Bridge, and other points in the United States to Montreal and other centres in Canada from 23 to 35 cents. They justified their action in doing this by alleging that the rate was too low, and in any case they desired to make up the loss which would be entailed upon them by the Sarnia reduction. The effect of this reduction from Sarnia and the increase at points along the Niagara border was to restrict the importation of oil from the United States in competition with the oil produced at Sarnia, and thus to give the Sarnia product the control of the Canadian market. Consumers of oil became very much incensed at this, and to it attributed the rise in the price of oil, as well as the discrepancy in the cost on the American side of the line as compared with this. They lodged a complaint of illegal discrimination before the railway committee of the privy council against the railways. After several hearings and some delay, owing very largely to the requests of the complainants themselves and their inability to arrange their case and secure evidence, the question has been finally determined against the railway companies. The railway committee came to the conclusion that the only practical remedy available was to reduce the railway tariff on oil. They made a report and recommendation to the council accordingly. The effect is to leave the rate from Sarnia untouched, while the rate from American points to points in Canada is reduced to the figure of 23 cents, as it originally was, based on mileage. This decision will hardly accord with the predictions which have been made by opponents of the government, that the complainants would fail of receiving redress, but will be regarded with satisfaction by consumers of oil all over the country.

There seems to be no doubt of the fact that the Eastern camps for the militia, during the past year or two, sold liquor in the regimental canteens, notwithstanding the fact that the regulations expressly prohibit this. One ex-officer of the militia last summer warmly criticized the minister of militia for permitting this to be done. The attention of General Hutton was called to this criticism, and he proposed to make an example of the officer, but, to the General's great regret, when the matter came to be looked into, it turned out that this officer had resigned from the militia three months before, and had therefore the right to speak as a private citizen.

The efforts of a few trained nurses in Montreal to constitute themselves into a governing body for the profession, have been nipped in the bud. Dr. Roddick, M. P., had been given charge of the incorporation bill, but when it was pointed out to him that its principal object was to constitute in Montreal a governing body of the nurses of the Dominion, he declined to have anything further to do with the measure, and withdrew it. The result of the withdrawal will be the foundation of a trained nurses' association for the Dominion. The membership will include the lady superintendents of all the hospitals of Canada, and the alumnae of each training school.

CABLE FROM OTTER.

He Sets a Number of Matters Straight.

Ottawa, May 9.—A report received from Lieut.-Col. Otter, states that he notices from Canadian newspapers that his reports do not reach Canada regularly and some not at all. In this connection he says that he never missed reporting deaths or wounds by cable, or anything else affecting important movements of the regiment.

In regard to the Paardeberg fight of February 18th, he sent a cable on the 19th to Kimberley, for transmission from Ottawa. His message was delayed by unfortunate circumstances, over which he had no control.

As to false reports reaching Canada, he refers to that sent by a correspondent to the effect that six men were captured at Waterval drift. Col. Otter says that this false report must have caused infinite worry to the relatives of men and to himself, who had to answer cablegrams of enquiry.

In respect to Lieut.-Col. Ryerson cabling, he says that he cannot be possessed with full information concerning the regiment.

Col. Otter says that fever is still prevalent.

THE PROCESSION ARRANGED.

The Route Decided Upon at a Meeting of the Committee Last Evening.

At a meeting of the procession and sports committee in connection with the forthcoming Queen's Birthday celebration held last evening, the reports of the various sub-committees were adopted and the route of the procession outlined as follows: Start at 3 p.m. from city hall, proceeding along Douglas to Humboldt street, thence to Government and along Government to Pandora, thence to Douglas; thence to Yates and up to Cook street; where a flag will be turned and the procession go to Broad street; thence to Fort and Government, along Government to Johnson, up Johnson to Blanchard, along Blanchard to the vacant space in front of Mr. Justice Walkem's residence, where, after singing "God Save the Queen," the procession will disband.

Those who intend placing floats in the procession are requested to give notice to the committee by Friday next, the 18th instant. Floats should not be more than 17 feet in height. Already 60 or 70 have been guaranteed. A number will come from the Mainland. Good prizes will be offered.

In a chapel in London one Sunday a preacher declared that the British soldiers were fighting for Satan. Thereupon an old man rose in his place and exclaimed, "I have two sons fighting for the Queen in South Africa; I am not going to stay here and be told she is the devil." And while the preacher stood open-mouthed in the pulpit, the old man strode out of the building.

Fair Profits For Sealers.

Although Coast Average Less Than Last Year's, Expenses Will Be Cleared.

White Hunters Most Successful —Owners Will Ship to London on Speculation.

