ch greater than those from
e the movement of Cana-
e east to the west of Lake
lmost half as great as the
from the United States.
les are so large that the
and colonization compon-
aterially advanced their
this connection we again
on to the wide range of
tion throughout the west.
ould invest or speculate in
and is almost the one great
itable, that farmers should
to hold more land than they
cultivate although they
t upon an uncertain labor
uite natural under the cir-
but when an entire com-
chants, manufacturers, far-
ssional men and clerks—is
the effort to increase the
, trouble must come sooner
here are, of course, many
piring which will legitimate-
the market value of land
country, but these influen-
he moment probably less
n the mere views of a com-
on holding for a rise land
any have no personal use.
or other an uncomfortably
r will wish to sell at the
nd grievous loss will doubt-

provements by municipalities
tion of buildings of all kinds
the three provinces have
ling at a remarkable pace.
in building during 1904 in
emed to make it improbable
would be a much further in-
905. The buildings erected,
1905. are almost twice as
the previous year, although
te cost is not very much
The supply of houses in
ems now about equal to the
it is to be hoped that this
ome check to building of a
character.
ent of debts is of course ma-
er than in 1904. It is abun-
ent, however, that people
the West have incurred
for the holding of farm
perty, and but for this and
actory crop of 1904 the fi-
t of the present crop would
much more satisfactory. We
notice that throughout the
is a determination on the
e extending credit to be
rigid and careful in future.

British Columbia

he Northwestern provinces
bore attention from eastern
from the outside world dur-
t year, no province in Can-
greater prosperity relative-
mmediate possibilities than
umbia. This huge province
obably some day to outstrip
in wealth, with resources
re literally millions of peo-
r development, has at pre-
handful, as it were, of peo-
so rich in products of both
er, valley and mountain, fish,
, cattle, timber, coal, and
minerals; it is so lovely a
man to live in; and it can
be so largely self-supporting
its possibilities in producing
food and varieties of manu-
at no one can doubt as to
er of its industrial future.
ysical and financial problem
olumbia is by far the most
any of the provinces, and it
able that the other people of
uld appreciate what the Brit-
ans have to do. Individually
of this province are well off,
with of the city of Vancouver
ng as that of Winnipeg, Cal-
monton, but the number of
itish Columbia is about the
the city of Toronto, and a
is not of white blood. This
is called upon to make the
nditures necessary to render
earliest conditions of settle-
le. And these initial expen-
n roads built in one of the
lt of countries, bridges across
, etc.; indeed, at every point,
utlay is most costly, espec-
mpared with that of the
inces. And when communi-
ade, the individual again has
nusual labor and money be-
get any return. The ulti-
of such initial expenditure,
ade, is not a matter of doubt.
ficulties explain why British
rows more slowly in popula-
ve all wish.
ber business, depending as it
ainly upon the prairie prov-
been very satisfactory, as to
good price. In coal mining
been a handsome increase in
of both coal and coke, and
w mines are being opened.
s to be no reason why these
industries should not grow
specially in view of the al-
nited raw material, until
umbia takes its place among
oal and lumber producers of

In anticipation of this sev-
sales of timber limits have
ken place at good prices, and
buyers are a good many

Copper mining and smelt-
y established and profitable
They require large capital
te technical knowledge, but
of such a combination seem
re as in other well-managed
ing businesses. The year's
the Boundary mining district
,000,000 tons. There is a
provement in lead and silver
d the outlook seems better
any years.

e ranching business has been
important movements look-
growing of fruit on a large
ing made; irrigation in some
s is being successfuly car-
arming and dairying in the
ere pursued have been profit-
generally, all land operations
d a good return for labor be-
reon. Increase in the value
ate and activity in building
as marked as in other parts
and in Vancouver especially
in real estate has reached
which promise trouble for
e investors.

ng the year for the curious
l recurrence of large returns
fraser river, salmon fishing in
lumbia has been successful,
h have fortunately brought a
t price. The previous three
been so unsatisfactory that
eps for the preservation of
industry have become plainly
and we are glad to know that
he results from a commission
by the Dominion Government
ely to have much more atten-
hereafter to the fishing inter-
Pacific than has hitherto been

We cannot expect that the
years will produce satisfac-
s, but if arrangements now
plation can be completed, the
ld be a steady prosecution of
ncreasing the number of sal-
if these are successful, we
e course of time build up
ean years of the Fraser river
l of the fourth year, and we
mprove all other British Co-
non rivers. The object is so
portant to British Columbia
n only hope that politics will
wed in any manner whatever
e with the desired result.
hing is, however, only a small
great fishing rights possessed
in the Pacific ocean and the

rivers running thereto. The supplies of halibut and herring are almost inexhaustible, and there are large quantities of other fish, such as smelts, cod, whiting, etc., but at present the business of fishing is not well organized, nor is there sufficient skill in the community to make the best use of this great natural source of wealth. It is doubtful if in eastern Canada and in foreign countries any conception has been formed of the extent and richness of the fishing grounds owned by British Columbia. At the present time the United States fishermen are taking large quantities of halibut, using our ports for refuge in case of storm, and shipping their halibut from Vancouver in bond to the United States. We cannot, of course, interfere with any legal rights they have, but surely, as in the case of the Atlantic fisheries, we ought not positively to aid such a diversion of our natural products. In this connection we should also like to draw attention to the unfortunate effect of the exclusion of Mongolian labor. It was of most noticeable value in connection with both fishing and canning, and the lack of such labor must have a very deterrent effect upon progress in this particular industry.

