Day's Doings In the Courts.

Verdict in the Bowden Suit Against the E. & N. Railway Company.

Sale by Sheriff of Osoyoos Attacked by Creditors of John Elliott.

There were three trials on in the higher courts yesterday, one in the County court, where Mr. Justice Martin presided, and two in the Supreme court, where Justices Drake and Irving were on the bench.

Before Mr. Justice Drake was the trial of Bowden vs. the E. & N. Railway Co., an action for damages for injuries received in an accident at Wellington. Bowden was a fireman on the road, and had just completed loading the tender with coal when the engine moved and he was caught in the apron. He claimed $2,000 damages, holding that the engine had moved without the signal being given. The defendants claimed that the usual signal was given. The trial was before a special jury, who replied to the questions of the judge as follows:

1 Q.—What was the cause of the accident? A. The backing of the engine.

2 Q.—Did the engineer ring the bell or give any signal before starting? A. No.

3 Q.—Did the plaintiff give any signal to move? A. Yes.

4 Q.—Was the throwing down of the shovel the usual signal for the engine to move, and was that signal given? A. Yes.

5 Q.—Did the plaintiff contribute to the accident by any act of carelessness, which by the exercise of ordinary care he could have avoided? A. Yes, by throwing down the shovel before the apron was returned to its place.

The jury awarded the plaintiff $525 damages. A motion for judgment for this amount will be made on Wednesday next. Mr. H. G. Hall appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. A. P. Luxton for the defendants.

The trial before Mr. Justice Irving was that of Piercy vs. Pemberton, an action taken by the creditors of John Elliott, of Fairview, against Mr. A. G. Pemberton as sheriff for Osoyoos district, for an alleged wrongful sale of Elliott's property. A large number of the legal fraternity took part. The case lasted all day and will be continued to-day.

In the County court the case was that of the Victoria Transfer Co. vs. Brooks, a replevin case, a man named Meamber having sold to Brooks a house which was not his property, and which was in charge of the plaintiffs. The replevin was sustained.

The Sonyer trial is set for Thursday next.

LAW STRICTLY ENFORCED.

Several Seizures of Goods by Canadian Customs Officers on Northern Trails.

Those entering the upper Yukon and Atlin countries with the intention of escaping the Canadian customs and getting their American goods across the international boundary free of charge are meeting with more difficulty than they expected. According to information which Collector Milne has received from the North, every effort is being put forth by those unscrupulous ones to carry out their fraudulent designs, but with pronounced disappointment. They have used bribery, force and diplomacy all to no avail, and only to find themselves the losers. Collector Milne has been acquainted with at least eight of such cases, and his men have under seizure several thousand dollars' worth of goods seized on the Chilcoot and White Pass trails and held pending the decision of the minister of customs at Ottawa. One man had goods to the value of $1,300 taken in charge by the officers. Another lost his team. He made bold declarations that he would run over any officer who attempted to intercept him for the collection of duty. He escaped the officers at Log Cabin, and under cover of darkness got down to Bennett, but was there overtaken.

Apart from his team, all the articles seized were merchandise and miners' outfits.

The owner, Mr. Milne states, will not be dealt leniently with by him. He has heard too much talk from these kind of people going to evade the customs officers, and will stand by his men, giving them every encouragement in the good work they have done. Duty will have to be paid on all American goods crossing the boundary, he said yesterday, and not on the valuation that may have been placed on them by any merchant, but on their appraised values at Skagway.

ROSENTHAL THE WIZARD.

Marvellous Technique With Poetic Feeling and a Rare Combination of Delicacy and Force.

A San Francisco critic referring to Rosenthal, who appears here on Monday evening, says: "Old tales of Liszt's enormous power of wrist and finger, of memory and dexterity, of musical force and technical finish, came back to those who listened to Rosenthal at the Metropolitan hall last night, for Rosenthal is of the Liszt school and is its best living exponent. He is a great player, a past master of the keyboard, for whom technical difficulties do not exist. All the thunders of a Liszt fantasie do not confuse the clear and separate accuracy of each note he brings to life. The swiftest rush of a Chopin waltz does not find him dropping a single pearl in the flight. The bright, changeful, picturesque 'Carnival' of Schuman finds him ready with every technical perfection, every necessary light and shade, every proper device for its brilliant accomplishment. It is marvellous how easy and, in appearance, carelessly he makes tremendous efforts. Rosenthal is as unassuming in manner as he is practical in appearance, but it needs only the Chopin numbers in his repertoire to show that he has a sincere love for the poetic side of music. Last night he began with a Beethoven sonata—not one to show his power at its best, but to prove his possession of it and to compel the attention and admiration of his first audience in San Francisco. He played the 'Don Juan' fantasie tremendously, the Chopin numbers charmingly, and the 'Linden Tree' (Schubert-Liszt), Davidhoff's 'At the Fountain,' with beautiful appreciation. The enthusiasm of the audience followed the player all through last night, and there was abundant pleasure of the kind only the great artist gives to people of the highest musical taste, and equally abundant recognition that Rosenthal was only to be compared with the greatest."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

NEAR BY FARMING LANDS.

