Legislative Assembly

Yesterday Was Devoted to Discussion of Assessment Bill.

Considerable Progress Made on the Important Measure.

Amendments and Suggestions By Opposition Members are Accepted.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

(Ninth Day.)

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2 p.m. Prayers were read by the Rev. W. Leslie Clay, B. A.

PETITIONS.

Mr. Brown (Greenwood), presented a petition from the British Columbia Copper Company and others re steam boiler inspections.

MOTIONS.

Mr. Oliver moved: That an order of the House be granted for a return showing all moneys expended, and to whom paid, in connection with the Westminster-Ladner wagon road from the first day of June last up to the present time. Also for copies of all correspondence between the government and any other person or persons or bodies corporate in respect of right of way and in respect of contributions for the construction of the said road.

Mr. Oliver said he had reason to believe this road had cost much more than estimated. Also that the New Westminster Board of Trade have contributed in cash in consideration of the road being built this season. The road was not yet completed.

The Premier said he was pleased, on behalf of the government, to submit to the House all the data connected with this public work. So far as the government is concerned, the expenditure has been conducted with due regard to economy. In reply to the criticisms of Mr. Oliver, he said the work has been done well, and the present condition in which the road has been left is due to the straitened financial condition of the provincial treasury. The money expended on this road has been laid out wisely and well. He himself had always been enthusiastically in favor of this great trunk road. When Mr. Oliver looked into this matter more fully he would find that the government had fully done its duty in the matter.

Mr. Oliver said he did not mean his remarks or motion as hostile criticism of the government, but just to draw attention to the facts regarding the public work in question. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Oliver moved: That an order of the House be granted for copies of all correspondence between the government, or any member thereof, and any other person or persons, re the construction of a wagon road from south end of the New Westminster bridge and the existing system of wagon roads.

Mr. Oliver explained at some length his reasons for asking for this information.

The Premier, in reply, said the government was quite willing to provide the necessary information. He regretted to learn that the municipality of Surrey was not willing to help. He did not look upon that bridge as a local, but as a provincial work, and he was glad to say that some years ago the municipalities of Westminster district were only too willing to give generously in such public matters. He hoped the Surrey people would think the matter over, for that bridge would undoubtedly mean a great deal to the farmers of the lower Fraser. Carried.

RETURNS PRESENTED.

The chief commissioner presented returns, as follows:

Return showing the coal and petroleum licenses, with names of grantees and locality of lands covered by same, issued since the 1st of August last to date, for lands in East Kootenay district outside blocks 4,593 and 4,594.

Return showing the number of coal prospecting licenses granted for lands in blocks 4,593 and 4,594, West Kootenay, from June 1st, 1903, up to date, with the names of the grantees and the quantity and locality of the land covered by such licenses.

Return of copies of all correspondence between the government or any member thereof, and any other person or persons, re the construction of a wagon road from south end of the New Westminster bridge and the existing system of wagon roads.

BILLS.

Mr. Brown moved that section 3 of the bill to amend the Coal Mines Act be struck out. He said this was done because he believed it most unwise to make this change in the act. Usually there is some great basic principle as the actuating motive in those changes. But the House should be careful not to give away the resources of the province, and yet not to place undue restrictions upon development. He thought the government was doing the latter by increasing the prospectors' license fee. In reply to the argument that the prospector found his coal first and got his license afterwards, Mr. Brown said he could not agree with this view. In oil prospecting, for example, the process of prospecting is exceedingly expensive; the prospector had to bore from 1,000 to 3,000 feet to reach the oil. As it was not a barrel of oil had been produced yet in this province, and he feared this increased license fee would strangle oil prospecting.

The chief commissioner said Mr. Brown had not taken into consideration the fact that the taxes throughout the province generally were being raised, and that it was no more unjust to raise this tax than it was to raise it upon other industries. The miner in the metalliferous fields has to take out a license before he can prospect at all. The coal prospect had the privilege of previous selection of a large tract (640 acres) for his own use before he had to take out a license. Why should not such a man pay something for the privilege thus granted him? The government would get its proper proportion of the proceeds of the coal and oil when the mine begins to ship, and not from the fifteen cents per acre on the leasehold.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite was sure Mr. Brown did not understand the situation or he would not have brought forward such a motion. He had not the advantage of coming, as he did, from a great coal mining region, where these things were well understood. Mr. Brown's plea simply resolved itself into so much special pleading for the middleman. The coal fields of the province were fast being worked out, and it was the government's duty to guard, as far as possible, those valuable assets. The available coal fields of the province had already been applied for by speculators, and the government should make those people pay for their privileges. Mr. Hawthornthwaite then humorously detailed conversations with representatives of various industries, all of whom complained bitterly against the proposed increase of taxation, each in his own industry. Such protests were idle; taxation must be increased, and everybody must expect to pay a fair share.