There has been considerable railroad building in southern British Columbia, and sooner or later large developments must follow the building of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway across the upper part of the province. The sale of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway to the Canadian Pacific railway should also have an important effect upon the development of Vancouver Island.

United States

In common with most other portions of North America, the Pacific coast States of Washington, Oregon and California, in all of which we have branches, have enjoyed unusual prosperity during the past year, exceeding in many respects any record in the past.

The wheat crop in Washington has been the largest in its history; the salmon season has been very satisfactory and profitable, both in volume and in price; the lumber business has improved over that of the previous year; the crop of hops is larger than usual, but the great fall in price has made the business unprofitable; the trade with Alaska and the north has been better than for several years; the end of the Eastern war has been followed by a great increase in the trans-Pacific trade now only in its infancy; and of the development of its own vast resources in timber, and in lands suitable for wheat culture. While the gold which has reached Seattle from the Yukon shows a total of only $7,861,000, the results from Nome, Tananą and other sources bring the total up to $18,667,000, and it seems clear that, while there must be decreases in various camps, the total is likely to decrease for some time to come, especially as so little territory has as yet been worked by dredges or hydraulics.

We find a similar prosperity in Oregon. The product of lumber was about the same as last year, with better prices. The State is said to have in standing timber two hundred and thirty-five billion feet, occupying about 54,000 square miles. This must be one of the world's greatest timber reserves. The yield of wheat has increased, with a better outlook for the next crop than for many years past, and flour exports are larger. The results from fishing were excellent, indeed as good as in 1904. Other industries, such as dairying and wool, have done well, while hops, fruit, etc., have had varying success. The total results of all industry have given Oregon a signal year of success.

California has had some features of an unfavorable kind, but still the year is regarded as the best in the history of the State. The wheat crop was very unsatisfactory, the yield being but about 12,000,000 bushels, against 32,000,000 in 1899 The character of farming in the state is apparently bad, and the decline can only be partially attributed to an unfavorable season. The receipts of salmon from Alaska were the largest since 1901. The manufacture of redwood lumber has increased and the total for 1905 is about 340,000,000 feet, as against 209,000,000 in 1900, each intervening year showing a moderate but steady growth. The receipts of lumber of all kinds at San Francisco for 1905 were 759,000,000 feet, a handsome increase over 1904. The value of the crops of oranges and lemons is about $40,000,000, as compared with $30,000,000 in 1904. The crop of grapes for wine, table and raisins was about three-quarters of an average, but the quality was the best yet known. The trade in canned and green fruits was very large and profitable, stimulated particularly by the poor fruit crops of the eastern and middle states. California is steadily increasing in wealth and population, railroad building is proceeding rapidly, shipping is again profitable, while real estate and building both here and in Oregon and Washington are exhibiting the same activity as elsewhere in the United States and Canada.

Considering the United States generally, the conditions are distinctly prosperous. With another great corn crop, this year exceeding two and a half billion bushels, with a wheat crop of about 700,000,000 bushels—only once exceeded before, and about 150,000,000 bushels larger than in 1904—with other grain crops slightly larger, and with a cotton crop of about normal proportions, the basis of a great commerce is established. The exports exceeded a billion and a half of dollars, while the imports for the second time exceeded a billion dollars, these figures leaving an enormous balance of trade in favor of the United States. Their internal trade has been on a greater scale than ever. There is evidence of this in every kind of business activity, but in nothing more clearly than the usual test of expanding trade—that of iron and steel. Almost every blast furnace is in operation, the volume of ore being transported from the mines, and consequently of pig iron manufactured, exceeding all previous experience. This enormous volume of legitimate and profitable trade is unfortunately, but perhaps naturally, accompanied by excessive speculation in securities, with prices which certainly seem perilously high. The country's requirements for bank loans are very large indeed, and the rates paid for money in New York recently, although only from day to day and for speculative purposes, are a sufficient indication of an overstrained condition. One cannot view without concern such an abnormal state of affairs, and it is to be hoped that the real business interests of the country will not suffer because of the volume and the pace of stock speculation.

