GO BOODLERS.

umber of Aldermen and on Serious Accusations.

Among the Jury—Developments of Appal- Corruption.

rch 18.—At length the ation, at the instance of ney, and on the strength submitted by him, have once begin an investiga- boodling methods of Subpoenas will be ertain aldermen, notably s, Dahlman, Dorman, Roth, on, and O'Brien, and they fore the official inspectors. nd arrests will follow ession. There is plenty to convict some of inent aldermen, and it has largely by their own col- proceedings of the Council r or two have been engaging ation of several well known have been gathering evi- e aldermen, and have now the State attorney. This, ony of some members of the ope to appease offended jus- their liberty, makes a strong g indictment against the the Council. The evidence secure conviction. Some of been regarded as the brav- e now falling over each other y to reach the States at- There was consterna- them to-day when they their official acts were bject of investigation by the Several were paralyzed with ey found they were being detectives. There is, there- ility of their escaping justice nada. In a few hours indict- returned by the Grand Jury, rmen who have boldly and y sold franchises to corpora- n the clutches of the law. The st them is of the most sensa- Witnesses before the ill testify regarding the sums d for various franchises in the amount each alderman re- vote, and when, and where, the money was paid, the en- contained the cash will be d it will be shown that they the boodlers in certain saloons places. It will also appear in the toilet room of the council a favorite place for the passing om the boss boodlers to the silmen. It is known that ve "squealed." Public criti- too strong for these weak y determined to save their own ning State's evidence rather y more chances. To-night it e to find certain aldermen at nd it was whispered that they aken flight.

be to be presented to the Grand be made public at present. A this time would but put in the defendants the tools with which libi and establish other defences o criminals. It will be shown on Compressed Air, the North- nd the Economic Gas ordin- hrough by virtue of the pur- e votes of the City Fathers. aid the money and made the be held amenable to the law ose who sold their votes. "I e evidence I require," said Mr. to-day, "to convict several I intend to place it before the in the morning. I can assure t only be ample to convict the it will also cause a sensation in y." The sensation referred to to be disclosures as to the who have been doing the buy- whom, it is said, are among st prominent citizens. One e Grand Jury, who is familiarence to be presented to-mor- The corruption that will be ve existed in the council is ing. We have absolute proof where several aldermen re- for their votes; we know the received and the persons and hat gave it to them. Citizens ed when the facts are made

VALIDS

y in health and strength by the s Sarsaparilla. This medicine rich and pure blood for the d fluid left in the veins after ther wasting sickness. It im- petite and tones up the system, alescents soon

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vigorous. To relieve that tired ression of spirits, and nervous other medicine produces the permanent effect of Ayer's Sar- . O. Loring, Brockton, Mass., m confident that anyone suffer- effects of scrofula, general de- f appetite, depression of spirits, s, will be cured

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saparilla; for I have taken it, om experience."

ummer of 1888, I was cured of lity by the use of Ayer's Sarsa- rs. H. Bencit, 6 Middle st., R.I.

years ago I was in a debilitated Other remedies having failed, I e Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and was fited. As a Spring medicine, invaluable."—Mrs. L. S. Win- den, Me.

Ayer's

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Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. ruggists. Price $1; six bottles, $5.

thers, will cure you

SUMPTION.

o remedy for the above disease; by its f cases of the worst kind and of long n cured. Indeed so strong is my faith at I will send TWO BOTTLES FREE, LE TREATISE on this disease to any send me their EXPRESS and P.O. address. UM, M. C., 186 ADELAIDE TORONTO, ONT.

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rtgages, Powers of Attorney, and ank Legal Forms for sale by & Co.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, M.r. 20.

THE CITY.

Sumas Reclamation Co.'s Bill.

The Standing Orders and Private Bills committee of the Legislature, meets on Monday morning at 10 o'clock sharp, to consider the Sumas Reclamation Co.'s bill.

Three Nights Instead of Two.

It is proposed to have an additional night session of the Legislature, next week, to hurry business through. This will make evening work on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.

Two of a Kind.

Sing Kee and Bing Kee, both residents of the Chinese quarter, were in the police court yesterday, charged with an infraction of the revenue by-law of this city. The cases are remanded.

Must Pay Up.

Officer Redgrave, of the city police force, was kept busy, yesterday, serving contractors who have failed to pay their license fees to the city treasurer, with invitations to attend the Tuesday morning police court.

Resident Physician Wanted.

By an advertisement in another column, it will be seen that applications for the position of resident physician at the Union Mines, will be received by Mr. G. W. Clinton, of Union, up to the 15th of April, proximo.