Mr. Oliver reverted to his former argument that the prospector's license was being made heavier than even the rental of the land after coal has been found. If any man should be favored it is the man who goes out to ascertain whether coal exists or not.

Mr. Houston (Nelson), wanted to know why the coal prospector is singled out for a raise of the license fee. But for the prospector British Columbia today would have no population except Fraser river fishermen, who would not be an advantage generally, at any rate to the sea of mountains from which he came. (Laughter.)

The Premier thought Messrs. Oliver and Houston labored under serious misconceptions of the position with which the government had to deal today. It was idle to discuss this question in all forms with metalliferous mining. They were not parallels. Let the hon. gentlemen inspect the records in the lands and works, and what would they find—the whole country blanketed with coal prospects. He could not believe Mr. Brown serious in attempting to contend that coal and metalliferous mining were similar. Before the license is issued to a coal prospector he knows that he has something good; in possession of a huge fortune. No complaints at all have come from the people who are prospecting for coal; only from the members of the opposition. If the legislature were to shake itself clear of petty issues, and if this matter were to be faced properly, the government must be sustained in imposing this additional tax. It had been suggested that the government should have made the tax $250 instead of $100; and had that been done he did not believe it would have hindered coal prospecting in any shape or form. Every avenue whereby revenue could be properly raised had to be taken, and the Premier concluded by strongly calling upon the House to support the government in its endeavors.

Mr. Macdonald (Rossland), resented Mr. Hawthornthwaite's insinuation that only persons from coal mining camps had a right to speak authoritatively on this matter. The major portion of the applications for coal leases in this province came from the Kootenays and Boundary district. He held that the hardships undertaken by the metalliferous and the coal prospector were identical, and he did not think it right that the coal prospector should be discriminated against. He paid his $100 fee for the privilege of finding out whether there is coal or not in the area he selects. There may be nothing there, and he loses his time, work and money. Then, a prospector who had a $50 license and had been working under it, if he wished to renew it would have to pay $100 for the privilege.

The motion of Mr. Brown was then put and lost on the following division:

Yeas—Messrs. McInnes, Drury, Brown, McNiven, Evans, Tanner, Oliver, J. A. Macdonald, Henderson, Munro, Paterson, Wells, Hall, Cameron, Houston.—15.

Nays—Messrs. Davidson, Hawthornthwaite, Williams, Tatlow, McBride, Wilson, Cotton, Ellison, Clifford, Fraser, Ross, A. McDonald, Green, Fulton, Garden, Taylor, Wright, Gifford, Shatford, Grant.—20.

The report was thereupon adopted, and the bill will be read at the next sitting of the House.

THE ASSESSMENT BILL.

The House then took up the adjourned consideration on bill No. 3, the Assessment Act, Mr. Clifford in the chair.

The attorney-general submitted all amendments to sub-section 4 of section 4 to the effect that agricultural and horticultural societies' land used exclusively for such purposes, be exempt to the extent of twenty acres.

Mr. Drury drew attention to the fact that many of the fraternal and benefit societies were large holders of municipal debentures; they lent money to a considerable extent, and he wanted to know whether those societies were to get off scot free. He charged the government with undue discrimination in excluding those institutions from the operation of the taxing scheme. He knew of one investment in this city by the Foresters amounting to $40,000, on which they received a good rate of interest.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow, in consideration of Mr. Drury's objections, withheld the section relating to taxation of companies.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the taxation of logs and lumber. Mr. Macdonald, leader of the opposition, held that once a log had paid royalty it should be exempt from all further taxation. Mr. Cotton asked if in that case were a man to invest his money in logs and hold them several years, should they pay no more taxation. Mr. Macdonald replied that logs should not be taxed more than once in one year. Hon. Mr. Wilson also pointed out the untenable nature of the opposition's argument, showing that if anybody chose to put his money into logs, he could escape all taxation. Mr. Paterson thought the royalty ought to protect the log until the saw passes through it. Mr. Oliver asked the attorney-general a number of questions regarding the payment of taxes by the various log-handlers, which the attorney-general declined to answer, as he was only there to aid his hon. friend, the finance minister and the House in getting this bill through committee, not to submit to cross-examination from the hon. member from Delta. Mr. Oliver held that investing money in logs would be foolish, as the teredo in salt and the danger from boom-breaking in fresh water would destroy all profit in the investment. Mr. Cotton politely thanked Mr. Oliver for his useful and entertaining lecture on natural history and political economy. In reply to various arguments by Mr. Oliver, Mr. Cotton told of the hard times which the owners of timber limits had to pass through during the times when the lumbering industry was in a very poor way. The arguments of Mr. Oliver were hardly relevant to the point at issue. Mr. Wells could not agree with Mr. Oliver's views, and said that the exaction of royalty was quite distinct from the raising of taxes.

