THE MUD FLATS AND THE MAYOR.

Mayor Hayward has pursued such an extraordinary course in offering to spend the money of the people to reclaim the "mud flats," when such an expenditure is absolutely unnecessary, that we are inclined to think the people must vote on Thursday next that a man who would propose to throw away many thousands of dollars of the taxes of the people is not fit to be Mayor of Victoria.

All the citizens probably do not understand the actual position of this mud flat question, and therefore a little side-light may with profit to all concerned be thrown upon it.

The people voted the money to reclaim the "mud flats." The Dominion government subsequently promised the use of the big dredge "King Edward" to deepen the harbor, the mud taken therefrom to be used in filling up the unsightly hole on the east side of James Bay bridge. The dredge worked for some time and filled in fifty or sixty thousand square yards, when its services were required on the Fraser river to do work at the steamboat landings to enable the farmers to get their produce to market. According to arrangement it will return to Victoria to complete the work. Estimating the dredge's services at the price at which the E. & N. Railway was willing to do the filling, the city of Victoria has received up to the present time $30,000 worth of work for nothing, while at the rate of the Tramway's offer it would have amounted to something like $40,000. If any person thinks the value of the King Edward's work too high at these figures, let him cut them in two and say the work up to the present time is equal to what would have been accomplished by an expenditure of $15,000 or $20,000. This did not cost the city one dollar.

The King Edward has not finished, and will return to Victoria when more pressing work on the Fraser river has been finished. The actual filling in of the "mud flats," therefore, will not cost Victoria anything—that is, if the Mayor is not permitted to have his way.

Mayor Hayward, however, is not satisfied. He wants to be "doing something," and especially does he want the electors, at election time, to know that he is "doing something." He is a man of action, who never lets his right hand know what his left hand is doing. Certainly he never lets the council know what scheme he has up his sleeve if it is likely to benefit himself politically. Hence the Mayor frequently does things by stealth, which will explain something in connection with the agricultural society—and the mud flats.

The Mayor suddenly conceived an idea that it would be a good thing to have the flats filled in before election day, and with characteristic celerity and secrecy he sent the following telegram to Ottawa:

Victoria, Dec. 23rd.

Hon. James Sutherland, Minister Public Works.

Will government kindly continue deepening harbor and filling in flats with dredge King Edward as promised, if city pays all running expenses? If so, when can work begin? Prompt answer desired.

CHAS. HAYWARD, Mayor.

The Mayor proposed to pay "running expenses"—about $3,000 per month—for the use of a dredge which he admits was "promised" without the cost of a dollar to the city. His anxiety to see the dredge at work before the election was so great that he was willing to sacrifice many thousands of dollars, rather than wait for a short time until the dredge could conveniently come to Victoria, which will be at the time of high water on the Fraser, when work there cannot be economically carried on. The Mayor attempted to commit this extravagant piece of folly, like the arrangement with the Shamrock lacrosse team, "off his own bat." But, fortunately for the city's exchequer, the dredge was busy on the Fraser and the Minister of Public Works, even had he been willing, was unable to accept the offer of payment for a service—the dredging of the harbor—which he had willingly agreed to do in the interest of the public without charge.

The Mayor's generosity is simply unbounded, but we sincerely hope the Minister of Public Works will not take the proposal made to him by Mr. Hayward seriously, and exact payment of "running expenses" when the King Edward comes here to finish the uncompleted work. If he does Mr. Hayward should be called upon to pay the bill.

A wedding took place at Vancouver on Monday evening at the residence of the officiating clergyman, Rev. J. M. McLeod, 233 Dunlevy avenue, when Mr. Christopher C. Shea, of Skagway, was united in marriage of Miss Ida May Bunt, of Whatcom, Wash. The ceremony took place in the presence of a few friends of the contracting parties.

THE KINKS AND TWISTS IN RHEUMATICS RUGGED ROAD.—For 4 years the wife of a well known Toronto physician was on crutches from Rheumatism Scourge, and not until she began using South American Rheumatic Cure could she get a minute's permanent relief from pain. Four bottles cured her. Write for confirmation if you're sceptical. Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—154.

The shark, much as the sailors may hate it, furnishes several valuable products. An oil obtained from its liver vies in medicinal qualities with that obtained from the liver of the cod; its skin, when dried, takes the hardness and polish of mother-of-pearl, and is used by jewellers for fancy objects, by binders for making shagreen, and by cabinetmakers for polishing wood.

VICTORIAN'S HOLD CLEARED OF WATER

VESSEL WILL SHORTLY BE PLACED ON WAYS

Schooner Geo. W. Prescott Sails—Steamer Rainbow to Be Converted Into a Sealer.

