AFFAIRS OF UNION LIFE COMPANY

CONSULTING ACTUARY ON WITNESS STAND

Twenty Horses Burned to Death in Toronto--Investigating Hail Insurance Business in Manitoba.

Toronto, May 15.—Charles J. Harvey, actuary of the Colonial Insurance Company and consulting actuary of the Union Life, was a witness in the insurance investigation. He came to the Union Life in 1902 to aid in launching its industrial business, and created "the industrial savings bank policy" used by the Union in its industrial branch. At the request of Symons and Evans he became a director of the company in 1905, upon being assured that the company could find funds to operate its business. Mr. Harvey said that the premiums in the industrial insurance had to be loaded more heavily than other premiums to provide for the extra expense caused by personal weekly collection of premiums. In an ordinary company loading was 25 to 50 per cent., but in the industrial insurance loading was 75 to 80 per cent. higher. The highest policy was for $500 and the lowest $15. The minimum age at which a child could be insured was two months in Canada, but in England a child of two weeks could be insured. In England the agent would try to book unborn children for insurance.

Fire in Stable.

Toronto, May 16.—Twenty horses were burned to death by a fire which broke out in the stable at 38 Richmond street west, last night. The stable was occupied jointly by Percy Abrekey and Adams Furniture Company. The latter losing 15 and the former 5 horses, average value being $150 each. The stable was damaged to the extent of $5,000.

In Critical Condition.

Toronto, May 16.—As a result of an operation for cancer, Hon. Dr. Reuame, provincial minister of public works, is critically ill in a Detroit hospital. He has been afflicted with the malady for some time.

Stole Diamonds.

Toronto, May 16.—Julia Leonard pleaded guilty to stealing $5,000 worth of diamonds from Minnie Clark, in whose house she was living, and was sentenced to sixty days.

Double Tracking.

Toronto, May 16.—The contract for the double tracking of the C. P. R. between Montreal and Smith's Falls has been let and the work has already commenced.

Fell Into Crematory.

Toronto, May 16.—Falling into the city crematory at the Western cattle market was the awful experience of Frank Roome, a fireman. Roome was shovelling garbage into the fire-box when he slipped and fell in, feet first. The flames had just taken hold of his clothing when John Tweedle, who hapened to be sweeping near by, heard his cries. Putting his broom-handle in, Roome grasped it and was pulled out. A carriage was secured and he was hurried to the emergency hospital. Roome's hands and arms are badly burned, but no serious results are anticipated.

Royal Commission.

Winnipeg, May 16.—The hail insurance business, which is an important factor in western agricultural operations, will be the subject of investigation by the royal commission appointed for that purpose, which opened its session here to-day. There are four companies operating in Manitoba, and their affairs, particularly in the matter of charges and methods of settlement, will be thoroughly inquired into.

Foreign Missions.

Winnipeg, May 16.—Speaking at the Women's Foreign Missionary Society convention to-night, Rev. Dr. Griffith, of Hanan, China, declared that he was convinced from observations that the "yellow peril" was a stern reality, and the only way for western nations to avoid the menace is through extending Christianity in the celestial kingdom. Reports of the finances of the W. F. M. S. were submitted and showed that $62,461 had been raised during the year, an increase of $5,157.

Destructive Blaze.

Brougham, Ont., May 16.—The machinery shop and all the outbuildings, including the moulding shop, wood work department, and also the residence of Benjamin Wagner, of Kinscle, were completely destroyed by fire yesterday. The loss, including stock, is $4,000, with no insurance.

ENTERTAINED BY CITY.

The Prince and Princess of Wales Presented With Address on Return From India.

London, May 17.—The Lord Mayor and corporation this afternoon entertained the Prince and Princess of Wales at the Guildhall, and presented them with a congratulatory address in commemoration of their Indian tour. The reception was preceded by the usual procession through decorated streets. About eight hundred persons sat down to the luncheon at the Guildhall, including the German burgomasters, who are now visiting the city. They were the only foreigners present.

Governor Sir William McGregor left St. Johns, Nfld., on Wednesday night on a visit to the principal cities of Canada. The Governor will take advantage of the opportunity to discuss with Earl Grey, the Governor-General, the fishery question and other problems confronting the colony in its relations with the United States.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

Growth of Trade During Recent Years—United States is Greatest Exporting Nation.