A division took place on the proposed new sub-section (27), and offered by the hon. finance minister, as follows:

"So much of the personal property of every person as is represented by timber cut from lands within this province other than from lands belonging to the crown, upon which timber so cut the tax payable under the Land Act has been paid, and not otherwise; but this exemption shall be limited and confined to the personal property of the owner of said lands, and shall not extend to the personal property of any other person who may purchase or acquire timber so cut as aforesaid or any interest therein."

The section was carried by a vote of 20 to 14.

The following sections were all added to the bill on motion of the hon. finance minister:

"(21) So much of the income of the owner or lessee of any farm, orchard or ranch in this province as may be derived therefrom: Provided, however, that the real and personal property of said owner or lessee is assessed and taxed, but not otherwise; but this exemption shall not extend nor apply to the income of said owner or lessee which has been received by him from any other source and which is assessable and taxable under this act.

"(22) So much of the income of every merchant carrying on a wholesale or retail business in this province as has been derived and received from the profits of said business: Provided, however, that the stock-in-trade and other personal property connected with said business, owned by or in possession of the said merchant, is assessed and taxed, and not otherwise; but this exemption shall not extend nor apply to the income of said merchant which has been received by him from any other source and which is assessable and taxable under this act.

"(23) So much of the personal property of every merchant carrying on a wholesale or retail business in this province as shall be represented by the actual cash value of the bona fide ledger or books debts owing to him by customers for goods supplied in the ordinary course of business; provided, however, that if the cash value of such ledger or book debts shall at the time of assessment exceed one-half of the assessed value of his stock-in-trade, he shall be assessed and taxed upon such excess value in addition to his other personal property.

"(24) Timber and coal lands held under lease or license from the crown, in virtue of the Land Act of this province, under which a royalty and rental is reserved, or under which a license fee is reserved for the use of His Majesty, while so held, but not otherwise.

"(25) So much of the personal property of every person as is represented by timber cut upon or from lands held, or by the lessee or license under timber leaseholds or timber licenses issued under the Land Act, upon which timber so cut the rental royalty and license fees payable under said act have been paid, and not otherwise; but this exemption shall be limited and confined to the personal property of the lessee and license and shall not extend to the personal property of any other person who may purchase or acquire timber so cut as aforesaid or any interest therein."

Sub-section 28, moved by the hon. finance minister, was as follows:

"Where any corporation assessed and taxed under the heading, 'Taxation of Corporations,' shall have its properties and business wholly within and confined to this province, and where it has derived power by statute from this province, whereby the prices to be charged by it for public services have been limited by such statute, such company shall be exempt to the extent of one-half of the rate of tax imposed on its gross revenue, but only in the event of its operating expenses exceeding fifty per cent. of its gross revenue in any one year. Each company claiming exemption shall make a statutory declaration setting forth the facts entitling it to exemption, to be lodged with the minister of finance on or before the 30th day of November in each year."

Speaking to this sub-section, Mr. Cotton mentioned the case of street railway companies which were handicapped by being obliged to do a very large business to make ends meet, the outlay for operating expenses being very heavy, as much as 80 per cent.; besides which they were bound down by bylaw not to charge more than a certain sum for fare. The operation of such companies' business was exceedingly expensive, involving a plentiful supply of cars, ample power and a large staff of conductors and motormen. If the tax was not imposed upon gross revenue it would have to be upon net revenue, which would lead to great complication. He believed the proposals in the sub-section under consideration met the case fairly well for the present.

Mr. Macdonald (Rossland), thought all the necessary increase in revenue could very well have been secured by sticking to the old lines and simply raising the old taxes all round.

The sub-section carried.

Mr. McInnes moved that the following be added as a sub-section to section 4:

"All permanent improvements up to the value of twenty-five hundred dollars ($2,500) made on land used for agricultural purposes."

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said the government had fully considered this matter, and could not see their way to admitting this proposal. The settlers were already well provided for. In answer to a query from Mr. McInnes, he said the amount involved would be about $50,000.

Mr. McInnes then enquired if the government would not allow exemption of $1,500, the difference being made up on the increase in the wild land tax from 3 per cent. to 5 per cent.

Mr. Evans (Cowichan), asked if the government would not accept a proposition to exempt 50 per cent. of the settlers' property from taxation.

Mr. Cotton said Mr. Oliver would agree with him in saying that no class in the province was so prosperous as the farming class. They could not raise enough to supply the markets. The difficulty was that the markets were there but the farmer could not supply them. The hon. member for Alberni was trying to pose as a patron of the farming class in Alberni.

Mr. Oliver admitted Mr. Cotton's assertion to a limited extent. There were prosperous farmers in the province, but the majority were not. As a farmer he spoke whereof he knew. He alleged the farmer would be paying too much in taxes if this clause passed.

