Will Take An Easter Recess

After Day's Monotonous Accomplishments Legislature Adjourns Till Tuesday.

Estimates Promised to Be Ready, Budget Speech Follows---Mr. Martin Ill.

After transacting a very considerable amount of both public and private business yesterday afternoon, including the advance of by far the major portion of the measures upon the order paper, the legislature has risen for the Easter recess and will not re-assemble until Tuesday afternoon at the usual hour. It is promised that the estimates will then be ready for distribution to the members, and, the precedent motions having been disposed of yesterday, the budget will be presented during the following afternoon. In fact the members would have received the estimates yesterday, but for the fatal fact that the Printing Office reported it absolutely impossible to complete their binding. The fact that it was private members' day gave precedence to this class of business on the order paper. To it may also be attributed in some respects the circumstance that there was little in the debates of more than passing interest. Mr. Joseph Martin, who always is to be counted upon to contribute some spice and animation even to routine proceedings, also was missed from his accustomed place, and this was another explanation of a routine sitting. The energetic member from Vancouver unhappily contracted a serious chill on Wednesday evening, and consequently endured a night of suffering. His physicians yesterday reported an improvement in their patient's condition, but commanded the greatest caution for a time, which may necessitate Mr. Martin' infrequent appearance in the House during the coming week.

Included in the routine of the afternoon, Mr. Green preented a petition from the Kootenay Tramway Company, for incorporation, and the petitions were duly received of the Adams River Railway Company (Mr. Mounce), the British Columbia Northern and Mackenzie Valley Railway Company, (Mr. Stables), the Pacific Northern and Omineca Railway Company (Mr. Dickie), and the Pacific Northern and Eastern Railway Company (Mr. Dickie). Mr. Garden presented his bill to amend the Special Surveys Act, and Hon. Mr. Prentice his measure to prevent the obstruction of lakes and watercourses, both of which passed their first readings. Mr. Hayward had the honor of laying before the House the first standing committee report of the session, that of the Printing committee. In consequence of the intrusion of the Easter recess, the Private Bills committee recommended the extension of the time for the presentation of petitions, and for their reception, until the 17th April, and the 21st respectively. Formal motion for supply was passed, and it was ordered that the House go into committee of supply on Wednesday next. The bill to regulate immigration into British Columbia passed the committee stage without amendment, as did also the bills to regulate employment on works carried on under charters from the legislature, the New Westminster Relief Act, the Dairy and Live Stock Association's Amendment Bill, and the bill to amend the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies' Act.

ALASKA BOUNDARY.

The return of correspondence with respect to the proposed settlement of the Alaskan Boundary was laid on the table and the House by Hon. Mr. McInnes and was found to consist of a minute of council of the 14th March last, as follows: In view of the announcement in the daily press of the ratification by the United States Senate of the Alaska Boundary Treaty, which provides for the reference of the whole of the points of dispute to a mixed commission appointed by Great Britain and the United States respectively, the committee of council have had under consideration the advisability of the province of British Columbia being represented upon and before the commission. The committee do not propose to touch upon the importance to Canada, and more particularly to this province, of a settlement in accordance with the true construction of the Anglo-Russian treaty of 1825 of the boundary line, which divides British Columbia from the territory of Alaska, as the views of this province respecting the urgent necessity for the early adjustment and proper delineation of the said line were fully set forth in a minute dated the 22nd July, 1884, prepared in compliance with a request of the Secretary of State, and in subsequent minutes dated respectively the 8th September, 1884; the 9th November, 1885; the 20th November, 1885; the 7th February, 1887; the 16th March, 1887; and the 6th August, 1888. The committee, however, feel justified in asking that this province should be represented upon and before the commission. The committee trust that their request will receive favorable consideration, and they suggest that the decision of the Federal government should be communicated through the usual channel by telegraph. The committee recommend that a copy of this minute, if approved, be transmitted by His Honor, the Lieutenant-Governor to the Honorable the Secretary of State for Canada. The receipt of this minute was acknowledged on the 24th March last, with an intimation that the matter would be submitted to His Excellency, the Governor-General-in-Council.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Mr. Tatlow asked: How much of the $522,520.44 unpaid taxes at 31st December, 1901, have been collected up to date, and under what heads?

Hon. Mr. Prentice replied: Real property tax, $64,496.65; personal property tax, $5,704.29; wild land tax, $20,019.52; income tax, $960.25, or a total of $91,140.69. The above return shows collections of arrears up to the 28th February, the March returns not yet having been received.

Mr. Oliver inquired: Has the road superintendent for New Westminster district reported as to the amount of money required for roads and bridges in his district? If so, what is the amount estimated to be required for each of the different ridings?

The Chief Commissioner respouded: Yes. Richmond riding, $32,600; Dewdney, $26,450; Chilliwack, $13,685; Delta, $8,930.