Sir: I think, sir, that it would be of advantage to the people of Victoria if the agricultural lands within fifty or sixty miles of Victoria were better known and advertised.

I have reference to the Renfrew district on the West Coast, especially that part of it between the Jordan and San Juan rivers, a distance of about twenty miles. I think I am safe in stating that at least two-thirds of that country is well adapted for dairying and fruit-growing purposes, and also for roots and grain.

The remainder is mineralized rock "chiefly" and heavy timber. There is plenty of good water and as it is near the sea it is a delightful locality for a home. The settler needs a windless steel wire cable, blocks and a team of horses or oxen and he is in good shape for pulling out stumps.

F. J. MURTON.

Port Renfrew, May 3, 1899.

AN APPEAL TO THE GOVERNMENT AND TO THE WORKING MEN OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Sir: There is a time in the history of a country when all question of party politics should be forgotten in the endeavor to promote the prosperity of the community as a whole. The government of the day should most certainly realize that they are, after their election, not "Martinites" or "Turnerites" but servants of the whole electorate and residents of their country and that upon them very largely depends the material prosperity of the general public and the happiness of thousands of homes. The utmost care should therefore be taken that no legislation that would have the effect of disturbing the happy relations existing previous to such legislation between capital and labor should be enacted without the gravest consideration. Such legislation should only be passed after public opinion has overwhelmingly demanded it. No legislation against the interest of the working men should be passed on the demand of the employers until the matter has been thoroughly discussed for some time by both parties so that a healthy public opinion can be formed as to the result it would have on the country as a whole. The same should apply on the other side.

I wish I could personally express my convictions on the result the eight hour law will have on the mining industry and the business of the province, to every working man (union or non-union) in British Columbia. I believe in working men protecting their own interests. It is their right, but it is possible for them to make mistakes: it is possible from over zeal in their own interests for them to take a stand on a matter of vital interest to their country that will give the country such a set back that it will not recover from for years to come: to cause such a depression as will recoil on their own heads by causing a shortage of work and a decrease in the rate of wages. This is more so in a new country than in an old one. Working men of the coast, as you value your present favorable conditions of life due largely to the favorable development of the mines or the country which have made the country prosperous, do not hastily ask the government to put the eight-hour law in operation, but urge them to withhold its enforcement until its consequences have been more thoroughly realized. It is your own interest to do so.

Let me point out the effects upon the country if the law is enforced. The mine owners have determined that, unless they can come to an arrangement with the men, they will shut down their mines. Such a procedure would ruin almost every business man in Rossland, Nelson, Kaslo, Sandon and the other Kootenay towns. If not ruined they would suffer such financial losses as would take them years of good times to make up. Iron and engineering works would be obliged to discharge a large number of men, possibly some in Victoria and Vancouver. The Crow's Nest Coal Company would also suffer. The miners themselves would be idle for some time or be obliged to leave the country, and last but not least the general public of Canada would suffer most serious financial loss through their investments in mining shares, many of these being working men in Victoria. Should our leading mines be closed, it it is safe to say that such shares would depreciate almost 50 per cent., and I venture to say it would mean the loss to many working men throughout Canada of half the savings of a lifetime.

This is an immensely serious matter: but the loss to the province as a whole would be more serious. The English and Eastern Canadian investor in mining stock has provided three-fourths of the capital for the development of our mines and if at this season of the year their investments are depreciated 50 per cent., if their confidence is shaken, all such investments will cease and three-fourths of the mining development of the province will cease also for want of funds to carry it on. I appeal to the members of the government not to put bona fide investors in that position: not to give this province at this time a blow from which it will take years to recover: not to turn aside the wave of prosperity that seems now to have struck it by pressing such legislation. And I appeal to the working men everywhere, of every trade, to press the government to abstain from such a course. I appeal to all citizens not to think of this matter in a party spirit. I know no party on a question of this kind.