The vote on Mr. McInnes' proposed sub-section resulted 14 for and 15 against.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Tatlow, the following was added to sub-section 3 of section 6 (taxation of corporations) regarding the rate of taxation of the income of banks:

"Provided always that the personal property of every bank subject to assessment and taxation under this act shall be limited and confined to its personal property, from which no revenue is derived, and shall not extend to nor include its personal property from which its revenue is derived."

The amending and held-over clauses having been disposed of, the committee took up the bill where they left off the previous evening, and went through the sections as far as No. 108, when the committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

The House rose at 6 o'clock until 2 p.m. today.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Thursday next the Hon. Mr. Tatlow to ask leave to introduce a bill intituled An Act to Amend the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies Act.

By Mr. Oliver, questions of the Premier:

1. For what purpose did the Premier and the Attorney-General (Hon. Mr. McPhillips) visit Cassiar and Atlin?

2. Did the Premier and the Attorney-General (Hon. Mr. McPhillips) take part in the late election campaign in Cassiar and Atlin districts?

3. If so, what points were visited by the Premier and the Attorney-General?

4. At what points did the Premier and Attorney-General deliver election addresses in Cassiar and Atlin districts?

5. Under what authority are the election expenses of Ministers paid out of the provincial treasury?

By Mr. Oliver, questions of the Attorney-General:

1. Has any, and what, tangible benefit to the province been secured as a result of the visit of the Hon. C. Wilson and the Hon. R. F. Green to Ottawa?

2. Did the Hon. C. Wilson and the Hon. R. F. Green visit Montreal on provincial business?

3. If so, what was the nature of the business transacted in Montreal?

By Mr. Tanner, questions of the Provincial Secretary:

Is it the intention of the government to provide in the estimates this session for a new school house at Saanichton?

By Mr. Tanner, questions of the Chief Commissioner:

1. Is it the intention of the government to dispense with the services of a district road supervisor in the future in the Saanich electoral district?

2. If not, why not?

By Mr. J. A. Macdonald, that an order of the House be granted for a return of copies of all correspondence between the Corporation of the City of Rossland, or the mayor or any of the aldermen thereof, and the government during the month of October, 1903, with respect to the dismissal of the police magistrate at Rossland and the appointment of his successor.

Mr. McInnes to move, upon consideration of the report on bill No. 3, intituled An Act to Assess, Levy and Collect Taxes on Property and Income, that the following be added as a sub-section to section 4:

"All permanent improvements up to the value of $1,500 made on land used for agricultural purposes."

The Hon. Mr. McBride to ask leave to introduce a bill intituled An Act to Amend the Midway and Vernon Railway Aid Act, 1902.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

Paris, Dec. 5.—It is now stated that the great quantity of documents transmitted to the revision committee in the Deryfus case will prevent the rendering of an opinion by the commissioner before next Friday or Saturday. The anti-Dreyfus movement has received a check through the declaration of the French socialist party that it had not signed and did not approve of the recent manifesto urging opposition to the government's policy.

In washing woollens and flannels, Lever's Dry Soap (a powder) will be found very satisfactory.

Valuable Advice To B. C. Farmers

Dr. Tolmie Lectures on Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Mr. Graham of Pomeroy Discourses on Money-Making Hog.

The regular fall meeting of Matsqui Farmers' institute was held in the municipal hall on Tuesday, 10th November, at 1.30 p.m. The speakers in attendance on this occasion were Dr. S. F. Tolmie, V.S., of Victoria, and Andrew Graham, of Pomeroy, Manitoba. There was quite a good attendance. The president, Mr. H. R. Phillips, occupied the chair and in calling the meeting to order expressed regret that the occasion had arisen, owing to the death in the family of one of the members, they had seen fit to postpone the social and dance announced to take place in connection with these meetings, and the sympathy of the institute was extended, he felt sure, to the members of the bereaved family and also three other families whom death had visited during the past year.

Dr. Tolmie was the first speaker called upon, his subject being "Contagious Diseses of Animals." The cordiality of the reception bestowed upon the worthy gentleman was all that could be desired, and he lost no time in launching straight into his subject and commenced and gave a clear exposition of glanders, how to diagnose, the dangers of this disease to man and warning as to the danger of handling glandered horses. The bacillus of this disease will live four months in moist surroundings, such as the discharge from an affected animal's nose, adhering to the walls of the stable. All mangers should be thoroughly cleansed by the application of boiling water, the whole stable sprayed with a one to thirty mixture of crude carbolic acid and water, followed by a coating of whitewash. All stable utensils, etc., should be also disinfected.

Carcases of affected animals should be buried. A description was also given of the application of the Mallim test for the diagnosis of obscure cases of this disease.

