THE CITY UNEMPLOYED.

Report of the Citizens' Relief Committee—Good Work of the Benevolent Society.

Mayor Teague Promises That the City Will Do All in Its Power to Alleviate the Distress.

The Citizens' Relief committee presented their report at a public meeting held in the Board of Trade rooms yesterday afternoon, His Worship the Mayor presiding, and amongst others present being Lieut.-Col. Prior, M.P.; A. H. Scaife, T. J. Burnes, A. Wilson, W. H. Mason, Joshua Davies, C. St. Barbe, H. Bostock, Ald. Dwyer and Rev. Solomon Cleaver.

After the meeting was called to order, Mr. Bostock read the report of the Relief Committee as follows:

"The committee, consisting of Messrs. Bostock, Burnes, Davies, Gordon, Mason, St. Barbe and Scaife, appointed to investigate all cases of distress at present existing in the city, and to report all cases suitable for employment to the City Council and to other employers who might be able to find work for same, reported as follows: "That a meeting was held on the 30th ultimo, at which Mr. Joshua Davies was appointed chairman, and at which it was resolved to ascertain from the City Council, Provincial Government and private employers of labor how many hands they could employ at $1 per diem, and that unemployed persons be invited to register at the office of the committee. The following letter was therefore addressed to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works and to His Worship the Mayor:

'SIR—I am directed to inform you that a meeting of citizens was held in the rooms of the Board of Trade under the presidency of His Worship the Mayor with the object of devising a method of ascertaining the actual amount of distress among the unemployed at present in this city and providing, if possible, work for the relief of same. An executive committee consisting of Messrs. Bostock, Burnes, Davies, Gordon, Mason, St. Barbe and Scaife was appointed to work in conjunction with the City Council and British Columbia Benevolent Society.

This morning it was decided to apply to you and to the City Council and to private persons inquiring if any and what sort of work could be at once provided for men at a uniform rate of one dollar a day.

The committee has already received applications from about seventy men who are in great distress from want of work.

I am therefore instructed to ask you to be good enough to favor me with an early reply stating what your department may be able to do to further the objects of the committee.'

"An advertisement was inserted in the COLONIST and Times, calling on the unemployed to register and on private people to communicate with the committee if they had any employment to offer.

"That applications for work have been received from 213 men, of whom 57 are married with wives and families dependent on them, and 156 are single. The committee has used its best endeavors to test the genuineness of each case, and, though it is possible that there may have been frauds amongst the applicants, there is no doubt that the majority of these poor men were suffering extreme hardships, in some cases amounting almost to starvation for want of work, and were eager to accept any jobs that could be found for them at $1 per diem. Only a few applicants, not more than six or seven, are natives of the United States.

"The committee, not having been provided with funds, desires to acknowledge the timely aid and assistance of the B. C. Benevolent society, under the guidance of its President, Mr. Burnes, and its Secretary, Mr. Mason, without which it would have been totally unable to relieve the immediate wants of the most pressing cases. In doing so the following orders were issued: For groceries, $112 worth; for meals, $54 worth; for bread, coal, clothing, etc., $46 worth.

"The committee begs to acknowledge the following donations, the sum of which has been handed to the Benevolent Society: Single Tax, $6.90; Rev. S. Cleaver, $5; J. L. Forrester, $5; employes C. P. N. Co, $111; total, $127.90.

"A large quantity of clothing and many bread tickets have also been received from various donors.

"In response to its appeals the committee has found work for men as follows: City Council, 29; R. P. Rithet, 20; Messrs. Riley & Patterson, 9; Sayward Mill and Lumber Co, 9; private individuals, 31; total, 88. The committee desires to thank Messrs. Rithet, Riley & Patterson and the Sayward Mill Company for their prompt reply to its appeals.

"The following reply has been received to the letter addressed to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works on the 30th ultimo:

VICTORIA, B.C., Feb. 6, 1894.

"SIR—In reply to your letter of 30th ult., inquiring what sort of work, if any, could be at once provided for the relief of the unemployed in this city, I regret to say that at present the Government do not see their way to provide any work which would serve the required purpose, and although sympathizing with the effort that is being made by the committee to relieve those who are distressed, have to point out that the Municipality Act (Sec. 109) provides that it shall be the duty of the city to make suitable provision for its poor and destitute, and that the Government may reimburse them an amount not to exceed twenty-five per cent. of the moneys expended by them for such purpose.