There is much more I could say if I were not trespassing upon your space too much, but in conclusion let me say that this legislation is unnecessary. I have lived in Kootenay two years. I have employed a fair number of miners and never once was there a request for eight hours. The country was opened up with ten hour shifts. The miners in a country like that would rather work ten hours at $3.50 than eight at $3.00. And if the legislation had not been passed would be as well contented as in the past. It is not contended that the miners are under-paid. The rate of wages is the same as it was when living and supplies were 50 per cent higher than now. The men do not want their wages reduced for the privilege of having two extra hours in which to "do nothing in the solitude of the hills." The mine owners cannot afford to pay such high wages and reduce working hours. It would make many of the mines unprofitable and would result in their closing down prematurely. I notice that Mr. Wells visited the council of the Trades and Labor union here some time ago. I hope Mr. McKay will submit this letter as imperfect as it is to his council so that they may have some idea of the reasons that appear to be so strongly opposed to the successful operation of the act and I only regret that some one more competent than myself has not brought this matter forward in Victoria. It is certainly by immense odds the most important matter that has engaged public attention for several years or that will engage public attention for years to come.

HERBERT CUTHBERT.

EIGHT HOUR LAW.

Resolution of the Rossland Trades and Labor Council Endorsed by Victoria Council.

At a meeting of the Victoria Trades and Labor Council held last evening the resolution passed by the Rossland council in respect to the enforcement of the eight hour law in the mines was endorsed. After reciting the efforts to secure the passage of the law, the objections raised by the mine owners and the enforcement of eight hour laws in other countries, the resolution concludes:

"Resolved: That this council once more reaffirms its hearty endorsement of the so-called eight-hour law, and sincerely believing that the sympathies and the sentiment of not only the people of Kootenay, but of all intelligent people throughout the length and breadth of this province are with us, we respectfully urge the government to carry out the wishes of the legislature by enforcing the law at the earliest possible moment consistent with a proper investigation such as is being conducted by the government at the present time; and it is with regret that we learn that certain enemies of this bill are endeavoring to create an impression in the public mind that alien laborers were the prime movers and instigators in securing this law, and that the working men of Kootenay did not seek and do not want this law, all of which we denounce and resent as unjust and unfair argument, malicious and misleading falsehoods and a slur and slander on the intelligence of Canadian labor, not calculated in any sense to assist the government in reaching an honest, proper and justifiable decision in its inquiries; on the contrary, such statements and efforts are used and put forth with the ulterior motive of prejudicing the interests of labor in the minds of the executives; be is further

"Resolved: That copies of these resolutions be forwarded immediately to every Kootenay member of the legislature and members of the cabinet, Ralph Smith, M.P.P., president Dominion congress of labor, and Robert Macpherson, M.P.P. for Vancouver, and that the legislative committee of this council are hereby instructed to forward copies to every labor and reform organization in British Columbia with the request that these resolutions be endorsed and a communication be sent to the government in order that they be prevailed upon to comply with our reasonable demands and wishes in this matter."

The Victoria council also last evening decided to communicate with the Toronto council in respect to the move to have domestic servants come to British Columbia to replace Chinese.

BUYING FISH TO TAKE HOME.

From Forest and Stream.

We are built on different lines. This is not stated as a new or startling proposition, because men have become familiar with this fact in centuries long agone. They have also observed that the same rule which governs men may also be applied to wives. As one who has had much experience in angling, as well as in other departments of life, let me say to young anglers, tell all the fishing yarns you can invent at the club or to the sitters around the country grocery, but be dead square with your wife. If you have that false idea that it is disgraceful to come home without a fish after a day's angling, banish it and tell the truth. Many of us have fished with success varying from a grand catch to little or nothing. There is nothing to be ashamed of in coming home empty-handed; many hunters of big and small game do it.

TAKE TIME.

Take time, my brother, take time;
Each morn read the Volume sublime;
Take time, for the soft hand of prayer
Will smooth the wrinkles of labor and care.

Take time for that service most sweet,
The altar of home where the dear ones meet;
Find time with the people of God
To learn the way your Father has trod.

Take time for laughter, time for play,
Take time to be loving, time to be gay;
Take time to replenish your vanishing
Time to enjoy your swift gathering wealth.

Take time this beautiful world to view,
In colors of golden and crimson hue;
Take time to linger by woodland and hill,
Time in life just to think and be still.

Take time with your neighbors and friends,
Time for those highest unchangeable ends;
The life of a man is not for a day,
But for worse or for better, for ever and aye.

—Wm. Brydson.

Victoria, B. C.

ALASKANS TURN TO CANADA.

Juneau, Alaska, April 28.—An expedition is being fitted out to prospect an unexplored section of the great Northwest Territory. It will start this spring from Wrangel. Several experienced Cassiar miners will go along.

