From The Daily Colonist, May 28.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Boots and Shoes.

That Pendray's Crescent Stove Polish and Shoe blacking are superior to any in the market.

The Contract Let.

Mr. George Mesher is the successful tenderer for the work of building Mr. Robert Ward's residence on Belcher street. The building will be ready for occupation early in the year.

Bound for Victoria.

The State of Washington will arrive this evening from Fair Haven with the newly elected council and board of trade, and some three hundred other citizens of the Bellingham Bay town.

Government Steam Launch.

McPhee Bros., ship builders, of Westminster, have commenced the construction of a steam launch—one for the order of the Dominion government, which will be used by the Fisheries Department on the Fraser. The boat will be 30 ft. over all, 6 ft. beam, 2½ ft. deep and will have a 6 horse-power engine.

Vacant.

In yesterday's paper it was announced that Professor Kaufmann had crossed the Sound. During the day a Colonist reporter visited the premises which had been leased and furnished for the Victoria Conservatory of Music, and found not only that they were vacant, but had been despoiled of all their fittings.

Freight and Trade Notes.

The Yosemite arrived yesterday at an early hour with two carloads of flour mill produce from the Columbia Milling Co., to the order of Messrs. R. P. Rithet & Co. She had also the usual consignment of agricultural products from the mainland. She took among her return freight 1,000 boxes of tin for the Fraser river canneries.

For the East Coast.

Steamer Rainbow left yesterday with a full load of freight, including a large amount of supplies for the logging camps, a quantity of prospecting apparatus for the Diamond Prospecting company of Comox, and a lot of heavy machinery for the Northern Pacific company at Burrard Inlet, together with a large number of passengers.

The Police Salaries.

While fully appreciating the raise which has been made in their salaries, the police—many of them—still consider that they are the worst paid members of the municipal service. Undoubtedly, they are a most efficient body; but their contention is, that were they in any other employment they would be much better appreciated and more substantially rewarded.

Nanaimo Board of Trade.

At the annual meeting of the Nanaimo Board of Trade, held on Tuesday evening, the following officers were elected: Samuel M. Robins, president, (re-elected); John Hilbert, vice-president; and Marcus Wolfe, secretary-treasurer, (re-elected).

Council.—Messrs. T. W. Glaholm, J. H. Please, James Abrams, E. Pimbury, J. Mahrer, A. Haslam, J. Sehl, and G. Norris.

Board of Arbitration.—W. H. S. Perkins, J. Hilbert, G. H. Blakeway, A. R. Johnston, W. K. Leighton, T. Hirst, T. W. Glaholm, A. Haslam, J. Sehl, G. Norris.

Arrest of the Sudbury Murderer.

The steamer Skidegate returned to Nanaimo from Fort Rupert, on Wednesday, with the Indian Sam on board, who is suspected of being the murderer of W. T. Sudbury at Vancouver, last March. At Fort Rupert, this scoundrel Indian came alongside the steamer in his canoe, and when he stepped on board the vessel he was arrested, to his great surprise. An Indian woman named Amile was also arrested without any trouble, and at one of the logging camps Jimmy, the principal man wanted, was secured. The prisoners are now lodged in Vancouver jail.

Hereditary Insanity.

A telegram to the Oregonian from Tacoma says: Robert E. Stevens, son of the former consul at Victoria, B. C., was pronounced insane by Judge Beverly to-day, upon evidence showing that he had betrayed symptoms of mental aberration for the past fifteen years. He lately grew worse and attempted suicide by taking morphine. Stevens has been once in the asylum and now has an uncle confined in an asylum of this kind. His grandmother also died in an asylum. He has been for some time under private surveillance. Heredity and bad habits in the excessive use of stimulants, narcotics, chloral and opium are thought to be the cause of his condition. He was taken to Steilacoom asylum.

A Mad Fight.

"Let dogs delight to bark and bite" were the words of Isaac Watts, who attributed those characteristics to the merciful or other providence of a Higher Power. It is not unfrequently that we see those attributes in lively exercise. Yesterday a number of "porkers" were landed from the steamer Yosemite from New Westminster, and no sooner had they got settled in the pen than two of them began to fight, and this they did with a vengeance. They fought for all they were worth until they were interfered with, their loud squeals attracting to the scene a number of people, who seemed to think the affair, while it lasted, was very entertaining.

A False Accountant.

Otto Peters, accountant for the Blair-Loomis Mortgage Company of Tacoma, has skipped, taking with him $1,050 of the company's funds. Peters arrived in Tacoma from his home in Germany about April 15, and a week later was given employment by the Blair-Loomis Company. He was taken in on the splendid letters of recommendation which he had. He is believed to be in some part of British Columbia, and the Blair-Loomis Co. offer $300 for his capture. No difficulty is anticipated in capturing Peters, on account of his peculiar appearance. He is 6 feet 8 inches tall, and stands as erect as a soldier. He is sparely built, weighing not over 200 pounds, which is light for a man of his height. His hair is very light, almost white, and he wears it a la pompadour. He has a dark colored monstache.