Released on Bail.

George J. Cook, charged with unlawfully wounding a heifer belonging to his neighbor, James Gillespie, has secured his release from custody, furnishing bonds to the extent of $1,000 for his appearance at the Spring Assizes.

Strong Opposition Developing.

The strongest kind of opposition is being developed to the new Liquor License Act introduced in the Legislature by Mr. Nason, and which will probably come up for its second reading some time during this week. It is thought the bill will be killed before its second reading.

The Bishop's Contribution.

The Bishop of Columbia has given $50 to the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, to show his hearty sympathy and approval of the efforts now being made for its formation. Donations of money and suitable reading matter will be gratefully received and acknowledged, if sent to 21 Bellot street, city.

A Change of Terms.

A San Francisco exchange says that the new parlor games of "Jag" and "Haida" have become very popular in the Bay City, and that jag socials and haida socials are now becoming very popular. Whatever a "Jag Social" may be is not as yet understood in Victoria, but there are many people who are quite aware of the meaning of a "social jag."

The McLeod Committee.

The meeting of the McLeod Select committee which was to have been held yesterday morning, was unavoidably postponed, owing to the fact that some of the members are engaged on other committee work. It is thought it will be possible to get the committee together on Wednesday next. It is possible that all the evidence which was officially reported will be printed. It is very voluminous.

Both Granted.

The March session of the Board of Licensing Commissioners for Victoria city was brought to a close yesterday, when, after another long fight with law points for weapons, licenses were granted to the new Victoria hotel, corner of Government and Johnson streets, and to the Janion on Store street. Mr. Croft's temporary license at the latter is to terminate on the regular license for the house coming into existence. An effort was made to re-open the case of the California Wine Co., but the endeavor was promptly sat upon, the Board expressing their opinion freely in regard to the application.

From the Upper Country.

Mr. Chas. Hayward, jr., has returned from a four months trip through the Upper Country. The winter, he reports, as having been very mild, though the sleighing was better than for twenty years past, and was thoroughly enjoyed. On his departure, the winter was almost over, the snow being nearly all gone. Mining operations promised to be good, judging from the amount of machinery being brought into the country and the general activity in mining matters, especially at the Slough Creek. The cattle about Clinton had been turned out on the ranges, which, however, have been so overstocked as to still render a certain amount of hand feeding a necessity.

The Clearest of Clear Cases.

Yesterday was a sad day for Ah Day. He was brought before the police magistrate charged with the larceny of a plow head, the property of Leddingham Bros., and, as the evidence was as straight as a ruler, was sentenced to one month's imprisonment with hard labor. The firm prosecuting have been missing pieces of iron from their shop for several weeks past, and on investigation found that the thefts always occurred just at the dinner hour. So they watched and waited, and were rewarded by seeing Ah Day helping himself and transferring their property to his baskets. As soon as Ah Day discovered that he was trapped he dropped baskets, pole, everything, and took to his heels. But William Deasy, otherwise known as "Pat," was in the neighborhood, and being something of a sprinter himself outran the Celestial, caught him and delivered him in good order at the city jail.

After the Storm a Calm.

For the last few days people walking along that little professional thoroughfare known as Langley street have missed seeing the professional man with the professional walk, the professional blue bag slung over the professional shoulder, forming a background to the six-and-eightpenny smile. The "adjourned" spell is again on in court, and no case, large or small, but is "adjourned" as soon as called on. Nobody is ready, everyone is waiting. The result will be that when the Full Court sits, to-morrow morning, about every lawyer in the city will be in the building, and there will be confusion worse confounded among the officials. It is often a matter of wonder how a Judge can possibly keep his brain clear when he has, perhaps, a case in Admiralty, the Full Court, Divisional Court, County Court and, maybe, half a dozen Chambers' applications and private hearings thrown in, all docketed for precisely the same day and hour. But, somehow, order gets evolved out of chaos, and there is very seldom any complaint about long drawn-out litigation from parties concerned. At the present time Judge Walkem is in Westminster, taking the place of Judge Spinks, who is absent on leave. Several heavy cases are docketed for to-morrow's proceedings, so that once more the legal gentlemen will resume their regular trail in and out of the big building, and the eloquence of silver-tongued advocates again be heard through the halls of justice.

Board of Trade.

All notices of new business to be brought before the quarterly meeting of the Board of Trade, on April 1st, must be in the hands of the secretary, to-morrow. The meeting will be an unusually interesting one.

Who Lost a Watch?

A small, open-faced watch, evidently the property of a lady, was found at Beacon Hill, on Friday, and now awaits an owner at the office of the Driard. The movement is the celebrated Waterbury.