Two hours after the big pump from the Albion Iron Works was set in operation on the steamer Victorian Monday afternoon the hold of the vessel had been cleared of water. It was then thought that the leak would have been discovered somewhere in the hold, but those of this opinion were disappointed. No leak could be found, and the cause of the misfortune was therefore attributed to the straining which the vessel received either in coming across the Straits or in touching bottom in the upper harbor, as some supposed.

Captain Cavin has been given charge of the vessel. She will be stripped of all her furnishings and placed in readiness to be hauled on the ways for the alterations and improvements which it is proposed to make on the ship. Steps will be immediately taken, it is understood, to place her under the Canadian flag, and, inasmuch as comparatively few months remain in which the owners have to comply with their agreement with the city in regard to providing a ferry service, the work will be carried out without delay. Just what will be done on the Victorian is not yet known. The Victoria Machinery Depot have the contract, it is said, and furthermore are reported to be preparing plans for another steamer to be built for the railway company later in the year.

On Tuesday the pump which had been placed on the deck of the vessel in order to relieve her of the water in her hold was removed. The barge Isabel, which is equipped with wrecking gear, and which had been hurriedly summoned from Esquimalt when it was thought Monday morning that the steamer was sinking, was also taken away on Tuesday, and the vessel now stands alone.

CAPTAIN'S HEROISM.

A Port Townsend dispatch says: "From two survivors of the wrecked Norwegian barque Prince Arthur, who have arrived here, additional particulars of the disaster have been learned. Capt. Markussen, although thoroughly alive to the danger, cheered the men by his bravery. Life belts were distributed among the crew, part of whom were young apprentices belonging to wealthy Norwegian families.

"As the hours passed and the waves began to break over the ship one of the young boys discovered he had lost his life belt, and when Capt. Markussen heard of his misfortune he unbuckled his own belt and fastened it around the boy, saying: 'Take it, my lad; you need it more than I.'

"By his brave act Capt. Markussen probably forfeited his life, as he might have succeeded in reaching shore had he had a belt.

"About midnight the barque split in two and all hands were thrown into the turbulent sea.

"Second Mate Hansen says he will never forget the agonizing cries that rose high above the noise of the breakers as the vessel disappeared. Hansen swam rapidly towards what he thought was shore and finally was dashed on a rock, upon which he climbed. Realizing his strength would leave him if he remained exposed to the cold wind, and that the rising tide would soon cover his temporary resting place, he jumped into the sea and again began a battle for life. He soon reached another rock, upon which he rested, and then again started for shore. After a long struggle his feet touched bottom. Utterly exhausted he crawled behind a log and lay until daylight, when he started to find a cabin in which a light had been seen when the vessel went ashore. He had gone but a short distance when he found Sailmaker Larsen, and together they travelled to the cabin, where they were kindly received. Not a sign of the wreck was visible except a few spars floating some distance from the shore."

THE RAINBOW SOLD.

Within the last few days the steamer Rainbow, the old vessel of the C. P. N. fleet which has been in the bone yard, James Bay, for several years, has been subjected to a close inspection. The examination was made with a view to a sale, which was consummated on Tuesday, and according to the terms of which the well known pioneer of these waters passed into the possession of Captain Victor Jacobsen, the sealing navigator. He has taken over the Rainbow with the object of converting her hull into a sealing schooner. The house work and machinery of the vessel will be removed, masts will be stepped and other alterations necessary will be undertaken at once. The hull of the steamer is said to be as sound as ever, and is considered well adapted for the purpose to which it is to be applied.

The Rainbow is one of the oldest crafts in these waters. She has seen service on nearly every steamboat route in British Columbia territory. She was built for Captain Moore and launched in Victoria in 1884 for the New Westminster run. Her owner, however, becoming financially involved, the Rainbow steamed away for Petropaulovski the following year. As the steamer was obliged to stop for coal, Deputy Sheriff Cuthbert, who was sent to seize her, succeeded in overhauling her at Tongas, and she was brought back to Victoria and sold at mortgagee's sale on January 11th, 1886, to Capt. G. W. Cavin for $5,500. In 1887 she was lengthened to twenty-one feet, and when she again entered service was christened the Rainbow.

Captain Jacobsen operated the Casco and Minnie until the time of the formation of the combine, when his interests were sunk with those of other owners in the company.

—The regular meeting of the Ladies of the Maccabees will be held in the A. O. U. W. hall this evening at 7.45 o'clock. All members are requested to be present.