THE SALMON RUN.

Columbia River Fishermen Limited Because of Scarcity of Cans—Large Catch Doubtful in Alaska.

The Astoria Columbian of May 18th has the following:—

George & Barker took all the fish offered by their own boats yesterday, but the average catch was only twenty-five or thirty to the boat, for which they got $1 apiece. The Scandinavian limited its men to fifteen per boat, but even at that there were several boats which fell short. The shortage in cans is still complained of here.

Kinney's boatmen were limited to fifteen fish each yesterday.

Hauthorn & Co. took all they could get from their own men, but were not flooded.

Booth's cannery is still idle.

A cannery manager said last night: "The fishermen ask me why we don't telegraph for cans and push the business. I tell them there is nothing in it, even if we could make enough cans right here. We have the same expense when we get ready-made cans, and to this must be added the cost of these cans and the freight on them. We don't want to shut down, but unless the market improves we shall lose money on the fish we are canning now."

At the union meeting it was decided not to put a patrol on the river at present to look out for net thieves.

ALASKA SALMON.

San Francisco, May 21.—The steamer Karluk, which arrived in port on Monday night, and the steamer Bertha, which arrived yesterday morning, brought the first shipments of Alaska salmon which have been received this year. The Bertha brought down 300 barrels and the Karluk about 4,000 cases. The Bertha reports the fishing to be light, and that the prospects are dubious for a large catch.

LITTLE LOCALS.

The water in the Fraser has fallen about three feet at Yale.

The circus will give two performances today, afternoon and evening.

The Fraser River Gold Gravel Syndicate has commenced operations at Yale.

The contract for the construction of the Westminster Court-house has been awarded to W. Turnbull & Co.

The run of salmon in the Fraser continues large, all the boats bringing in good catches. The run of spring salmon is dropping off, but sockeyes are increasing.

Rev. Father Van Nevel was the recipient of a handsome birthday gift on Wednesday evening from the members of the Young Men's Institute in this city.

The Superintendent of the San Francisco Bridge Company, Mr. Cett, has given instructions to have the North Arm bridges rebuilt, and made in every respect first-class.

Since he left nothing has been heard of the self-styled "Governor of Alaska," who, it was not unexpected, might have been returned here from the other side of the Sound.

The lost children reported in yesterday's Colonist have not since been heard of by the police authorities, and it is presumed that the bereaved parents, having obtained their address, have taken them home with much rejoicing over their lost lambs.

A building of considerable proportions and upon exceedingly substantial stone foundation, is in course of construction at the corner of Burdett avenue and Vancouver street. It may truly be said to have been founded on a rock to judge from the amount of preliminary blasting that had to be done.

On Wednesday night, a young man of fairly respectable appearance, visited the police station in a well-advanced condition of "drunkenness," and complained that he had been robbed of a considerable sum of money in a house of questionable repute. He was given accommodation for the night, and having become a sadder, if not a wiser man by his experience, went away yesterday morning content to suffer and say no more about it.

THE BEHRING'S SEA QUESTION.

In the Senate, on the 9th inst., Hon Senator Macdonald asked:

Whether there is an immediate prospect of the owners of vessels and cargoes, seized by the United States Government in Behring's Sea, being recompensed? Is there any probability of an amicable arrangement being arrived at between the Imperial Government and that of the United States, under which Canadian vessels may be allowed to enter Behring's Sea to prosecute the seal fishery? Has the Government give this House such information as to the present position of affairs relating to the Behring's Sea question generally as in the public interest can be made public?

The reply of the Government was not definite or clear; but further information was promised before Parliament prorogued.

THE METHODIST CONFERENCE.

The Business Transacted Yesterday — Appointments and Changes affecting Victoria — Rev. Mr. Sipp's Departure.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Vancouver, May 22nd.—The fourth annual conference of the Methodist Church in British Columbia, which opened here yesterday, has now settled down to business. The Victoria delegates present are: Revs. W. W. Baer and J. E. Starr, and Messrs. N. Shakespeare, John Jessop, Sheriff McMillan, T. G. Rayner and A. J. McLellan. The first draft of the stationing committee, now ready for presentation to the general committee, contains the following appointments and changes directly interesting Victoria: Pandora Street, vice Rev. Starr, Rev. Coverdale Watson; Victoria north, Rev. Jos. Hall and W. Pollard (supernumerary); Chinese mission, J. E. Gardner; Saanich, Rev. R. J. Irwin; Maple Bay and Salt Spring, Rev. C. H. M. Sutherland; Wellington, Rev. W. A. Baer; Comox, Rev. G. H. Marden; Nanaimo, Rev. J. H. White.

A resolution expressive of the high esteem in which Mr Starr is held by the conference, and regretting his departure from the province, was introduced by Rev. Mr. Ladner and was unanimously adopted.