The section of country to be prospected is that portion lying west of the Rocky mountains and at the headwaters of the eastern tributaries of the upper Yukon. It is believed that the gold of the Klondike and the Yukon came originally from that region. Certain it is that the Klondike gold never came from ledges along the creeks on which it is found. This is based on the belief that the Rocky mountains are the fountain head of the gold run, or, in other words, that in them is the mother lode from which the vast deposits of placer gold have been carried to their present hiding places. The headwaters of the streams indicated form in the Rocky mountains. This section has not been prospected, as it is practically impenetrable from Dawson.

The expedition will take along horses and cattle and be fitted out for a three years' stay. It will go from Wrangel to Dease lake, 150 miles away in a northeasterly direction, and from there to the foothills of the Rockies. The course of the prospecting will be along the west side of the range to a point north and east of the Klondike. Gold has been carried in fine particles down these streams for ages, in one or more of them, under some towering dome. These Argonauts hope to find a rival Klondike. Miners here consider the theory on which the expedition is based as perfectly reasonable.

William G. Thomas, a pioneer of Alaska, formerly a deputy United States marshal, and recently a customs officer, is one of the promoters of the expedition. He formerly lived in Wrangel, and is now in Juneau. He has great faith in the outcome. Mr. Thomas has recently returned from Washington, D. C., and New York, where he is said to have interested capital in the project. He says that in the early days of the Cassiar excitement two men penetrated a portion of that vast unknown Northwest country, but the sickness of one compelled their return to Wrangel. They brought out several hundred dollars in dust, most of which was coarse gold, and bore but little evidence of having been carried a great distance by water. It was jagged and rough, and contained quartz. They gave a glowing account of the country. One of these men died in Wrangel, and the other went East, intending to return the next season, but he never reappeared. Since then several expeditions have been planned, but none ever started, owing to the hardships and difficulties to be overcome. Probably the one now about to leave will not be heard from for a year or two after it leaves the vicinity of Dease lake.

Systematizing Mission Work.

Districts of the Methodist Work Among the Indians to Be Amalgamated.

Cost of the Gospel Ship—The Conference Work Still in Progress.

What may best be described as routine business occupied the greater part of the time of the home missions conference at its morning and afternoon sessions yesterday in the Metropolitan Methodist church, the topics of the day being largely in relation to the details of the work. Incidentally the necessity of supplying instructions in standard trades to the northern schools was emphasized by Rev. S. S. Osterhout; the future plans for the steamer Glad Tidings were discussed; and a resolution was adopted looking to the amalgation of the Port Simpson and Bella Bella districts. So long was the list of detail business that the question of potlatch legislation was not reached at the time of adjournment, this topic standing over accordingly for consideration to-day, together with the condition and requirements of the industrial schools.

Yesterday morning's introductory business took the form of a report from the committee considering plans for the future service of the steamer Glad Tidings. They estimated that it would cost at least $3,000 to maintain and operate the mission steamer with efficiency during the year, and definite action on the matter was deferred.

Partially as an outcome of this report, a resolution was adopted to the effect "that this mission conference request the general board of missions for a close and efficient supervision of the Indian work in British Columbia; and whereas the question of the disposition of the Glad Tidings may be seriously affected by the nature and extent of the supervision provided for, therefore be it resolved that this question, with that of supervision, be referred to the general board for final decision and action."

In order that the general mission board may be fully in touch with all information and conditions bearing on the subject, copies of the minutes and reports of the conference now in session will be furnished the executive body.

On the initiative of the Rev. Joseph Hall and Rev. D. Jennings, a resolution was adopted advising the amalgamatioin by conference of the Simpson and Bella Bella districts, pending which action the conference will be requested to continue the present district arrangement, allowing future developments to suggest the wisdom of reconstruction and the lines upon which such reconstruction should be made.

A motion that Bella Coola, Kitimaat and Rivers Inlet—in addition to Bella Bella—be attached to the Simpson district, was lost; while it was decided that Hartley Bay should be taken from Bella Bella and attached to the Simpson district.

An interesting feature of the early afternoon session was an address by Rev. Woodsworth, embodying that gentleman's views on Indian mission work and the most effective service for the gospel steamer Glad Tidings. The arrangement of districts and changes in the stations of the missionaries occupied the remainder of the session.

SEAMEN TAKE NOTICE.

Change Announced in the Character of the Sister Islands Light.

The following notice to mariners, which is of especial interest in this province, has just been issued by the Dominion of Canada:

1. Change in the Character of Sisters Rocks Light—The light exhibited from the new lighthouse on Sisters rocks, Straight of Georgia, has been changed in color from a fixed white to an occulting white light, visible 20 seconds and eclipsed 10 seconds alternately. The height and range of the light remain as heretofore. The illuminating apparatus is dioptric of the 6th order. This notice affects admiralty charts No. 589, 580 and 1917; British Columbia pilot, 1898, page 210; and Canadian list of lights and fog signals, 1898, No. 1191.