Before sitting down I would like to remind gentlemen who are here—and I have said the same thing before—that this report, which is filled with many dry facts, and altogether too many figures, is really not prepared so much for those who are good enough to be present and listen to it, as for the 3,500 shareholders and for the customers of the bank in the various provinces, and in the various states to which I have referred. I make this statement because it may seem curious to you that we should be interested in many facts which seem quite local. They are local so far as people in Toronto are concerned, but they are deeply interesting to people in the various sections with which I have dealt.

The motion for the adoption of the report was then put and carried.

The President—As we stated in the report which has been presented to you this morning, we have concluded that it would be well to increase the number of directors from ten to twelve, and a resolution to that effect will now be proposed. The names of the two gentlemen who will be offered for election, in addition to those at present on the board are Mr. H. D. Warren and Mr. B. E. Walker.

It was then moved by Mr. Robert Kilgour, and seconded by Mr. Flavelle:

"That bylaw No. 1, adopted by the shareholders on the 18th June, 1901, and amended by them on 14th January, 1902, be amended by substituting the word 'twelve' for the word 'ten' in the first line of the said bylaw."

The President—As a consequence of the increase in the number of directors which you have authorized by the resolution just passed, we now have to ask you to assent to an increase in the remuneration which the board receives. The annual appropriation at present authorized for this purpose is $20,000, and with your consent we now propose to increase that amount to $25,000. It should, however, be understood that we shall not necessarily use at once the whole of this $25,000, but we thought it well when making an increase to fix that amount as the limit of the sum which might be taken for this purpose.

It was then moved by Mr. J. L. Blaikie and seconded by Mr. John A. Bruce:

"That bylaw No. 5, adopted by the shareholders on 18th June, 1901, be amended by substituting the words 'twenty-five' for the word 'twenty' in the first line of said bylaw."

In moving the resolution Mr. Blaikie said:

Very excellent reasons are given in the report already submited why this resolution should be adopted .If other reasons are desired, the admirable and exhaustive address to which we have listened this morning will furnish those reasons. It is most desirable that we should have this addition to the directors, and I am sure the shareholders of the bank will never grudge in the small est measure the little addition which is proposed to be added to the amount for distribution amongst these gentlemen for their services.

Mr. Justice Maclaren—Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, the resolution which has been placed in my hands is one that I am sure will find a very hearty acknowledgment at this meeting of shareholders. The report of the directors, the address of the president and the address to which we have just listened from the general manager will, I am sure, be well received, not only by those now present, but by all the shareholders of this bank. No doubt a kind Providence is responsible for a large part of the prosperity that we so admirably portrayed in the address of the general manager, for a large part of the progress in manufactures and in various branches of commerce, and yet I think you can all look to those men who have been at the head of this institution and say that they are responsible for a very large share of the prosperity which has attended this institution. I am sure that in view of the admirable report which has been presented we will all join heartily in the resolution. I have, therefore, much pleasure in moving:

"That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the president vice-president and other directors for their careful attention to the interests of the bank."

The motion was seconded by Mr. N. tsegg seselet oloon e-the- gkqj wy

The President—On behalf of my co-Directors and for myself I desire to express my thanks and appreciation of the resolution that has been so ably moved by the Hon. Mr. Justice Maclaren and seconded by Mr. Silverton. The fact that the services of the Directors have been appreciated and that they are able to assist in the direction and progress of this great institution is a matter of satisfaction to them and to me.

Mr. Henry Beatty then moved:

"That the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the General Manager, the assistant General Manager and other officers of the bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past twelve months."

The motion was seconded by Mr. S. Nordheimer, who said:

Considering the excellent state of the bank as disclosed by the address of the General Manager, I deem it a very pleasant duty to second this resolution, and not only to second the motion but to congratulate the General Manager, Directors and Shareholders on the wonderful showing of our institution. I have the greatest confidence in the Board and the Management of the bank.

Mr. Walker—This is the nineteenth time I have responded to this resolution, and yet it gives one rather increasing than diminishing pleasure to do so. Last year and this year we have invited to Toronto a great many managers of the bank from different parts of Ontario, and it may have seemed rather an innovation last year to ask one of them to respond to this resolution. But, after all, they are the men who are even more deeply concerned than we are. Our staff is now almost a thousand—about 975—stationed at 133 branches, and you may be quite sure that this resolution is each year appreciated by all these men. I will not say anything further regarding it, nor does Mr. Laird wish to say anything, but we have Mr. Gill of Ottawa with us, and I would ask him to say a word to the resolution.