As a question of privilege, the opposition leader mildly inquired whether in the preparation of the estimates the practical suggestions of the road superintendent had been given due weight? "Oh, oh," varied the smiles of the House at the honorable gentleman's disingenuousness, and the Speaker promptly ruled,

"Out of order!"

Mr. Garden asked: 1. Have any further communications taken place between this government and the Dominion government in reference to a resolution to this House of May 3, 1901, advocating the removal of the few Indians occupying a reserve on False creek, within the limits of the city of Vancouver, on fair terms to the Indians interested? 2. If not, will the government again bring the matter to the notice of the authorities at Ottawa, in order to assist the Vancouver representative at Ottawa to gain that object?

Hon. Mr. McInnes replied to the first question "no," and to the second "yes," this information being supplemented with a statement from the Premier that when in Ottawa with the Attorney-General this matter had been taken up with the Minister of the Interior, in association with other Indian reserve questions, and an assurance had been received that the provincial representations would receive early consideration. It would be noted that since that time Hon. Mr. Sifton had gone to England and this might necessarily delay results. This explanation would apply to all Indian reserve matters which had been gone into thoroughly.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite asked: 1. The number of Japanese employed underground in the coal mines at Cumberland? 2. The number of Chinese employed underground in the coal mines at Cumberland? 3. The rate of wages paid Japanese and Chinese working "company work" underground in the coal mines at Cumberland? 4. The number of white men employed underground in the coal mines at Cumberland?

The Premier replied: (1) 38; (2) 132; (3) $1.25 to $1.50 per diem; (4) 566, inclusive of 12 boys.

Mr. Kidd asked: 1. Have any leases for foreshore been issued by this government up to the present date (6th April, 1903), for the purpose of salmon fishing by traps or otherwise? 2. If so, how many have been issued, to whom, and for what locations?

The Chief Commissioner answered: (1) Yes; (2) Twelve, as follows:

Ed. Gordon, section 7, Otter District.
D. E. Campbell, section 8, Otter District.
D. G. Cox, sections 7 and 8, Otter District.
F. Keeling, section 23, Otter District.
B. C. Canning Co., sections 9 and 10, Otter District.
Wm. Munsie, section 90, Renfrew District.
C. F. Todd, section 52, Renfrew District.
A. E. Todd, section 55, Renfrew District.
J. E. Kinsman, section 79, Renfrew District.
H. Morris, Jumbo Island.
F. W. Morris, Jumbo Island.
F. W. Mitchell, Jumbo Island.

In further explanation Hon. Mr. Wells stated that a number of other applications were in hand, but could not be dealt with until surveys had been made, when these additional leases would be issued.

ELECTIVE OR APPOINTIVE.

In moving for a return relative to the appointment of road foremen in Alberni since the 1st June last, Mr. Neill pointed out that for 15 years the people of his district had chosen their own road foremen, working under the general superintendence of the road superintendent or government agent, and this system had been found in practice to work out advantageously. Under a change of system, however, the foremen were now appointed from Victoria direct, and the road work had been made commandable by a political machine in the hands of a little coterie. The result was lessened satisfaction in results, under which for example the Danish colonists at Cape Scott had now declined to further contribute the 25 per cent. with which they have heretofore supplemented the government appropriation for roads in their particular district. The member for Alberni strongly deprecated the placing of this political lever in the hands of babes and sucklings, in this case, however, far from innocent. As the government must be held responsible for the system, it must also be responsible for the babes and sucklings—accept their parentage, in other words, and the object of the resolution was to disclose the individual responsibility for the unsatisfactory conditions prevailing in Alberni.

The Chief Commissioner was glad that the member had directed attention to the circumstances related; he was always glad to hear from the interested members where improvements of detail seemed in order, although he thought the members should keep in touch with the department for the good of their constituents, rather than holding their information for presentation to the House—in order that little grievances may be redressed as they present themselves. As to the particular matter of Mr. Neill's complaint, he was inclined to think that the system was the better one of having the road foremen appointed by and responsible only to the department. He was quite willing, however, to give consideration to any especial conditions in Alberni.

Mr. Hayward also had a word of praise for the elective road foremen system, suggesting that the government might advantageously go so far as to enact legislation giving authority in this matter to those who pay the taxes and must use the roads.

Mr. Neill closed with a denial that he had withheld his information for sessional ammunition, and the resolution thereupon was carried.

COAL MINES REGULATION.

