

Local News

(From Friday's Daily.)

Cruelty to Animals.—In the police court yesterday morning John Perryman, of Cedar Hill was up under a charge laid by the S. P. C. A. He is alleged to have stalled a horse for a day at the market, leaving the animal without food or water. The case was remanded until this morning.

More Miners Wanted.—George H. Robinson, managing director of the Britannia Copper syndicate, operating the Britannia mines, Howe sound, declares that fifty additional miners are needed at Britannia. There is a scarcity of this class of skilled labor at present.

A Presentation.—J. P. Rogers, the minor superintendent of the White Pass & Yukon route, who has resigned to enter into other business, is now en route to Seattle from Skagway. Just before his departure from the northern city an order for a gold watch, valued at more than \$400, was presented to Rogers by the employees of the railroad and the citizens of Skagway. The watch is awaiting him in Seattle.

A Serious Charge.—Last evening a man by the name of Benson called at the police station and informed the officers in charge that while he was in his cabin on Store street, two Indians had called and demanded that he get them some whiskey and on his refusing to do so they attacked him, biting his ear and nose severely. He managed to break away from them and made his way to the station. Arriving there he was sent to Dr. Robertson to have his wounds attended to.

Accident at Sooke.—Yesterday morning William Rockett, was brought to town from Sooke, where on Wednesday he was the victim of a painful accident, being seriously injured about the head. He was engaged at the building of the wharf and the cable used in hauling the heavy timbers broke, striking him on the head. When brought to town the sufferer was attended by Dr. Frank Hall, who pronounced the injuries serious, and says it is possible Rockett may lose an eye.

A Missing Man.—A communication has been received by the city police from T. Fred Thompson of Minota, Manitoba, enquiring as to the whereabouts of his brother, Albert E. Thompson, who left home on July 1st, 1901, for Victoria. Since that date nothing has been heard of him. He is a mechanical engineer and electrician by trade and it is thought that he will be working at either of these professions. Any information as to his whereabouts would be gladly received by his brother.

The Mines Report.—It is expected that the annual report of the minister of mines for the year ending December 31, 1905 will be issued many weeks earlier than has usually been the case. The copy for the report is in the hands of the King's printer and work is progressing in the printing of same. The department of mines has had a call for the pamphlet on Windy Arm that it has been exhausted. This preliminary report will be completed, with illustrations, in the annual report.

Financial Notes.—The Canadian Finance Syndicate has issued £100,000 7 per cent. debentures charged on 138 shares of \$25 each in the Oriental Power and Fuel Co., Ltd., of Vancouver. The receipts of the White Pass & Yukon railway for the week ending February 21st amounted to \$3,650. Advances of one point were London and the stock exchange in City of Winnipeg 6 per cent. debentures at 102-104; Shuswap and Okanagan debentures at 82-84; and White Pass & Yukon 6 per cent. debentures at 90-101.

Shooting Accident.—A sad shooting accident occurred at Lulu Island on Monday morning, as a result of which George, the 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. William Walker, lost his life. The boy was out shooting muskrats when he dropped the gun and the contents were discharged into his arm and breast. He found his way to a neighbor's house. They informed his parents and Dr. Greer was summoned. He gave him every attention, but as the case was a very serious one the boy was removed to St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, where he passed away Wednesday morning.

First From B. C.—It will interest many of the old readers of the Colonist to learn that Mr. Harry Brodie, who was elected to the Imperial parliament in the recent elections, is the first member of the English parliament born in British Columbia. He is the eldest son of Mr. John H. Brodie, the senior member of the firm of Findlay, Durham & Brodie, and a director of the Bank of British North America, and was born in Victoria about thirty years ago. Mr. Harry Brodie is also a member of the firm of Findlay, Durham & Brodie.