Washington, D. C., May 17.—The world's international commerce will aggregate fully $25,000,000,000 in the year 1906, says a bulletin issued by the department of commerce and labor. By the terms "World's International Commerce," explains the bulletin, is meant the imports plus the exports of all countries of the world from which statistical trade reports were available. The figures given indicate that the trade between nations in 1906 will be six times as much as in 1850, two and one-half times as much as in 1870, and 25 per cent. more than in 1900.

One interesting fact, says the bulletin, which an examination of the figures of average monthly trade of the principal countries of the world develops, is that the United States now stands at the head of the world's great exporting nations. The monthly average exportation from the United States in the nine months ended with March, 1906, is shown by the bureau of statistics figures at $147,208,973. The monthly average from the United Kingdom for the same period $143,574,912, the average from Germany during the twelve months ended with December, 1905, $110,177,800, and the monthly average from France for the twelve months' period ending with February, $72,370,400.

TRIBUTE TO CANADA.

Speaker at Navy League Says Dominion Has Taken Step in Right Direction.

London, May 16.—At the eleventh annual meeting of the Navy League this afternoon H. F. Wyatt said that a tour of the empire had convinced him of the appreciation of the sea power and this had been widened and deepened in Canada. Among British Canadians he found the feeling very strong, but among French Canadians it was naturally less powerful.

Mr. Perkin said it was difficult for Canada to assume the shore burdens while developing her postal and other facilities, besides taking charge of thousands of immigrants now entering the country. Assuming charge of the fortifications was a step in the right direction. Some one in the imperial parliament might devise a way out of the difficulty by which the colonies at present vote large sums of money without a voice in its control. When that was attained they would give as freely as any.

STRENGTHENING DEFENCES.

France Reported to Be Doubling Garrisons and Installing New Guns.

London, May 16.—The latest issue of Reynolds' Newspaper says that information has been received from a reliable source to the effect that France is still steadily strengthening her defence along the German frontier. During the past twelve months or so many garrisons have been considerably added to and in some cases almost doubled, while new guns of long range and the most modern construction have been installed in all the principal forts. So secretly has this been carried out that the vast majority of people in France have no idea of it; but the villagers along the frontiers tell strange stories of strong bodies of armed men marching silently at dead of night, all bound for unknown destinations.

The French war office is well aware that in the archives of the German headquarter staff there are elaborate plans for the descent of great armies upon French soil at the moment war is declared, or even before; but it is by no means certain, concludes the correspondent, that they would have anything like the free and uninterrupted passage that they believe would be the case.

PASSED SECOND READING.

Colonial Marriage Bill in the House of Lords.

London, May 16.—The colonial marriages bill was passed on second reading in the House of Lords without division. The object of this bill is to legalize in the United Kingdom marriages with a deceased wife's sister, legally contracted anywhere in the British possessions. During the course of the debate Lord Strathcona declared that the measure would give the utmost satisfaction not only in Canada but in all the British colonies.

THE STANDARD OIL.

Secretary Denies Company Has Benefited by Secret Rates for Transportation.

New York, May 16.—The Standard Oil Company to-day issued to its shareholders a statement in reply to the special message recently sent to congress by President Roosevelt, and the report on the country's oil industry by Commissioner Garfield, of the bureau of corporations, which accompanied it. The statement is signed by C. M. Pratt, secretary, and was issued by order of the board of directors. It denies positively the charge that the Standard Oil Company benefited by secret rates for the transportation of its products.

REBEL LEADER CAPTURED.

Native Who Has Been Giving Germany Trouble Is a Prisoner.

Berlin, May 16.—The German consul at Capetown to-day cabled that Cape police had captured Morengo, the leader of the rebels in German South Africa, and several of his warriors, in British territory, and had taken them to Uppington, Cape Colony. The native rebellion in German Southwest Africa up to March of this year had dost the German government $150,000,000. Morengo is characterized as a man of great intelligence and well educated.

MICHAEL DAVITT.

Dublin, May 16.—Prof. Sir Thornley Stoker, president of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, to-day performed a second operation on Michael Davitt, the Irish leader, who has been suffering from blood poisoning for some time past. Mr. Davitt is very weak, and it is feared that a third operation may be immediately necessary.

MINISTERS WISH TO AVOID CONFLICT

MAY COMPROMISE ON QUESTION OF AMNESTY

Constitutional Democrats Deny That Reply to Czar's Speech is an Ultimatum.

