Japanese Want Russian Rookeries

Admiral Kataoka Has Gone to Seize Copper and Robben Islands.

Mail Service Improved—Tricolor May Be Floated—Pleiades Reaches Port.

(From Sunday's Daily.)

Advices have been received here which indicate the real reason for the despatch of Admiral Kataoka's squadron to the Siberian coast is that Japan may acquire the seal rookeries of Russia in Northern Pacific waters. It is said that the Japanese warships will proceed to Behring and Copper islands, of the Komanderofski group, which lie off the Kamchatkan peninsula, and a vessel will be detached and sent to Robben island, in the Okhotch sea, to place the Japanese flag on the seal rookeries. The Russian guard has long since left Robben island, but there is still a guard at the rookeries on the Komanderofski islands, as Captain McLean and his raiders learned to their sorrow on their last attempt to raid the rookeries. The guard is a small patrol, armed with rifles, and incapable of making any effective resistance to the Japanese warships. The rookery on Robben island is not a large one, about 10,000 seals being there; but the rookeries on the Komanderofski group are larger. During the first year of war a number of Japanese sealers went from Hakodate and raided Robben island, five Japanese schooners having gone there in August, 1904, and taken 6,000 skins. The schooner Diana, flying the Japanese flag, but owned by and carrying foreigners, was prevented by force from participating in the raid of the Japanese sealers. Several Japanese vessels were seized at this time by Russian war vessels, and their crews were imprisoned, being now at Harbin, with several Victoria sealing men among them.

The despatch from Tokio which told of the departure of Admiral Kataoka's squadron, said one squadron would go to the Kamchatkan coast, another to Okhotsch sea, and the commanders would carry out certain work. The Kamonderofski rookeries lie off Kamchatka; Robben island rookery is in the Okhotch sea. The seizure of these rookeries will have a considerable effect upon the seal market. In the past Russia has given leases to different commercial companies, some operating from San Francisco, to take seals from the rookeries. One of these companies, the Kamchatkan Commercial & Development Company of San Francisco, has the steamer Montara now en route to Petropavlovski, on the Kamchatkan coast, and she will be in danger of seizure by the Japanese.

The Russians, prior to the war, zealously guarded the rookeries which seem likely to be occupied by the Japanese. A fleet of revenue cutters, including the Aleut, Zabiaka, Kotick and others, some of which were seized and confiscated by the Japanese after the commencement of the war, guarded the rookeries. In 1886 these cutters seized a number of Victoria sealing schooners and caused their crews to be imprisoned at Petropavlovski, an illegal act for which Russia was called upon to pay damages to the sealers.

The acquisition of the rookeries will be warmly welcomed by the Japanese sealers. There are about sixty schooners all told, sailing from Japanese ports, mostly from Hakodate, Yokohama and Tokio, in pursuit of seals. A good percentage of the vessels are owned by foreigners, though nominally Japanese and flying the Japanese flag.

PLEIADES ARRIVES.

Boston Tugboat Co.'s Liner Arrives From the Orient.

Steamer Pleiades of the Boston Tugboat Company reached William Head quarantine station yesterday soon after nightfall and will moor at the ocean dock this morning, after passing quarantine at daylight. The Pleiades is bringing a good cargo of general freight, of which about 300 tons will be landed at the ocean dock. Another steamer expected today is the Comeric, one of the Andrew Weir steamers, which is coming in ballast from Ladysmith to Cape Nome. The steamer left the Arctic port for Victoria twelve days ago.

TO FLOAT TRICOLOR.

Norwegian Steamer Is Intact and Efforts May Be Made to Salve Her.

Advices have been received that attempts will be made to float the stranded Norwegian steamer Tricolor, now fast on the rocks near Cape Mendocino, where she was wrecked during a fog when en route to San Francisco with 5,900 tons of coal from Ladysmith. Advertisements are being circulated stating that bids will be received for the purpose of making the attempt, remuneration being based upon a percentage of the value recovered. Captain Metcalf, representative of the underwriters at San Francisco, has returned from a visit to the wreck, and he reports the vessel to be still intact, despite reports that the steamer was breaking up.