The advisability of appointing a superintendent of missions for British Columbia furnished the principal topic of the afternoon discussion. Such an appointment was finally decided as being unnecessary, the decision on the final vote being 19 to 12. Mission work formed the basis of the evening meeting.

The Behring's Sea Question.

New York, May 21.—The Herald's Washington special says the reported anxiety of the Canadian and British government concerning the position of the Behring sea negotiations does not appear to be shared by the representatives of our government at the capital. They do not admit that there has been any substantial delay on the American side of the case, nor do they apprehend that anything is likely to occur in Behring sea that may give rise to any embarrassment to the efforts now in progress to come to a good and final understanding on the question. Whether, as alleged at Ottawa, a provisional arrangement for the sealing season had been tendered by the British government in ample time to be put in operation I could obtain neither an affirmation nor a denial, but I did hear that nothing in the nature of a modus vivendi had been arranged or was likely to be arranged. So far as I could learn from the guarded and fragmental answers made to my inquiries, our authorities have refused the British proposal of a modus vivendi, assuming one to have been tendered, in favor of a confidential letter of instructions to the captains of the revenue cutters in the Behring's sea, directing them to avoid any actual seizure of British vessels in the course of their enforcement of acts of congress relating to the waters of Alaska. This was the course taken in 1888 by Secretary Fairchild at the instance of the then secretary of state, and if this is now followed by Secretary Windom upon a similar instigation, the asserted ignorance of the British authorities as to American intentions in Behring sea, for the present season is not inexplicable. Mr. Blaine, having taken measures for a scrupulous observance of international proprieties during the pendency of negotiations, may not feel bound to disclose to the opposite party the purely internal and domestic arrangements effected between himself and his colleagues of the treasury department. The existence of the uncertainty as to the extent to which the revenue cutters are authorized and required to proceed against British sealers in this present season is expected to have a useful result in bringing them to moderation in the absence of any explicit restraint.

A Heavy Sentence.

Doylestown, Pa., May 23.—J. Monroe Shelleberger, the lawyer whose forgeries and other criminal escapades and flight recently raised such a sensation, was yesterday sentenced by Judge Rivers to twenty-two years' imprisonment. The prisoner was completely prostrated by the sentence and had to be supported when leaving the court room.

The Ideas of March.

"Last March mother caught a severe cold, terminating in a very bad cough. Everything we could hear of was tried without avail. Hagyard's Pectoral Balsam was at last recommended and procured. The first dose relieved, and one bottle entirely cured her."

Miss E. A. Stranaman, Hespeler, Ont. w.ls

From The Daily Colonist, May 29.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Freight and Trade.

Steamship Umatilla yesterday brought 6,679 packages freight for Victoria merchants, including a large quantity of fruit and vegetables.

A Handsome Souvenir.

Order your copies of The Dominion Illustrated's Victoria Souvenir number from J. H. Brownlee, Driard House. Price $10 per hundred. This magnificent issue once exhausted cannot be replaced, so please order early for yourself and friends.

From Alberni.

The Boscowitz returned last evening from Alberni, with a light freight consisting of furs and oil. The trip was a pleasant one, good weather prevailing. At Ecole the sealing schooner Adele was fitting out for Behring Sea. There is nothing special to report.

Withdrawn.

Mr. E. S. Scoullar announces that the demands of his private business are such as to preclude the possibility of his rightly attending to parliamentary duties should he be elected, and therefore he has withdrawn from the contest for a seat in the Local House for Westminster city.

In Sixty-five Days.

George Francis Train, the globe girdler, is expected to arrive in Tacoma by special train over the Union Pacific railway this evening. It has been arranged to give the traveler a fitting reception, and the chamber of commerce has taken an active interest in the affair.

The Strike at Wellington.

The condition of the trouble at Wellington still remains the same, both employers and employes are at present remaining quiet until next Monday, when Mr. A. Dunsmuir is expected at Wellington. There is only the steamer Costa Rica at the Bay awaiting a cargo of Wellington coal.

Open for Inspection.

Captain Hulton has kindly thrown open the Amphion for the inspection of visitors during the next three days, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, after which the usual rules will be returned to. The ship's crew will escort visitors through the ship and explain the uses of the various objects of interest.

Along the Docks.

The bark General Fairchild, being unable to obtain a cargo of coal at East Wellington, left for Port Townsend and will load on the Sound.

The steamer Monserrat, has been chartered for six months to carry coal from the new Vancouver Coal Company to San Francisco.

Steamer Danube is loading freight at Tacoma for shipment to China by the Abyssinia.

Narrow Escape.

At about nine o'clock last evening a lady passenger on the tram car got off at Pembroke street while it was in rapid motion. The conductor and several gentlemen went to her assistance. She was unconscious for some minutes, and was then taken into a house near by. Beyond a severe shaking, she did not seem the worse for her mishap, though escape from broken bones was miraculous. No fault is attached to the conductor, as he had whistled for the car to stop.