St. Petersburg, May 16.—The opinion is quite general to-day that parliament's adoption of the reply to the throne will make a conflict with the crown inevitable as it contains a number of points in which the supporters of the government say it is impossible for the Emperor to yield.

The Novoe Vremya regards the reply as a purely revolutionary document, "Such as might appeal as a leading article in a social democratic magazine."

On the other hand the Constitutional Democratic leaders while boldly asserting that the reply is intended to make clear to the Emperor that the country will be satisfied with nothing less than a constitutional monarchy on a democratic basis, nevertheless insist that it is not an ultimatum. They consider the reply to be exceedingly temperate in tone, and say it required all their ability to prevent introduction of more radical expressions.

There is every indication that the Emperor and Premier Germykin's cabinet desires to avoid a conflict, and that by a compromise on the question of amnesty they will seek to gain time. It can be asserted on high authority that partial amnesty will be proclaimed May 19th, the Emperor's birthday.

The Constitutional Democrats in addition to being much concerned over the increased radicalism developing in the ranks find that the Poles are inclined to cause trouble. The latter at a meeting held last night adopted a resolution in favor of the "historic position of Poland and the international guarantees."

The Constitutional Democrats fear this may raise the spectre of a revival of the kingdom of Poland, and tend to weaken the Constitutional Democrats in this country, where undoubtedly the predominant feeling is in favor of the preservation of the integrity of the Empire.

The group of peasants which supported the motion to postpone taking action on the address yesterday based their position on the alleged fear that it meant the separation of Poland.

When parliament reassembled at 11 o'clock to-day the impression prevailed that the day would witness stirring scenes. Premier Germykin and his cabinet were seated on the ministerial benches and it was understood that the Premier intended to outline the views of the government in the speech from the throne.

The excited frame of mind of the members of parliament was evidenced by the long list of speakers submitted even before the president had called the house to order. This was not so much due to Russian love of talk as to the fact that every member seemed to feel himself to be charged with a message from his constituents which he must deliver.

The leadership in parliament is being rapidly assumed by the Tver group of members, whose ability has thus far stood out in relief. The contingent from the Volga provinces is showing the greatest ralicalism. None of the members from the Caucusus or Siberia has spoken up to the present, but it is noticed that they applaud the most radical utterances. Although the Mussulmans took their place on the right, the majority are acting with the Constitutional Democrats and the Poles.

From the very outset to-day words in favor of moderation were few and far between. Seminoff, a social revolutionist from Saratonoff, said that the reply to the speech from the throne was too weak. Amid cries of "Land and freedom" he announced that the people who had sent him to parliament did not want land without liberty. The peasants were so revolutionary that "only a spark was required to kindle a conflagration, and anarchy and destruction were certain if their demands were not satisfied immediately."

Others spoke passionately in favor of the abolition of the death penalty, saying that the country had already too many catacombs, and declaring that the "Bloody vengeance" of the government had resulted in six hundred executions since December must cease.

The Upper House.

St. Petersburg, May 16.—The upper house also met to-day. Two ministers and Count Witte were scheduled to speak.

It was decided to appoint a committee of 18 to draft an address in reply to the speech from the throne. The committee was given entire freedom of action and no instruction of any kind.

The proceedings in the upper house of parliament were largely formal. Count Witte spoke briefly, but did not make any important statement.

Prisoners Beaten.

St. Petersburg, May 16.—President Mouromtzeff of the lower house of parliament to-day received a telegram from the political prisoners confined at Ekaterinoslav, south Russia, saying on May Day they were beaten with flats of swords by the gendarmes and some seriously wounded. The prisoners asked parliament to demand the punishment of the guilty persons and to hasten the granting of amnesty.

Governor Higgins, of New York, has signed several bills of the joint highway commission relative to good roads, the most important of which is the one which carries with it an appropriation of $5,000,000 for this year's portion of the work under the constitutional amendment which provided for a $50,000,000 bond issue by the state for such improvement.

FEUD BETWEEN LABORERS.

Number of Italians Have Been Mysteriously Killed in New York.

New York, May 17.—According to Coroner Peter A. Crietelli, lawlessness has prevailed for months in the excavation which the O'Rourke Construction Company is making for the new Grand Central station, and the Italian government has demanded an investigation, says the World.