At the Victoria Sealing Company's wharf in the upper harbor there is a big fleet of schooners outfitting, and otherwise preparing for sea. Many will be sailing shortly, and a number of masters are now on the coast arranging for Indian crews. This is always slow business, and oftentimes requires the exercise of the greatest diplomacy. Last year hundreds of the natives refused to go to sea at any price, and were determined to try their fortunes at the salmon canneries. Having made poor wages at this avocation, however, it is believed now that more will be available for the sealing business this year than last. The natives were paid last year $4 a skin for pelts taken on the coast and $6 a skin for those obtained in Behring Sea. This year the company will pay $5 a skin for the entire season. Contrary to the custom in the past the company in shipping their Indian crews this year will engage the natives for the whole season, the directors of the association having succeeded in obtaining the consent of the Federal government to change the act whereby the captains are authorized to sign natives accordingly.

The Triumph and Geneva which, with the Carlotta G. Cox, will form the Japan coast fleet, have not yet sailed, and are not expected to get away now before tomorrow. The Cox will be commanded by Capt. Nelson, who has just returned from the old country, where he has been for the last few years. She will carry a complete white crew. The Penelope and Libbie will be the first Indian schooners to sail.

PRESENTATION TO CAPT. HALL.

Captain A. L. Hall, the retiring master of the steamship Queen, was presented with a costly loving-cup on arrival from Victoria at San Francisco by the officers of the steamship as a token of the regard and esteem in which they held their superior officer during his career as captain of the steamship. The simple ceremonies attending the presentation of the loving-cup were held aboard the steamship Queen. All of the officers of the vessel, including even the heads of the engineers' department, joined in making the affair a touching tribute to Captain Hall's popularity.

First Officer Nilson and Steward James Hamshaw made the presentation speeches. They praised Captain Hall for his courtesy, bravery and uniform kindness to all of the officers and crew of the steamship, and expressed deep regret at his giving up command.

Captain Hall replied briefly, saying: "I am overwhelmed with gratitude. While I have been in command of this ship I have endeavored to be a man among men. I have tried to treat everybody kindly and at the same time gain your respect. That I have done this during my career in this ship I am satisfied. This beautiful loving-cup, which I appreciate more than words can tell, will always remain one of the most highly valued things I possess. I am sorry to leave the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, in whose employ I have been for many years."

FIRST SEALER AWAY.

The first sealing schooner has cleared for the California coast. She is the little schooner Geo. W. Prescott. She got away last night in command of Capt. A. Ramalies, with Capt. Gullin, who had charge of the schooner Sadie Turpel last year as navigating officer. The schooner will secure an Indian crew at Hesquoit and proceed down the coast. She is well equipped for a long voyage, and will waste no time in reaching the southern sealing grounds. She is one of the few schooners not operated by the sealing combine, and will have advantage over the vessels of that company's fleet in getting down the coast before them.

The Triumph and Geneva will be the next of the sealing fleet to sail. They are now ready to leave, and will get away, it is hoped, this evening. Instead of hunting down the coast, however, these vessels will proceed to the Japan coast. As already mentioned both will carry white crews, and will therefore have no occasion to call on the West Coast. Several other vessels which are to be sent away on spring cruises will also sail shortly.

THE VENTURE'S LOAD.

Some conception of what the development of the mines of the West Coast will mean to Victoria can be gleaned from a visit to the steamer Venture Tuesday. That vessel, as already reported, has been chartered by the Yreka Mining Company, of Quatsino, to carry supplies to the camp, and on her return transport ore to the smelter. She has now about completed taking her first load aboard. This consists in part of twenty tons of provisions, every pound of which was purchased in Victoria, twenty head of sheep, four cows, twenty-five tons of machinery, or one compressor plant, and twenty-five thousand feet of lumber. From here the steamer proceeds to Vancouver on Tuesday to load some piping brought over the C. P. R. Afterwards she will coal and may then return to Victoria for more cargo.

GASOLINE EXPLOSION.

While boarding the British ship M. E. Watson, at Seattle a few days ago, two runners and a boy who were in a launch had a narrow escape from being killed in an explosion of gasoline. The interior of the boat was burned, an overcoat which was used in extinguished the flames was almost entirely consumed and the occupants of the craft had a scare that will last them a life time. The M. E. Watson until last week lay in the Roads for several days.

AGAIN TO BE OVERHAULED.

Orders have been received at the Puget Sound navy yard at Bremerton authorizing the reconstruction of the torpedo boat Goldsborough. The work contemplated on the vessel, which gained the cognomen of "Boodoo" through the ill-luck which pursued her since she was launched two years ago, will cost $25,365, and will require nine or ten months time to complete. The Goldsborough's career has been sensational. She turned her builders, Wolff & Szwicker & Co., of Portland, into the court of bankruptcy, and several times narrowly escaped going to the bottom with her crew. During a score of trial trips an accident always happened at the last moment to mar the performance, and she was finally purchased by the government outright.