In moving the second reading of bill No. 11, amending the Coal Mines Regulation Act, Mr. Hawthornthwaite declared that while legislation could not create peace or harmony between labor and capital so long as present conditions exist, it was none the less the duty of legislators to do all in their power in the direction of improving these conditions. It was no portion of the thought or intention of his party to hamper or interfere with capital or restrict its opportunities in the development of British Columbia. On the contrary, all possible aid would be lent in this direction, while the interests of the workers must rightly be a first consideration. The member for Nanaimo then proceeded to an explanation of his bill, which provides in brief for a maximum working day for miners of eight hours "from bank to bank"; fortnightly payments of coal miners' wages; no excess of the 2,240 pound ton; and the employment of skilled men to timber working places where it is not practicable to keep reasonable supplies of timber in the working places. The Nanaimo member dealt more particularly with the conditions at Fernie, asserting that the vote on the length of the working day had been taken in such a manner as to make it difficult to get other than a prejudiced verdict from the miners—since the superintendent and manager were watching how they voted—and also that from his information from individual miners in that district, the present two-year agreement could not last. It could not be a peace, but merely a truce. The miners alleged they could not submit to present conditions, and did not intend to carry out the contract entered into for the two-year period, although for the sake of peace and stability of conditions within the province, he hoped that carried out it would be. The House, he held, should do all within its power, by improvement of the working conditions, to assure its preservation. It had been said that any legislation which he might introduce this session would not be allowed to pass. He hoped that this was not so, and that members would not be dominated by party feeling to the extent of killing good legislation in the cause of labor merely for political party reasons.

The Premier moved adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Green also offered a bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, explaining as he moved the second reading that it was a duplication of his measure of last session, since disallowed, without of course the reference to Japanese attached by the now Provincial Secretary, and which in his (Mr. Green's) opinion was the especial cause of disallowance, as he had at the time of its incorporation made bold to predict. He noted that the Provincial Secretary was now stealing his thunder by introducing the same identical bill as government measure No. 7.

Hon. Mr. McInnes denied that the act of last session had been disallowed in consequence of his amendment. The opinion had been given by the Minister of Justice that it was ultra vires of the legislature. He moved the adjournment of the debate.

This was objected to by Messrs. McBride, Curtis and McPhillips, each of whom in turn sang the praises of the member for Slocan.

The motion for adjournment prevailed, however.

Next Hon. Mr. McInnes brought forward his amending bill, which he explained was identical with that of the member for Slocan. He reiterated that disallowance of this measure last session had not resulted through the incorporation of the Japanese clause. It would have been quite as much ultra vires without as with it. The only reason now for the exclusion of mention of Japanese was that when the Premier and the Attorney-General had been in Ottawa recently, they had been assured by the Dominion premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, that if the restrictions were applied exclusively to Chinese, they would not be further disallowed. The measure might therefore be considered as a test of Dominion bona fides in the matter.

Mr. Green had an I-told-you-so to whisper as his contribution to the debate, and

Mr. McPhillips gave great credit to the Slocan member for having anticipated last session that his measure would meet the fate of disallowance.

Mr. McBride thought it peculiar that the Provincial Secretary should inferentially suggest that the word of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in this matter was to be questioned—that it should be made a question of test as to whether the federal government would stand by specific pledges. He demanded that Premier Prior repudiate on his part such a base suggestion.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite did not anticipate that this act if passed would be any more effective than others that had gone before. There were laws upon the statute book already which, if properly enforced—as they could not be so long as the governments favored the corporations in every possibly way—would keep nine-tenths of the Chinese now employed in mines out of such service. In the hope, but not the expectation, that the measure would do good, he would support it.

The second reading carried.

ESTIMATES TUESDAY.

Although the government had hoped to have the estimates ready for distribution prior to the rising of the House, the King's Printer reported this impossible, and the Premier gave the assurance that they would be ready on Tuesday, the budget following probably on Wednesday.

ON THE NOTICE PAPER.

Mr. Neill: To move that not more than nine hours shall constitute a day's work for all directly employed by the government on roads, streets, bridges and wharves.

Mr. Curtis: To move for a return with regard to the appointment of Hon. T. Mayne Daly as King's Counsel in the prosecution of one Collister and one Beamish in the summer of 1901 for intimidation.

Hon. Mr. Eberts: To introduce a bill to amend the Benevolent Societies Act.

Mr. Curtis: To move for a return of a copy of every notice of reserve of provincial lands now in force, stating the purpose for which each reserve is made and the approximate area of each reserve.

Mr. Curtis: To ask (1) Will a report of the recent visit to Ottawa of the Premier and the Attorney-General be laid before the House; and if so, when?

Mr. Gilmour: To ask—Have any of the officials in the Registry Office at Vancouver sent in their resignations within the past three months; and if so, who are they and what action has been taken by the government to fill the vacancies?

Mr. Oliver: To ask (1) How many applications for licenses to prospect for coal or petroleum in block 4,593, South East Kootenay, have been made to date; (2) how many such applications have been granted, and what are the names and places of residence of the licensees; (3) as the reserve placed upon block 4,593 in August, 1899, does not exclude prospecting for coal or petroleum, why have applications for such purposes been refused; (4) why is the said reserve still maintained with regard to these lands; and (5) when is such reserve to be taken off?

Mr. Curtis: To ask—Is it the intention of the government to introduce legislation by amending the Railway Assessment Act, or otherwise to provide that railway companies shall, within this province, give free transportation over their respective railways to members of this House?