The coroner yesterday caused the arrest of John Eldredge, general superintendent of the O'Rourke Company, and held him in $1,000 bail on a charge of homicide. He issued subpoenas for the president of the corporation, and all its general foremen.

"There has been an average of two deaths a day among the employees ever since I took office," said the coroner last night. "The records will bear out this statement. The deaths have been among the Italian employees. For two weeks I have been investigating at the request of the Italian government made through the consul-general. I have evidence in my possession that there has been a feud between the Irish and Italian laborers. It seems that an Italian did not know how to handle dynamite. It went off and killed an Irishman. Ever since then ledges of rock have had a way of falling upon Italians. Most of the drillers are Irishmen and the Italians do laborers work. When I begin hearing next week I shall sit as a committing magistrate, and send my findings to the district attorney for action. I ordered the arrest of Eldredge in connection with the death of Angelo Besni."

APPOINTED TO THE COMMAND OF R. G. A.

Capt. Muspratt Williams Has Been Loaned by Imperial to the Dominion Authorities.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

Advices have just been received announcing the appointment of Captain Reginald L. Muspratt-Williams to the command of the Royal Garrison Artillery at Work Point, the commission dating from yesterday. The captain has been loaned by the Imperial to the Dominion authorities for two years. His appointment is in accordance with his own wishes. He desired to remain in Victoria and some weeks ago sent in his application to Ottawa. But until yesterday the necessary permission from the Imperial authorities was not forthcoming, and the captain in consequence was of the opinion that he would leave Victoria. He even had his personal effects packed preparatory for his departure when the glad news came. Captain Muspratt-Williams has been stationed at Work Point since the arrival of the troops now homeward bound in May, 1903. Besides being an efficient officer he has always manifested a very great interest in all athletics. Becoming identified with the Vancouver Island Association Football league, he represented that organization during the time the matches were being played in which the Garrison won the championship. In the tennis court and golf links he also displayed keen interest, and his remaining over in Victoria will therefore be welcomed by all who have come in contact with him in any line of sports.

The captain was gazetted second lieutenant on November 1st, 1890, lieutenant three years afterwards, and captain on October 14th, 1899. He was married over a year ago on this station to Miss Drake, a niece of Judge Drake of this city. In this connection it is interesting to note that two of the Imperial officers who remain are married to Canadian ladies. The other one is Lieut. Ellison, who was married to Miss Archibald of Halifax.

LABOR MEETING.

Considerable Business Transacted by the Trades and Labor Council Last Night.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

A regular meeting of the Victoria Trades and Labor Council was held last evening when considerable routine business was transacted. A discussion took place with regard to the many violations of the Alien Labor Act, which have come under the observation of the members. The executive had interviewed the provincial attorney-general, and were nistructed by the meeting to lay all details before the Dominion minister of labor.

The American Federation of Labor wrote regarding the San Francisco sufferers, but the communication was laid on the table, delegates reporting that all unions had already been sending relief. Another communication placed on file, was from the Calgary labor council protesting against the action of the Dominion postmaster-general in prohibiting the use of the malls to the appeal to reason.

The American Federation of Musicians wrote asking that all travelling musical organizations without union cards be black-listed. From the local union came a protest against labor hall being used by parties engaging non-union musicians. A discussion took place on this, and the matter was finally referred to the board of hall trustees.

A committee was appointed to meet next Thursday and to arrange for the celebration of Labor Day on September 3rd.

The union labor committee was instructed to visit the different merchants and to ascertain who kept union made goods.

James Goldstraw was appointed chairman of the union label committee, J. E. B. Tyson, the former chairman, being absent from the city.

At the conclusion of the meeting Organizer Baum, of the Industrial Workers of the World, who was present, addressed the members at some length on the objects of the organization which he represents.

First National Bank of Bellingham and the Bank of Bellingham, two of the largest financial concerns in northwestern Washington, were merged Tuesday.

VICTORIA CANINES CARRY OFF HONORS

AMONG THE ENGLISH AND IRISH SETTERS

Some Awards in Connection With Dog Show Now in Progress at the Philharmonic Hall.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

There was a large attendance yesterday on the occasion of the opening of the fifth annual bench show under the auspices of the Victoria Kennel Club. It is being held at the Philharmonic hall, Fort street, and the aisles between the dog kennels were thronged with interested spectators throughout the afternoon. In the yard adjoining the building Judge H. T. Payne, of San Francisco, was engaged in his somewhat arduous task of distributing the awards. The ring in which he inspected the representatives of each class as they were brought before him by the handlers was surrounded with fanciers, directly or indirectly concerned in the contests.