Affairs at Alberni.—An Alberni correspondent writing under date of March 24th, says: "Mr. John Piercy of Piercy & Co., drygoods merchants in Victoria has been for nearly a week organizing a Liberal club, but I am afraid he is having no easy time of it. There arrived here last evening from Victoria Mr. C. A. Sandford, secretary for the B. C. N. Y. department, accompanied by C. J. May and C. E. Wagner, of Pittsburg, Pa., who represent United States millionaires lumbermen. They purpose buying up all the timber tracts possible."

Heavy Snows in North.—According to advices received at the offices of the White Pass & Yukon route from G. E. Pulham, superintendent of that stage service in the North, the trail is still in good shape, and at present there is more snow on the trail than at this time of the year since the overland trail has been operated. However, Mr. Pulham expects that the wheel stages will be put in operation by April 10th, as the weather in the North is becoming milder and the snow is disappearing in some places between White Horse and Yukon crossing.

(From Saturday's Daily.) Cariboo Consolidated.—A cablegram received at the London office of the Cariboo Consolidated, announces the completion of the main tunnel.

School for Clayquot.—A new public school is to be erected at Clayquot, and a meeting is to be held early next month to select a board of trustees and decide upon a site for the school, which it is expected will be opened early this summer.

Coroner's Inquest.—An inquest into the cause of the death of H. B. Rendell resulted in the jury bringing in a verdict of suicide while temporarily insane. The funeral has been arranged to take place this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from the parlors of W. J. Hanna.

William Macpherson Dead.—Printing establishments and stationers will regret to hear that Mr. William Macpherson, of Toronto, died at his home last month. Mr. Macpherson represented many of the best known paper makers of the old country, and his territory extended from the Atlantic coast right through to Hongkong.

Tree Copper.—The following are the official returns for February: "Smelter production for the month, 2,224 tons; customs one, 212 tons; total, 2,436 tons. Matte, produced from same, 240 tons. Gross value of contents (copper, silver and gold), after deducting costs of refining and purchase of concentrates, \$34,402."

Victim of Consumption.—The death occurred on Thursday of a very popular Victorian, in the person of Nelson Scott, son of James Scott, of the Collieries, at 15 Kingston street. Deceased was well known in athletic and aquatic circles and but 18 years of age. The funeral will take place to-day at 3 o'clock from St. James' church.

Goes to Mexico.—The many friends of Mr. T. S. C. Saunders, formerly assistant manager of the Bank of Montreal in Vancouver, will be pleased to learn that he has been appointed manager of the new branch which the Bank of Montreal is about to open in Mexico. Mr. Saunders was prominent in athletic and sporting circles and made many friends during his stay in British Columbia.

Collins Denied Writ.—A San Francisco despatch dated March 29th, says: "The application of George D. Collins for a writ of habeas corpus was denied today in the state court of appeals. Collins contended that he was tried within sixty days of the time he was extradited from Canada, and he held the conviction was void. He also argued that he was not tried on the charge for which he was extradited."

Expedia Men Leave.—The steamer City of Nanaimo on her trip to Vancouver this morning carried 18 of the crew of H. M. S. Egeria, whose time has expired, and they are now on their way to the Old Country. Accompanying them are four or five from the Shearwater whose time has also expired. It is expected that the crew for the Egeria will arrive on Monday, when the ship will be turned over to them by the three or four who are left as guards.

Stationary Engineers.—The British Columbia Stationary Engineers' association is meeting in Nanaimo. Twelve official delegates are present and four non-official delegates. The official delegates in attendance are Messrs. Berry, Dunlap, McIntyre, Sprague, Paddon and Andrews, representing the mainland; Warrington Jones and Mansour, representing Victoria and district; Smith and Brown, Nanaimo, and Callum, of Vancouver, delegate at large. The provincial grand lodge representatives are C. W. Ross, Victoria; G. W. McKenzie, Nanaimo, and W. A. Robertson of Vancouver.