Mr. Curtis: To ask—Is it intended to change the name of the Trail Creek mining division to the Rossland mining division.

Mr. Green: To ask—Has the government agent or the road superintendent for the Slocan riding reported as to the amounts of money required for roads, trails and bridges in that riding, and, if so, what is the amounts estimated, first, for maintenance and repairs; and, secondly, for new work?

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Appointments Made and List of New Companies Incorporated.

The Provincial Gazette today contains the following list of appointments.

Noble Burns, of Trail, police magistrate, to be stipendiary magistrate in and for the county of Kootenay, and magistrate under the Small Debts court for said city and within radius of five miles.

Frank H. Mobley, of Atlin, to be license commissioner for Atlin licensing district, vice J. St. Clair Blackett, resigned.

John Kesley, of Cumberland, to be a member of the board of examiners for Comox coal mine, vice W. Johnston, resigned.

An order-in-council passed at Ottawa appeals providing that the regulations relating to hay lands in Manitoba and the Northwest Territory shall apply to lands within the railway belt in the province of British Columbia.

Further notices that applicatons for coal prospecting licenses in Southwest Kootenay shall be made, appear in the issue.

The Dundonald Mining Company, Ltd., capitalized at $250,000, is incorporated. The stock is divided into 1,000,000 shares.

The British Columba Power & Manufacturing Company, Ltd., also is included among those certified as incorporated. Its capital is $25,000, divided into 250 shares. It is organized to carry on an iron foundry business.

The Trites-Wood Co., Ltd., is incorporated with a capital of $250,000, divided into 250,000 shares. The object of the company is to carry on a general mercantile business.

Another company is the Pingston Creek Lumber Company, Ltd., which is capitalized at $15,000, divided into 150 shares.

Tenders for the Eburne school building are invited up to April 20th. The building is a one-story frame one.

AN ASSIGNMENT.

Firm of Erskine, Wall & Co., Grocers, Suffers a Business Embarrassment.

General regret was expressed yesterday at the announcement that the well known grocery firm of Erskine, Wall & Co., had made an assignment to J. H. Lawson, sr., representing R. P. Rithet & Co., and Chas. F. Todd of J. H. Todd & Sons. A receiver, Mr. C. Rochussen, representing Messrs. Rithet & Co., took charge of the business yesterday afternoon.

The statement of assets and liabilities shows a considerable surplus in favor of the former, ranging in the neighborhood of $16,000, the total assets approximating $40,000—this latter sum including book debts amounting to some $18,000.

A meeting of the creditors will be held on Monday afternoon next, when an effort will be made to arrange for a continuance of the business—in the meantime the receiver will remain in charge.

The establishment was one of the largest in the city. It was formerly conducted in premises on the corner of Government and Fort streets. Some three years ago a new block further down the street was built and the firm occupied the Southern section.

Among the causes contributing to the embarrassment is said to be one arising out of the disaster to H. M. S. Condor, which occurred a little over a year ago, the firm losing heavily on a large lot of goods supplied for which they could not secure indemnity.

The flavor of most clear soups is improved by adding a small lump of sugar just before taking them from the fire.

Opposed To Convention

Liberals Turn Down the Proposition to Hold Another "Love Feast"

Action Is Looked Upon As a Triumph For "Fighting Joe"

"Resolved, that the Victoria Liberal Association is opposed to the calling of another provincial Liberal convention."

By the passing of the above resolution, the Liberals of Victoria at an adjourned meeting of the Liberal Association, held last night, "turned down" the movement aiming at the calling of another provincial convention which has engrossed the attention of every Liberal camp in the province for some weeks past.

The meeting was held in Labor Hall and there was a good attendance. Vice-President John Taylor occupied the chair. The object of the gathering was to discuss a resolution, proposed by W. J. Hanna, and seconded by John Piercy, referring to the expediency of the calling of another provincial convention, and that business was taken up immediately. Mr. Hanna moved that the following reply be sent to the Vancouver Liberal Association on the calling of another provincial convention:

"We, the Victoria Liberal Association are pleased to answer 'Yes.' We would be in favor of having another convention called, provided it was mainly for the purpose of framing a platform or policy that would be up-to-date and progressive so as to satisfy the general electors; but a number of the association having already decided against a convention proves conclusively that we cannot agree on the subject and therefore had better cease to discuss it. Without doubt some of the association wish a convention for the purpose of discussing the question of leadership, which at once signifies but too plainly that disputes would arise detrimental to the unity of the party; consequently we are of opinion that whatever amendments or ratification that may be made to the Liberal policy between now and the election, be made through resolutions of the Liberal Association of the province, to the provincial executive, or such committee as may be approved of by the different associations for campaign purposes. We also most emphatically urge that all discussions of leadership be prohibited until after the election, when the members then so elected shall decide that matter for themselves."