The judge arrived from California yesterday afternoon, and lost no time in commencing his duties. With the able assistance of the management committee of the local association he was able to dispose of several varieties before darkness intervened. The distribution of ribbons is being continued to-day. It started at 10 o'clock, and should be completed some time this afternoon.

Of the four classes that were brought to the attention of Judge Payne yesterday—St. Bernards, Greyhounds, English and Irish setters—the two latter attracted the most general interest. In both cases surprises were in store for those who follow the trend of kennel events. C. W. Minor, with the handsome string of English setters referred to in these columns yesterday, made a clean sweep, capturing everything with the exception of the open dogs, which Mallwyd Bob, T. P. McConnell's celebrated prize winner won, and a few minor awards. Several prizes were carried off by dogs not included in Mr. Minor's kennel, but as the latter explained with a gratified smile this morning, all the successful ones, with the one exception mentioned, were bred by him from the well-known Montez stock. Mr. Minor, needless to say, is exceedingly pleased, and greeted a Times reporter with the question: "Didn't I tell you my kennel was the feature of the show?"

In the Irish setters Mickey Green and Jess, both owned by Andrew Fairful, were well to the fore. They were given the premier places in all classes in which they were entered. They have to their credit no less than eight firsts and one second award. Mr. Fairful's principal rival was Hon. J. Wulffshon, Imperial German consul at Vancouver, with his Ch. Jeannott. The latter was high liner in the Terminal City exhibition, and his owner was confident that he would be able to repeat the performance here. But after a careful scrutiny of the two dogs Judge Payne, whose reputation places him as one of the best setter judges in America, decided in favor of the local canine, and Mr. Fairful left the ring triumphant with the blue ribbon in his possession. Last year Mickey Green was defeated by the same dog, and, therefore, his victory on this occasion is doubly appreciated. Jess, which carried off the winners' bitch medal, is comparatively young, and great things are expected of her before many years.

Naturally Mr. Fairful, like Mr. Minor, is very proud of his kennel. He also was found this morning with his face wreathed in a happy smile. "Yes," he said in response to a question, "pretty near made a clean sweep, Mickey beat everything, and Jess was just as successful." He went on to say that the award was an endorsement of the opinion of John Davidson, the oldest judge on the continent, who two years ago gave Mickey Green the place of honor. Mr. Fairful now is convinced that he has the finest Irish setter on the coast.

As already stated judging started again this morning at 10 o'clock. The first class to be introduced was that of pointers and Irish water spaniels, field spaniels, clumber spaniels and cocker spaniels followed in the order given. In each variety competition was keen, and the awards were not decided upon without a careful and lengthy inspection on the part of the judge. At noon the cockers were on exhibition, but, as there were quite a number to be passed upon, an adjournment was taken for lunch before the distribution of prizes was completed. As soon as finished cards will be issued so that spectators will have no difficulty in locating the victorious ones, ascertaining their names and the names of their owners and, if desired, their pedigrees.

The custom of holding tombolas in connection with the local exhibition has been eliminated as a result of the personal request of His Worship Mayor Morley. The latter when approached expressed the opinion that it might be difficult to class the practice as gambling, but it savored so much of that spirit that he would like to see it taken off the programme. When put in this light the Victoria club management decided to accede to the wishes of the Mayor.

Appended is a list of the winners as far as available:

St. Bernards.

1st, Victoria Chief, Mrs. H. E. Davies, Vancouver.

Greyhounds.

1st, Jeff, Dr. G. L. Milne; 2nd, Princess Chic, Chief Watson.

English Setters.

Puppy dogs—1st, Mallwyl Montez, C. W. Minor; 2nd, Duke Montez, C. W. Minor; 3rd, Hector Montez, C. W. Minor.

Novice dogs—1st, Mallwyd Montez, C. W. Minor; 2nd, Prince Roy, W. E. Ditchburn; 3rd, Rego's Rex, C. F. Banfield; reserve, Tony Spot, George W. Hutchings; hc, Rodfield Bob, R. Bryce, Vancouver; Prince Edward, E. Hooson; vhc, Count Fech, O. H. Fechner.