"(Signed) F. G. VERNON,
"C. C. of Lands and Works.
"To H. Bostock, Esq."

"The committee having now accomplished its object as far as its powers permit, begs to be discharged and at the same time, as there are still 117 men on its books, would draw attention to section 109 of the Municipal Act of 1892, which, as the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works points out in his letter, provides that 'It shall be the duty of every city and municipality, whether created under the General Municipalities Act or any special act, to make suitable provision for its poor and destitute.'

"The committee regrets that it was unaware of the purport of this section, as it would clearly appear therefrom that it was the duty of the Council to undertake the charge of this question of the unemployed from the first. JOSHUA DAVIES, Chairman.

VICTORIA, B. C, February 10, 1894.

In moving the adoption of this report Mr. T. J. Burnes said the committee had done their utmost to benefit the unemployed and distressed. Mr. Mason, the worthy secretary of the B. C. Benevolent Society, had neglected his own business to forward the interests of the public of Victoria. For himself, the speaker had no business that particularly took up his time, and he was glad to have had the opportunity of giving a helping hand in these trying circumstances. His means were not large; he wished they were, for he would employ every man if he could. There were also to be thanked Mr. Rithet, Messrs. Patterson and Riley, as well as the Sayward Mill Company, who had made a point of helping. He thought, however, that the corporation should have given more help than they had.

Mr. St. Barbe said that a very large majority of the men seeking assistance were honestly out of employment and were desirous of taking hold of any kind of work in return for the assistance given them. He believed that considerable distress also existed among women and children who had no one to provide for them; but he might say that, in this connection, entirely independent of the committee, the B. C. Benevolent Society were doing good work in looking after a very large number. The reason the committee made this report was because they were at the end of their resources, and could not get any more work for the men.

Mr. Mason remarked that since the 1st of January the BenevolenSt ociety had received in donations and subscriptions $580, and during the month, inclusive of what had been paid through the citizens' committee, there had been $456 expended for actual relief. A further amount of about $200 will soon be due, but will be counted in with the February disbursements. There was a balance of about $700, but how long that would last would depend on circumstances. In giving these statistics, Mr. Mason said the relief committee deserved the greatest thanks, especially Messrs. Bostock and St. Barbe, who had been indefatigable in their exertions and had devoted their entire time to the work.

Mayor Teague said the council had voted $1,000 for the park and $500 for rock crushing, and the general impression was that men would be put to work as fast as possible. He had heard complaint from the relief committee and had at once gone out to the park to see what was being done; he might say that he was rather disappointed that there were not more men at work. At the rock crusher he had found all the men who could possibly be crowded there, but heard that some of the men had refused to work because they had been asked to move the rock a little distance from the crusher. The foreman had assured him that no suitable man making application had been refused work. He thought a greater number of men might be put on without any serious disadvantage to the council. The council were perfectly aware of their duty in this matter, and would do their best to carry it out, but he did not believe it was right to advertise for people outside of the city to come and register themselves as paupers. The council was prepared to meet all deserving cases inside the city limits, but men had been drawn from outside. For one, he did not care to have a reflection cast upon the council; they had been doing fairly well, and when they expended the money voted the probability was that a further sum would be applied for. Not one single case of distress had been sent away from the City Hall, where, independently of the Benevolent Society, deserving persons had been supplied with groceries, coal, blankets, etc. There had been nothing said about these cases. Five men had acknowledged to him that they had recently come from the other side to obtain work, and, no doubt, it was owing to the advertisements. He believed that the citizens of Victoria were willing to do all they could to relieve the distress, and he referred to the bridge on the Burnside road, for which a sum of $2,500 had been voted. The bridge was not yet two-thirds finished and there was $5,000 spent, which was the means of giving a number of men employment at a reasonable wage.

Mr. Kitto spoke, advocating more public works for the relief of the people.

Mr. Gordon said the committee were not giving up because they were tired of the job, but rather because they could do no more. The corporation had not worked with them as they had expected. He instanced one case where the city engineer said he could not put more men on breaking stone because there were not any more hammers. When the city wanted men for the park, instead of coming to the committee they employed the men about the City Hall. This prevented carrying out the committee's intention, which was to employ as many men as possible one week, and lay them off so as to give another set of men a chance the next week, and so in some measure evenly distribute the relief. The action of the council not only confined the money spent to one set of men, but put an end to the usefulness of the committee.