Speaking in favor of the resolution, Mr. Hanna said: "In moving this resolution I do so confident that it is the only possible course we can take to accomplish anything like success. In the past we have unfortunately been disputing and wasting our substance on the question of leadership, forgetting that the main question which should be uppermost in the minds of every one having the welfare of his country at heart, is, What is the best policy for the development of the province, and how can we best perfect that policy and elect men to carry it out? We have already decided on party lines, and have no disagreement on that score, with the exception, perhaps, of some place man, who sees a chance to gamble yet a little longer. Therefore our business now is to perfect a policy in the most modern manner with which to go to the electorate, prohibiting all discussions of leadership until after the election, when the members so elected can decide that matter for themselves. And to prove to you that the coast is clear for so doing, I will read to you a letter from the gentleman selected as leader at the last convention, and which is in answer to my question as to the leadership:

"'Victoria, B. C., April 2, 1903.

"'W. J. Hanna, Esq.,

"'Dear Sir,—In the coming election it will be necessary for the Liberal party to satisfy the people that if returned to power they will be able to develop the province. We cannot therefore afford to quarrel among ourselves about the leadership. Personally I am quite willing that that question should be settled by the Liberal members elected.

"'Yours truly,

"'(Signed). JOSEPH MARTIN.'

"You will observe gentlemen, that this letter urges us to unite for the development of the country, and within the last years we have published to the world that we were a united British people, and we have backed up those utterances by sacrificing the blood of Canada's best in Africa. In which act, sir, we proved conclusively that a Briton's first thought is home and freedom, and fellow gentlemen, I ask you why should we back down from that standard? Should not our first thought be today, home and progress, the development of our country, the working out of the best policy possible with the determination not to be side-tracked or divided by the jealousies of any section of the party over such questions as leadership, but keeping in view the one great question—the policy of our province, the faithful carrying out of which must surely redound to the benefit of all?"

There was a general demand that Mr. Hanna withdraw his lengthy resolution and substitute for it one simply stating that the meeting was opposed to the idea of another convention. Mr. Hanna agreed to this, and such a resolution was passed. During the evening the proceedings were enlivened by a "happy family" incident, participated in by C. H. Lugrin and James Bell.

TESTING CHALLENGER.

Shamrock III. Given a Good Trial and Behaves Nobly.

Weymouth, Eng., April 8.—With club topsails set in a good 12 to 14 knot wind off shore, promising fast racing and a thorough test, both of speed and gear, the Shamrocks started today off down the wind for a leeward in windward trial. Shamrock III. was a good length ahead as the boats were sent off. She got away faster and was off witn double that lead before the older boat had fairly started. Booms were run off and Shamrock I. drew into the wake of the cup challenger, getting between her and the wind. This advantage enabled the old boat to draw up somewhat, but as the blanketing did not last, the challenger opened away fast and ran in such fashion as helped to dispel the doubts as to her speed when off the wind. When the boats were three-quarters on the way to the Shambles lightship the wind drew more Westerly and Shamrock III. had to run a course considerably more to the Westward, throwing her astern as they luffed for the Shambles. Shamrock I. led around the lightship. The times were: Shamrock I., 10.45:02; Shamrock III., 10.45:26.

Sheets were all home as they came on the wind, and the challenger, gaining faster and a trifle freer, went right past and to the leeward of the old boat before they had gone a mile to windward. After holding this tack for twenty minutes Shamrock III. came about and passed wide across the bows of Shamrock I. and taking up a position ahead and wide to windward pointing higher and sailing faster, she gained on every mile. The freshening wind caused some sea as the boats beat back, but the challenger stood up well to the wind and took the seas easily. She again crossed the bows of the older boat as they beat into the bay. The times as the yachts turned to Erin at the finish of the first round were: Shamrock III., 11.46:14; Shamrock I., 11.47:50.

As the two boats rounded the Erin, spinnakers were set for the next run to the Shambles. Smarter work on board Shamrock I. enabled her to make up 20 seconds of lost ground. They made fairly level racing down the wind, the challenger not gaining appreciably in the first couple of miles. The wind held fresh and fairly steady, allowing an honest trial of speed. Both boats were equally served by the wind and sailing practically in the same water took a little over 50 minutes to run the seven miles, and the boats turned the Shambles on the second round as follows: Shamrock III., 12:42:37; Shamrock I., 12:44:57.

All sheets were brought aboard again as the boats headed home, looking as though, with the breeze more Westerly, they might fetch through. The challenger gradually increased the gap. The yachts trimmed in as close as they could lie to a fine steady breeze and both made short work of the journey, doing about 12 knots. Shamrock III. pulled ahead the whole time, gaining three minutes from mark to mark. The yachts finished the second round as follows: Shamrock III., 1.28:35; Shamrock I., 1.33:58.

After a short break to enable George Watson to land from the challenger, the boats were sent off on another spinnaker run seaward.