PLEIADES IS SAFE.

Sound papers, received by Tuesday's Majestic, reports the arrival of the steamer Pleiades at Yokohama. Beyond the fact that she had reached port and had called at Dutch harbor for coal the cable message received stated nothing as to her experience.

The Post-Intelligencer says: "The statement that the Pleiades put into Dutch harbor for fuel is significant. She sailed from this port December 14th, with 1,070 tons of coal, almost enough fuel to carry her one-third of the way around the world. That she had to put into Dutch Harbor, on the Aleutian archipelago, for coal is an indication that she encountered severe weather. Dutch harbor is hardly half the distance to Yokohama. It is, too, some sixty miles off the course. Ordinarily the Pleiades will consume forty tons of coal a day. Bucking a storm she would, of course, burn more. And as she used so much of her fuel as to necessitate her putting into Dutch harbor in order to complete the voyage, she must have been in a storm of many days' duration. No doubt it began soon after she passed Cape Flattery. The Pleiades took almost twice the time usually taken by a vessel of her class to make the run from this port to Yokohama. She should cover the distance in from eighteen to twenty days. She was out thirty-seven days."

LEAVES TO-MORROW.

The ship Ancona, which is now in quarantine, will leave William Head tomorrow after having been thoroughly fumigated, and will be towed to Chemainus to there receive her cargo of lumber. Her crew, however, will be detained in quarantine until such a time as all danger from smallpox infection has been passed.

"THE WRONG MR. WRIGHT."

Harry Beresford in This Laughable Comedy Last Night—"Tyranny of Tears."

"The Wrong Mr. Wright" has been seen in the city before, and while this undoubtedly accounted for the small audience, it did not in any way detract from the fun in the comedy. From the entrance of Seymour Sikes, alias Mr. Wright, in search of his missing cashier, until he is made prisoner for life by the female detective, those present were kept in roars of laughter. Harry Beresford took the part of Sikes, and he proved as amusing as ever in this role. Miss Annie Leonard was the female detective, Henrietta Oliver and Miss Emma Dunn took the role of Tilly Bird, the maid, who impersonated the heiress, Julia Bonds. Her laughing song was well received. Among others in the company were Miss N. Lindroth, who appeared as Julia Bonds; J. G. Edwards, Frederick Bonds; Rey Lennard, Lord Brazenface, and A. Jarrett, Lieut. Crosby.

"The Tyranny of Tears."

Paul Gilmore will appear at the Victoria theatre to-night in Haddon Chambers's delightful comedy "The Tyranny of Tears." Mr. Gilmore has trod the boards less than a decade, but five years of that period have been devoted to starring tours in romantic and other plays. In his interpretation of the complex and difficult character of Mr. Parbury in "The Tyranny of Tears," he displays a talent that has broadened wonderfully in the past few years and gives every promise of a successful future for his advancement in his art, which has been unvarying in its rapidity. Mr. Gilmore is delightfully volatile and breezy throughout the entire play and wins his audience by the diplomacy, tenderness and courtesy he displays in winning back his too impetuous wife. The company chosen by Jules Murry to interpret this comedy is a notably proficient one and includes several actresses with talent and beauty.

"Devil's Auction."

A noted dramatic writer stated in one of his recent articles that real ballet dancing or performances of pantomimic and artistic dancing was fast becoming a "lost art," that the production of great and costly spectacles was confined to one or two persons who had made large fortunes in this respective line, and generally deplored the loss of the graceful coryphee and premiere. Ballet dancing is far from being a lost art. There is no regular corps de ballet outside of grand opera, such as is presented at the massive Metropolitan Opera House in New York City and by Chas. H. Yale who gives in his spectacular production of "The Everlasting Devil's Auction," which appears here to-morrow night, a full and complete corps de ballet, premieres and artistic divertisements, which are presented in each act of this popular spectacle.

THE READER.

The January instalment of "The Literary Guillotine" in The Reader, has the amusing sub-title "Wards in Chancery," and deals with Mrs. Humphrey Ward and Elizabeth Stuart Phelps Ward, the latter of whom is tried by the Literary Emergency court for the crime of "Confessions of a Wife." Whoever the author of this series may be, he certainly knows what he is writing about, and may be credited with producing the only good literary satire of this generation. We understand that Miss Marie Corelli and Mr. Hall Caine are to be the next victims of this anonymous executioner. As usual, The Reader is full of interesting articles on literary subjects, the most remarkable of which, in this number, undoubtedly is a collection of hitherto unpublished notes of conversations with Schopenhauer, which will be of intense interest to all admirers of the philosopher-pessimist. An entertaining article is "Sailors as Critics of Sea Fiction," by Mr. Morgan Robertson, in which this well known writer of sea stories merrily discourses of his fellow writers. Among the illustrations, the place of honor is given to a fine picture of Bjornsterne Bjornson, the grand old man of Norwegian life and literature.