Finale in Will Case.—A San Francisco press despatch says: "The state supreme court has rendered what practice is a final decision in the celebrated Dunsmuir estate case. An order of the superior court which prevented the distribution of the estate of millionaire Alexander Dunsmuir is annulled, and the probate of the will, which left the bulk of the property to his brother James Dunsmuir, will now be completed. Under this latest decision of the supreme court Edna Wallace Hopper and other claimants will not receive the share of the estate for which they have contended."

Fisherman's Narrow Escape.—According to advices just received from the North, a Japanese fisherman at Port Essington had a narrow escape for his life last week. His boat turned turtle in the river, and, clinging to it, he was carried rapidly to sea, when he was observed by some Indians standing on the shore. The sea was rough, but a crew of six Indians bravely started out for the rescue. Another party of Indians further down witnessed the attempt, but did not think the first party could accomplish their task, and so a second party started out in another canoe. The first party, however, succeeded in reaching the Jap and rescued him from his perilous position.

Salmon Pack.—A special despatch from Seattle, dated March 27th says: "I do not look for as good a salmon pack on the Sound this year as there were four years ago. The Fish Commissioner Kershaw. 'Fish will be able to run up the river this year, so the pack four years ago ought to be an unusually large one. In the Columbia river four years ago we put eighty-four million fish and this summer they should fairly swarm back. As far as the future of the salmon industry is concerned, I think it unusually bright. Under the hatchery system there is no chance for the industry to die out. British Columbia fishermen are building hatcheries for all they are worth.'"

Goes to Armstrong.—Says the Armstrong Advertiser: "Armstrong is again to have a lawyer who will take the place of James Murphy, M. P., who lately removed to Kamloops. F. Temple Cornwall of Victoria has sent word to friends that he will be in Armstrong to take up the practice of law, on the 1st of the month. From all that can be learned, Armstrong is to be congratulated upon securing this gentleman. Mr. Cornwall is a son of an ex-Governor Cornwall and graduated

from the law office of C. E. Pooley, present speaker of the British Columbia legislature. He is at present practicing in Victoria, but will leave that place to assume the duties of his profession here.

Teachers' Convention.—The annual convention of the Provincial School Teachers' Association will be held in this city on June 26, 27 and 28. It is only once in four years that Victoria has this opportunity to entertain the pedagogues of the province. An experiment will be tried this year whereby the convention will be held in June instead of at Easter, as has previously been the custom. This arrangement will be tried in order to find if a larger attendance will be secured. This change was decided on by the local executive officers and by the convention of last year. This change will not affect the general closing of the schools, but only those teachers who desire to be present will have their rooms closed in order that they may attend and benefit by the discussion. By this arrangement the annual high school entrance examination will be held this year the week preceding the convention, and all the local executive are already preparing the programme of subjects.

The Telephone Strike.—An interesting phase of the telephone operators strike in Vancouver is shown in the following despatch from Montreal, dated March 29th: "A new factor is to be projected into the telephone strike at Vancouver, and this is the second labor of this city. Eleven operators now working in the Vancouver office of the British Columbia Telephone company are known to be dissatisfied with the terms of a franchise here. The company is to be notified that unless the terms are changed, the employees of a Seattle telephone company will join in their protest. The union headquarters are fully posted on the progress of the strike, and it is known that twenty-two outside operators have been brought in, as follows: Seattle, 11; Everett, 3; Victoria, 6; Nanaimo, 2."

Fine Sport.—Messrs. Capt. Cox, Walter Walker and Berridge have returned from a fishing expedition to the lakes on Salt Spring island. The sport was particularly good, and in one day three very heavy baskets were secured.

Sound Mails.—Starting today the mails for the Sound will close at 5 p. m. instead of 8:30 p. m. and will arrive at 1:30 p. m. This change is necessitated by the new service to be inaugurated on the Sound.

Library Returns.—In the public library, during the month of March 140 new books were added to the number of books issued was considerably increased, 2164 being the total for the month. The average of 80 for March, against 64 for February. The largest daily issue was 135.