THE WHALE HUNTERS.

San Francisco Man in Seattle Investigating Possibilities.

M. J. Friedman, who arrived from San Francisco by the steamer City of Puebla, as reported, is investigating the possibilities of Seattle and vicinity with a view to establishing a whaling station. When interviewed at Seattle, Mr. Friedman, who is a member of the San Francisco firm of Stabens & Friedman, said:

"Our firm is contemplating the establishment of a whale station on Puget Sound, if we conclude that the business would warrant the expenditure. I will be in Seattle about ten days and during that time will thoroughly investigate the subject. The whaling industry on this coast is assuming far larger proportions than is generally supposed. Our firm owns and operates three vessels, the Montgomery, Andrew Hicks and Cotama, and we are expecting to enlarge our fleet."

The modern whaling stations utilize every portion of the leviathans, whereas the old whalers used only the blubber and the bone. Whale fishing has been carried on in northern waters for years, but lately it has dropped to a rather desultory trade carried on by San Francisco firms. After a ten-day stay in Seattle, Mr. Friedman will proceed to Portland.

IMPROVING MAIL SERVICE.

Service Between Seattle and Victoria Doubled—Mail Carried by Princess.

Yesterday there were two mails from Seattle. A supplementary service by the steamer Princess Victoria has at last been arranged. Yesterday morning, W. J. Oliver, president of the Board of Trade, received the following letter rom J. O. MacLeod, superintendent of the Railway Mail Service at Vancouver, under date of August 11: "I take pleasure in advising you of the receipt of telegraphic instructions from the department today authorizing the establishment of a supplementary service per Princess Victoria between Seattle and Victoria. I have instructed for this to go into operation effective today."

Gradually the mail service given Victoria by the postal authorities is being improved. Still other changes are desirable. For instance, although the Empress liners and the Australian steamers make their last call at this port on their outward voyages, parcels cannot be posted on the sailing day. They must be sent to Vancouver to be placed on the steamers, despite the fact that the steamers call here. Oftimes, too, the steamer Whatcom makes an extra trip on Mondays. Sometimes she carries a mail on those extra trips, but more often not.

FOR THE ORIENT.

Seattle Chinese Will Sail by Empress of Japan.

R. M. S. Empress of Japan will sail on Monday for Yokohama and the usual Japanese and Chinese ports en route to Hongkong. Among those booked to sail by the Empress liner is a wealthy Seattle Chinese, Chin Gee Hee, promoter of the Sun Ning railway to run through a populous part of Kwangsi province, in South China, with terminus at Canton. Gee Hee is said to have secured $1,500,000 of capital from Chinese and Americans for the purpose of building 200 miles of railway. Chin Gee Hee expects to be in China a year engaged in the work of railroad building, and will then return to his business in Seattle. He is desirous of buying the material needed for construction of the railway in the United States, but fears the existence of the boycott may prevent this being done. However, he has made tentative contracts with the Seattle Steel Company for rolling stock that would be built on the Coast if the boycott can be adjusted. Orders for ties alone, which would be handled through dealers, would amount to more than $40,000. There is a feeling that is entertained, not only by Chin Gee Hee, but by his company, that the boycott sentiment may be allayed within six months, and it would require about that length of time to get out some of the special orders that would be placed.

TO IMPROVE RIVER.

Government to Be Urged to Attend to Needs of Fraser.

On Friday evening last there was a second gathering of representatives of the different municipalities in the district for the purpose of drafting another and more definite resolution to be forwarded to the federal authorities, impressing on them the crying needs of the Fraser river, says the New Westminster Columbian.