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN:

BY HIMSELF.

The demonstration of which Mr. Chamberlain was the central object in Birmingham on November 17th was of a character which appeals to human sympathies all the world over. For what was it? Perhaps the reader may not be indisposed to recall the kindred occasion of Carlyle's reception by the students of Edinburgh as their Lord Rector. More than half a century had elapsed since Carlyle had gone up to that university as a shy and raw lad of fifteen, as he said himself, to make his way, and in this, one of the supreme moments of his life, he could not resist some reflection, half pathetic, half triumphant, upon the long road he had travelled in the interval. Like Carlyle, Mr. Chamberlain was welcomed back in one of the great crisis of his career to the university in which he graduated in his early manhood. It was in Birmingham that the most prominent British statesman of the day learnt his first lessons in public life, and many of his admirers will hardly admit that the achievements of his pupilage have been excelled in wisdom or in substantial benefit to his fellows by the better known works of his maturity. Politics being entirely put aside, no heart could remain unaffected by the spectacle of Birmingham congratulating one who had formerly been so closely connected with her fortunes and is now no longer a municipal but an imperial and world figure. It was in this light that Mr. Chamberlain himself regarded the occasion, and in this light also that it was looked upon by Birmingham men, his political opponents and his not less unmeasured political friends alike.

The town hall, in which the banquet and subsequent meeting was held, was finely decorated. The appearance of Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain was greeted with a tremendous display of enthusiasm, and tens of thousands standing behind the barriers in the streets voiced their welcome by sustained hurrahs.

Mr. Chamberlain's Speech.

After the usual expression of thanks for the manner in which the toast of his health had been received and a tribute to his wife, Mr. Chamberlain said:

My Lord Mayor, the trip—if I may call it so—that I am about to take is, as all whom I address will understand, a business affair, and not a mere parade—and, therefore, I have very naturally discouraged, and desired, as far as in me lay, to decline, anything in anticipation of that tour (the results of which I cannot foresee) which should take the form of a ceremonial function. But when I was told that my own people in Birmingham desired to bid me God speed I could not refuse. I was touched and gratified by the expression of your desire. I made one condition, if indeed it can be called a condition; I said that of course I should not be expected to make a political speech. No suggestion from outside was necessary to prove to me that it would have been altogether inappropriate (to use no stronger words) to use an occasion of this kind, in which I am engaged on a national and not a party mission, to use it as a vehicle for controversy or contention of any sort. That being so, if I am debarred from politics and from contentious matter, you will, I know, excuse me if my remarks fall a little more into a personal strain than I have hitherto been accustomed to.

Connection With Birmingham.

I turn naturally at a time like this to the long history of my connection with this great city, the city of my adoption. It is forty-eight years since I first came to Birmingham, and in the first of those years, I think, I met my friend Mr. Mathews. There are others here who almost at the same moment became my life-long friends. Our historian, Wm. Hatton, who wrote the first history of Birmingham, dedicated it to its inhabitants, and described them as a generous people. What he called them I have found them, and I can say with him, in his own words, that I think that in all the congregated mass there is no single person of whom I wish ill. But I can say more. I can say that I believe that there is no one in Birmingham who wishes ill to me. Mr. Mathews has indicated what appeared to be certain peculiarities in my character, and he seems to have suggested that there may be some circle in which I have not been uniformly popular. Now I admit that I have seen occasionally in newspapers that I am the best-hated person either of the time or the class. I think that is a very silly phrase. I have known it to be applied to many before myself; I have read of it in memoirs in connection with the Duke of Wellington, Sir Robt. Peel, Lord Palmerston, at different periods of their career. I have even myself heard it applied to Mr. Gladstone; and I can take it that in every case it has only a political, perhaps I might say a Pickwickian meaning. At all events, our political enmities in this country are very much "the crackling of thorns under a pot." The fire burns fiercely and freely for a minute, and very soon dies down; and those who, like myself and like a very great man—I mean President Roosevelt—those who like the President of the United States believe in a strenuous life, believe in fighting as well. You know from the faith that is in them men must be prepared from time to time to provoke temporary antagonisms, and may even share them themselves. But they pass away; and, for myself, I can truly say that I hope and I believe during what may be called perhaps a fighting career I have never cherished personal animosity to any man; and I have always known how to separate in our political differences the public policy from the private character. Well, I do not think at any rate that I am hated in Birmingham. In the retrospect to which this occasion naturally lends itself, I have been looking round these tables, representative indeed of Birmingham today, and my first thought is for those, my old comrades and companions in arms, who have fought with me in so many battles, in so many causes, as to which, at any rate, I can say that we believed them to be just and true, but who are no longer with us. When I first came to Birmingham, and for many years afterwards, the town possessed a band of men who would have been, I think, remarkable in any society; remarkable for their attainments, for the variety of their intellectual gifts, for their originality and personal force, and who were united chiefly and mainly by their love of this town, by their desire to make it great and prosperous. Our ranks have been thinned by death. Still I see, with rejoicing, many veterans of that old time, who joined in the service of the town. And, ladies and gentlemen, to you now, with whom is the future, I say that to this older generation you owe the highest ideals of the town, you owe to them the beginnings of life, the initiative of institutions which are still working, and which we hope and trust will have equal interest for those who come after us. Already in my memory the town is transformed. I imagine that if one who only knew it then could come back to it now he would think he was in an altogether different place. It has been changed in its material aspect, in the intellectual and material development, in its commercial extension in everything that goes to make the life of a great community.