Ranchers For the Islands.—The many visitors from Manitoba are not all remaining in Victoria. Several are taking the trip on the steamer to the islands have become favorably impressed and have decided to locate in that vicinity. During the last few weeks one party of farmers in particular have purchased a site near Fullerton and have decided to go into the ranching business on the islands. They have already ordered a carload of cattle from the interior which they expect to arrive in a few days when they will be transferred to the ranch. At the present time every one is busy on the islands and labor is very hard to obtain.

Aberdeen Association.—The Aberdeen association acknowledges with thanks donations of magazines from Mrs. James Anderson, Miss Angus, Mrs. Bais, Mrs. George Courtney, Mrs. Harver, Mrs. Holmes, Miss King, Miss Mesher, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Arthur Pigott, Mrs. G. A. McTavish, Mrs. they and the Alexander club. This society is doing good work in providing reading matter for lonely settlers and the Hutchinson newspapers around Vancouver island, some of whom are unable to obtain magazines elsewhere. The post-office forwards parcels in packages. Quadra takes those put up for the light-houses. Anyone having old magazines, wishing to help, are asked to send them to the Aberdeen association, care of market hall. Children's book are very much wanted to appreciated.

Perishable Fruits.—In the case of perishable fruits, a continuous succession of imports both to the wholesaler and consumer. This requirement is well met by the difference between the climate of Victoria and points on the mainland. The strawberry crop cleaned up at Victoria points before that at Nelson is ready to go on the market and in this way, instead of one district being a business rival of another, it helps trade very much by ensuring to the outside consumer a continuous supply of fruit, fresh and seasonable, and coming up to the very best quality that can be had from any quarter. The Nelson district is confidently expected to rival the Hood river out-transportation to long distances. The variety of strawberry most favored here is called the Magoon. In fruitfulness, firmness and size suitable for transportation it comes foremost and is equally desirable for home consumption. Both strawberries and cherries are packed in small square boxes, made from very thin slices of wood, and when filled, packed in crates. The strawberry crop cleaned up has usually run for four weeks of fruit trees. This goes on till the trees are big enough to require all the fruit to be cleaned up. The strawberry crop cleaned up must be found elsewhere for the strawberries. The crate with its contained boxes is on a thirty-acre orchard, but at home and the cost for each crate and set of chip boxes is under 20 cents. Apples are packed into a box, made of a cord of 10 cents, and holding over forty pounds of fruit.

Re Fertilizers.—Unless fertilizers are liberally supplied the size and quality of the fruit, as well as the production of the tree, are affected, and the profit shrinks still faster than the quantity of the product. Unless well-fertilized dairy stock are kept around, barnyard manure is not avail-

able, and in that case a grain crop such as wheat is sown in the fall and allowed to grow till a foot or more high, say in April, when it is plowed down and the surface cultivated for the rest of the season to keep down weeds. A much better manual agent is red clover, which will grow profusely on almost any kind of land. Winter vetches will grow two feet and are also plowed down in April. I pulled some small plants the other day and found on each over half a dozen nodules, indicating the presence of the nitrogen producing bacteria on whose work so much of the manual value of clover and other legumes depends. Even when the trees are small, only about a dozen feet of the space between the rows lengthwise is sown to clover; all the rest is continuously cultivated so as to keep down weeds and allow the air free access to the roots of the trees. Unless checked by under water the tree roots will penetrate to a great depth in much of the soil. — was told of a well dug at Duncan, a good fruit district of the island, inside a thriving orchard, where the diggers found the roots of apple trees twenty feet from the surface. This looks rather far-stretched, but I have seen the roots of the vineyard at Dakota Agricultural college, at Fargo, profuse root growths of wheat and other vegetables that went down four feet in one season. I assume that all such roots know their own business, if we don't.