Mr. Gill—I esteem it a distinction not only for myself but for that district of Ontario where I am stationed to be allowed to make some acknowledgment of this very generous vote of the shareholders. When a ship reports herself at the dock and the owners come on board as they have done today, and not only congratulate the captain on the good order of the ship but feel disposed to add "We like the looks of her crew," it is very pleasant for the crew, and so on behalf of the crew of this good ship the Canadian Bank of Commerce I beg to return thanks. We have been sailing under full and favorable winds, but we stand ready to trim sails when the call comes. There is perhaps something more in the hearing of a resolution than in reading it in cold print, so that those of us who are privileged to be present here today will, I am sure, carry back to our respective bailiwicks an impression to spread among the staff that the efforts of each member of it are recognized by the owners as being part of the cause of the general success. I should only like to add that I am quite convinced that when the older ones amongst those present have left the ship you will have occasion still to continue this kindly vote. I think this almost follows from the fact that I know of no institution where the Executive have been so thoughtful and so careful of the interest of the employees. There has always been a feeling that, whatever the decision of the head office may be, a consideration has been shown, and that in almost every case generosity goes hand in hand with justice. I can assure the shareholders and they can accept my word for it, that there is every reason for the best possible feeling throughout the staff. Again, we thank you for this very kindly recognition.

It was then movedby Mr. James Crathern and seconded by Hon. Lyman M. Jones:

"That the meeting do now proceed to elect Directors for the coming year, and that for this purpose the ballot-box be opened and remain open until 3 o'clock this day, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered, the result of the election to be reported by the scrutineers to the General Manager."

The meeting then adjourned.

The scrutineers subsequently reported the following gentlemen to be elected as Directors for the coming year: Hono. George A. Cox, Robert Kilgour, W. B. Hamilton, M. Leggat, James Crathern, John Hoskin, K.C., LL.D., J. W. Flavelle, A. Kingman, Hon. L. Melvin Jones, Frederic Nicholls, H. D. Warren, B. E. Walker.

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors held subsequently Hon. George A. Cox was re-elected President and Mr. Robert Kilgour Vice-President.

WHAT SHOULD PHYSICAL CULTURE DO FOR US?

Outing.

A rational system of physical culture should insure to every man and woman who adopts it a perfectly erect, poised figure, a straight spine, a broad, deep and capacious chest, uplifted and flexible, and harmonious development of all the muscles. He or she should be easy and graceful in every movement possessed of marked muscular power and endurance, splendid health and a voice of notable equality and power.

So much would the rational system of physical development do for those who followed it. And any method which will not accomplish all of these things, even for its least promising students, is insomuch incomplete and false. The object of physical culture methods is to render the body a more perfect instrument, more strong, more enduring, more obedient to the commands of the will.

Monkey Brand Soap makes copper like gold, tin like silver, crockery like marble, and windows like crystal.

LETTER THEY ALL SAW.

Boston Herald.

Congressman Currier of New Hampshire tells the following experience with Speaker Cannon: The speaker had written Mr. Currier relative to several bills he had before the house. The speaker, not unlike many great men, is a poor writer, and when Mr. Currier received his letter he was able to read but a few words. He disliked to bother Mr. Cannon, so he went to several friends among the members, and finally the letter, except for one word, was made out.

This word seemed very important, as it was underlined, but as neither he nor his friends could make it out, he thought he would consult Mr. Cannon himself. He told the speaker of his trouble in reading the letter, and explained that with help from several other members of the house he had made out all but the word in question.

Cannon looked at the letter, and then at the congressman, and then again at the letter, his face meanwhile taking on a peculiar expression. Finally he looked at Mr. Currier and with mingled anger and laughter said: "Why, you darn fool, that word is 'confidential.'"

Massacre in Southern Seas

Thirty-Three Natives Slain by Raiders in a New Guinea Night Attack.

Six White Men Mostly Engineers and Three Blacks Killed in North Australia.

Steamer Moana from Australia brought news of massacres in New Guinea and in north Australia, near Port Keats, by blacks, in the first instance thirty-three natives being the victims and in the second, six white men and three natives being killed. From New Guinea news was given of a raid on Ekiri, 34 miles from the capital, Port Moresby of the British possession. The attack was made in the dead of night, whilst the inhabitants were sleeping underneath their houses, and almost all perished. Only a few escaped with their lives. In all, 16 men women, and children were killed, and the bodies were much mutilated. All the pigs in the village were destroyed, and the raiders carried off all the goods, such as the dancing ornaments, etc., of the unfortunate people.

The journey from the country of the invaders to Ekiri takes two or three days. The villages on the Upper Brown River valley are not large ones, and no single village would be strong or hold enough to organize an expedition on its own account. Under these circumstances four or five different tribes must have united to form a fighting party, and as the party advanced other natives were probably drawn into the marching line.

Such an army descended from their mountain homes, and in the quietness of the night came down upon Ekiri, without the slightest warning. If the attacking party were in the orthodox equipment with their faces daubed with different kinds of paint, and their heads decorated with feathery plumes they must have presented a hideous appearance. They cruelly killed nearly every soul in the camp. Being taken by surprise and totally unprepared to repel an attack, the villagers offered no resistance whatever, and were slain where they had slept.

The tactics of the invaders were those of a night surprise, which is the common method employed in the district. The village constable just escaped with his life. His loin cloth is punctured with holes made by the spears thrown at him.