No Arrests for Drunkenness.

In answer to a question, a Colonist reporter was yesterday informed that there were no people under arrest charged with drunkenness, the reason being that the mayor had given orders that during this holiday season such people as were not specially obstreperous should be allowed to go home, if they were able to take care of themselves. Besides, any who may have been detained over-night will be discharged this morning, unless there are specially aggravating circumstances. However, the sobriety and order that has been maintained are remarkable.

The Daily Colonist.

This journal, the oldest newspaper in the capital, comes to hand to-day enlarged to 36 columns per issue. Each page contains seven columns of printed matter, making it at once the largest daily in the Province. This new departure on the part of our contemporary is another evidence of its prosperity and shows the advance the capital city is making. Both the Victoria journals are a credit to any city of greater dimensions and even pretensions than Victoria. The field is well supplied by a morning and evening journal, and the enterprise of each being appreciated by the business men, will be due to them a liberal share of advertising.—Vancouver World.

The Behring's Sea Patrol.

A despatch from Washington says that the ordering of the Bear and the Rush to Behring's Sea to protect the seal fisheries is occasioning considerable talk. In case of the dismantling of any British vessels outside of the accepted three miles jurisdiction, seizure of their log books, or of seal skins, will be regarded by the authorities and people as virtually an act of war against a friendly power. Captain Healy, of the Bear, said: "I know nothing about the mission of the Bear, with the exception of what I have learned through the papers. I see that orders were signed yesterday. I have nothing to say; my duty is simply to obey my orders when I receive them, and that I shall do this goes without saying." The Rush is now at San Francisco, her instructions being similar to those received by the Bear.

PERSONAL.

W. D. Ferris came over from the Mainland last night.

Mr. and Mrs. Purdy, arrived over from Whatcom last evening.

Mrs. V. Jacobson arrived on the Boscowitz last evening from Alberni.

F. Boultbee, of Vancouver, was among the arrivals by the Islander last night.

J. W. McLeod, of the firm of McLeod & Earle, came over from Seattle yesterday.

G. G. Chandler, general agent of the Northern Pacific, arrived over last evening.

Dr. Paterson, of Winnipeg, who has been spending several days in Victoria, leaves for San Francisco to-day.

M. Pickin, formerly of Victoria, but now of Fairhaven, Wash., was a member of the party from that city last evening.

Rev. D. Fraser returned from Alberni last evening on the Boscowitz, having successfully accomplished his mission and joined several couples in matrimony.

Mr. Algr. Dunsmuir, Mrs. Robert Dunsmuir, Misses Jessie, Effie, and Maud Dunsmuir arrived home from England last night. Mr. Alex. Dunsmuir is registered at the Driard.

A HANDSOME TROPHY.

Crane, McGregor & Boggs' "Victoria Harbor Challenge Cup" to be Rowed for at the Regatta To-day.

There is on view in the window of Messrs. Crane, McGregor & Boggs, Broad street, the magnificent challenge cup, which they have presented for competition at the regatta to-day. The entire piece stands about three feet high, and will be highly prized by the winner, as it well deserves to be, both on account of its intrinsic worth and the distinction which its possession confers. It is on an ebony base, rising up by steps to a dome, which is occupied by the trophy proper. In front of the base is a shield bearing a St. George's cross and the inscription, "Presented by Crane, McGregor & Boggs, May 24, 1890." "Amateur Championship Cup, Province of British Columbia, 1890." The cup stands on a silver table, on the sides of which are engraved several sailing scenes. The cup itself is urn-shaped, and is elaborately engraved and chased. In an ornamented oval on the front of the cup is the representation of an oarsman in an outrigger, a light-house and a narrow channel being in the back ground. On the top of the cup stands a figure holding a wreath in his right hand and supporting a shield with his left. The cup is supported on each side by a pair of scrolls, with an anchor and rudder at the foot. Two oarsmen stand on either side in rowing costume. A wreath of myrtle in gold is suspended between the blades of the oars. The cup is ornamented with gold bands artistically chased, and of the many cups to be competed for is, perhaps, the handsomest. It has to be won two years in succession, and is open to all persons who have not since the first of May, 1889, won money in any boat race, or who have not since that date been matched for money against any person in any athletic or aquatic contest, or who have ever taught or pursued athletic sports or exercises as a means of livelihood. Any person who has ever won money in a shell race is barred. The cup is to be held by the Amateur Association or club of which the winner is a member from the time of such winning to the first of May following, when it is to be returned to the donors. Should the winner not be a member of any association or club the cup inscribed with the name of the winner shall be placed at the disposal of the donors until finally won.

LITTLE LOCALS.

Owing to the recent heavy rains the Fraser is again rising.

Betting at Westminster is $100 to $75 that Hon. Mr. Robson will head the poll in Westminster district.

It has been suggested that finger posts should be placed along the road from Nanaimo to Alberni, for the guidance of travelers.