Mr. Scaife asked the Mayor what construction the council placed on section 109 of the Municipal Act because it seemed to him that if the number of men employed by the corporation, thirty-six as stated by His Worship, is meeting the requirements of that clause, the council are taking a very peculiar view of it, or else they are not acting strictly up to the spirit in which the act was drawn.

Mr. Bostock said that Mr. Rithet had expressed himself as satisfied with the men sent to him. He also spoke in terms of praise of the work of the B.C. Benevolent Society.

Rev. Solomon Cleaver referred among other things to the silent sufferers at home, the women and children, and said he would be glad to know of any standing committee on distress to which deserving cases could be referred for investigation and relief.

Mr. Burnes immediately gave the name of a society that, irrespective of color, creed or nationality, never refused assistance to a deserving family or individual.

His Worship said that he had directed that tenders be called at once for the completion of the surface drains, which would give employment to a section of men at the regular wages, and also that the contractors were to pay full wages, otherwise they would not get their money from the city.

Mr. Davies pointed out that after all there was not more than two per cent. of the population out of employment.

His Worship said the Council was prepared to alleviate the distress as far as it was in their power, and for himself he would promise to do his utmost to get the Council to increase the number of men employed.

After some remarks to the same effect by a few other gentlemen, a vote of thanks was passed to His Worship and the meeting adjourned.

PARIS, Feb. 9.—There was an explosion last evening at the Military balloon station in Meudon Forest, five miles from this city. Nobody was injured, as all the workingmen were absent at the time. The tubes of the hydrogen engine were destroyed and considerable damage was done. The police think that the explosion was caused by anarchists.

TORONTO, Feb. 8.—Patrick J. Duffy, a mail clerk on the Grand Trunk railway, was yesterday committed for trial for having on January 16 last, while acting in the capacity of mail clerk on the railway between North Bay and Toronto, abstracted $520 from a letter sent from the post office at Huntsville to the Bank of Montreal, at Ottawa.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.

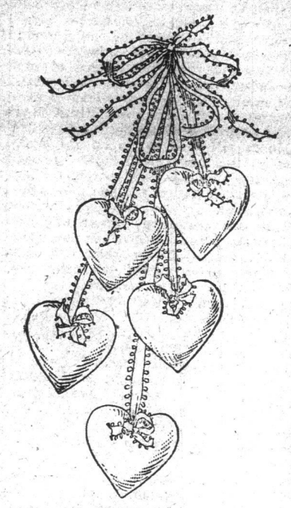
HOW TO PREPARE SUITABLE GIFTS AT HOME.

Appropriate Tokens and Sentiments For Use or For Fun—Dainty and Unique Designs—A Reminder of the Fourteenth of February.

"Dinna forget" is a plea and a reminder of the approaching day when little tokens of friendship are a recognized feature as they are of Easter and Christmas. The mystery that envelops them adds spice and flavor to the occasion.

Although cards on which appropriate sentiments are expressed can be bought to suit the case, one misses much pleasure in not preparing trifles at home. With little thought and time expended six or eight articles can be manufactured for the price of one store gift.

"A violet sachet" is appropriate for any one. It is made in the form of a heart out of violet colored velvet. For the foundation of one, cut two nicely



VIOLET SACHETS.

shaped hearts from wigan. Cover them with the plush on one side and a double layer of cotton on the other. This should be sprinkled thickly with sachet powder, the hearts overhanded together, the edge finished with a silver cord and "sweet violets" painted on with liquid silver. Silk or satin can be substituted for the velvet, or in fact any material. White linen will make a dainty one.

A bunch of tiny heart sachets suspended on narrow ribbons finished in a bow of many loops and ends can be made of odd bits of silk plush or satin or of brand new material. If of the latter, light pink, blue and green form a very pleasing combination. The hearts are filled with scented cotton similar to little pincushions. Violet and heliotrope powder in equal parts emit a delightful odor.

A little nonsense now and then
Is relished by the wisest men.