Symptomatic anthrax, or black leg, is an infectious disease confined to certain localities. We usually find outbreaks of this occurring during the summer months on low-lying land, young animals as a rule being affected.

Animals become affected by wound infection, the germs gaining access to the animal's body through injuries to the skin or mouth. The principal symptoms are swellings appearing on the body, which on handling make a crackling sound. On making an incision into them they discharge a dark red frothy ill-smelling fluid. These enlargements are accompanied by severe lameness, loss of appetite and high fever. The disease is so rapid that curative treatment is not practicable. However, excellent results have been obtained from protective inoculation. Such as the application under the skin of black leg vaccine prepared by the Pasteur institute of Chicago.

Tuberculosis was the next subject treated on, and the importance of the public being fully aware of its nature and how it propagates. The disease is due to a living organism known as the tubercle bacillus which may be found in any part of the body of an affected animal. The symptoms of the disease are often very obscure, but it sometimes showed itself by the presence of a short dull cough and accelerated breathing on exercise, low condition even when well cared for, a rough condition of the hair, persistent diarrhoea, enlargement of the glands in the region of the throat, watery discharges from the eyes and nose and abscesses in the skin.

Tuberculosis of the udder, one of the most dangerous forms of the disease, was indicated by a disease firm and painless enlargement of the gland, the milk secretion being very little affected at first, but afterwards becoming watery and a hardening of the affected parts following.

The Doctor then described the application of the tuberculin test, the only sure method of diagnosing obscure cases. He also dwelt on the importance of good ventilation, drainage, cleanliness, and the admission of plenty of sunlight into our cow stables. The only sure way to be free from this disease was to test the herd with tuberculin about once a year and then see that all animals introduced into the herd were free from disease. The disease might be easily communicated to the herd by allowing human consumptives to expectorate about the cow stables.

The next question dealt upon was hog cholera. This is a very infectious disease due to the presence of the hog cholera bacillus. The usual symptoms were a staggering gait, cough, profuse diarrhoea, loss of appetite, the body of the animal on handling is found to be very hot and sensitive due to pressure, red patches sometimes appear on various parts of the body and a watery discharge from the eyes.

The disease is usually caused by the introduction of a diseased animal into a herd, by placing animals in pens, cars, steamers or corrals lately occupied by diseased animals, by leaving carcases of animals dying from this complaint unburied. It is also easily communicated by the clothes of attendants.

All outbreaks should be immediately reported to the department of agriculture, all animals dying should be burned and thorough disinfection of pens follow.

Actinomycosis or lumpy jaw was due to a vegetable fungus. The various symptoms exhibited by this disease were described. If the tumor appearing on the jaw was cut out when it first showed itself usually a cure would follow. If further advanced than this the internal administration of iodine of potash and the local application of some strong blister was generally effective.

Scab in sheep caused a great itchiness of the body, the wool was pulled out in patches, giving the animal a decidedly ragged appearance. The various forms were described, the disease usually seen in this country was body scab, due to the presence of a parasite which burrowed into the skin, setting up great irritation. They increased very rapidly. Methods for the eradication of this disease were fully described.

Malignant catarrh in cattle, foot rot and flukes in sheep were further points touched on. Drenching of horses and cattle and directions regarding cleanliness in using a milk tube, and the absolute necessity of cleanliness in milking, milking utensils and the milker and the general handling of the milk were discussed, the speaker explaining that considerable of the foreign matter sometimes gaining access to the milk pail, went into solution and could not be removed by straining. The only way to have clean milk was to keep filth from getting into the milk at all.

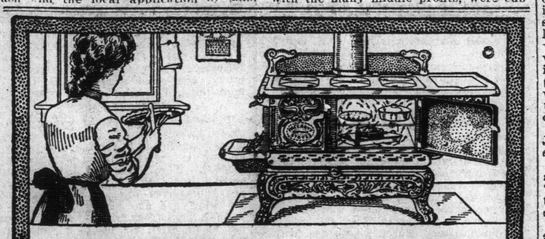
A great many questions were asked and naswered, and the Doctor closed an exceedingly interesting and practical address with a round of well-merited applause.

The president then called upon Mr. Graham, of Pomeroy, to speak upon the advantages of swine breeding and management. Mr. Graham then proceeded in part as follows:

Mr. president, ladies and gentlemen—The topic of which I have to speak about this afternoon is an important one, namely, the profitable side of pigs and what the British Columbia farmer must do to hold his own. It must be admitted a farm shorn of pigs is a farm with waste, as there is certainly food utilized as pig food. The pig is no longer to be regarded as the universal scavenger as it was thought to be years ago. Improvements in breeding has now made it possible to get a large weight of fine quality pork from a small amount of food in a short time. What better sight then to see a number of breeding sows and a number of young steers turning to profitable account the refuse of the farm. I presume the public taste on this Coast runs into the small fine flavored pork instead of the coarse meat produced years ago. The ordinary hog of thirty years ago did not fatten so profitably as the hog of today, rendered so in the changed and improved condition of the breeding. The nature of the food is the main consideration. Of course a farmer with most kind of bulky food on hand generally finds it more profitable to grow his pigs to a fair size before putting them up to fatten, while the farmer more restricted finds it desirable to fatten almost from weaning. Both rapid feeding and store running are profitable according to circumstances. The selection of a brood sow, not any wit less the sire, is of the utmost importance—one with good disposition, no crankiness or ugliness at the time of farrowing, with fourteen good teats. Breeding sows require food by scavenging apart from that which is more expensive, nor does the over-fattened sows make the most prolific mothers. This is also noticed in their young of being of a more weakly nature as compared with the offspring of mothers who have obtained a mixed diet and attained vigor from exercise. Mangels and other roots are good for sows, grass and clover having a tendency to purify the blood. This is desirable, for it mixes and enters into the starchy trough foods. All starchy roots require to be fed with flesh forming materials Where the food is entirely of this nature the mothers have nothing for frame building purposes of their young. Ill-luck in breeding and feeding sows on a strictly root diet renders it hard for a sow to be productive and carry a good litter to farrowing. The hog keeper who runs his pigs on green clover or lucerne, with the addition of corn, is about the nearest approach to economical pig breeding with healthliness; this with a good supply of naturing running water all the better; and from what I have observed while in your province you have this in a great many places.

Now I have said a little in regard to feeding. Next I will touch upon the profitable side of pig keeping, and what more profitable side can I show than in association with dairying; also, I may be allowed to say that the right side of the ledger in dairying is found in association with that of pig keeping. Nature has arranged that milk should be an all round food and the extraction of the cream makes it a one-sided food. Some equivalent should be given though. I know a large quantity of skim-milk is given. This does not supply enough fat and heat-giving substances to keep it in best health. Well soaked barley meal is one of the best additional foods. Pigs will not be profitable when the early dietary has been so arranged and neglected. Generally speaking, the death and ailments comes during the fortnight before weaning and one month after. Over-feeding at this season has done more injury than under-feeding. Barley meal is the standard food for the pig-feeder and a little milk makes it an ideal feed. Green food takes the place of skim-milk in supplying nitrogenous matter. Absolute cleanliness is essential to the well being of young pigs. They detest a dirty sty, and are made unhealthy by unnatural treatment. Bacon on this Coast is worth 20 and 22 cents per pound retail in stores. Now this is price of Wiltshire choice cuts in the English retail market. This should leave a good margin of profit for the grower and feeder.

Mr. Graham then spoke of the important delegations that had been sent to the old country, the result of which thousands of dollars worth of pork had been shipped there where it was required, in place of putting it on your British Columbia market to ruin your prices; and remarked the speaker, the English man knew when he gets what is best in his teeth. The cost of production. As this is the home of the clover with water and fencing and so favorable a climate as compared with Manitoba makes it a most desirable place. The various breeds and the most up-to-date methods of curing and the co-operation of farmers to secure better rates and to secure their feeding stuffs in carload lots from the East, thus doing away with the many middle profits, were subjects dwelt upon, and a good many questions were asked and answered. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered each speaker, who briefly responded, and a more enjoyable four hours' time was never spent. God Save the King closed the proceedings.



Pandora Range

A VENTILATING OVEN THAT VENTILATES.

There is only *one practical way* of ventilating the oven in a range and that way has been adopted in the "Pandora"—is an *actual working feature* and not a mere talking point.

Fresh air is drawn from the outside through small vents into the oven and is quickly heated and disseminated, while the odors and cooking fumes escape through small vents into the smoke flues and up the chimney.

Result is that expensive, juicy roasts retain their rich, natural flavors and are entirely free from cooking odors and taints, to which the palate is so sensitive. Puddings, bread, etc., when baked, are always light, fresh and free from taint.

In the production of the "Pandora" range you have all that scientific study, practical experience, skilled workmanship, and an immense and finely equipped plant combined, can produce.

For sale by all enterprising dealers. Booklets free.

McClary's

London, Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg, Vancouver, St. John, N. B.

CLARK & PEARSON, SOLE AGENTS.

MORE STORIES OF WAR PATH

(Continued from page 5.)

for after nightfall the local tribesmen had the inconsiderate wont of cutting up all camp followers and stragglers not yet within the British lines. I looked at my two servants. The syce was in a hopeless state of fear, but Whewas' teeth gleamed in the gloaming, and whenever my Mohammedan showed his ivories I knew he was bracing himself for an emergency. We kept the nervous groom between us and steadily marched forward. The heat from the rocks flanking our left was like that of a blast of a furnace, and the air was so dense and stifling that it seemed like battling with a gauze shroud. Parched with thirst and sick with hunger we struggled forward, straining our eyes in search of the lost camp.