This was the start of a second race. Shamrock III., which had a short lead in starting, widened the gap. The mark was turned on the round as follows: Shamrock III., 2:29.05; Shamrock I., 2:30:17. This was a gain of about a minute for the new yacht in the seven miles.

A couple of long tacks brought them home. Jib topsails were set and the challenger rapidly opened out a long lead, seemingly being well suited for the freshening wind.

The times at the finish of the day's work were: Shamrock III., 3:28:10; Shamrock I., 3:33:18. The new boat had thus beaten Shamrock I., four minutes over the last turn to windward.

Weymouth, Eng., April 8.—Designer Geo. T. Watson, afore the trial, said he certainly did not like the challenger on her first turn to leeward today, but her after performance he thought made ample amendment. Her work, he said, was up to his best expectations, and he looked for further improvement. Sail-maker Ratsey refused to answer the questions of interviewers, but admitted that the challenger's performance were a tale of a very different kind to that written by Shamrock II. It is arranged, if the conditions suit, to send the yachts tomorrow over a measured American cup course, 15 miles to leeward and return.

C. P. R. STEEL BRIDGES.

Huge Contracts for the Betterment of the Permanent Way.

Montreal, April 8.—In order that all the wooden bridges along the Canadian Pacific railway line to the Pacific Coast may be replaced by steel bridges as soon as possible, the management has contracted for the construction of two hundred and forty steel bridges, all of which are to be delivered during the present year. The bridges may vary in length from twenty to one hundred feet. The companies that have secured contracts are the followink: Canada Foundry Co., 69; Dominion Bridge Co., 160; Hamilton Bridge Co., 11, and the King Bridge Co., 2 bridges.

FOR ASSAULTING CHINESE BOY

Seven Boys Have Been Summoned to Appear in Police Court, Saturday.

The boys who are alleged to have assaulted the Chinese boy Hey and caused him to fall beneath the street car on Fort street, as a result of which he suffered injuries causing the amputation of his foot, have been summoned to appear in the police court on Saturday morning to answer to the charge of assault. Seven boys have been summoned in all. The Chinese boy was said to have been walking down Fort street some months ago when some of the boys struck at him, and he backed into the street and fell beneath the street car. The wheel caught his foot, which had to be amputated. A subscription was made at the Colonist office on behalf of the unfortunate Chinese boy, and several hundred dollars was subscribed.

THE CHINATOWN ASSAULT CASE

Three Men Accused of Wounding Chinese on Trial In Police Court.

A. Stewart, S. P. Sutton and A. Anderson appeared before the police magistrate in the Police Court yesterday morning charged with aggravated assault on the person of one Weng Lou Fong at the Chinese house No. 80 Cormorant street, on Tuesday morning between midnight and 1 o'clock. The trio had been drinking at the Sutton residence, having finished a five-gallon keg of beer, when they left the house to go to the steamer Charmer with Anderson, who was going to Vancouver.

Dr. Carter was the first witness. He said that he had been called to the police station, where he found Wong Lou Fong suffering severely from the effects of a kick. One wound was a long one, and necessitated four stitches being placed in it. The result might have been very serious, and as things are, the Chinaman, who hobbled into court with a stick, assisted by others, may have to undergo an operation.

Constables Harper and Munro told of running to the Chinese house as a result of hearing the noise. When they investigated and found that a Chinaman had been assaulted, Constable Munro arrested Stewart, and after securing Anderson, Constable Harper ran after Sutton, who escaped, and was arrested next morning at his father's residence.

The Chinaman and Chin Lang Bin, another of those present, said that the three accused broke into the building and came to the table, where a number of Chinese were playing, and scattered the dominoes, seizing some. Fong told them to go, and Stewart kicked him twice. The other two ran out when they saw that the man was injured. The witnesses said they were not gambling, but having a friendly game for fun. There were checks on the table, but the Chinese said they were not being used as money.

The case was remanded until tomorrow. Frank Higgins appeared for the defence. The three accused are out on bail, Anderson being allowed out on his own recognizances.

JOHN REDMOND'S OPINION.

Irish Leader Welcomes Land Bill in Spite of Reservations.

London, April 8.—John Redmond, the Irish leader, made an important speech at Dublin tonight, in which he welcomed the Irish land bill, in spite of the great defects, as the first measure proposed by an English minister having the avowed object of carrying into effect the policy of Parnell, and the Land League. Mr. Redmond said he did not wish to forestall the design of the coming national convention at Dublin. The latter's acceptance of the bill would mean its amendment and its certain passage into law. The rejection of the bill by the convention would mean that both Chief Secretary Wyndham and his bill would disappear.

RIOTS IN ROME.

Cavalry and Infantry Occupy the Holy City Yesterday.

Rome, April 8.—The aspect of Rome was completely changed early today The overcast sky added melancholy to the scene. The shops were open, but the shutters were up, as the proprietors intended to be ready for any eventuality. They were apprehensive of rioting, and feared as on other occasions that their windows would be smashed.