2. Intervals Between Prospect Point Fog Bell Strokes—With reference to notice to mariners No. 64 of 1898, notice is hereby given that the striking of the fog bell at Prospect point lighthouse has been changed from two strokes in quick succession every minute to one stroke every 20 seconds. This notice affects admiralty charts Nos. 922, 1911 and 1922; British Columbia pilot, 1898, page 181; and Canadian list of lights and fog signals, 1898, No. 1184.

CATARRH
New Book FREE
MAILED by SPROULE
Doane St. Boston

If you have not sent for this book you want to do so at once.

It is written by the man who is recognized all over this continent as the leading authority on Catarrh.

Most people make the mistake of supposing Catarrh to be only an aggravated form of head cold.

CATARRH MAY EXTEND TO ANY PART OF THE BODY. In America nothing is so common.

Most deafness results from it. Nine out of ten cases of dyspepsia are Catarrh of the Stomach. That is why the remedies for dyspepsia do not help it.

Bright's Disease, or Consumption of the Kidneys, is catarrhal in its early stages. Chronic Constipation is, more than half of the time, due to a liver clogged by Catarrh.

Dr. Sproule tells in his book how the presence of this disease affects each great organ. He also gives lists of symptoms. With them you can tell whether the organ itself is affected, or whether the trouble is due to the presence of Catarrh.

This book, giving the result of seventeen years' special study, is very clearly written. It has many fine illustrations and is expensively gotten up. It will be mailed free on application to Dr. Sproule, B.A., English Catarrh Specialist, (formerly Surgeon British Royal Naval Service), 7 Doane street, Boston.

TOPICS OF TO-DAY

DRAINING THE ZUYDER ZEE.

The brave fight which has been waged for centuries with an invading sea by the people of the Netherlands has been the subject of no end of tale and verse. But while man has finally got the better of the ocean in safeguarding the territory that remains to him, there is still a great expanse of water now where once there was dry land. The coast line of the Netherlands is very different to-day from what it was in the days of Roman domination. A chain of islands still indicates the ancient front of the continent, but inside that broken bulwark one now finds a vast shallow inland sea. Part of this is an old lake, between which and the ocean a barrier once existed, thirty or forty miles wide, which was gradually worn away until, in 1282, the lake became an arm of the sea.

For many years, however, projects for redeeming this watery waste have been under consideration, and at last a scheme has been undertaken with much promise of completion and success. The whole of what is known as the Zuyder Zee will not be drained. Its shape is such that very extensive dykes would be required. But after seeking to get the largest results with the smallest expenditure of money and labor, it has been decided that the most practicable plan to pursue is to recover only a part of the lost area. This will amount to something like 787 square miles, or over 500,000 acres. Even this task is a formidable one, and its performance is expected to consume 33 years in time and £9,600,000 in money.

Of course, the first step in the business is to construct a big dyke across the Zee, at a point where the best combination of shallow depths and intervening islands can be found. It is estimated that this important preliminary will cost £3,400,000 and nine years will elapse before its completion. It will then be necessary to begin pumping. Thousands of windmills, familiar institutions in Holland, will be established around the Zuyder Zee and set at work. Drainage operations will prove slow; but from the outset, of course, there will be some return in land. It will not be necessary to wait for the remaining 24 years to recover the investment.

The land that is drained will be particularly fruitful, and it is estimated that it will sell for at least £60 an acre. There are plenty of farms in Holland that will bring £100 an acre. At the minimum price about £30,000,000 would be realized, and this would be something like three times as much as was put into the enterprise. The venture would pay for itself within a short time after the monster dyke is built.

The work has been undertaken by a corporation or association of prominent Dutch capitalists, who are proceeding with the sanction of the government. It does not clearly appear from the accounts at hand whether they or the government will derive the greater pecuniary reward from their operations. Both Queen Wilhelmina and the legislative authorities have approved the plans of the Zuyder Zee Company, and already three thousand men—engineers, carpenters, masons, divers, sailors and common laborers—are employed.

HE IS 127 YEARS OLD.

Noah Raby on April 1 celebrated in the poorhouse at Piscataway, N.J., what he claims is his 127th birthday. John Hummer, the overseer of the poorhouse, has held his place for thirty years, and Noah was an inmate long before he took charge. Mr. Hummer believes firmly in Noah Raby's claim, and says that he appears to have the strength of mind and body as he did thirty years ago. Noah is blind, and when he makes little excursions about the grounds he is guided by a wire that stretches from point to point.