D. McGillivray, contractor, has just returned to Vancouver from the Columbia & Kootenay railway, where he reports work going on briskly, with nearly 500 men engaged and more to begin soon.

Mr. McTavish's handsome new steam launch "Rita," yesterday underwent a cleaning up and overhauling at McIntosh's boat house, no doubt, in readiness for the Queen's birthday. Her masts were taken out and she is at present propellable by naptha only.

No paper will be issued from The Colonist office to-morrow morning; but, instead, a paper will be issued on Monday morning, with full reports of the final day's celebration.

Yesterday, while a party were riding out to Beacon Hill to witness the sports there in progress, conversation flagged, and, "to kill the time," resort was had to the proposal of conundrums. Among them was the suggestion to put into English, in the form of a well-known expression, the following—"Pas de la route que nous."

The number of Siwashes, klootchmen, and Chinese—male and female alike—all in their best native attire, was one of the remarkable things to be noticed on the streets yesterday. All appeared to have made up their minds to enjoy themselves, and that they did to their great satisfaction, the juveniles being in no way forgotten. That they were "Queen Victoria's people," they unquestionably manifested, and all the finery they could put upon and about themselves they did. They will unquestionably give further demonstrations to-day of their respect for or loyalty to the Queen.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS.

Delighted with the Scenery Along the Line of the C.P.R.—Perfect Arrangements for their Comfort.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Ashcroft, May 23. — Ashcroft was reached safely by the royal party at 16.35. On leaving the train for a short walk at North Bend, the Duke and Duchess were heard to express themselves as being delighted with the scenery and climate. Ashcroft was gay with flags in honor of the passage through of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, this afternoon. Their special remained for a few minutes at the station, where a small crowd had collected to catch a glimpse of the prince and his consort. All the members of the party are standing the trip well, none of the ladies looking in the slightest degree fatigued. The C. P. R. arrangements for their accommodation could not have been more perfect. The entire line was patrolled in advance of the royal train, and each station where a stop was made was reached almost to the minute named on the time card.

AT KAMLOOPS.

Kamloops, B. C., May 23.—The special train bearing the Duke of Connaught and party eastward arrived at Kamloops at 5.45, and, after a short stay, passed on to Sicamous.

AT SICAMOUS.

Sicamous, B. C., May 23.—The first day of the Duke of Connaught's trans-continental trip was brought to a close at 16.30 this evening, when Sicamous was reached and the train drew on to a siding, there to remain until 4 a.m. The run from Vancouver here, 334 miles, was made in 14 hours actual time, with the most favorable weather possible for sight seeing all the way. The Royal Party were at the car windows the greater part of the day and expressed their admiration of the wonders of the Frazer canyon and the old Cariboo road, a relic of pioneer days and engineering skill. At every stop made the Prince and his suite were out of the train almost as soon as it was halted, handsomely viewing every object of interest, and conversing sociably with those who had gathered on the platforms to witness the arrival of the special. No demonstration in honor of the passing of the Prince was made at any station on the line, undoubtedly on account of his expressed wish that his trip should be regarded as that of a private citizen. The British colors were, however, flying at every station, and by the assembling thereof the people testified to their loyalty. The arrangements made by the C.P.R. were without a hitch. Section patrols preceded the train all the way to see that the track was clear, and had it not been for the expressed wish of the Prince that the run be made easily, Driver Mee would have put the party through in a couple of hours sooner. All the party retired early, although little fatigued by the first portion of their long trip. It is expected that one day will be spent at Banff, where the special arrives Sunday.

AUSTRALIA.

Opening Day of the Victoria Parliament.

Melbourne, May 22. — The Victoria parliament was opened to-day by Earl Hopetoun. He congratulated parliament upon the prosperity of the country and its rapid strides toward federation, which, he said, was near.

The work of strengthening the fort works of the colony is advancing.

The arming of the forts with the new style of breech loaders is almost finished. A conference will be held at Adelaide to take action in concert with other Australian colonies to bring about a lower postal and cable rates between Australia and Europe. A large extension on the existing railways are also to be made and irrigating works are to be constructed.

The Railway to Alaska.

Ottawa, May 23.—The project for a railway to Alaska is about to take definite shape. An application will be made to parliament at the next session to incorporate the Vancouver Northern and Alaska Railway and Navigation company, with power to build a railway from Vancouver or some other point on Burrard Inlet, along the banks of the Fraser river by way of Seymour Creek valley, Pemberton meadows, Chilcoten plains, and the headwaters of the Fraser river to a point on Parsnip or Peace rivers, with branches in a northerly direction to the Skeena and Stickeen rivers to the boundary of Alaska.

Everyone Should Try

To secure good health. The great specific for all diseases arising from disordered stomach, such as overflow of bile, sick headache, loss of appetite, nausea, palpitation, indigestion, constipation and all blood diseases is Burdock Blood Bitters. w.ls

Plush Toilet sets, Manicure sets, Photo Albums, etc., at T. N. Hibben & Co.'s.

