

DEPUTY MINISTERS.

The remarks regarding deputy ministers offered by the Halifax Herald are singularly inaccurate. Auditor-General McDougall is set down as a deputy minister who was appointed by the Mackenzie government and kept in office by the succeeding Macdonald government. Mr. McDougall is not a deputy minister at all, and he can be removed from office only on a vote of parliament.

DR. DUNCAN'S "FRIEND."

Under the defence of the Colonist Dr. Geo. Duncan is undoubtedly suffering all the tortures of a "suspect" who is waiting impatiently for the incubation period to pass. The ex-civie health officer is a subject for commiseration, not on the account of the attacks of his opponents, so much as for the unfortunate position which his political partisanship and the egregious folly of his newspaper apologist have placed him in.

The Ottawa correspondent of the Globe, writing of Dr. Duncan's dismissal, states that he was accused "of having permitted a suspect with his guardian to leave the hospital, where the suspect had been recovering from the smallpox," and upon this text the Duncan organ founds a characteristically absurd article. The Ottawa correspondent was, of course, in error in stating that the "suspect had been recovering from the smallpox," as would be quite apparent to the reader, a patient recovering from smallpox not being referred to as a "suspect." The "suspect," as the Colonist naively points out, was in quarantine because contagion might be in his clothes or the disease might be incubating in his system.

THE RAILWAY MEETING.

The meeting of the British Columbia Board of Trade yesterday afternoon was a railway meeting and the result was a unanimous and enthusiastic declaration in favor of the immediate construction of a direct line of railway from the coast to Kootenay. The attendance was large and representative of the business men, the push and progress of the city. There was no opposition, and save in the matter of details or of rival companies, which can be disposed of at the proper time, the one opinion expressed was in favor of the project and for instant and united action.

couraging. The other boards of trade of the province will be asked to cooperate, and no doubt the basis of a practical scheme will be the outcome of a conference of representatives of these bodies. There is a common end to work for, the accomplishment of which will do much to unify the province and build it up in population and wealth. Local interests and petty sectionalisms will be forgotten and disappear in the fight for what may be described as "provincial rights"—the retention as far as practicable of the trade of the province for the people of the province.

U. S. PENSIONERS.

From the last report of the United States commissioner of pensions it appears that the number of Uncle Sam's pensioners and his expenditure upon them have reached the "high water mark." One would think it is about time for this culmination, judging from the figures. Over thirty years have passed since the close of the struggle between the North and the South, yet for the past few years the pension expenditure has been climbing up with great speed.

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RUTHLESS

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THE DANCING GIRLS OF CARIBOO

We are all dancing girls of Cariboo, In gum boots and a blanket coat, And even the upper ten, We all of us have sweet-set hearts, But the dearest of all to me Is that young man who wistfully Casts those sheep's eyes at me.

Oh, what a charming thing it is To have a pretty face like mine, To know that one can kill as well In calico as in any other skin. We steal the hearts of every one, But the dearest of all to me Is that dear boy with the curly head, Who loves me faithfully.

ON A BARROOM FLOOR.

Oh, I love to snore On a barroom floor, And dream of silks, And dream of bills, And girls who dress in black, And whiskey lumps, And gambling pumps, Who are supported by their ready tools, Such fools as you and I.

YOUNG TED BROWN.

Sung by Mr. John Hudson at the Theatre Royal, Barkerville, on New Year's Eve, 1897. Air—Riding on a Railway Car. Young Ted Brown was a fine young man, At Westminister he stayed, Ted, he took the Cariboo fever. Folks said he was a fool, But he rolled up his blankets, And started on his old pack mule.

COME BACK FARO.

Now ladies and gentlemen, at your request, I have come back again. Your approbation does me proud, And I'm most safe with Faro. I wish I had but Teddy's luck, And my dust safe with Faro. I'd give a nugget to each one here, Then ride off on my old pack mule.

BARROOM SONG.

Air—For a That and a That. Hurray for rum and whiskey hot That fires the brain and a that. The sober man, we pass him by, We dare be drunk for a that. For a that and a that, The mind is but the weak man's plea, The muscle's man for a that.

RETAIL QUOTATIONS FOR FARMERS' PRODUCE CAREFULLY CORRECTED.

Table with 2 columns: Product Name and Price. Includes items like Oatmeal, Flour, Potatoes, Apples, etc.

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