Not the End of the Chapter.

It has been changed, but don't think that we have come to the end of the chapter. Our motto is still "Forward." There can be no finality in progress, and I rejoice that amongst these changes the great characteristics of our population still are preserved—that public spirit, that intense local patriotism, that strenuous energy, that independence of mind, and that broad-minded toleration, which have justified the place that Birmingham has taken among the great cities of the Empire. Those are the qualities which had made Birmingham as a city, great in the eyes of men. Those are the qualities of which I am proud of Birmingham, proud to be the "citizen of no mean city." But if I go on to say why I love it, then I am touched with more than a personal note. How should I do otherwise than love it? Here is my home, here is my family life; and no man owes more than I do for the blessings of a family life. Here I have sorrowed, and here I have rejoiced; and through good and evil, through all the vicissitudes of my career, the sympathy and the good-will of the people of Birmingham have followed it and bound me to it by links of steel.

New Experiment and Great Adventure.

And now that I am starting on a new experiment, that I am attempting a great adventure, of which I know, as well as any one, that there are connected with it great risks of failure, it is the best augury for my success that you have given me a proof of your continuous kindness, of your good-will, and your interest, which will follow me on every stage of that arduous work. I have said that my tour is one of business, and not of pleasure. The war which has cost us all so much is happily over. But now an even greater task awaits us. The whole of South Africa, with the exception of the German and Portuguese possessions, is under one flag, and that the British flag. What is our task, what is our duty and our desire? It is to make all these people of different races, lately so much divided, one united nation, united in heart as well as in name together in loyalty to the throne, and in a common desire for the prosperity and the welfare of the whole of the people. We want to make South Africa an integral part of the great Empire to which we all belong, of which we have learned to be proud, and of which we hope that at no distant time they also, who recently were opposed to us, will be equally proud. We look forward to the future. We want to forget, if that be possible, all that has tended to separate us in the past. There has been much suffering on all sides, following upon a war, as it always does. There has been much suffering, and we cannot expect that the bitterness which did exist will at once and immediately die out; but we can do something, and I believe I speak the feeling of the whole of my countrymen when I say we will do everything in our power to relieve that suffering and to remove that difficulty. There are two things which we must keep constantly before us. The first and cardinal principle must be that we shall deal generously and wisely by those who have stood with us. We will never forget the sacrifices that they have made, and the just and pardonable claim that they may advance. When we have done that, our second duty is hardly less important. We have to do our best to make it easy for those who were recently in arms against us to accept the situation, to reconcile them to conditions under which, indeed, they will have lost their independence, but under which they will have preserved their personal rights and principles, and will in due course of time, time which they have it in their own power to shorten, rise to the full height of self-government and the popular control of their own affairs, which will make them the

Citizens of a United Empire.

This is our task. Why should we despair of it? Have we not much in our past to justify optimism in such a case? Why, in our own history there were times when Royalists and Puritans, or Jacobites and Hanoverians, even Scotchmen and Englishmen, were separated much more widely than are British and Boers to-day, and on the other side of the Atlantic, in America, terrible wounds were left by the greatest of civil wars. They have been healed over, and now we have in the most powerful and the most numerous of English-speaking peoples an absolutely united nation. And in our own colonies have we not had an equal difficulty to deal with? Do we not now see the descendants of the men who fought with Montcalm against Wolfe in Canada, do we not see their descendants now sending to be prime minister of the Dominion one of themselves, a man universally respected and popular with both races. I hold that these are examples which show us that if the task is difficult it is not impossible. And if it is not impossible Englishmen—Britons—will accomplish it. The burden of this task has fallen, and will continue to fall, mainly on the shoulders of Lord Milner. It is to his policy of firmness and moderation combined that we look for a successful result. We have placed upon him a great responsibility, we have given him our full confidence; and if I now go out to South Africa, with his cordial approval, one of my chief objects is that I may be better able, when I return, to support his policy, when I have gained of it a wider knowledge and a clearer understanding. I shall see the spot all the difficulties with which he has been confronted. I shall gain a better conception of the colossal task he has undertaken, and I believe that in this way and that by frank exchange which will take place of views and opinions we shall be able to preserve a harmonious co-operation between the home and the colonial government, which is an essential condition of success in every case of colonial administration.