The village constable with one or two other men managed to reach the bush, and the former made his way to Port Moresby and reported the matter to the government and a force of 20 armed constables were despatched.

In North Australia it seems that two government engineers were murdered and seven blacks were arrested and put on board a steam launch, which afterward broke down. Bobby, a black boy, who was the sole survivor of a massacre on board the launch reported that all were killed except him while they slept. The victims were Messrs. Bradshaw, Dannock, Skeahan and Eggoreffe and two other engineers, names unknown, as well as three blacks. According to Bobby's story.

Messrs. Dannock and Skeahan were lying in deck forward. Mr. Bradshaw went below into a bunk, while Mr. Eggoreffe and three natives slept in the engine-room. When all were well asleep the Port Keats natives crept from their places, apparently on deck, and did their dreadful work. Messrs. Dannock and Skeahan were the first killed, and then Mr. Eggoreffe and the three blacks of the party. Mr. Bradshaw, being disturbed by the commotion, put his head out of the hold only to receive death dealing blows from a tomahawk. Finally a rush was made for Bobby, the sole survivor, but he escaped by jumping overboard, and swimming ashore.

Legislative Assembly

Debate on Address Concluded at Yesterday's Session of the House.

Important Amendments to the Coal Mines Regulation Act Introduced.

Kalen Island Papers Are Submitted by Minister of Lands and Works.

Thursday, January 18.

MR. SPEAKER took the chair at 2 p. m., and after prayers by the Rev. J. H. S. Sweet the following petitions were read and received:

From Edgar Dewdney and A. P. Luxton, for a private bill to incorporate the Bella Coola & Telkwa Railway Company.

From Henry Blitz, for a private bill to incorporate the British Columbia Northern Railway Company.

The following petitions were presented:

Petitions

By Mr. Manson—From the British Columbia Permanent Loan & Savings Company, for leave to introduce a private bill to incorporate the same.

By Mr. Bowser—From the Lightning Creek Gold Gravels & Drainage Company, for leave to introduce a private bill to amend their corporate act.

By Mr. Ross—From Thomas Davis and others, for leave to introduce a private bill to incorporate the Southeast Kootenay Railway Company.

By Mr. Macgowan—From D. H. Wilson and others, for leave to introduce a private bill to incorporate the National Plate Glass Company.

The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works presented a return forthwith of copies of all orders-in-council, agreements, grants, maps, letters, telegrams or other papers in possession of the government relative to the acquisition by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company of lands at Kalen Island, or elsewhere in British Columbia, whether for right-of-way, terminal or townsite purposes, or by way of subsidy.

Debate on Address

Pursuant to order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the address in reply to the speech of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

The debate on the address was resumed by Mr. W. C. Wells (Palliser), who thought that, while the compliments which had been showered on the mover and seconder of the address for their efforts had been deserved, yet to him it seemed fitting that a measure of sympathy should be extended to them for the thankless task they had to perform. As to the fourth member for Vancouver (Mr. Macgowan), he appeared to have swallowed the principles for which he had contended last session and which had rendered him so often a source of anxiety. Obviously he had been safely lined up this session.

Mr. Wells thought the credit claimed for the government in connection with the increased revenue from the schools assessment was very ill placed. It was no cause for gratification that the government had put their hands in their pockets and paid the deficiency. Into whose pockets would you expect them to put them? Surely members from Vancouver did not instinctively put their hands into other people's pockets!

Referring to the good roads in the Similkameen, Mr. Wells asked why the present government did not give the credit to their predecessors. The present government had done nothing during the two years they had been in office. Why, even up to date he was receiving congratulations on the fine piece of work built by the previous ministers of lands and works between Keremeos and Hedley. The government took credit for this and then they passed on to the question of Indian reserves. Surely they did not claim credit for all that had been done there. Surely they did not claim credit for the auburn locks flowing down the backs of the rising generation on those reserves.

As to the surplus claimed by the Minister of Finance, he pointed out that the amount, $235,000, was about equal to the revenue from the Chinese immigration tax, which had now absolutely ceased.

He strongly demurred to the statement that the lumbering industry was in a very flourishing condition. He declared that the capital invested in that industry was not yielding an average return of 3 per cent., and not one of the joint stock companies in the province was paying a dividend.

He characterized the hand loggers tax as a farce and condemned the government for its continuance. The real foundation of any prosperity that had come to the lumbering industry was due to the energy of those employed in it and the larger market opening up. This was entirely due to the splendid immigration policy of the federal government in filling up the Northwest. For a continuance of this successful policy the maintenance of the present government in power was necessary.

Reverting again to the work of the Finance Minister, it was no great achievement to realize a small surplus by increasing taxation and ceasing all important expenditure. He appealed to the Hon. F. Carter-Cotton to support him in the statement that this was an easy task compared with that undertaken by his predecessor.