The Acme of Independence.

Complaint has been made to the police by Mr. Churton, that some malicious person or persons, of thieving propensities, entered his yard a few nights ago, untied his watch-dog from his kennel and stole the animal. The dog is a good one, and Mr. Churton is anxious to recover it.

Copies for the Members.

The best break of the session was made yesterday morning at the Legislature during the sitting of the Private Bills Committee when the committee room was invaded by a Salvation Army lassie with an armful of War Crys. Everybody bought a copy, from Hon. A. N. Richards down.

The Crofter Bill.

No indication has yet been given by the Government as to when the Crofter Bill, promised in the Lieut.-Governor's speech will be brought down. It is thought, however, that some time during the coming week notice will be placed on the order paper of the intention to introduce the bill at an early date.

Not Dead Yet.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Private Bills Committee could not see its way clear in the public interests to report the preamble of the Twin Cities Railway and Telephone company's Bill, an effort will still be made to get it through the House. Mr. Stoddard has given notice of a motion to be made on Tuesday next that the bill be placed upon the orders of the day for its second reading on Wednesday next.

About Land Assessments.

Mr. Forster has given notice to ask the Hon. Finance Minister, on Tuesday next, "Whether, in pursuance of the promise made by the Government last session, during the debate on the 'Act to amend the Assessment Act,' any instructions were issued to the Provincial Assessors to prepare a return showing separately the value of land, and the value of improvements on land; and, if so, whether such return is now available?"

A Midsummer Fete.

Active preparations are being made for a Fancy Fair to be held in the grounds at Bishop's Close during the month of August, in which all the Episcopal congregations in the city will be invited to assist, the proceeds being the ladies contribution towards the new Cathedral. Several ladies have already promised to furnish and take charge of booths, and with that end in view have sent to England for novelties. The success of such an undertaking is assured, as ladies never do anything by halves.

Died in Texas.

News reached Victoria, yesterday, of the death in Texas, where he went in search of health, of Mr. J. M. Davis, for several years Victoria buyer for the large firm of Ulmann, fur dealers. The deceased during his residence of several years in this city, surrounded himself with friends, whose regret at the news of his death will be most sincere. Though young in years, Mr. Davis was a keen and experienced business man; a friend to be depended upon at all times; and a companion whose society was ever a pleasure.

Royal Jubilee Hospital.

The Ladies committee of the Royal Jubilee Hospital are arranging for a grand bazaar and sale of work in aid of the hospital funds, to be held early in June. The date has been so fixed that every lady who takes an interest in hospital work can prepare contributions of useful and fancy work, etc. Already liberal co-operation has been assured, but there is still an opening for willing workers. The object of the bazaar is most praiseworthy, and, few, it is hoped, will deprive themselves of the privilege of contributing towards its success. Contributions will be thankfully received by Mrs. A. McTavish, the president; Mrs. Chas. Hayward, hon. secretary, or any member of the committee.

The Tram Service.

A respected correspondent complains about the tram service. It has, he says, become customary for men to stand on the platform, smoking pipes and cigars, when there is plenty of sitting room inside, and it is quite a common thing to see men, and even ladies, elbowing their way, with difficulty, through the crowd on the platform in order to get access to the car. The conductor, standing in the crowd at the platform, contemplates all this with the utmost complacency, just as though it were not contrary to the rules or incompatible with public convenience. He refers to irregularities and faults of the service—such as starting when ladies and children are in the act of stepping down from the car, and failing to bring the car to a dead stop when people are getting on; the irregularity in reaching a given point, the difficulty in knowing a car's destination,—as, for instance, the car marked "James Bay" turning up Fort street, and a Fort street car running to James Bay. It seems, he holds, hopeless to obtain reasonable improvement in the tram service of the city. Strangers talk about it, and swear about it, but the management goes on as serenely as if all were right.

Another Old Timer Gone.

Mr. James Holness, one of the old-timers of B. C., passed over to the majority yesterday after a protracted illness of some years. Although but 54 years of age, the deceased has seen more of the vicissitudes of life than most men over whose head have passed the three score and ten "days of our years." He was born in Margate, England, and came to British Columbia some 30 years ago. He first started out as a miner, and as such made a good deal of money in the early days, but lost most of it in speculation. Having gone through the rough work in Cariboo, he came to Victoria, and has since been engaged here in business. For a long time he was in the employ of Mr. Goodacre, of the Queen's Market, but was obliged to leave in consequence of failing health. He then started a cigar store on Yates street, which proved a great rendezvous for old-timers. Ten days ago he left the store complaining of general weakness, and going home, took to bed. He had not been out since, and his death yesterday was no surprise to his many friends. He leaves a wife, four daughters, one son, and a large circle of friends to mourn his loss. The funeral takes place from the house, 91 Fort street, to-morrow afternoon at two o'clock, and from the Reformed Episcopal Church half an hour later.