With the return of four other vessels of the Coast sealing fleet yesterday, bringing latest reports from the twenty or more hunting craft that are still along the Coast or homeward bound, those who are interested in the industry are enabled to approximate results for the spring operations, and on the whole find them most encouraging. The average catch per schooner to be sure does not come up to the average of 1899, but it must be remembered that there were then but nineteen schooners employed, as against thirty-four this present season; the catch along the Coast was 10,472 last year, and in the neighborhood of 15,896 this—or 550 to the schooner in 1899 and 470 in 1900. The latter, although a falling off from previous spring hunting, still compares very favorably with the averages of the past decade, as noted in the appended table, there having indeed been no higher average since the big year of 1893:

1890—Average	Spring	Catch	....	737
1891—	"	"	....	568
1892—	"	"	....	456
1893—	"	"	....	702
1894—	"	"	....	367
1895—	"	"	....	202
1896—	"	"	....	300
1897—	"	"	....	162
1898—	"	"	....	535
1899—	"	"	....	550
1900—	"	"	....	470

No indication is of course obtainable as yet as to the prices to be realized on the spring's catch. The upward tendency of the market during the past two or three seasons leads the vessel owners to hope, however, for good sales, and practically all are preparing to ship their catches to London, and take their chances on the result of the big sales. As no skins are offered the local buyers, at present quotations cannot be fixed, but it is generally agreed that a catch of 200 skins this spring will more than have paid expenses. All the schooners will of course take part in the Behring sea hunting, opening on August 1, while some few of the all-white schooners (which did best in the spring operations) may make short excursions to the Copper Island grounds.

Yesterday's arrivals from sea were the schooners Vera, Viva, Zillah May and Otto, which are among the first of the returned schooners to have tried the Northern grounds. Captains Ryan, Munro, Gosse and McPhee in consequence have numerous changes to make in the sealers' report sheet, making it virtually complete. Luckily there are no wrecks to report this season among the vessels of the fleet—none that went to the hunting this year failing to return. Accidents to individuals have also been unprecedentedly few, the loss of the Umbrina's boat's crew being apparently the only spring hunting fatalities. There has been some little rough weather of late, and incidentally the Ocean Belle carried away her bowsprit and is now at Yakutat for necessary repairs. The Diana is reported to have shifted water tanks and ballast, but suffered no damage in consequence; and the Aurora is said to have lost a portion of her top gear in the same bit of a blow. It is expected that the two last mentioned schooners will be among those trying the Copper Island hunting in competition with the hunters of Japan.

With the Teresa, Victoria, Enterprise, Favorite, Annie E. Paint, Geneva, Triumph, Umbrina, Dora Sleward, Otto, Vera, Zillah May and Viva back to port, and the late reports from all the others of the fleet, the spring operations are thus approximated:

Schooner	Owner.	Catch
Libbie	R. P. Rithet & Co., Ltd.	200
Sawy Lass	do	62
Hatzic	do	435
Favorite	do	709
Dora Sleward	do	785
Carrie C. W.	do	180
Allie I. Alger	do	375
Teresa	do	591
Ida Etta	do	500
W. L. Rich	do	79
Alnoko	Capt. Wm. Grant	310
Penelope	do	175
Beatrice	do	171
Annie E. Paint	E. B. Marvin & Co.	739
Vera	do	809
C. G. Cox	do	560
E. B. Marvin	do	654
Triumph	do	450
Arietis	W. Munsie	818
Viva	do	707
Otto	do	330
C. of San Diego	do	500
Aurora	A. J. Bechtel	180
Mary Taylor	do	730
Diana	do	700
Borealis	Harrold	200
Geneva	B. Hall	646
Ocean Belle	do	740
Minnie	Jacobson	278
Sadie Turpel	Campbell	100
Victoria	Balcour	293
Zillah May	do	533
Enterprise	Clarke	549
Umbrina	Peppett	708

Of the fleet above enumerated only the Annie E. Paint, the Vera, the Carlotta G. Cox, the Arietas, the City of San Diego, the Aurora, the Mary Taylor, the Diana, the Geneva and the Ocean Belle—ten of the fleet of thirty-four—carried all white crews. Their total is 6,222, or an average of 622, showing that in seal hunting at all events, the supposed inborn ability of the Indian is discounted by the superior courage of the white man, and his study of seal habits.

THE MAIN MURDER.

Trial of the Prisoners Postponed for a Time.

New Westminster, May 10.—The trial of the Chinese suspected of the murder of Policeman Alex. Main of Steveston has been again postponed. In the meantime the prosecution are thoroughly preparing their case. The scene of the murder and other views which may be of use when the trial