See Every Class and Race.

But I do not go to South Africa to see Lord Milner only. I go to see every representative of every class and race and section who may desire to see me. My ears will be opened to all that they have to say to me, my eyes to all that they will show me, and in this way I cannot help thinking that, though my stay must necessarily be short, I shall learn more in a few days of this intimate acquaintance with the people of the country than I could possibly gain by months of study of Bluebooks and official dispatches. Ladies and gentlemen, going, as I do, in this spirit and with these intentions, I hope and believe that I shall be met half way. I am assured beforehand of a kindly reception from the British population, and I hope I can in some measure gain the confidence of our new Boer subjects. It will not be my fault if that is not the case, and my hope, I think, is justified by the attitude of those who even so recently surrendered—which, I think, is more satisfactory than, perhaps, even an optimist like myself could previously have hoped for. Their attitude cannot be better described than in the words of General Viljoen, who is now in this country, but who a few days after the surrender was made known, in addressing a camp of burghers declared to them that in his belief it was better, after a fair beating, to give a whole hand to your opponents rather than half a hand. If, as I believe, that is the feeling of the majority of those who so bravely were fighting against us a few months ago, I am sure that it will be reciprocated by every Briton; and in that case I predict for South Africa a prosperity and a contentment which will make it absolutely unexampled among the countries of the world. Now, ladies and gentlemen, I end where I began. I thank you from my heart for your sympathy and your kindness, and I feel that whatever may befall me, whether the results of this new departure are good or ill, I shall always have your confidence in the goodness of my intentions. The men of Birmingham will be to me lenient judges and generous critics.

There was prolonged cheering, during which Mr. Chamberlain resumed his seat, having spoken 32 minutes.

—Rev. John Miller was formally inducted into the pastorate of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Nanaimo, Tuesday. On the platform were Rev. Dr. Campbell, Rev. W. Leslie Clay and Rev. A. Fraser, Victoria; Rev. Mr. Carr, Crofton, and Rev. E. G. Taylor, Alberni. The induction sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Carr, after which Rev. Dr. Campbell reviewed briefly the steps that led up to the present induction service, and then asked the usual questions of Mr. Miller, which were satisfactorily answered, upon which Dr. Campbell solemnly inducted the candidate into the pastorate of the congregation and admitted him into all the privileges connected therewith. The newly inducted pastor was addressed by Rev. Mr. Clay, and the congregation and members by Rev. Dr. Campbell and Rev. A. Fraser.

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—At the semi-annual meeting of the Retail Clerks' Association in Labor hall on Monday the following officers were elected for the ensuing term: Past president, A. Brockhurst; president, A. Huggett; first vice-president, John Russell; second vice-president, A. L. Pengelley; recording and corresponding secretary, H. O. Kirkham; assistant secretary, J. H. Smith; financial secretary, G. W. Knox; treasurer, J. Finnerty; guide, H. Keeler; guardian, R. H. Sherwin; board of trustees, A. Galbraith, H. C. Edward, W. A. Smith; delegates to trades and labor council, A. Brockhurst, W. A. Smith. The newly elected president, Mr. Huggett, spoke briefly in regard to his candidature for school trustee, and solicited the support of the union, not as a labor candidate but as a fellow-member.

The Mysterious Visitor Is Now Invading Many Homes.

IT STRIKES YOUNG AND OLD WHO ARE PHYSICALLY WEAK AND PREDISPOSED TO DISEASE.

"PAINE'S CELERY COMPOUND

FORTIFIES THE BODY, CLEANSES THE BLOOD AND GIVES STRENGTH TO RESIST ALL ATTACKS.

That mysterious visitor "Grip" is now invading many homes and striking down the young and old who are weak or predisposed to disease. It is now well known that the disease spreads rapidly to the various members of the households into which it has been introduced. It accords with the theory of infection, also, that the disease has usually attacked the persons liable to infection. Dr. Richard Sisely, in his book on "Epidemic Influenza," says the disease is almost entirely propagated by infection.