In the East as well as in the mother country, a fruit tree is usually trained so as to have a stem four or more feet high before the branches are set on. Here the trees, growers aim at having the branches set out as near the ground as possible—not more than eight inches above ground. This makes cultivation more troublesome, but the fruit is much easier got at and the tree is much stronger and fitter for its work. For this and other reasons Ontario growers are now avoiding in favor of trees grown by local nurserymen. The best growers prefer a straight whip one year old with abundance of roots and only small twigs the year after being planted. The more small, leafy twigs there are the first year after planting the stronger will be the next year's growth, and the centre shoot is kept growing while well set on branches strike out all round so as to have a pyramidal form of tree. That build of tree is much better fitted to support heavy after loads of fruit than the spreading umbrella shape mostly favored elsewhere. Besides the objection to the form of the eastern tree, it has, as a rule, too few roots in comparison with the size of its top, a serious objection in either a fruit or forest tree. Trees that could only be got from Ontario when wanted are also found faulty because the branches bend and break off under a heavy load of fruit such as prevails here on all well managed trees. Home-grown trees have this further advantage, that they can be transplanted

WONDERFUL EFFECT OF FRUIT.

"Fruit-a-tives" (Fruit Liver Tablets) are concentrated fruit juices. And it is these fruit juices that cure Constipation, Biliousness, Headaches, Indigestion, Palpitation of the Heart and all Troubles of the Stomach and Kidneys. A leading Ottawa physician discovered a process by which he could combine the juices of Apples, Oranges, Figs and Prunes and by adding another atom of bitter principle from the Orange peel, completely change the medicinal action of the fruit juices, giving the combination a far more powerful and more beneficial effect on the system. "Fruit-a-tives" are tablets made of this combination of fruit juices—and they have made most wonderful cures of Stomach, Liver and Kidney Troubles and of Blood and Skin Diseases. 50c a box.—Ask your druggist.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FRUIT GROWING

Future of Industry Predicted by Writer in the Manitoba Free Press.

A MARKED INCREASE IN SHIPMENTS

Tells of Use of Fertilizers and the Benefits Derivable Therefrom.

Richard Waugh, writing in the Manitoba Free Press, contributes the following re British Columbia fruit growing:

I have not gone over nearly all I wanted to say about the future of fruit growing in British Columbia. We in Manitoba are making a mistake and rather promising attempts to improve our fruit products, but our soil and climate are a long way behind the west coast for such a purpose and must always continue to be so.

People living east of the Rockies have a much greater practical interest in this subject than we would at first imagine. In its palmy days old Ontario outdistanced all competitors on the outside market, in the quality of its apples as well as its peaches. But, through carelessness, parasites of all kinds were allowed to enter and spread till they had done irreparable mischief. The San Jose scale, for example, had got a big hold in Ontario before anyone woke up to the danger from its presence, and as it first the government was quite skeptical as to its existence. The west coast authorities may never have been miraculously alertness in some department, but they have been very much alive to the risks from the importation of foreign fruit and plants, and have been tolerably successful in their vigilance. For example, has got a big hold in the fruit states on the west coast of the United States, but the vigilance of the fruit inspectors along the boundary this pest has been practically debarrred from making its way into British Columbia. This month deposits its eggs in the young apple, and such wormy fruit when carried abroad soon spreads those worms where they will find lodgment in local orchards. It is claimed that British Columbia has been kept clear of this parasite.

Varieties of Taint.—Scab, black spot, woolly aphis, bark lice, are varieties of taint that prevail wherever fruit is raised, and as sensitive to their ravages every skilled fruit grower sprays his trees twice a year with arsenical solutions. The inferior fruit is the inevitable result. On this point again old Ontario has fallen sadly behind through carelessness in either a fruit or forest tree. Trees that could only be got from Ontario when wanted are also found faulty because the branches bend and break off under a heavy load of fruit such as prevails here on all well managed trees. Home-grown trees have this further advantage, that they can be transplanted

any time from February onward, while eastern trees, even if kept right up to roots, under transportation, can only be taken West after they should have had a good month's start.