The old man is feeble, but he makes these little trips at least once a day. Raby spends most of his time sitting calmly in a cushioned arm chair, in which he sleeps in an upright position. His sunken eyes sparkle like gems, and give his countenance a strange aspect. His hair is long and white, and his beard, which has not changed color in fifty years, say the oldest inhabitants, is iron gray. His features are purely Caucasian, although he says that his father was an Indian and his mother a white. His accent is strongly Southern, and because of the absence of teeth he talks with a sort of whistling accompaniment.

THE BANK GENERALLY WINS.

The financial year of the Casino of Monte Carlo closed on March 31, and when the books were made up the receipts were found to be in advance of those of the previous year by a little more than one million francs. The grand total of the "takings" from the tables was 24,000,000f., or not far short of one million pounds—to be exact, £980,000. To this must be added the rent from the Hotel de Paris and the Cafe de Paris which belongs to the Casino Company—600,000f., or £24,000, making the total income for the year £1,004,000. This result is remarkable considering the bad season which the French Riviera has experienced this year on account of the war scare, the typhoid at Nice and other causes. A wealthy colliery owner from Yorkshire was the most consistently successful plunger, carrying away about £15,000 after three weeks' play. He seldom got up a loser. A Russian Count made the most successful coup of the season by winning 350,000f. in one night, in the new private gambling room recently established. No doubt, many players have carried away money from Monte Carlo, and lived at the expense of the bank during their stay, but the fact remains that the company has netted a clear million pounds upon the year's play. That is surely sufficient to demonstrate the truth of old Pere Blanc's bon mot: "Rouge perd et Noir perd; mais c'est toujors Blanc qui gagne." The bank is bound to beat the player, and all his combinations and systems, in the end. As a matter of fact, there are very few fortunes either lost or won at Monte Carlo now, as there were in the days of sensational and extravagant plunging. People are more reasonable. But there are a great many players who go to Monte Carlo prepared to "have a flutter," and to lose £100, £500 or £1,000, or more, as the case may be. There is a well known London money lender, for instance, who goes to Monte Carlo every year, and seldom loses less than £10,000. That is his limit, and when he has lost it he stops playing. So also with a noted Frankfort banker, and many other habitues of the gambling rooms. It is from this ever increasing class of "regular customers" that the bank makes its money.

THE RENASCENCE OF CRETE.

A correspondent in Crete writes to the London Chronicle: Things are not going altogether well in this island. It is perhaps no great loss that Consul-General Billotti is going to succeed Mr. Blunt, one of the old family tree that used to monopolize Levantine consulates, at Salonika, where his pro-Turkish sympathies will not be of much account one way or the other for the time that is left to him. But the story goes that Major-General Sir Herbert Chermside is getting very tired of running another man's administration for him, the "other man" being Prince George, who "seems to have no inborn genius for government, although he may be only feeling his way. In Sir Herbert's province of Candia he has certainly made a wonderful change in four months. Without a fresh tax or even enforcing all the existing taxes the income has risen from £800 to over £3,600 revenue per month, and there is an actual surplus this month of no less than £430, all current and outstanding accounts having been allowed for. The other provinces all appear to be in arrears and to be developing no new income."

"It has now been settled that the gendarmerie, which was to have been a mixed force, is to be all Italian. I think it is wise not to have too many elements in such a police organization. The Italians will suit politically, and the Carabiniers are a fine force, with a good system and excellent traditions. I have no doubt they will do very well if they are not too much meddled with from above."

WHO ARE THE FILIPINOS?

In Manila "Filipino" means a person of unmixed Spanish blood born in the Philippine Islands, says the Boston Transcript Aguinaldo, although, according to Spanish standards, well educated and representing the civilized population as distinguished from the savage population, is, according to the local standards, a halfbreed, being of mixed Spanish and Tagal blood. His followers, mainly drawn from the Tagal tribes, are always spoken of by the Spaniards of Manila as "Indians." Very few true "Filipinos," probably, are found following Aguinaldo. The majority of his officers are undoubtedly halfbreeds, and the mass of his army are what the Spaniards call "Indians."

Among the halfbreeds of the Philippines are found many men and women of education. Aguinaldo is himself an educated man. About one-fifth of the "congress" he gathered about him at Malolos are understood to have been what we call college graduates. From this element his officers have been drawn; his soldiers are the Tagal natives, unlettered, but shrewd and active, the class whom the Spaniards feared to educate. These men have blindly followed their education so far.

There are more than fifty tribes in the Philippines. Among the 8,000,000 or 10,000,000 people of the archipelago may be found not only Christians and Mohammedans, but also absolute savages and above the level of the Plutes. There is a fringe of cultivation to this population, but only a fringe.