To Develop Deep Sea Fisheries.

As was announced in yesterday morning's special Ottawa dispatch to the COLONIST, the Dominion government has decided to present the old Government steamer Sir James Douglas, now replaced by the Quadra, to the Provincial Government. It is not decided yet exactly what purpose the new acquisition will be put to by the provincial authorities, but in all probability it will be in connection with the deep sea fisheries.

Satisfactorily Settled.

Yesterday morning the officers of the Zambesi, with all their cargo for this port slung out on the dock, declared that the vessel would leave for the Columbia River by 10 o'clock. Deputy Sheriff Siddall, however, though a mild mannered man himself, was a very formidable obstacle to the vessel's departure, and the two sheets of caligraph paper that fluttered on her wheel-house, formed a great deal stronger hold upon her than the heavy ropes by which she was moored to the wharf. Mr. Charles Wood, the ex-purser of the Zambesi, who had libelled the vessel, was not found hard to deal with, and matters, thanks to the business-like manner in which the work was gone about, were quickly arranged. So the steamer sailed out of harbor at 11 o'clock yesterday morning, minus the two legal pennants before alluded to. She will discharge the greater portion of her freight in Portland.

A Notice to Amateur Fishermen.

It may be just now in order to state that in future no more ardent trout fishermen need wander into the COLONIST office in a mild and unassuming manner, and relate with the utmost truthfulness and simplicity a tale of skill, before unparalled in the annals of angling, unless accompanied by a basket of the fish in corroboration of their stories, which basket they are prepared to leave behind them. Too often has the innocent reporter been beguiled by the seductive tale of mighty prowess with the rod, and too often has he sat sadly and eagerly and gathered in details of a lie about as big as the imaginary fish itself (that got away, of course). For this reason, now, when the trout season is once more beginning, it will be wise for the hosts of "Isaak Waltons," around Victoria, to be careful of their spring yarns in this office. Unless armed with the aforesaid testimony, they can watch and pray if they attempt to unload their superfluous fiction around these classic precincts.—That is, watch for the gun, and pray that it may not be used when it is pulled upon them. The British Commission of Insanity has decided (See Reports, Vol x. xi., chap. 61.) that any man claiming to have caught or hooked a trout weighing 20 pounds or over, is an incurable lunatic, and not fit to be at large. This is mentioned incidentally. The Asylum at Westminster has 24 spare wards. Also mentioned incidentally. *Verb. Sap.*

A Pioneer Incident.

Mr. William Manson, of this city, one of the oldest pioneers of the province, who, though a good deal past the ordinary term of life, still retains in a remarkable degree the knowledge of events in British Columbia for the past forty years, is full of interesting information about early days, and many of his reminiscences are most interesting. The following is simply one small glimpse into the great mass of recollections that he still retains: "When I was a cooper for the Hudson's Bay Company on the Fraser river, near Lillooet, we used to have some startling experiences with the Indians, and one of these events I never have forgotten and never can forget as long as I live. It was in the early spring of 1852 that we were hard at work in the company's store, putting up barrels for salt salmon. There were eleven half-breeds with us, and one of them was commonly supposed to be a little bit mad. He used to live by himself and very seldom spoke to any of his fellow workmen, only rushing ahead with his business, and making more money than anybody else in the shop. At the time I speak of, he came in after lunch, one afternoon, and started on a barrel over which he took a great deal of trouble, finishing it off very neatly, and going over the whole of his work on it a second time. He then knocked off for a few days and busied himself building a kind of small wharf down at the bend in the river with thick double logs chained to the trees at the bank. Then we missed him, and for several weeks wondered where he was. One day a canoe load of salmon was being brought in by Indians, and they pulled up at this floating jetty. As soon as the first man stepped on it, the logs rolled apart, and out from the middle of them came a new barrel bottom up. The barrel on shooting to the surface of the water turned over and out rolled the body of "Luney Harcus." It was the most intricate manner of committing suicide that I ever heard of. He must have expended about seventy hours of labor and twenty dollars worth of work in accomplishing his object. It was painful—I mean, of course, the waste of time.

SUPREME COURT.

IN CHAMBERS.

(Before the Chief Justice.)

17 March.

In re Brown and Brown, infants.