Limit dogs—1st, Rockline Young Roy, Miss W. M. Davie; 2nd, Rego's Rex, C. F. Banfield; 3rd, Coles' Black Prince, Austin de B. Winter, Calgary; reserve, Rodfield Bob; hc, Rex, B. S. Heisterman.

Open dogs—1st, Mallwyd Bob, T. P. McConnell; 2nd, Roy's Last Montez, C. W. Minor; 3rd, Coles' Black Prince, Austin de B. Winter, Calgary; reserve, Rodfield Bob, R. Bryce; hc, Rex, B. S. Heisterman.

Puppy bitches—1st, Mallwyd Daisy, S. Whittaker.

Novice bitches—1st, Nell Montez, C. W. Minor.

Limit bitches—1st, Lew Wyndham, C. W. Minor; 2nd, Victoria Belle II., T. P. McConnell.

Open bitches—1st, Zola Montez, C. W. Minor; 2nd, Rockline Ladybird; 3rd, Lew Wyndham, C. W. Minor.

Local dogs and bitches—1st, Zola Montez, C. W. Minor; 2nd, Nell Montez, C. W. Minor; 3rd, Roy's Last Montez, C. W. Minor; reserve, Lew Wyndham, C. W. Minor; vhc, Prince Edward, E. Hooson; Rockline Blue Rock, Miss Davie.

Winners' dogs—Mallwyd Bob, T. P. McConnell; reserve, Rockline Young Roy, Miss Davie.

Winners' bitches—Zola Montez, C. W. Minor; reserve, Nell Montez, C. W. Minor.

Best puppy in the show—Mallwyd Montez, C. W. Minor.

Best in limit class—Rockline Young Roy, Miss Davie.

Irish Setters.

Puppy dogs—Prince William, Geo. Jay.

Novice dogs—1st, Nappier Tandy, J. Stapleton; 2nd, Roy, W. H. Peter; 3rd, Prince, H. R. Ella; reserve, Paddy, C. E. Robson, Vancouver; hc, Prince William, Geo. Jay.

Limit dogs—1st, Mickey Green, A. Fairful; 2nd, Mike, Geo. Jay; 3rd, Napper Tandy; J. Stapleton; reserve, Roy, W. H. Peter; vhc, Paddy, C. E. Robson, Victoria; Romney, Dr. A. J. Garasche.

Open dogs—1st, Mikey Green; 2nd, ch. Jeannot, Hon. J. Wulffshon, Vancouver.

Novice bitches—1st, Jess, A. Fairful; 2nd, Victoria Kathleen, Dr. A. J. Garesche; 3rd, Kathleen, J. Hammond; reserve, Girlie, W. H. Peter.

Limit bitches—Jess, A. Fairful; 2nd, Kathleen, J. Hammond; 3rd, Jesmond Magic, Miss Gladys Creighton; vhc, Girlie, W. H. Peter.

Open bitches—1st, Jess, A. Fairful; 2nd, Darleg Magic, E. E. Carnes.

Local dogs and bitches—1st, Mickey Green, A. Fairful; 2nd, Jess, A. Fairful; 3rd, Prince, H. R. Ella; reserve, Jesmond Magic, Miss Creighton; vhc, Kathleen, J. Hammond.

Winners' dogs—Mickey Green, A. Fairful; reserve, Napper Tandy, J. Stapelton.

Winners' bitches—Jess, A. Fairful; reserve, Darleg Magic, E. E. Carnes.

PUBLIC PARADE OF PRISONERS AT JAIL

The Grand Jury Oppose Practice as Applied to Offenders Serving Short Terms.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

The grand jury yesterday afternoon made its presentment, and were relivede by the presiding judge, Mr. Justice Duff, from further attendance at court.

The presentment was as follows:

The Hon. Mr. Justice Duff, Supreme Court of British Columbia, Victoria, B. C.:

My Lord:—In accordance with ancient custom, we, as members of the grand jury appointed for the Assize court of this province now sitting, have made an inspection of various institutions of the city, and have to report to Your Lordship that our visit to the Provincial Royal Jubilee hospital was one of great pleasure and satisfaction.

The new Home for Aged Men was found to be a very great improvement on the undesirable quarters so long occupied by these unfortunates, whose comfort will no doubt be much enhanced by more cheerful surroundings, combined with the better attention in cases of sickness possible to be given under new and modern conditions of residence.