In past winter seasons it has been fully and happily demonstrated that Paine's Celery Compound is a tower of safety when Grip is prevalent. When this scientific and health-giving medicine is used, it strengthens the nervous centres of all the vital organs; it purifies the blood, regulates digestion, gives a healthy tone to the whole system, enabling young and old to feel secure from the ravages of disease. Weak, nervous, dyspeptic and ailing people will find in Paine's Celery Compound a true protector and shield from the dangers of Grip. A trial of one bottle will banish all existing doubts.

MAYOR HAYWARD'S SURPRISE PART

CAMPAIGN SPEECHES GIVEN LAST NIG

His Worship's Attempt to Outmanoeu Ald. McCandless Frustrated by Warning to Latter.

The meeting on Tuesday in the c hall, called in the interests of the can dates for school trustees, was not lar ly attended. This apparent lack interest was lamented by several of speakers. An interesting feature w the attempt upon the part of May Hayward at the close of the meeting secure an exclusive hearing and the fr trating of this scheme by the sudden a pearance of Ald. McCandless.

Ex-Mayor Redfern was elected cha man. In opening the meeting he call attention to the fact that there we some rather unusual subjects for co sideration for the coming year.

Mrs. MacGregor.

Mrs. MacGregor said she was not public speaker! She had come out the women's candidate and had not lied herself with any of the candidat for the position of school trustee. S had no connection with the labor ca didates, as might be inferred from circular issued. She advocated a mo practical education. She had advocat the putting of stenography on the cu riculum of the schools. She had be told that that was no part of the du of the school board. Col. Baker, ho ever, she remember having stated at o time that the school board was look upon as the medium between the ed cational department and the electorat She had advocated the segregation the Chinese, never thinking that the d partment would oppose the wishes the board in this respect.

Referring to the question of discriination, she contended that as the w men's candidate she favored no di crimination in favor of male teachers.

She also advocate the introduction kindergarten schools. She thought th some of the rich men of Victoria mig assist in this. A move might be mad in that direction. A new school wa needed in Victoria West.

Dr. Lewis Hall.

Dr. Lewis Hall said there was reall no discrimination with respect to salar ies. When he went on the board th pay was according to the position. Ever addition to the staff of the schools ente ed at the primary division. As a va cancy occurred advancement was mad all along the line. He believed in good superstructure, and good teacher were as important in the primary classe as in the advanced ones. He went o to the board to try and remedy the dif ficulties he saw in connection with this He contended that the teachers shoul be placed where their services were bes adapted for. This had been carried ou and the staffs of the schools were re adjusted. The schools should not b mere machines.

If the teachers were all brought up t the same salary it would mean an in crease of about 20 per cent. in the cos The property holders would not stan for such increases. It would be unfai to the members of the staff who ha served for years. Going through th average salaries paid in the differen grades of the schools, he showed tha there was no discrimination in favor o the male teachers. He showed that i some grades the average was in favo of the lady teachers. The basis upo which they proceeded was that one-hal of the salaries should not exceed $600 one third $700; one fifth $800; on eighth $900, and one tenth $1,000.

Taking up the question of the segre gation of the Chinese, he said that th superintendent of education had inform ed the board that they had not th power to segregate. The opinion of th new minister of education had been ask ed in a letter the spaker wrote him som weeks ago. No answer had been re ceived yet. Reading from the regula tions he showed that the appointment salary and dismissal of the superinten dent of city schools was subject to th approval of the council of public in struction. The superintendent was in structed to see that the regulations wer carried out. The government paid $1 per capita, compared with $10.90 paid by the city. The province, if the board failed to carry out the wishes of the council of public instruction, might tak off this $13 grant and further burde the ratepayers.

He went into the advances in educa tion in the city. If a school were pro vided for Chinese, instead of educating 20 Chinese pupils they would probabl have from 100 to 150 to educate.

He had always advocated cheap tex books. But he found that the profit o school books was only 10 per cent Were the school board to purchase a set of books the saving would not more than pay the interest on the money in vested. He had received a telegram from the chairman of the Toronto schoo board where a system of free books wa in use. This message informed him tha for paper, etc., the cost was 25c. a year instead of 7c. as stated by one of the labor candidates. In Hamilton, which was a smaller city, this was increased to $1. In a city as small as Victoria it would be more costly.

Ex-Mayor Redfern asked if there were any pupils in the schools who could not speak English.

In reply Dr. Hall said that he did not think there was at the present time.

Mr. Redfern asked if there might not be something done towards getting legislation enacted alone the line of preventing such from attending the school.

Dr. Hall, in answer to this, said that he believed there was an opportunity along the line of legislation. He believed something could be done in this line.

Asked by Mr. Thomas if he would, if re-elected, be prepared to proceed along the line of urging such legislation, Dr.