Exparte Brown.

In this case Mr. J. C. C. Kent had been duly appointed guardian of the infants by the Court. He now applied, as their next friend, for the approval by a judge of a proposed loan of $8,500, part of the trust fund belonging to the infants, to the St. Andrew's Society, on mortgage of a piece of land said to be worth $15,000.

Mr. Wootton, for the petitioners, stated the above facts, and that the mortgagors intended to expend the whole $6,500 in improvements upon the mortgaged premises.

The Chief Justice—"Ordinarily, when trustees are investing a trust fund, they rely on the report of proper experts as to the value of the security, and on their solicitor to see that the title is good, and the premises, with all usual powers and remedies, properly secured to them. When the beneficiaries are infants, they have the additional safeguard in the watchfulness of a judge; though the legal responsibility of the solicitor is not thereby wholly superseded. I therefore assume that proper evidence of experts is producible in support of the statements as to the value, as to which indeed the solicitors acting for the trustee are bound to protect him, and show that he has exercised due caution. Hopgood v. Parkin (11 eq. ca., L. R. 74). They will also have to see that the mortgagors have power to deal with the land as proposed, and that the covenants are personally enforceable. I should not feel disposed to authorize an advance of an infant's money on loan upon the security of land alone, especially in view of recent legislation. And this leads me to point out some special precautions rendered necessary by such legislation. The security hitherto felt on all mortgages of land seems now, if it be improvable land, and so, liable to be subjected to any mechanic's lien, to be very much impaired by the Act of 1891. By the combined operation of sections 6 and 16, all the mortgagee's remedies of sale or foreclosure or taking possession may, and probably would, be entirely taken out of his hands and placed in the hands of the lien holders. These or any one of them may by section 6 compel an immediate sale, not of the equity of redemption, but of the land itself and the mortgagee's estate and interest in it; and the mortgagee is not even to get as a matter, of course, out of the proceeds of such sale the amounts which the mortgagor has agreed by his mortgage shall be charged upon the land, but only so much as a jury may think proper to dedicate to that purpose. The mortgagee may in some cases of course get his principal, interest and costs: but it is evidently contemplated by the Act that in some cases he may not: and his remedies, his powers of enforcing payment, appear to be clearly quite taken away. No trustee could be advised to expose his cestaique trust's money to such a risk, to say nothing of the costs of litigation by contractors, materialmen and laborers. Now, against all these risks the mortgagor can perfectly protect his mortgage by simply causing every body connected with the preparation for, or the execution of, any improvements in any capacity to sign an agreement that the Mechanics' Lien Acts shall none of them apply. The present mortgagors, therefore, must at the very least, covenant to that effect: and the observance of that covenant will have to be safeguarded by very stringent stipulations, which must be submitted to a Judge for approval. It remains to be seen whether the observance of that covenant can, by any stipulations be sufficiently ensured."

AN AMUSING WORK.

How the Chinese Scribes Are Laying Down Rules for Deportment and Society.

The Chinese are actually beginning to cultivate fashion, and a book received here from Shanghai by the s.s. Zambesi, yesterday, by Mr. J. L. Hatherley, of this city, gives a most entertaining insight into Celestial notions of propriety, especially among their womankind. The work is an English translation of a Chinese author, and is entitled "How Cultured Sons of Heaven Should Exist." Among other interesting statements in this most peculiar book are the following:

"A woman's virtues are nothing except when they are considered with reference to the pleasure and comfort of her husband. The tyranny of the stronger over the weaker sex is complete. A woman must live strictly by rule, and it was an excellent thing in the Lady Po Ki that she declined to escape from the family mansion when it was on fire, because the senior officer of the household was absent. The rule was that no woman should leave the house unless the functionary mentioned was present, and Po Ki preferred to be roasted rather than infringe the rule." The Historical Classic relates the virtues of this wrongheaded female in order that "all women under heaven may be stimulated to observe the laws of propriety." If a husband has faults he may be 'told of them gently,' and, according to the examples given, "it has sometimes happened that a husband has admitted a little fault or two when they were mentioned very gently." The wife of a certain Lin Kung Shui is immortalized by the writer because "for three years after her marriage nobody had ever seen her smile." A very pleasant person she must have been to live with. The scribe then goes on to say that this same woman always drew her breath regularly and "assuredly obtained a golden crown after death because, O Daughters of Magnificence, she never slept on her face." One woman is accorded honorable mention because she lamented her husband's death so loudly that the city wall fell in ruins, and another is commended "because, for twenty years after her lord's death, she never cleaned her teeth or parted her hair." "The Lady Ki, who wrote songs," and the "Lady Li In Yon, who had a classic style," are held up to execration in a single sentence, because they "lost woman's virtue by marrying a second time, and it only sets one's teeth on edge to read their works." The book, which is well worthy of perusal, contains a large number of quaint illustrations in the Chinese style.