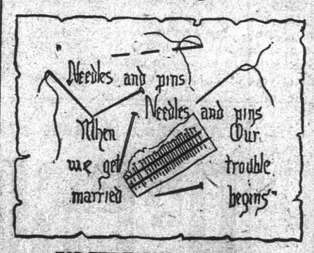
Try the crooked hairpin act and ascertain whether the above lines prove true. Of course it must be sent to one who is a little cranky, or the application will be lost. To arrange one of these saucy cards, bend a good sized hairpin so it is decidedly crooked. Cut little slits in a

A WATCH CASE.

piece of cardboard and stick it through. Glue six hairpins around it to form a border, two on the top and bottom, one on each end joining them on the corners. Pen this on in fancy lettering, "This is the kind of a hairpin you are."

Blotters are a good subject to work on for valentine tokens, not only because they are useful, but the paper comes in such delicate shades it forms a fine background for painting. Very dainty and elaborate designs can be carried out in the form of hearts. They can be made sentimental or touched with sarcasm, as the writer desires. One in the shape of the sole of a walking boot is a good one. The stitching and lettering are worked out with paint. Four layers of tan colored blotting paper are used for this, fastened together with a bow of tan colored ribbon.

Another unique design is that of a big bowknot made of true blue paper. Pansies also have a part whenever



FOR THE HAPPILY MARRIED.

thought, friendship or love is in the case. A large yellow pansy for a cover, with "Pansies stand for thought" expressed on it, can be made very tastily.

Suede is the most desirable material for a jewelry case, not only in regard to its adaptability for painting, but its qualities of softness, and it comes in contact with delicate jewelry. The suede comes in very delicate shades and can be used for the covering of almost any article that plush or velvet is. A soft gray combined with light blue is very effective.

A watch case of the heart design, made of the suede, will be found to be very dainty. Two heavy pasteboard hearts are first covered on both sides with a padding of scented cotton. This can be held in place by a little glue. The suede is drawn smoothly over one side of the hearts and the edges glued over on the inside. When this is dry, the inner side is glued on, pressing the edges down smoothly and cutting it to fit the front. The hearts are joined with a double band of light blue satin ribbon, shirred and sewed on the sides, graduating toward the bottom. A ruffle of the same is sewed on the back. Narrow width ribbon the same shade is drawn through holes in the back to hang it up by. "I'll keep watch for thee" and a wise looking little owl decorate the case.

Although this is the time to send tender and loving messages, we must vary our effusions and give some of our happily married friends a dig. The old ditty of

Needles and pins, needles and pins,
When we get married our trouble begins,

prettily lettered, and a few pins and needles scattered on a piece of cardboard, will make an admirable one. If one cannot draw the pins and needles, use the genuine articles and stick them through the cardboard.

ELLA S. WELCH.

FOR WOMEN IN GENERAL.

Isabella Proctor Gives a Few Facts Spiced With Philosophy.

Dark blue denim sewed together and tacked down at the edges like ordinary carpeting makes a pretty floor covering, and the color forms an excellent background for rugs. It is said by those housekeepers who have tried it to be durable, economical and clean.

The favorite present for the amateur artist to give her friends just now is a tapestry screen painted by herself. If she is wise, she contents herself with fruit or scroll subjects in conventional coloring, leaving the human figure to more experienced painters.

Now is the time of year when a 10 cent Chinese lily bulb placed in a blue and white bowl of water becomes a thing of beauty and a fragrant reminder of spring that is still so far away.

The fact that a thing is fashionable by no means insures its being in good taste. Witness the appalling combination of sky blue and royal purple lately in vogue.

Since earrings have gone out of fashion many women are having their small screws and drops made into stickpins.

Fine camphor ice is the very best thing to whiten and soften the skin of hands which have been disfigured by housework or exposure to cold.

The majority of women who say unkind things to or of each other are women who have no aim in life. There is nothing like an object of interest outside one's own personality, even if it be only a fad, to sweeten the mental atmosphere.

Fringed towels have retired from popularity in favor of those having hemstitched ends.

Thin drapery silk, when used for portieres or large curtains, falls in better folds and is much more durable if it is lined with cheesecloth or thin canton flannel.

If you want to induce your favorite girl friend to take dumbbell exercise, go to a dealer in foreign woods and buy two pieces of blackhead or snakewood and have a turner make them into a little pair of dumbbells. When they are oiled and polished to bring out the lovely natural marking of the wood, almost any young woman will agree to use them for the sake of possessing them.

Persons who have troublesome feet can sometimes find comfort, without sacrificing appearance, by buying shoes half a size longer and one width narrower.

Although women have the same moral right to smoke that men have, women of native delicacy and refinement will not do it, because it is not a dainty habit.