From The Daily Colonist, May 29.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

A Great Success.

The Matequi Dyking Company is to be congratulated on the success of its dyking scheme. During this month in past years it was usual for people to traverse the Matequi Prairie in boats, but this year the land is dry, thanks to the dyke, and farmers are going on steadily with their plowing and seeding operations.

"A Credit to Victoria."

The Port Townsend Morning Leader pays The Colonist the following compliment: "The Victoria Colonist has enlarged to an eight-page seven-column paper. The Colonist is the oldest paper published in the province, and is a credit to Victoria and its publishers. It is progressive and newsy, and a valuable exchange."

Political.

A public meeting was held in the Town Hall Langley, last Wednesday, at which it was decided to ask each municipality and settlement in New Westminster district to appoint three delegates to attend a convention at Langley Town Hall on the 28th instant. The object of the convention is to select candidates for the approaching Provincial elections.

The Behring's Sea Patrol.

A despatch from Washington says that should any sealers be captured in Behring's Sea this year, efforts will be made to avoid a repetition of last year's experience with a one-man prize crew. It is understood that according to present indications, vessels caught violating the law will be dismantled and deprived of all means of further violation. Their logs and all skins will also be seized.

Fire on San Juan.

The revenue cutter Wolcott was at Roche Harbor last Wednesday night. Lieut. Willey, while on deck, saw a dwelling house in flames and immediately sent two boat loads of men ashore to render assistance to the occupants of the house. The building, which belonged to the Roche Harbor Lime company, was entirely destroyed as well as all the furniture. It is supposed the fire was caused by a defective flue.

The Dominion Election.

Sheriff Armstrong has received the writ for the election of a member of the Dominion Parliament for Westminster district. The date of nominations has been set for Thursday, June 5th, at the court house in Westminster, at 12 o'clock noon, and the polling will take place in the different polling divisions of the district on Friday, June 20th, one week after the Provincial elections. At present there are only three candidates in the field, Messrs. W. H. Ladner, Gordon E. Corbould and W. B. Townsend, and the election will doubtless be a very quiet one.

Welcomed Home.

On Friday evening a party of friends met at Mrs. Grassby's residence, Cormorant street, to welcome home Mr. Frank Wills and his bride, who came over from Vancouver, where they were married some days ago, upon the bride's arrival from Devonshire, England. They were the recipients of many handsome presents, and a nice time was enjoyed by all till the small hours of morning. Mr. Wills, since his arrival in Victoria, which he has made his home, has made many friends, who join in wishing him and his fair bride all joy and prosperity through life.

A Plucky Act.

During the progress of the lacrosse game at Beacon Hill Saturday morning, a team of horses attached to a spring wagon dashed along the road and through the crowd, which scattered right and left. A young man ran after the wagon and climbed into it from the rear. He stepped over the dashboard on to the tongue and succeeded in getting hold of one line. This turned the animals right on to the ground, and the lacrosse boys assisted in stopping them by brandishing their sticks in front of them. The plucky driver by this time had secured the other line and climbing back to the seat, drove off the field amid the cheers of the spectators of his plucky act.

The First Arrest.

Yesterday afternoon about three o'clock an Indian was observed violently gesticulating on Store street, and protesting that he had been robbed of his coat, which he had sold to a man for $9, but on making delivery the purchaser refused to pay. In despair at his sheer inability to pacify him, a constable ran him into the cells, where he will remain till this morning awaiting the police magistrate's decision as to the course preferred against him of disturbing the peace. "Tom," for that is the name he gave, loudly bewailed the sad fate which had consigned him to the tender mercies of the officers. This is the first arrest which has been made since the 22d instant.

The Street Cars.

During the three days' holiday the street cars were put to a very severe strain. The cars were often filled as full as they possibly could hold. Passengers would jump on; it was impossible to prevent them. The conductors did their best to give all who wanted a ride reasonable accommodation, but the crowd was now and then perfectly unmanageable. Fortunately no accident of any consequence occurred. There were between 14,000 and 15,000 persons carried on the cars during the three days. When the system would stand such a strain without a mishap it is not likely to break down under the ordinary traffic.

Better Accommodation.

Since the conclusion of the holiday celebration and the departure of a number of excursion steamers the ordinary visitors to the city have been able to secure better hotel accommodation, and cots in the drawing rooms are no longer the order of the day. There is no "doubling-up," and guests are obtaining about all the accommodation they require. During the last few days the hotel clerks have been at their wits' end how to dispose of their patrons without giving offence, the problem having been far more difficult of solution than that ancient chestnut about putting ten people in nine separate rooms, and still having one room at the disposal of the landlord.

Columbia River Salmon.