MARINE MOVEMENTS.

Early this morning a small schooner was sighted making up for the entrance to the harbor, and for a good while groups of sealing men imagined her to be one of the new Nova Scotia vessels for the sealing fleet. But upon her arrival it was ascertained that she had come even a greater distance than that, and a general exclamation of wonder went up as in answer to her hail came back the words, "Mermaid from London, 119 days out, and all well." As Captain Whitley, her skipper, pulled ashore he seemed proud of his achievement too, as well he might be, for he can claim to have made the fastest trip on record for a vessel of the size of his, and he has actually beaten the time of far bigger crafts with a reputation for quick travelling.

The Mermaid is owned by her Captain and Mr. Steavenson, of this city, conjointly, and was purchased from the Imperial Government, having been once used as a British revenue cutter in the English Channel. She is built throughout of teak, and in cut and fittings is stamped plainly as a vessel far better than the ordinary run of sealing schooners. Her lines and appearance were much admired yesterday by local seafaring men, and she is in every way undoubtedly the strongest and finest built boat in the fleet belonging to Victoria. Though comparatively small, her storage capacity and cabin accommodation are good, and her qualities as a sailer can be judged when it is stated that during the whole trip, in one part of which she experienced very rough weather, the Mermaid shipped few seas, and none of any consequence. "All well," was really everything there is to tell about the voyage, for, from start to finish, no accident of any kind happened. The little craft is registered as 73 tons, with length 88 feet, beam of 20 feet, and hold 10 feet.

The day that the Mermaid went out of the Thames, the barque Ariadne left for Victoria, passing her out of the estuary. Her captain expressed the notion that he would beat the little cockleshell out of sight, but somehow the "Mermaid" kept ahead of her, and got in first.

The steamer Mande came in to-night from the West Coast with a few passengers from Barclay Sound and some seal skins. She left Tuesday last, and encountered fairly good weather but a little foggy, and last night there was a strong southeast wind blowing. The sealing schooners spoken with their catches, were as follows, vis: Rosie Olsen; Sadie Turpel, 40; Beatrice, of Vancouver, 50; Maggie Mac, 125; Labrador, 51; Str. Thistle, 71; Tupper, 293, and C. D. Rand, 53. The catches of the Turpel, the Beatrice and the Maggie Mac are coming down on the Mystery. There is no news of importance from the fleet.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

A Special Meeting Discusses the View Street Extension—A Communication Concerning it.

The Position of Engineer at the Electric Light Works to be Filled—Some Important Matters.

A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held at the City Hall, last night, the Aldermen meeting in the committee room. There were present: Mayor Beaven and Ald. McKillican, Hunter, Humber, Munn, Hall, Devlin, Lovell, Styles and Baker.

Applications were read from the following for the position of electric light engineer: James T. Martin, J. Gilbert and Thos. A. Kennedy.

ALD. MCKILLICAN stated that Mr. Wilson had been temporarily appointed to the position, left vacant by the departure of Mr. Sheppard from the Province, and he proposed that the present holder of the office continue there as a permanent employe.

ALD. BAKER recommended that a local man should be appointed.

A report of the Electric Light committee was received, which recommended the ratification of the appointment of Mr. Wilson.

Some discussion ensued regarding the applicants. Ald. Hunter and Baker advocating the appointment of a married man.

ALD. MUNN did not think that the idea was a wise one. The single men should get a chance sometimes. And again, he thought that the Council should, as far as possible, adopt the suggestions of its committees. It was a great encouragement to committees when this was done.

It was decided to lay the applications over and to advertise for two weeks for a competent man.

REPORTS.

A report was received from the Park committee recommending the purchase of 300 horse chestnut trees at a cost of $150.

The report was received and adopted.

From the Library committee as follows:—

In order that the library may be maintained at its present standing—to say nothing of many badly needed improvements—it will be necessary to increase the annual appropriation for library purposes. We would respectfully recommend that a by-law be placed before the ratepayers, for their assent, raising the expenditure under this head to $3,000. We find that many valuable books are worn out and will have to be replaced. There are some, however, which can be re-bound and made to do service for a long time to come. But it is impossible to carry out these improvements until the funds are available for the purpose.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. D. MCKILLICAN,
H. A. MUNN,
M. HUMBER,
Library Committee.