Provincial Jail.—All arrangements at this institution were found to be working well, and the discipline of the prison apparently well maintained. There is, however, one matter which we desire to bring to Your Lordship's notice, as, in our opinion, needing consideration with a view to change.

For the performance of work outside the precincts of the jail the present system is to select offenders under short sentences of thirty or sixty days. This, we think, should be altered, for the reason that the degradation of being paraded through the streets in prison garb cannot be otherwise than detrimental to any desire that may happily exist on the part of such prisoners to mend their ways and make a fresh start. The reason given us for the practice complained of was that the lighter the sentence the less inducement there is to attempt to escape, but as the object of punishment, especially in the case of first offenders, should be to deter from further evil doing, it follows that all that which tends to harden the character, such as public exposure in the way indicated, should, if possible, be avoided; indeed, in our opinion, it would be better to dispense with the chain gang altogether.

On behalf of the grand jury.

THOMAS R. SMITH,
Foreman.

His Lordship said that he was in accord with the recommendation made relative to short term prisoners being paraded, and would forward a copy of the presentation to the proper authorities, hoping it would be acted upon.

TURBINE TORPEDO LOST.

New port, R. I., May 17.—While the torpedo boat Vesuvius was engaged yesterday in practice with the new 21-inch turbine torpedo, off Coddington Cove, the torpedo, which is worth about $10,000, was lost. Only two torpedoes of this kind have been built for the navy.

ARCTIC EXPLORER OUTLINED SCHEME

AT A MEETING HELD IN THE CITY HALL

Annual Meeting of Navy League Before the Lecture Given by Capt. Mikkelsen.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

The annual meeting of the local branch of the Navy League was held in the city hall last evening, with the president, C. E. Redfern, presiding. The financial and general reports of the society for the year were presented.

The report of the business of the year concluded with the following general reference to the work of the Navy League and the objects aimed at:

"Whilst facing the world to-day with its strongest hopes on national future, it must be felt that we cannot afford to relinquish one iota of that dignity and prestige which through enormous expenditure of blood and treasure we have been permitted to inherit and enjoy. Admiral Sir John Fisher has well said, 'We require fearless, vigorous and progressive administration open to any reform, never resting on its oars—for to stop is to go back.' The most thoughtful of men of all shades of politics—statesmen and others—all concede that the navy means to Great Britain and her possessions beyond the seas their existence as an empire and their freedom from invasion. No progress is possible—commercial or otherwise—without security, and at the present day security is bound up with the power of navies. Mr. Balfour, speaking on imperial defence a few months ago, said, 'Diplomacy, however successful, diplomatic arrangements, however admirable, may subserve and will subserve the cause of peace, but in the long run it is after all upon the might of Britain that the right of Britain depends, and it is inconsistent, both with her dignity as a great country and with the security of the territories committed to our charge, not ourselves, to make such provision as may be necessary in case of need to defend all that it is our bounden duty to defend.' And it may again be repeated that it is on the British navy under the good providence of God, the wealth, safety and strength of the kingdom chiefly depend. God save the King."

The election of treasurer, secretary and committee resulted as follows: Treasurer, A. J. C. Galletly; hon. secretary, Jos. Peirson, both of whom have been re-elected. Committee: Bishop Perrin, Capt. E. Barkley, R.N., Capt. J. Devereux, A. B. Fraser, sr., Capt. J. G. Cox, Roland Stuart, Jos. Peirson, J. P., C. E. Redfern, James Thomson, Ald. F. W. Vincent, Capt. J. Gaudin, Capt. J. T. Walbran, J. P., Capt. C. E. Clarke, Capt. W. H. Langley, S. A. Roberts, R. N., N. Shakespeare, J. P., W. E. Laird, Major J. P. Hibben, Richard Hall, M. P. P., Chas. Hayward, A. E. McPhillips, K. C., A. P. Luxton, K. C., G. W. Woollett, W. H. Hayward, J. E. Jeffcott, F. A. Pauline, F. L. Neale, G. Alers-Hankey, T. J. Cummiskey, Col. R. Wolfenden, I. S. O., and J. K. Rebbeck.

From this the president and vice-president will be selected.

On the conclusion of the meeting those in attendance adjourned to the council chamber where Capt. Mikkelsen delivered an address outlining his voyage to the Arctic.

Capt. Mikkelsen's remarks were listened to with great interest. He outlined the course he would take, and the hope of finding land in what was now but little known, namely, the Beaufort sea. The details of this trip have already been given in these columns together with the preparations for the voyage.