This Favored Climate

The first half of February is not yet gone, but already the native growers have begun to plant out fruit trees and shrubs and strawberries, and of course eastern men who have recently come in and own an acre or two round their houses follow their example. I may as well here let out a little secret about these eastern immigrants to this favored climate. It is all right here for such people, if they have a little wind in their pockets, the reward of successful wheat growing. They can then follow the scriptural example of sitting each under his own vine and fig tree, or let us say apple or pear tree, with considerable satisfaction. They may also hire a heathen Chinese if instead of the "otium cum dig" they prefer the otium without the digging, but downward loafing is both unwholesome and unprofitable, and they are liable to get tired of it before the year is out and sell for the clerk of the reaper and cheery hum of the separator.

I have no fear for the future of any man who is prepared to work here in fruit production by the best available light and wait a few years for the full fruition of his investment. An easy-going man will have no show. Of all the fruits here grown the most profitable is a holly tree bearing red berries. I have heard of one tree for the twice of which \$50 a year are paid. These twigs, say a foot long, are barreled up and shipped to San Francisco for Christmas ornaments. I know one tree for which \$25 was paid this year, and it will bring more next. Its owner is a tenderfoot from Manitoba. All shrubs grow profusely, but the holly is the money-maker.

SEIZURE OF LOGS.

J. S. Emerson's Booms Are Being Impounded Wholesale.

Timber Officer Murray and Provincial Constable Munro returned from the North on the steamer Chesalis, says the Vancouver News-Advertiser. They left on Friday last, and during their absence they seized in the neighborhood of 5,000,000 feet of logs the property of J. S. Emerson. The first seizure was made at Secret Cove, where 26 sections of booms were left in charge of a government agent, in possession; and still another seizure of over 1,000,000 feet was made in the neighborhood of the mouth of the Skeena. The seizures were made in a very systematic manner, and no violent resistance appears to have been met with, though in one or two in-

stances Mr. Emerson's men displayed a little soreness on seeing so much valuable timber tied up in that manner. The logs seized are nearly all cedar and larch, being out of the fir region. Four men accompanied Officers Murray and Munro to the North, and these were all picked out at the various points where seizures were made, and were left with ten days' supplies, a tent and a bed.

It is not likely, however, that the watchers will have a very long vigil, as Mr. Emerson's tugs, though not under seizure, are tied up for want of logs to haul, and yesterday his counsel, A. D. Taylor, was at work on the matter and had the necessary writs for action issued, and the matter will probably be brought to trial within a day or two. The booms seized at Secret Cove were actually in transit for the American side, so that it is evident that Mr. Emerson will make no secret of his intention to export, but he will defend his action on the ground that the logs were cut prior to the passing of the recent Timber Act, and being cut under long-logs' licenses are exempt from the ordinary restrictions against exportation.

A SPORTY CLERGYMAN.

Is Expelled From St. John Church for Too Free Conduct.

St. John, N. B., March 30.—Rev. W. A. Taylor, a Baptist clergyman, charged with conduct unbecoming a minister, was expelled from membership of the Coburg street church last night. Mr. Taylor came to St. John about three months ago armed with apparently good credentials from the Baptist church in United States, and was engaged to supply a vacant pulpit in Leinster street Baptist church. As a preacher he gave great satisfaction, but shortly after his arrival here rumors began to accumulate regarding his antecedents and worldly conduct. Among other things he was accused of drinking and telling improper stories at club dinners.

London, March 30.—War Secretary Haldane has been prominent steps for an exhaustive investigation into the "ragging" of Lieutenant Clark Kennedy, because he was unable, owing to his limited means, to obtain certain regimental expenses. Four officers of the First battalion of the Scots guards, to which the lieutenant belonged, were arrested and all the other officers of the regiment have been ordered to return to Aldershot immediately. A full court of inquiry has been ordered to assemble.

Clark Kennedy, after a mock court-martial, was stripped and bathed with medic oil, was covered with feathers and his hair smeared with jam. He escaped to his room and, jumping from a window, sought refuge in a hotel.

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