ALD. STYLES urged that the Library committee should reduce the appropriation from $3,000 to $2,000. He was sure that the city would at some time or other have to assume a certain portion of the debt of the Jubilee Hospital, and the council would have to be careful. He thought $3,000 altogether too much for library purposes.

ALD. HUNTER said that he would not advocate the reduction of one cent of the amount. There were incalculable benefits derived from a good library, and he thought the amount none too large.

The report was laid on the table.

A report was received from the Waterworks committee to the effect that the trestle work supporting the 12-inch main at Swan lake needed repairing, and that the amount of expense would be $184.

ALD. HUMBER proposed that the matter lie over until a Water Commissioner should be appointed.

ALD. HUNTER said that the matter was very urgent. The trestles were quite rotten, and might collapse at any moment, and all but deprive the city of water.

It was unanimously decided that the work be authorized.

A communication was received from Frank Adams, regarding the proposal to open up View street, asking the Council to meet a deputation of residents on the subject. The letter said:

On behalf of the other property owners and myself let me say we have no objection to the street being opened, provided it is done in a fair and business-like way. As taxpayers we decided to object to the city improving or paying for improvements for private individuals, and we think this has been done in the past, viz.: The alteration of fences on School street, so as to give certain parties long frontages, thereby increasing the value of their property some 25 per cent, without the city getting any compensation whatever. We also think the city has been illegally committed to a considerable expenditure for the grading and metalling of School street, when the city has no proper title to the land. Furthermore, we claim there is no necessity for the matter being pushed in such haste, as it seems to us that instead of the View street improvement being as stated, solely for the benefit of the city, there must be private interests which are hiding their heads under the city's wing, hoping thereby to remove an objectionable stable which is an eyesore to the promoters of these improvements. I would, speaking for myself, say that it is not right that the city should pay the whole expense of these improvements, which will benefit the adjoining property owners as well as the public. I think every property owner on both sides of the street should contribute at least $250 for every 60-foot frontage he has, and the balance paid by the city, the land being expropriated and valued to the city on its merits. Surely the city can meet a deputation of the property owners and amicably settle the matter; but if the city authorities are determined to endorse the actions of those who are managing, or I might say mis-managing this View street proceeding, the property owners will have no resource but to get an injunction to restrain the city authorities from proceeding in the matter of an expenditure of several thousand dollars altogether.—Yours respectfully,

FRANK ADAMS.

ALD. MCKILLICAN stated that he had an amendment to his previous motion to bring forward, as follows:

That the city complete the agreement entered into with the Provincial Government and School Trustees with regard to the opening of a right of way on the west side of the school reserve sixty feet wide, from Yates street to Fort street. In consideration of the Government giving free right of way the corporation agreed to widen the upper end of View street to sixty feet, leading to the public school grounds; and that the city barristers be instructed to examine the titles of all those persons who are encroaching on View street, namely: Messrs. Haywood, Sayward, Theodore Davie and Frank Adams, and that those entitled to compensation be tendered as follows: Mr. Haywood, $500; W. P. Sayward, $300; Theodore Davie, $300, if required by him. Frank Adams is not entitled to any compensation according to the act governing street encroachments, and if the amounts herein stated be not accepted by Messrs. Haywood and Sayward and Davie that Alex. Jack be appointed arbitrator in behalf of the city to arbitrate on the four persons now claiming a right to a portion of View street, and that said parties be informed by the city barristers to appoint their arbitrator; and should the arbitrators disagree as to the amount of compensation the said two arbitrators appoint a third person to assist them in making the award; and that their award shall be final and binding on both parties; and that the city barristers attend to all matters in connection with said arbitration.

The Council then adjourned.

In Collision With the Street Car.

The driver of a span of horses, attached to a light wagon, narrowly escaped being seriously hurt, yesterday, by a car on the Pandora avenue car line. The team had just turned the corner of Amelia street onto Pandora, when the car which was running pretty fast at the time, struck the wagon, smashing it badly. The team—two young horses—ran away, and the man in charge barely escaped being killed.

Fled from Tacoma.

A Tacoma detective was among the passengers by the Sound steamer, last evening, and, strange to say, when talked to by a newspaper man, last evening, he confessed, "I'm over on business." Most detectives, by the time they reach Victoria, either have just come over for a little rest and pleasure or have given up the business and takes to the road in search of purchasers for dry goods or rubber clothing. The particular detective now in town does not say what his business is, but it is guessed to be in connection with the disappearance from the Sound city of Hank Cline, ex-manager of the National theatre, who, after having been repeatedly in financial trouble, left Tacoma between the setting of the sun on Wednesday night and its rising Thursday morning. Ash & Dorberg, pawnbrokers, swore out a warrant for his arrest for obtaining $350 under false pretenses, by securing the amount by chattle mortgage on goods he did not possess. Cline's debts aggregate $2,000, and it is said he took $1,500 with him.