An Astoria despatch says: Columbia river fishermen still complain of the light run of salmon. Larger fish than usual were brought in yesterday to some canneries, one being reported which weighed 62 pounds. At Cutting's cannery, Wednesday, one-third of the boats brought in half the total receipts of the day. The average has been fifteen to the boat for the past three days. The Sand Island traps are doing fairly well, but few steel heads are being caught. Blue blacks are more plentiful, although not in large numbers. At Elmores deliveries averaged 15 fish per boat for the last four days. From the Chinook cannery reports indicate an increased catch.

Political Meeting at Comox.

A meeting of the residents of Comox was held in that district on Wednesday evening for the purpose of nominating a person to represent them in the coming election. There was a very fair attendance and Mr. J. R. Holmes was elected chairman. The following members were proposed: J. Dunsmuir, S. W. Crawford, J. McKenzie, J. McPhee, E. Halliday, and Mr. Humphreys and a few others offered to stand. The meeting became one of disorder, as each party wanted their man nominated. The chairman told Mr. E. Halliday to withdraw, as he was too young to represent them and did not know enough. Then the meeting became very disorderly, and Mr. J. B. Holmes left the chair, which was then filled by W. W. Robb. It was then proposed to take a vote for four of the aspirants, which was acceded to. The result was J. McPhee 27, J. McKenzie 9, S. W. Crawford 4, E. Halliday 4. The meeting then broke up in a babel of disputing.—Nanaimo Free Press.

An Explanation Wanted.

At the Gorge grounds on Saturday a very old, thin and audacious style of swindling was openly carried on, to the loss of the verdant people who consented to be dupes. This was the thimble-rig game. Three half walnut shells and a bean comprised the outfit, and the bet is made as to which shell the bean is under. The operator has several accomplices in the crowd, who now and then win the bets in order to deceive the public. This game was successfully played during the whole afternoon at the Gorge grounds, and a number of trusting people lost money, one, it is said, to the amount of $200. Officer Redgrave, who was sent out to assist the provincial police, stopped the game early in the afternoon, as had been done by order by Chief Sheppard at Beacon Hill earlier in the day. However, he was informed, he says, by Officer Miller that his instructions from his chief was not to interfere, and hence the game was again started. An explanation from the provincial police is still wanted in this matter, for the swindlers should have been arrested immediately they were discovered at work. As it is, they should be secured if still in the city, heavily fined, and made to disgorge the money they secured by swindling.

From Montreal.

Captain C. C. Clapham, paymaster 6th regiment of cavalry arrived in town Saturday evening from Montreal and is staying at the Driard. He represents the house of Messrs. John Martin & Co., military outfitters and contractors of that city. His visit is one of business, and in the course of his journey he called at all the military centers, and the posts of the Northwest Mounted Police, with his large and varied samples. Navigation having opened in Montreal, he reports business as brisk with a very favorable outlook for the season. There never were more improvements going on—municipal and individual—than there are to-day, while the harbor authorities aided by the corporation are doing their utmost to provide for the immense increase of business that is looked for. In Winnipeg the principal topic is the Hudson Bay railway and other connections. The crop outlook in Manitoba and the Northwest is very favorable, having been improved by recent rains. Many buildings are being erected in the city of Winnipeg, two in the new Railway station of the Northern Pacific. Settlers are arriving at all the principal stations on the C. P. R. by every train, and large quantities of land are being taken up. Captain Clapham expects to make Victoria his headquarters with Victoria, of whose future he has formed the highest expectations.

VICTORIA ELECTORAL DISTRICT.

Mr. McIlmoyl Retires From the Field.

News from the adjacent district of Victoria is to the effect that Mr. McIlmoyl, of Saanich, who was nominated by the opposition convention a few days ago for the Local House, has retired from the field, having become convinced, after a tour through the district, that his election, in the present state of public feeling, is impossible. It is said that he was told by a large majority of those who supported him at the recent bye-election that they had decided to support the Government candidates, Messrs. Eberts and Anderson. Mr. Carey, who at first announced himself as an "Independent supporter of the Government," afterwards secured the nomination of the Government candidates, and he, too, has not retired; but it is not improbable that he will shortly do so—that is, if he has not taken leave of his usual good sense.

Mr. McIlmoyl's example is recommended to people of being followed by the opposition candidates in this city and elsewhere. Their defeat at the polls is assured, and their graceful retirement at this stage would spare the country and themselves much annoyance and many shekels.

PERSONAL.

A. Carson went out on the Kingston last night.

R. H. Benedict was a passenger on the Kingston last night.

James Leamy, of the Planing Mills, Vancouver, is at the Driard.

Mr. Hardy went out on the Kingston last evening on a Sound trip.

S. T. Macintosh and T. Wolfenden came over from Westminster yesterday.

Senator McInnes, wife and sons, returned to Westminster from Ottawa yesterday.

Capt. J. A. O'Brien, of the Premier, and Purser McRae, of the Abyssinia, are visiting friends in town.