Presently a light leaped out of the blackness. I immediately whispered a halt. Now, like "will-o'-the-wisps," flocks of fire danced about in front of us. Could this be a bivouac of the enemy? I told my servant to remain in position while I crept towards the distant lights. I stumbled down the face of a deep-cut nullah, and on clambering up the opposite bank I could discern in the distant play of the fires a few white tents. It was a British encampment. I would have shouted with joy but that I knew that any noise would have brought a sharp fusillade in our direction.

I stole back to my servants, and we boldly marched towards the tents.

"Halt! Who come dah?" shouted the native sentry.

"Friend," I replied.

"Parse, fren, alisvel!" answered the incoherent Ghoorka.

The news of our approach rapidly spread. Out of a large marquee hurried two or three officers.

"Glad to see you!" said one, as I rolled out of my saddle.

"Qui hi!" shouted another, "brandy peg low, Geldi Ghow!"

In the twinkling of an eye a servant appeared with a cooling draught, a big soda-and-brandy with a dash of snow in it from the white-capped mountain looming over the valley. I greedily drained the peg.

"That's only to moisten your throat," said they. "Have another, just to quench your thirst, and then we will allow talking. You are the first we have seen for an age."

His plucky pigmies were scouting round me.

"Well," thought I, "this is indeed hospitable."

"So good of you to come! Why, it's Villiers—good fellow! Just in time for dinner," cried the officers in chorus.

My men went off with their kind, and I was hustled into the mess tent. As I seated myself at the table, faces, beaming with good nature, turned to mine, I inwardly congratulated myself. I had never met with more cordial hospitality in my life.

As I commenced to eat an orderly entered the tent and whispered to one of the officers, who immediately got up and followed him. Then another orderly spoke to the man on my left.

"Excuse me, Villiers," and he hurriedly disappeared. Soon the one sitting opposite me was summoned in the same mysterious way. By and bye the first who had quitted the tent came back. All eyes were anxiously turned on him.

"Any more?" asked one.

"How many?" inquired another.

The answer slowly came: "Two, worse luck."

"Oh, that's nothing!. We had three before the evening was through last night."

I turned to the man on my right. "What are these good fellows talking about?"

"Fresh cases," he replied.

"Cases?" I exclaimed, with not little astonishment. "Cases of what?"

"Well," he grimly smiled, "not champagne—that's for certain."

I must have still looked bewildered.

"Ah! ah! Good joke that," I rather stupidly rejoined.

"You don't understand me," said he. "Why cholera, of course."

"Cholera! Oh, yes, I see," I faintly murmured. "Cholera!" I gazed in the kindly faces, and then it struck me that their uniforms seemed very familiar to me. My genial friends were doctors—they were all medicine men. Now I could understand their delight on seeing me—their sad lack of news. I had struck a cholera camp. These poor fellows had been isolated from the outer world for months. I almost choked with emotion. My heart seemed to sink in my boots. I tried to pull myself together, poured out another glass of wine, and was about swallowing it, when the doctors lifted their glasses and drank my health.

"So good of you to take pity on us! Just like you war correspondents. Don't seem to care a fig for anything."

"Well," thought I, struggling against a chill which seemed to freeze my heart, "any way, I must keep up the reputation with which our profession has been so cordially accredited."

So I staggered to my feet and responded to the toast. I told them that as I was passing by I thought I would look them up. In my province as a war correspondent it was only right—in fact, my duty. I protested I was never happier in my life, and they could look upon me as a veritable newspaper—in fact, a special edition. I would give them all the news I contained.

After a short conversation—but a very long one to me—I shared the tent of one of the doctors, but not his slumbers. I was never so wide awake in all my life, and I vowed that if I found myself alive at dawn I would hurry from the pestilence-stricken camp before breakfast. During the night a hot wind sprang up, coming upon us like the breath of a baker's oven, choking us with dust, and flaying our faces with burning particles of sand. Towards morning lights flickered from tent to tent as the surgeons went about their work. The groans and whimpers of the doomed patients were heard above the soughing of the wind. The sun shot up from the horizon. It was day once more. But many brave men in that camp of misery had died in the gloom of the previous night. The stretcher-bearers were already carrying their inanimate burdens to the little cemetery on the parched-up plain as I turned my back on the cholera-stricken camp.

The sun was well up when we gained the main road of the Khyber. The rocks began to glow once more under the fierce rays, warming up the valley to a heat one would think would sterilize and disinfect the most pestilence-ridden country in the world. Yet clinging to the shadow of the rocks by the roadside, where they had sought shelter from the merciless sun, were corpses of stricken hillmen, who had come down from their lairs to cut up any stragglers such as we, but who had been taken with the deadly sickness while waiting for their victims. Never shall I forget the horrible nausea which held me all the way on this ghastly journey across the plain of Chadeh.