The whole city was occupied by troops. Detachments of cavalry were posted on the squares, and special details of soldiers and police were stationed around the Vatican, so as to prevent any attempt against the Papal palace. Foreigners continue to fly from Rome, but many of them cannot get away, as they are far from the railroad station. No cabs are obtainable, and the hotel omnibuses can carry only a limited number of passengers. If the strike continues, and all the foreigners leave the city, it is said that the boarding house-keepers will lose on an average $16,000 daily.

Unimportant encounters between the strikers and troops took place during the morning, the former wishing to hold meetings, which were forbidden, but the strikers were easily dispersed by cavalry charges, which were scarcely necessary. During the morning an attempt was made by strikers to overthrow a street car, but it failed.

Five hundred French pilgrims arrived here this morning, and had some startling experiences. They got off at a station on the outskirts of Rome so as to avoid going through the city, but there were no cabs, and all kinds of wagons and carts were used to take the pilgrims' baggage. The men and women of the party arrived at the Garibaldi bridge just as a detachment of cavalry charged a mob, and a scene indescribable of confusion ensued. With screams and shouts the pilgrims, in their efforts to escape, were scattered in all directions, and some of them have not yet been found.

About the middle of the day the strikers succeeded in gathering in numbers on the Corso Vittoria Emanuelo, almost in the centre of the city, and detachments of troops charged, fired three volleys and dispersed them. About a dozen men were reported to have been wounded.

The officials reported that order had been completely restored since noon, but Rome was still occupied by the military forces, and the general strike continues. Many strikers were arrested during the day. The government has determined to have a sufficient force of troops on hand to maintain order under any circumstances, and has issued instructions to send ten more battalions of troops to Rome. They will arrive here today.

EX-SENATOR SIMON.

Who Has Been Making Charges Against President Roosevelt.

PASSOVER FESTIVAL.

Commences Tomorrow Evening With Quaint Ancient Rites and Ceremonies.

The Passover Festival, observed annually by Israelites commences tomorrow evening and lasts for seven days. During this period the usual loaf bread is dispensed with and circular unleavened cakes called "Matzos" are substituted. The first evening's services of the festival are of a most interesting nature, the head of each Hebrew household conducting these services, called "Sedar." The ritual is founded on the biblical narrative of the escape of the Jews from Egyptian bondage. The leading features of the stay in Egypt and the exodus are commemorated by many quaint rites and ceremonies which have been handed down from remote times. For instance, symbolical dishes are used to typify the many afflictions which were endured. Bitter herbs and unleavened bread symbolize in a general way these afflictions, whilst dishes representing brick and mortar are made to indicate the sufferings under Pharoah's taskmasters. The "Sedar" is concluded with the singing of an ancient hymn, the origin of which is lost in antiquity. This hymn, strange to say, is not in Hebrew, but is sung in Chaldaic. It pictures the all-sovereignty of God, by showing that God is the final judge and arbiter over all creatures. The biblical account of the exodus is now idealized into a purely spiritual significance. The Passover is utilized as an appeal to the individual to escape from all influences tending to degrade and enslave the spirit and to rise to the full freedom of a sinless soul. Another custom of the "Sedar" is that the servant on this night sits at the same table with the master in order that the Jew may not forget that he was once a slave in Egypt, and the better to enforce the recognition that rich and poor are equal before God, virtue being the only test of merit.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

Rose Coghlan Appears in Pinero's Play "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray."

Much that has been read in magazines and newspapers regarding "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray" has been of such a conflicting nature that theatre-goers will probably show a good deal of alacrity in determining for themselves the merits or demerits of Pineros' heroine, and play at the Victoria theatre on Tuesday, April 14, when Rose Coghlan will appear as Paula Tanqueray. Those who have fallen under the spell of Olga Nethersole and Mrs. Patrick Campbell have been noticeably strong in their expressions of sympathy for the second Mrs. Tanqueray, as well as for Aubrey Tanqueray, who more than fulfills the obligations incurred by his second matrimonial venture.

FATALITIES.

Toronto, April 9.—Mary Damer, 55 Matilda street, died from a dose of carbolic acid taken with suicidal intent.

Glace Bay, April 9.—Moody Stubbart was killed by the explosion of a shot at the reservoir mines last night.

Ministers, Lawyers, Teachers, and others whose occupation gives but little exercise, should use Carter's Little Liver Pills for torpid liver and biliousness. One is a dose. Try them.

The Civic Cadi And His Court

Assaults by Striking Steamboatmen Ventilated---Six-Weeks For One.

McCallum Couldn't Tell Good Story---The Chinaman Who Had One More Think.

The strikers held the attention of the Cadi yesterday. James McKinnon got six weeks with hard labor for having punched Emil Vangelon, a non-union sailor. The magistrate read many sections of the code to him which would have cost him a longer residence at Topaz avenue had the charge been laid under them.