J. W. McLeod, of Earle & McLeod, railroading on Store street, and protesting that he had been robbed of his coat, which he had sold to a man for $9, but on making delivery the purchaser refused to pay. In despair at his sheer inability to pacify him, a constable ran him into the cells, where he will remain till this morning awaiting the police magistrate's decision as to the course preferred against him of disturbing the peace. "Tom," for that is the name he gave, loudly bewailed the sad fate which had consigned him to the tender mercies of the officers. This is the first arrest which has been made since the 22d instant.

The Street Cars.

During the three days' holiday the street cars were put to a very severe strain. The cars were often filled as full as they possibly could hold. Passengers would jump on; it was impossible to prevent them. The conductors did their best to give all who wanted a ride reasonable accommodation, but the crowd was now and then perfectly unmanageable. Fortunately no accident of any consequence occurred. There were between 14,000 and 15,000 persons carried on the cars during the three days. When the system would stand such a strain without a mishap it is not likely to break down under the ordinary traffic.

METHODIST CONFERENCE.

The Business of the First Week's Sessions.

In The Colonist there has already appeared a brief summary of the Methodist conference proceedings which began at Vancouver on Tuesday, when the stationing committee began under the itinerant system to appoint to their various spheres of duty the ministers resident within the bounds of the conference. This duty is by no means an easy or particularly pleasant one, and, though the understanding is that the will of Providence is that such and such a minister should have charge of such and such a field, the human nature, or the old Adam that still exists, rebels in some instances, in a more or less overt form, against the assignment. In order, however—such is the theory—that there should be no avoidable mistakes, various draughts of the stations are made and circulated, which are supposed to be open to correction; but the good and substantial reasons for amendment are not unfrequently ignored and, for better or for worse, the three years' ministrations are finally adjudged. The public meeting, devoted to Sabbath School interests, was held in Homer Street Church, on Tuesday evening, the chair being occupied by the retiring president, Rev. J. S. Hall, who briefly introduced the first speaker, Rev. M. J. Stevens, of Comox. This gentleman dwelt at some length on the necessity of spiritual, as well as intellectual and physical development, among the young. He contrasted the profit and loss systems of ordinary life, with those of eternity, strongly emphasizing the question, "What shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" Everyone would have to give account hereafter for the deeds done in the body, hence the greater necessity—all things considered—of training the young. He pointed out to teachers the immense importance of the work in which they were engaged, and of the rewards that awaited consecration to duty and earnest prosecution of their work. Mr. S. J. Thomas, of Richmond, announced his belief that Sunday school operations were the most important work of the church. He dwelt upon the effects which the experiences of his own early life, in the Sunday School, had upon his career; the grand old Bible stories, which were ever new, having inculcated in his mind never perishing lessons of love for God and for all that is good and true. There were close on seventeen millions of children being trained in the world's Sunday schools; in the present time, half a million of them in the Methodist Sunday schools of Canada alone. The Sundsy school was a great Missionary institute as it gathered the people in by scores and retained them; it was a preservative of the church, and without it there would be ruin and decay, while of all other places parents ought to recognize that it was the best to which they could send their offspring. He urged upon parents the duty of both morally and financially supporting Sunday schools. Let their prayers go with their contributions.

On Wednesday morning

THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS

took place, as has already been announced. After the retiring President Rev. J. Hall had returned his acknowledgements of the support and co-operation by which he had been sustained during the last twelve months, Rev. J. Bryant, the newly elected president, was formally inducted, and returned thanks for the honour of which he had been made the object. Rev. Joseph Hall, as was only fitting, received the thanks of the conference for his faithful services as president during the past year, after which Messrs. W. W. Baer, Matthew J. Stevens and Robert J. Irwin, were admitted into full ministerial standing, and Messrs. G. H. Marden, J. E. Gardener, William D. Misener, J. C. Spencer and R. R. Beairs were continued on probation, the last two being from the Port Simpson district. Mr. J. P. Hicks was received on probation, and to be allowed his first year on completing his course of study. Rev. Mr. McLeod, of Zion Presbyterian church, and Rev. Mr. Bromham, of the Baptist church, Vancouver, were introduced and delivered brief addresses. Rev. W. Pollard was continued on the list of superannuated ministers, and it being reported that no ministers had ceased to be recognized, and that there had been no removals by death since the conference last met, a brief service of praise and prayer was led by Rev. T. W. Hall. It was determined that Rev. R. R. Beairs, of the Port Simpson district, be sent to college at the expense of the conference. A memorial of the Victoria district, against the reduction of the salaries of Indian missionaries proposed by the Central Board of Missions was referred to committees, as well as one from the Westminster district asking conference to represent to the general conference the necessity which exists for the appointment of a general superintendent of missions in British Columbia, with functions similar to those of Rev. James Woodworth, of the Manitoba and Northwest conference. The Port Simpson district recommended that their recommendation was referred—that the next general conference provide that two laymen and two ministers from each district be placed on the stationing committee as well as the chairman of the district.

The educational meeting in the evening, which was of a public character and was numerously attended,