It was nearing sunset, and we had not yet gained Smyter's command, when presently we saw a cloud of dust on the road coming in our direction.

"Well, sir, and where is your escort?" said an angry voice, as a tall, gaunt figure on a small grey horse rode towards me.

"I have no escort," I replied, "only my two servants."

"What, sir! Do you mean to tell me that you have ridden here from Jellalabad without protection?"

I was stammering out a reply when the officer interrupted me.

"Don't think I am anxious about your carcase, sir! It's my men I am thinking about. If you were cut up it would be my duty to rescue your remains, and probably in doing so I might lose one or two of my valuable little Ghoorkas. Do you understand, sir? Now you have arrived, kindly keep in camp, and report yourself to me this evening." And the peppery officer rode on.

For the moment I had not the slightest idea who on earth he was, but after a wash and brush up I soon found out on reporting myself to the General and presenting my letter. It was Smyter, V.C., himself.

"Well," he said, as he glanced at Forbes' letter, "our first introduction was not a happy one. The fact is, only yesterday we lost three grass-cutters. The hillmen sliced them up and left them on the very road you came by this evening. Now, Mr. Villiers, I don't wish to make things unpleasant for you; but if you want to sketch outside the actual encampment I will with much pleasure give you a few Ghoorkas to look after you."

Smyter was as good as his word, and many a sketch I took while his plucky pigmies were scouting round me.

At Dakka, where I made my next break on my journey to the plains, the ghastly disease was terribly prevalent. Detachments of European troops were arriving hourly, for the great return march had commenced, and a veritable death march it was. The mud fort and the outhouses in the compound were crowded with those stricken with cholera. Many poor fellows who had died that day were lying in the shadow of the fort wall to await the evening burial party.

At Lundi Khana, half-way down the famous Pass of the Khyber, where I again rested for a time, I found the 10th Hussars were about saddling up after a short bivouac before finally crossing the frontier. In that short halt eighteen men of that gallant regiment who had marched into the Khyber apparently well that very morning never mounted their horses again, and were buried that night among the rocks of the Pass. The faces of all men wore an anxious, weary look. Here was an enemy killing friend and foe alike, an uncanny, subtle enemy that one could not strike back.

It was a horrible march, this last lap of the journey to the plains. The British and Indian troops had advanced against their valiant foes the Afghans, never failing in their duty to their Queen and country, and had acquitted themselves splendidly.

The work over, their hearts turned to home, and with high hopes they had started on their way back, and now they were assailed by a most ruthless enemy attacking night and day, in camp, on the field on the of march, and with which there was no contending. No wonder the faces of the bravest looked panic-stricken.

The memory of this death march lingered with me for a long time, a peculiar sickness holding me all the way down to Bombay. Not until I was at least two weeks out at sea en route for the Antipodes did I feel I had not still in any system a few of those horrors scientists are wont to call cholera microbes.

NOTHING DOING.

Rome, Dec. 5.—Senor Cutierrez Ponce, the Colombian minister to the Vatican, after long interviews with Cardinal Merry Del Val, the Papal secretary of state, and other prominent cardinals, is about to leave Rome without having obtained Vatican support for Colombia, which he expected.

BOXERS REPORTED ACTIVE.

Massacre by Chinese Announced From St. Petersburg.

Paris, Dec. 5.—The Rappel publishes this morning a despatch from St. Petersburg announcing the massacre by Boxers of a number of Chinese in Szechuan province of China.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE.

Chicago, Dec. 5.—The police departments in 2,000 cities in the United States and Canada have been furnished with circulars bearing the likeness of Wm. George Prall, the Elgin Watch Company official whose mysterious disappearance November 28th is taxing the efforts of a score of detectives. A reward of $500 for information of the whereabouts of the missing man is made. The same reward is offered for legal proof of death. Mr. Prall became secretary of the Elgin Watch Company ten years ago.

GERMANY FAVORS SCHEME.

Berlin, Dec. 5.—Referring to the London report that Germany may object to the proposition of Russia and Austria for an international administration of Macedonia on the lines of the present government of Crete, the Foreign Office here said today that, on the contrary Germany had done all in her power to secure the acceptance and enforcement of the Muerzteg programme, which contains the basis of Russo-Austrian action. These powers, it was added, had arranged the programme to suit their own interests above all, and it cannot be supposed that they have altered the same into an international administration similar to that of Crete to suit other powers. The Foreign Office also referred to Chancellor Von Buelow's speech at the opening of the Reichstag, saying that Germany had consistently done everything possible to prevent serious complication in the Balkans.

Cms. 1 2 3 4 5 Ins. 1 2 THE BRITISH LIBRARY