Vangelon went into the California hotel. McKinnon was there and knowing him as a former shipmate on the Amur, asked him to go and get his bag off the Tees.

"Don't you know we're all union men in Victoria, said McKinnon.

Vangelon said he didn't know. He had a good job and didn't want to leave it. Then McKinnon caught him and punched him on the eye, and then landed on the mouth, knocking out two teeth, and caused the left side of his face to swell. Vangelon left in a hurry, leaving his can.

McKinnon wanted to question this witness. "How many times did I hit you?" he asked.

"Twice, anyhow," said the witness.

"No. I didn't," said accused. "I only hit you once."

"Gwan," retorted the sailor. "You couldt black my eye, knock two teeth out and swell my face with one blow."

The magistrate looked very severely towards McKinnon and he read the law to him. There was clause after clause under which a charge could have been laid for the offence, which provided a sentence of three years. Six weeks with hard labor.

James McBride was called to answer the two charges of assault. He was one of the strikers parading Wharf street during the warmer period of the strike. Mr. A. R. Bailey, who is looking after his interests on behalf of the society, wishes to state, though, that he was not doing picket duty.

It seems several witnesses told the story, that Walter and Proctor Snyder, the victims of the alleged assault, and George Littie, were walking down to the steamer Danube on which two were going as deck hands. They carried their bags.

McBride stopped the trio on Wharf street, and asked where they were going. "To the Danube," said Snyder.

"Don't you know there's a strike on that boat?" said McBride.

"I don't care whether there is or not," said Snyder.

"I'm a striker, you" —(here follows a phrase never used in Sunday schools.)

Then as Littie told it, "he hauled off and smashed Walter Snyder. Proctor Snyder, who was a little way off, ran up and said, "Here, who are you hitting," and grabbed him by the coat collar. He ran at Proctor again, pulling Proctor Snyder along. Then McBride hollered, "Come on, fellows," and two or three fellows came. Proctor Snyder let go McBride, who made a smash at him, and ran back up Johnson street.

Constable Carlow told of arresting McBride, who was under the influence of liquor, but not incapable, in fact not at the stage where he would have felt called upon to arrest him.

Mr. Bodwell appeared on behalf of the prosecution, and Mr. Powell for the defence. Officials of the B. C. S. S. were present also. The two cases were adjourned until the 15th—as Walter Proctor, one of the witnesses, is absent on the Danube, then due.

Donald McCallum wishes he never saw the saws. For three months he will use the stone hammer instead of a saw—for his story was not good enough.

When he was charged with stealing three saws, valued at $7.50, from a woodshed on Simcoe street, he said he had been given them to sell by a man named Gibson who had gone to San Juan.

The police do not think Gibson will ever reach San Juan—in fact they say there is no Gibson, and McCallum could not prove that he existed.

Mr. Rose was called. McCallum sent for him to clear up this matter, but he couldn't.

All that Mr. Rose knew was that he saw one Barret with Callum. Barret had a sack tied up fifteen inches from the top, and the contents were chunky, hard and compact; he was sure they were not saws, more like food or clothes. That's all he knew. He didn't know Gibson.

Well Gibson gave me the saws, that's all, says McCallum.

But the Cadi hears many a better told tale, and he thought that three months with Warden John was the right medicine for Mr. McCallum.

Woo Sang, of Cormorant street, has been doping himself into the belief that he is buncoing the revenue tax collector. When he gets certain documents signed by the Cadi this morning he will have another think coming.

Woo Sang is a tailor who has two men in his employ. Mr. Carter has been visiting him many times to collect for the two men on behalf of the province—but, all he has ever got is "no money now, you come tomollo."

Then the two vanished. When Mr. Carter called, Woo said he had no more men now —"times too hard." However, he would pay his own tax. He got a receipt. Then he sent word to the two men to come back—the collector had been buncoed.

But Mr. Carter was on the watch—and that is why he has secured an invitation for Woo to come to the Cadi's court on Tuesday next.

LA GRIPPE HAS CUT THE AVERAGE

Two Hundred Less Scholars every day During March than February.

Bad weather, la grippe and amateur theatrical practices played havoc with the school attendance last month. There were two hundred less pupils present every day on the average than during February. The percentage was only 83.86 in March, as against 86.64 the month before.

Following is the usual summary by schools:

	No. Pres.	Dly. Av.
High School	191	156.77
Boys' Central	488	416.05
Girls' Central	447	371.42
North Ward	440	366 70
South Park	397	338.70
Victoria West	297	250.90
Spring Ridge	143	121.35
Kingston Street	128	104.06
Hillside Avenue	123	94.30
Rock Bay	94	75.98
Total for March	2748	2304.62
Total for February	2759	2500.78

Thus, while the number attending during the month was the same as in February, the average daily attendance fell off nearly 200, and the amount of tardiness increased over 50 per cent.

The only divisions in which the average number daily present reached 90 per cent of the number recorded as present during the month were:

High School, Div. 1.
Boys' School,