Of all things, railway construction was the last in respect of which the government were entitled to any credit. Every Conservative member was carefully lined up against the great measure by means of which the V. V. & E. Railway was now being built. It was to the honest work of heroes like Duncan Ross and R. G. Macpherson that that measure was carried and the machinations of its opponents brought to nought.

As to better terms, he declared the threat of the fourth member for Vancouver to march to Ottawa and demand better terms or secede from the union was characteristic of the Conservatives who were never crossed in their purposes for five minutes but they talked rebellion. He deprecated the introduction of federal politics into provincial affairs, but he might say that the tide of Liberalism had overflown Saskatchewan and Alberta and was now overwhelming England, and would sweep away every Conservative member in Canada. He was convinced that Sir Wilfrid Laurier would yet enjoy many years in office and continue the great work he had inaugurated.

On the motion of the Premier, seconded by the Minister of Finance, it was resolved that the resolution to present an address to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, thanking His Honor for his gracious speech, be referred to a select committee composed as follows: The President of the Council, the Attorney-General, the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, the Provincial Secretary and the mover and seconder of the address.

Reply to Address

The Premier, from the select committee, reported an address, which read as follows:

"To the Honorable Sir Henri Gustave Joly de Lotbiniere, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia:

"We thank Your Honor for your gracious speech at the opening of the present session, and assure Your Honor that—

"We are pleased to be assured that prosperity has prevailed throughout the province during the past year, and that the prospects for the year to come are very bright.

"It is gratifying to learn that the legislation passed at the last session of the legislature has proved beneficial to the province.

"It is a source of great satisfaction that the measures passed at the last two sessions of the legislature in connection with the finances of the province have had the effect of restoring the stability of the finances, and of reestablishing the credit of the province in the London money market.

"It is also a source of great satisfaction to us that the changes made at the last session of the legislature in the laws respecting the administration of the timber lands of the crown have led to a great extension of the lumbering industry in all parts of the province, resulting in advantage to those engaged in it, and in a great augmentation of the revenues derived therefrom.

"We are pleased to learn that the efforts made by the department of agriculture to develop fruit growing have been crowned with success; that the British Columbia fruit has again beaten all competitors in the exhibition of the Royal Horticultural Society in London; that the area of land in orchards in this province has been largely increased, and that new markets have been opened for the disposal of their products.

"We trust that the negotiations entered into with the Dominion in regard to the administration and control of the fisheries of the province, and with a view to the permanency and development of this important industry, will result in an arrangement mutually satisfactory to the government of the Dominion and of this Province.

"We join in the hope that the increase in the revenue will enable the government to make a larger appropriation for public works, designed to open up the country and to make easier the means of communication with districts towards which the attention of intending settlers is being directed.

"We are gratified to learn that the mining industry is showing signs of great activity throughout the province, and that while the older mining districts are steadily increasing their output, new mineral areas are being opened in the interior and along the coast, some of which give promise of great mineral wealth. We agree with the view that with the reduction which is steadily going on in the cost of treatment of ores, the importance of the mining industry is rapidly increasing.

"We are pleased to be informed that there has been a great activity in railway construction during the past year, and that the indications are that this activity will continue for some time. The two great railway corporations which are now engaged in building lines in the Similkameen and adjoining districts will doubtless, by the construction of such lines, open up rich mineral, agricultural and timber areas, and will bring them into easy communication with the Coast and the great railway systems of this continent. It is to be hoped that the time will soon come when the economic conditions and the potentialities of traffic will be such as will secure the construction of railways without the necessity of imposing additional burden on the people, or of requiring any further alienation of the public domain in the form of grants or subsidies.

"The extension of local self-government and the decentralization of municipal administration by the creation of municipal bodies will no doubt promote the interests of the people.

"It is satisfactory to know that the act passed at the last meeting of the legislature for the protection of the game of the province has been effective to a considerable extent in the protection of what is a valuable provincial asset.

"We shall be pleased to give our serious attention to the measures which it is proposed to submit to us, consolidating the Municipal Clauses Act and effecting further amendments in the Game Protection Act and Land Act.

"We are glad to be assured that the estimates for the ensuing fiscal year that will be submitted to us have been framed with due consideration for economy, while recognizing the necessity that exists for the development of this great province and efficiency in every branch of the administration.

"We join with Your Honor in hoping that our deliberations will result in promoting the welfare of the people of the province."

On the motion of the Premier, seconded by the Minister of Finance, it was resolved that the address in reply to the speech of Hir Honor the Lieutenant-Governor be presented to His Honor by such members as are of the executive council.

The report was adopted.

This concluded the debate on the address and the motion for a reply moved by Mr. Manson (Alberni) and seconded by Mr. Macgowan, was carried nem. con.

An Act to amend the "Small Debts Act."