CANADIAN TRADE HOLDING ITS OWN.

Satisfactory Reports from Most Points—Fewest Failures on Record.

By Associated Press.

New York, May 5.—Canadian trade reports this week are generally satisfactory, showing some improvement in business at most points, though not perhaps as much as had been expected. At St. John business is stimulated by favorable weather and through shipments of Western produce are steadily increasing, exports for the winter season having been over $7,000,000, a gain of 50.6 per cent. over the previous winter. Halifax reports business moving quietly with a hopeful feeling, though no rapid increase is expected. Prices continue firm for staples. Quebec reports a good volume of business, but collections hardly up to the mark. There is a large volume of heavy goods moving to Montreal to await the opening of navigation, and business is active with dry goods payments on the 4th apparently satisfactory. Money is stiff, with some scarcity. Wholesale trade at Toronto is in all lines very satisfactory, with prices firm and manufacturers busy. Unseasonable weather retards trade at Winnipeg, which is light, with fair collections.

While wholesale trade is satisfactory at Vancouver, retail is quiet on account of unfavorable weather, but payments on the 4th were well met. At Victoria trade continues quiet in most wholesale lines, with collections favorable.

New York, May 5.—Bank clearances of the Dominion of Canada were as follows:

Montreal, inc. 37.1 per cent		$18,380,546
Toronto, inc. 30.2 per cent		11,015,292
Winnipeg, inc. 2.8 per cent		1,746,000
Halifax, inc. 11.1 per cent		1,500,700
Hamilton, inc. 7.1 per cent		819,675
Vancouver		812,074
Victoria		740,229
St. John, dec. 27.6 per cent		643,377

New York, May 5.—Bradstreet's of to-morrow will say: While wholesale trade continues of between-seasons character very general evidence is forthcoming that the aggregate is in excess of last year, of undeniably large proportions, with retail demand of an encouraging character. That the volume of fall business booked is in excess of the average is very generally conceded. In industrial lines activity is marked in the delivery of goods on orders. Features of this week are the continued heavy shipments of supplies in the iron and steel trade, while the current demand is largely for small lots, though some good sales of pig iron and steel are reported. Advances in prices and reported great activity are the prominent points to the widespread demand for these products in foreign markets. Cereals are generally firm, cash wheat being fractionally higher at the sea-board on interruptions to movement by water route caused by the grain handlers' strike at Buffalo, while options business is in a waiting stage. Crop advices are still contradictory, but good weather has made for successful planting and growth of spring wheat, while foreign crop advices continue good, and the export demand is of only moderate proportions. This, coupled with smaller than expected decreases in world's supplies reported to Bradstreet's this week, acts as a check to values, which might otherwise record the admitted damage to the winter wheat crop. A special feature this week is the activity in building and in real estate reported from a number of widely separated sections, and lumber and building materials generally are consequently firm or tending upwards. Raw cotton is rather weaker on improved weather and crop conditions, but manufactured goods are firm, and some brown and bleached export grades have been advanced. Wood markets not a change in the buying of some large lots of domestic wools for speculation, and prices are firm in sympathy with the advanced quotations paid for some large lots of Australian bonded wool bought for re-export. London wool sales advices point to a ten per cent. advance.

Business failures are down to their lowest level, numbering only 164 this week, against 184 in this week a year ago, 240 in 1898, 228 in 1897, 267 in 1896, and 224 in 1895.

Arbor Day.

Winnipeg, May 4.—Arbor Day will be observed as a public holiday here tomororw.

PURE GRAPE CREAM OF TARTAR POWDER

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

Highest Honors, World's Fair
Gold Medal, Midwinter Fair

Avoid Baking Powders containing alum. They are injurious to health

Mr. T. C. Sorby To Visit Ottawa.

The Originator of the Harbor Improvement Plan to Explain It to the Government.

Real Estate Committee Verifies and Approves Figures in Mr. Sorby's Estimate.

As a result of the decision arrived at during yesterday's session of the general committee investigating Mr. T. C. Sorby's harbor improvement scheme, Mr. Sorby will shortly visit Ottawa to lay his plan before the Dominion authorities with all the details and information of which they may desire to be possessed. In the meanwhile Mr. Roy, of Westminster, the resident engineer in British Columbia of the federal government, will visit Victoria to confer with the committee on the harbor improvement project, meeting the engineering sub-committee at 10:30 o'clock next Monday morning. So much progress may be reported on the subject in which all Victorians are so vitally interested.

Yesterday's meeting of the general committee was presided over by His Worship Mayor Redfern, who presented the appended report of the real estate committee, with the observation that it could not but be regarded as highly satisfactory—the agreement of Mr. Sorby's figures with those presented by the committee going far to demonstrate the accuracy of the estimates on which the main proposals are based:

Victoria, B. C., May 4, 1899.