Mayor Morley presided and expressed himself as highly pleased with the lecture delivered by the explorer.

Others who were present also expressed their pleasure at having an opportunity to hear the scheme outlined so clearly by the speaker.

Bishop Perrin, in moving a vote of thanks, wished the party success in their undertaking.

The motion was seconded by C. H. Lugrin, who likewise expressed good wishes for the voyagers. He was satisfied that the results of the trip would be to the advantage of the world of science, and he thought the expedition was in good hands.

Capt. Fleet expressed a similar view. Thanks were voted the captain for his address.

On the conclusion of the meeting the sum of $64.15 was subscribed towards the expedition, including $50 from W. Cuthbert Holmes. In addition to this the Navy League added $5.

STARTING FROM WEST.

Great Northern Will Begin Shortly Grade for V., V. & E.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

The Great Northern railway is now doubling its efforts to hasten the completion of its line between Vancouver and the Boundary district. Actual construction at this end will be started within a month. This was the announcement made to-day by Mr. John Hendry, president of the V., W. & Y. railway, over whose tracks the V., V. & E. railway will run into Vancouver, says the Vancouver Province.

"All the surveys on this side of the Hope mountains have been virtually completed," said Mr. Hendry to-day. "The original intention to strike the V., W. & Y. at Cloverdale may be modified, as the engineers have run a survey direct to New Westminster, and have secured an easier grade. I expect actual construction—grading operations—will be in full swing within a month. The rails purchased some time ago will not be delivered on this Coast until September."

MR PRESTON IN OTTAWA.

Ottawa, May 16.—W. T. R. Preston was before the public accounts committee to-day. He presented his papers and his examination was deferred until the next meeting.

THE REPLY TO EMPEROR'S

DEBATE IN LOWER HOUSE OF

Question of Universal servative Peasant Grou the Governme

St. Petersburg, May 15 ber of the lower house w when President Mouron house to order at 3 o'cl m. The members of with the exception of Pr kin, sat on the minist There was a long wra question of parliament etc., no rules to govern ing been adopted.

The address in reply from the throne says in "It has pleased you your speech addressed representatives to expr mination whereby the been called on to exer power in conjunction w arch. The parliament re arch's formal promise a of that consolidation a ther development of or tion in accordance with stitutional basis. The every effort to perfect popular representation for your Majesty's ass ing to such representa as was the unanimousl of the people, on univ "Your Majesty's app work for the good of finds a lively echo in t members of parliamen "The parliament ho duty to point out tha under which the coun really fruitful work fo of the best powers of t sible. The country ha the sorest spot on ou the ambitious powers Emperor from his pe clared clearly and u the renovation of pub only possible form the spontaneous part people in legislative control of legislation "Your Majesty was manifesto of October your firm resolution these particulars as t ther development of whole Russian people message with an imp the first days of libe ed by heavy afflictions by those who still o vance of the people and trample on the manifesto of October those who cover the ing with executions, sentence, with violen shooting and imprison of this method of go part of the ministr few months have sunk souls of the people th is possible so long a not clearly satisfied t acts of violence, wh jesty's name are no cover, are forbidden so long as the mini sponsible as the repr people, and so long tem of administratio structed. Only when made responsible to idea of the absolute the monarch take r his people."

The debate on the to the speech from this evening. The h midnight and the continued to-morrow bate was tame, the enthusiasm followin the absence from t mention of woman brought half the me cheering.

Radical members graph asking for t officials guilty of e of repression and a the demand for cons

Two features of t ed outside the reg first was the adopti ing to the previou which 50 members stoppage of a debate to successful filibus mined minority of o bership of the hous ure was the appeara tive peasant group porters of the gove members signing a ponement of the de ance of this group prise. The motion was overwhelmingly

PROSPECTO

Remains of Two M Val

Caliente, Nev., M stantine, a prospe returned from a tri ley, reports the fin two young Eastern foot of Funeral ran trousers bearing Tailor," and one e Elgin watch inscri gram "M. G. P." a bearing the lette perished nearly 30 The fingers on one the bone digging in in an attempt to r

STEAMER

Crew and Passenge Bo

Seattle, May 16.— on her way from livery to a firm of at Pasco was wre to run the Rock I day. The crew and escaped without g steamer's boats.