His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the legislative assembly of the province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

1. This act may be cited as the "Small Debts Act Amendment Act, 1906."

2. Section 10 of chapter 55 of the Revised Statutes, 1897, being the "Small Debts Act," as enacted by section 3 of chapter 13 of the Statutes of 1901, is hereby amended by striking out all the words after the word "jurisdiction" in the fourth line of said section 10.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite in introducing his act to amend the Coal Mines Regulation act said his sole object was to increase the security for human life in the mines of the province. The present condition of affairs was a disgrace. No less than 15 per cent. were killed here as against 2 per cent. in the United States and 1.5 in England. Another point was the lack of provision for prompt medical attendance. Similar legislation to that now proposed had been passed in England and he had no doubt the measure would be accepted by both sides of the house.

Hon. Mr. McBride moved the adjournment to allow him a little time to study the measure. He thought there was no doubt it would prove acceptable to the government, but he asked for a little time to consider it. Agreed.

The house went into committee on the bill to amend the General Trusts Corporation act with Mr. Clifford in the chair. The bill passed the committee stage without alteration.

Hon. Chas. Wilson said the bill referring to the County court of Atlin was simply to settle a question that had arisen as to jurisdiction. It was then read a second time and with Mr. J. H. Brown in the chair passed through committee.

An Act respecting the County Court of Atlin.

His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the legislative assembly of the province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

1. This act may be cited as the "Atlin County Court Act, 1906."

2. All actions and proceedings pending in the registry of the County court of Vancouver at Atlin on the thirty-first day of March, A.D. 1905, may be continued in the County court of Atlin, and process may issue from said last-mentioned court to enforce any orders made or to be made, or any judgments obtained, or to be obtained, in such actions or proceedings, in all respects as if such actions or proceedings had been begun in the County court of Atlin.

Mr. Drury (Victoria) regretted that the necessary alteration had not been made at last session as to the speaker's positive knowledge litigants had been put to very serious expense in consequence of the uncertainty of the jurisdiction.

Mr. Stuart Henderson (Yale) enforced the remarks of Mr. Drury and urged the Attorney-General to make sure that the present alteration met all the requirements of the case.

Resolutions and Questions

Mr. Murphy moved the following resolution:

That an order of the house be granted for a return forthwith of copies of all letters, telegrams or other papers in possession of the government relative to offers received between December 1st, 1903, and April 30th, 1904, for the construction of railways in northern British Columbia.

Hon. R. McBride said there was no objection.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite asked the Hon. the Minister of Education the following questions:

1. What position does David Blair hold under the department of education?
2. Is he appointed by the Superintendent of Education?
3. If not, by whom is he appointed?
4. Does David Blair hold an provincial certificate of competency showing that he is qualified to instruct teachers in the normal or other schools?
5. Does David Blair receive a royalty from the province from his drawing books?
6. If so, how much?
7. What fee or salary does he receive as examiner?
8. What salary does he receive as instructor of teachers in the normal school?
9. Are pupils in the high schools required to continue their studies in drawing?

Hon. Mr. Fulton replied categorically as follows:

1. Drawing master at provincial normal school.
2. Appointment held under Council of Public Instruction.
3. Answered by 2.
4. Holds no provincial certificate.
5. No.
6. Answered by 5.
7. $5 a day.
8. $100 a month.
9. Yes.

Hon. R. F. Green asked permission to introduce a bill with respect to the cutting of timber on crown lands.

Hon. R. McBride moved the following additions to committees.

Railways—Clifford, Brown.
Agriculture—Clifford, Oliver.

The Premier moved the adjournment of the house to 2 o'clock tomorrow.

BABY ECZEMA.

"My daughter was afflicted with eczema from when three weeks old. Her entire face and head were raw, and she was in awful distress. When doctors failed we began the use of Dr. Chase's Ointment, which has entirely cured her, and she has never had the least symptom of the trouble since."—Mr. Patrick Sullivan, Welland, Ave., St. Catharines, Ont.

EIGHTEEN DEAD IN EXPLOSION

Many Miners Are Killed in a Colliery in West Virginia.

Charleston, W. Va., Jan. 18.—Eighteen men are believed to have been killed in a terrific explosion today in one of the mines of the Detroit and Kanawha Coal Company, on Paint creek, this county, 200 miles from here.

That more men were not in the mine at the time of the accident was due to the fact that almost all of the day men were eating their dinners on the outside. The explosion occurred at 12:30 o'clock. Had it been either before or after the noon hour hundreds of men would have been killed. The force of the explosion was so great that the hills trembled. Tons of wreckage and debris were hurled from the mouth of the mine, blocking the entrance and making the work of rescue difficult.