To the Chairman of the Harbor Committee:

Dear Sir,—We, your sub-committee on real estate, beg to report as follows:

(1.) Assessment.—We find that the assessment by the city of the properties affected by the proposed scheme are: Land, $740,985, and improvements, $342,150, making a total of $1,082,135 for the current year.

(2.) Purchase.—We consider that Mr. Sorby's estimate of the amount required for the purchase of the lands in question and the compensation to occupants (viz., $2,128,400) is reasonable and well founded.

(3.) Revenue.—We consider that his estimate of the net revenue (viz., $52,500) is conservative. It should be borne in mind that Mr. Sorby has made no allowance for any possible revenue that may be derived from the land reclaimed along the waterfront.

(Signed P. C. MACGREGOR,
C. F. TODD,
C. A. HOLLAND.

This report being received and "spread upon the minutes," Mr. Hayward urged the advisability of sending Mr. Sorby to Ottawa to fully elaborate his plan and emphasize its importance, with a view to securing the Dominion aid imperatively necessary for its carrying out. It would, Mr. Hayward pointed out, be most desirable to have Mr. Sorby on the spot to explain his estimates to the government, while Mr. Roy's report on the engineering features involved would follow later as a matter of detail.

The suggestion that Mr. Sorby be sent to Ottawa was warmly supported by Capt. J. G. Cox, Aldermen MacGregor and Brydon and Mr. Thomas B. Hall, while Mr. B. W. Pearse counselled delay until the committee has had its interview on Monday with the Dominion engineer. It was finally decided, on the motion of Captain Cox and Mr. T. B. Hall, that Mr. Sorby shall proceed East, and the city council will be asked to appropriate $600 for the purpose of defraying his expenses on the trip.

A man's health is the rope by which he climbs to success. If he can keep his health he will go on to success. Yet his health is the very thing he neglects more than anything else. It is easier to keep health than to regain it. When a man finds himself running down, when he realizes a loss of vitality and energy, he must call a halt. The strands of his rope are parting rapidly. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery has helped thousands of men in just this condition. It makes health, it makes pure rich blood, it forces out impurities and kills germs. It doesn't make any difference what name you call your trouble by—dyspepsia—kidney disease—rheumatism—consumption—skin disease—the "Golden Medical Discovery" will cure it absolutely. None of these diseases can retain hold on the body when it is full of rich, pure blood. Send 31 one-cent stamps to pay cost of mailing only, and receive a free copy of Dr. Pierce's Medical Adviser. Address World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

GRAND FORKS' HARD LUCK.

Townsite Owners' Complaint That C. P. R. Has Preferred Their Neighbor Columbia.

Ottawa, May 4.—The Columbia & Western railway company received the sanction of the Commons railway committee to an increase of bonding powers to $35,000 per mile from Robson to Midway, 100 miles, and branches therefrom. An application for a similar increase on the extension to Penticton was dropped. The bill was vigorously opposed by Messrs. Bostock, Robertson and Richardson, who claimed the present bonding powers of $25,000 per mile were quite sufficient.

Judge Clarke said the C. P. R., who control this charter, would arrange with the British Columbia government for converting the provincial land grant of 20,000 acres a mile into $4,000.

Mr. Bostock pointed out that the road was originally surveyed to pass through the town of Grand Forks, which had a population of 1,200, but the Canadian Pacific railway had now changed the route to side-track that town. He asked that Mr. R. Armstrong, president of the board of trade, Grand Forks, be heard.

Mr. Armstrong complained of the effect of the action of the Canadian Pacific railway. He also said that they did not employ any Canadians on construction—Swedes and Italians from Chicago being engaged in building the road, and it would be just as well to have Chinese on the work. In this case the town of Grand Forks was being side-tracked because the people would not give about one-third of all they had to the Canadian Pacific railway. All that Grand Forks wanted was justice.

Mr. Blair expressed sympathy with Grand Forks, and said the legislation which he would introduce this session to cover cases of this kind would be purposely made retroactive. Mr. Blair was satisfied that $35,000 bonding power was not excessive, as the road would cost $150,000 per mile in some places.

Obituary.

Halifax, May 5.—A cable received here announces the death at Bridge Weir, Scotland, of Rev. Thomas Duncan, former pastor of St. Andrew's church, Halifax. The death resulted from a stroke of paralysis. Mrs. H. G. Bauld, Halifax; Mrs. Herridge, wife of Rev. Dr. Herridge, Ottawa; and Charles H. Duncan, now in Yukon, are children of deceased.