EAST KOOTENAY.

Mr. Galbraith Talks of Mining Developments and Discoveries Around Fort Steele.

English Capital Coming in—What the Crow's Nest Railway Will Accomplish.

R. L. T. Galbraith, ex-M.P.P., for Kootenay, arrived down from Fort Steele via. Golden, and is registered at the Driard. Talking to a COLONIST representative, last night, Mr. Galbraith said that the past winter had been a very mild one, the snow falling to a depth of six inches only, permitting stock to get through the season without feeding, and without loss. Farmers at Fort Steele and Windermere were ploughing and sowing the day he left. A much larger area than ever before will be cultivated this year.

In mining very little has been done during the winter, except preparing for the coming season. The Osler-Hammond Co., of Toronto, have secured the lease of a portion of Wild Horse Creek, and have purchased in Chicago the latest improved hydraulic mining machinery, for the purpose of prospecting the deep ground on the Creek. The machinery is now on its way from Winnipeg, and will be forwarded to the mines by the new steamer Hyack, recently built by the Upper Columbia and Kootenay Transportation Co. This steamer has been built to accommodate the increased and growing trade of that section of East Kootenay.

Mr. David Griffiths, the pioneer miner of Wild Horse creek, has sold all his interests in the hydraulic mines on the creek to a London syndicate, for a very handsome figure. The agent of the company is on his way out to Kootenay to take over the property, and work will be prosecuted with energy during the coming season. It is proposed to purchase all the modern appliances of hydraulic mining in California to prosecute the work on an extensive scale. The same syndicate also intend purchasing all the Chinese interests on the Creek during the present year, and will use white labor on all claims.

A good prospect has been recently struck on the Moyea River by Ridgeway & Co., and a discovery claim taken up by them. The ground will pay $5 per day to the hand.

The Thunder Hill mine is looking well, and reports from the working manager continue to be very favorable, indeed. The machinery is now at Golden to thoroughly open up the property.

During the past a great deal has been done in opening up and developing leads in the neighborhood of Wild Horse Creek and Bull River. The ore found is of high grade—silver and copper. It runs from $50 to $800 silver to the ton. A great number of prospectors will explore this district during the coming season, and it is expected that some rich finds will be the result.

Mr. Galbraith states that the announcement in the COLONIST that the C. P. R. will begin the building of the line through Crow's Nest Pass, will be hailed with delight in East Kootenay. The line, after leaving the Pass, will cross the Kootenay near Fort Steele, and *via* Cranbrook, Goat River and Moyea River to the Columbia River. Along this road not one snow-shed will be necessary, and the grades will be light. In addition to opening up the vast coal deposits in the Crow's Nest Valley, it will also develop a mineral belt as rich and as extensive as the now famous Kootenay Lake mines. It will also bring to Victoria and Vancouver, the trade that would otherwise go to the south of the boundary. This will not only furnish a vast carrying trade to the C. P. R., but will give that railway a line which can be kept open at all times, at one tithe the expense that is now required to keep the present line in working order. Mr. Galbraith says that Col. Baker is fairly entitled to praise for his untiring efforts to induce the C. P. R. to adopt this route.

The Indians in East Kootenay have been quiet and peaceful during the year, Commissioner Vowell's visit, last season, was productive of great good.

Already active preparations are being made for the due and proper celebration of the Queen's Birthday, and not a few who, having in view the idea of spending a day on the water, apparently intend to have something more substantial than "fun" to show for their money. There have been quite a large number of orders for skiffs placed with Messrs. H. R. Foote & Co., while a new firm just started in business here, Messrs. Tibb & Yelland, formerly of Peterboro, are getting their share of the work in canoes. They have just furnished for Mr. Max Help, of this city, a handsome No. 3 size Peterboro canoe, the first, by the way, ever built in the province. It is 16 feet in length, 31 inches beam, depth amidship, 12 inches, and weight, with paddles, about 48 pounds. The material used in construction is nearly all British Columbia cedar, with California redwood finishings and solid ash bindings. Orders are already in hand for twenty-eight more of these canoes.

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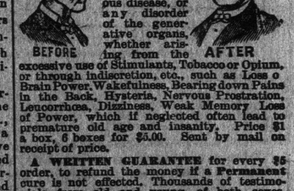

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