News of the disaster spread to nearby mines and hundreds of men were soon at the scene, to join in the effort to

Rescued the Entombed Miners

if alive, or recover their bodies if dead. The ventilating fan was blown out of position by the explosion, and it was not until four o'clock that it had been repaired. As soon as it ws set in motion a fairly good current of air was sent circulating through the entries. The first rescue party, consisting of fifteen men, entered the mine at 5:30 o'clock. The first body reached was that of G. P. Neal, which was discovered 150 yards from the entrance. The mine superintendent says that the other men were working much further back than Neal, and he has no hope of reaching them until tomorrow morning. Even if the men should have survived the explosion, it is almost certain that they will fall victims to the afterdamp. Mothers, wives, children and friends of the entombed miners are crowded about the mouth of the pit, trying, they will not leave until they know the fate of the unfortunate men. The explosion is believed to have been caused by a blast igniting the dust which had accumulated in the mine.

Soiled Linen Publicly Washed

A Defeated Conservative Candidate Charges Corruption Against Friends.

Attributes Recent Bestowal of Honors to Contributors to Party Funds.

London, Jan. 18.—Thoomas Gibson Bowles, the Unionist free trader who was defeated at King's Lynn, in Norfolk county, by a tariff reformer, makes a sensation by the publication of correspondence with Sir Alexander Fuller Leland-Hood, the chief Conservative party whip. In this correspandence which is published tonight, Mr. Bowles accuses the Unionist party of sacrificing his seat on the dictum of Jos. Chamberlain simply because he is a Unionist free trader. In it are scathing letters to Sir Alexander containing thinly veiled personal insults, accusing him of deliberate breach of faith and politically dishonorable conduct.

Conservative Reptile Fund

Continuing Mr. Bowles attacks the source from which the Conservative party fund was derived, and gives data regarding the incident of some years ago, when Ernest Tereh-Hooley (of unhappy memory) contributed $50,000 to the party fund "in circumstances most discreditable."

This contribution, Mr. Bowles says, was refused and was returned by Lord Salisbury at his instance.

Mr. Bowles, insinuating that his successful opponent received support from the party fund, says, "From such fund I should deem it shameful to receive assistance."

Sir Alexander, in replying, says that Mr. Bowles was discredited by the organization because of his

Attacks on Mr. Balfour

and Mr. Chamberlain, but he denies that A. H. Burgoyne, the successful candidate at King's Lynn, received any support from the fund. Mr. Bowles, under today's date replies to Sir Alexander, who, he says, evades every point raised, but he accepts the statement that Mr. Burgoyne's candidacy was not supported by the Conservative fund. He says he undertakes from a rumor, which it would be worth Sir Alexander's time to rectify, that the fund was recently contributed to in immense sums by the recipients of dignities and favors which could only have been bestowed by Premier Balfour. In conclusion Mr. Bowles says: "You have sacrificed my seat; now look to your own." This correspondence will be used with tremendous force by the Liberal press.

GUILOLTINE WAS NOT WORKING WELL

Sickening Scenes at Execution in Noumea—Great Britain Adds to Territory.

Advices were brought yesterday by the steamer Moana of sickening scenes at an execution by guillotine at Noumea, French Caledonia. An Arab recidiviste was publicly guillotined in the public square near the market place in Noumea, for murdering another recidiviste some months ago at the Isle of Pines. The execution was in public, as a deterrent, owing to the frequency of murders among Arabs. The guillotine, with the coffin, was placed in the centre of the square, with a cordon of 150 soldiers. About 1,000 spectators were present. Owing to the death of the executioner the duty was performed by a novice, who, through nervousness, succeeded only in decapitating the culprit after the knife had been dropped three times, the operation lasting 14 minutes. The spectacle during the struggles of the condemned man was sickening.

News was also received of the annexation of the Ashmore group of islands, uninhabited, between Timor and King's Sound, Australia, by H. M. S. Cambrian, on behalf of Great Britain. Captain Gaunt, accompanied by five of his officers, went ashore with a guard of honor of about 200 men, in three boats. A flagpole was erected and the guard drawn up in hollow square around it. When the flag was hoisted it was saluted with 21 guns by the Cambrian. As there is no band aboard the ship, the men sang "God Save the King." Officers of the ship state that the islands abound in waterfowl and in parts they are literally covered with eggs. There were no signs of human habitation or life.

LAND SEEKERS ARRIVE.

A Party of Manitobans Looking for Fruit Ranches in the Interior.

A party of Manitoba settlers came into the city on Monday night, spying out land, says the Nelson Daily News. They are spending a few days inquiring into the conditions of land and of the climate with a view to settling in a more equable climate. The party, consisting of Messrs. J. A. Salisbury, D. Tindall, J. Drysdale, W. Heath and F. Koutzier, are staying at the Strathcona or rather are making that hostelry their headquarters, while looking around the country.

This year, as last, the C. P. R. is making the long trip from Manitoba easy for such visitors, by granting a special passenger rate. In 1905 a trip was thus made to the Okanagan valley of which much mention had been made. Unluckily for the Okanagan just as the visitors were in the country the thermometer suddenly dropped to 15 or 20 degrees below zero. "Thanks," said one of the visitors, "we can find this kind of weather in Manitoba without traveling so far afield for its pleasures