ISABELLA PROCTOR.

A Few Suggestions.

You've no idea how much a foot is improved, if it is naturally broad, by wearing a narrow boot a size too long. This gives a tapering effect and takes away any suggestion of clumsiness.

You've no idea how good a tablespoonful of glycerin is in warm water for washing the hair. Avoid borax, alcohol, bay rum and soda. All these have a tendency to make the hair gray and brittle. Clear warm water, with a few drops of violet extract, a small quantity of glycerin and pure castile soap, coerces every hair of hidden gold into shining.

You've no idea how low the bodices are cut this season until you go to the opera. Any of our fashionable beauties now might pose for their own grandmothers; the hair is parted in the middle severely and coifed high with an old fashioned comb, and the gown falls so low that not only are the neck and shoulders bared, but a part of the arm, as seen so often in old portraits.

You've no idea, unless you are an indefatigable shopper, how varied are the patterns in the exquisite organdies, filmy batistes and lustrous sateens now lightening the wintry gloom of the big shops. If you want summer gowns which your dearest friend cannot duplicate later for the life of her, get them in winter and lay them away.

You've no idea how refreshing to tired eyes are a few drops of witch hazel in a little warm water.

You've no idea how many social debts may be paid by one large afternoon tea, and paid enjoyably, too, for gossip and the cheery samovar are welcome when the slush is on the streets.

You've no idea what a useful article the chafing dish is until you want to get up a little supper in a hurry. Almost anything can be cooked in it. Here is a savory recipe: Melt a lump of butter in the chafing dish, chop a quarter of a good sized onion fine, brown it in the butter, cut a small veal kidney in thin slices and put it in with the onion, add a little salt and red pepper. Cover the dish tightly and let the kidneys cook until tender. Serve with bits of lemon.

KATE JORDAN.

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In great variety, including SPRAYING OUTFITS FOR ORCHARDS.

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AGENTS—J. M. DOUGLAS & CO., AND URQUHART & CO., MONTREAL

REV. DR. DOUGLAS.

MONTREAL, Feb. 10.—(Special.)—Rev. George Douglass, LL.D., principal of the Wesleyan college, is said to be lying at the point of death. He is very low to-night, and gradually sinking. Two weeks ago both his feet were amputated, and this has increased the weakness of the patient. Dr. Douglass was born in Roxburghshire, Scotland, in 1825, removing with his family to Montreal in 1832. He was apprenticed to a blacksmith, and after attending a private school and serving in a book store entered into partnership with his brother James, a carpenter and builder, who, like himself, subsequently became a Methodist minister. An insatiable reader and possessed of an unusually polished diction, combined with a wonderful gift of eloquence, Mr. Douglass was advised by his friends to study for the bar, but instead he turned his attentions to medicine. Becoming, however, united with the Methodist church, he served as a layman very acceptably in a variety of capacities, the result being that in 1849 he went to England to attend the Wesleyan Theological college; but missionaries being wanted at once for the West Indies he volunteered, and was sent to the Bahamas. Here his health became completely undermined, the result of the stings of poisonous insects, which caused the paralysis of his arms, deprived him of his sight, and otherwise severely crippled him. As soon as he was able he returned to Canada and entered zealously upon the work of the ministry, and despite all his physical disadvantages filled some of the most prominent pulpits in the connection. For the last twelve or fifteen years he has been president of the Wesleyan college, Montreal, a position which he has filled with the greatest satisfaction to the Conference as well as to the students under his care. In many of the most important social, political and religious controversies Dr. Douglass has taken a prominent part, and the news of the sad condition of him who has been well termed "a grand old man" will be heard with deep regret.

MONTREAL, Feb. 10.—Rev. Dr. Douglass, president of the Wesleyan College here, and one of the most eloquent Methodist divines in Canada, died this afternoon after a long illness.

U. S. IN SAMOA.

BERLIN, Feb. 10.—The Vossische Zeitung attacks the American Government for its laxity in carrying out the treaty programme in Samoa. The paper points out that the United States Commissioner to Samoa retires from his post in March, yet his successor has not been appointed. The chance of settling the land claims, it adds, have hardly been commenced, and now falls back in confusion.

GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.

EPPS'S COCOA.

BREAKFAST—SUPPER.

"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided for our breakfast and supper a delicately flavored beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—Civil Service Gazette.

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