Aldermen Vanstone and Shiles were present to represent the city council, and both addressed the meeting. They represented to those present that Mr. Lester David's contract to re-open and operate the old Ross-McLaren mills had been qualified by the provision that the river be put in proper shape for the easy towing of ships to the mill wharves. They explained that the question of whether or not this large industry was to succeed depended greatly on the government's action with regard to Fraser river improvements, and urged that a strong and definite resolution be forwarded to Ottawa on the subject.

Different speakers took the floor, and a large number of suggestions were offered after which the resolution was passed clause by clause. The document outlined the different points at which improvement was most needed, and in strong terms represented to the government the urgency of the case.

A Success From Every Standpoint

R. M. Palmer Tells of B. C. Fruit Exhibit at Fair at Brandon.

Display Was Most Prominent Feature at Show—Now at Regina.

R. M. Palmer, British Columbia fruit exhibit commissioner, who is now at Brandon, has forwarded the following letter, under date of August 5, to Hon. R. G. Tatlow, minister of finance and agriculture:

"Dear Sir—I have much pleasure in reporting that the British Columbia fruit exhibit at the recent Brandon fair has again been a marked success, and a very prominent feature of the fair.

"The preserved fruits in glasses which were reshipped from Winnipeg at the close of the exhibition there, arrived in good condition and during the time of the fair shipments of fresh fruits arrived daily per Dominion Express; these included apricots, peaches, plums, cherries, apples, pears and tomatoes. All the principal fruit-growing districts of the province were represented, including Peachland, Kelowna, Summerland, Kamloops, Victoria, Chilliwack, Hammond, Mount Lehman and Sardis. The Okanagan and Kamloops shipments of apricots, peaches and early apples were especially fine. All the fresh fruit shipments arrived in good condition with the exception of a few crates of plums.

"Our exhibits were all placed by noon of the 1st instant, ready for the opening of the fair, which I am pleased to state has been very successful from every standpoint. The attendance has been large; over 30,000 people were present on the 3rd instant alone. It was essentially a farmers' fair, and was particularly strong in exhibits of horses, cattle and farm machinery, comparing more than favorably with the Winnipeg exhibition in all respects.

"The preserved fruit exhibits have all been repacked and forwarded to Regina. Mr. Brandrith will go forward to the same point this afternoon to arrange for placing same. I propose stopping at Indian Head and attending the fair there (7th and 8th instants) with exhibits of fresh fruits, going on to Regina on the evening of the 8th, at the close of the Indian Head fair. The weather continues very warm, and grain crops are coming on fast. The yield promises to be very heavy, many farmers expect phenomenal.

COMES HERE TO MAKE HIS HOME

Pioneer Farmer of Manitoba to Live in Victoria in the Future.

Kenneth McKenzie, of Burnside, Manitoba, one of the first of the early settlers of '69 before it was Manitoba, is at present in the city, staying at the Balmoral hotel. Mr. McKenzie visited Victoria for the first time five years ago. He notices many changes in the interval, though not to the same extent as in Winnipeg and Eastern cities.

"I came here," said Mr. McKenzie, "to look for a place to settle. I also went to various points in California for the same purpose. I found, however, that in California everything had a burnt-up appearance, and there was an entire lack of grass and crops, except where fruit growing existed on the basis of irrigation works.

"Finally, I have decided in favor of Vancouver Island, and have bought a place near the Gorge, where I intend to settle with Mrs. McKenzie and make my home. Of all the countries I have seen there is none that I would put before Manitoba. The winters there, however, are very trying, and at my advanced age I elected to seek a more genial climate.

"I am impressed with the cleanly and well regulated appearance of Victoria, and I know of no place where a man can hope to spend his declining years with more prospect of pleasure, comfort and congenial society than at Victoria."

Mr. McKenzie, before deciding upon a place of residence visited Australasia two years ago and spent six months in inspecting the advantages of New Zealand and Australia, which, though pleasant in many ways, did not on the whole in his estimation bear comparison with British Columbia.

Mr. McKenzie is one of the successful farmers of Manitoba, where he has five sons, all farming, one on the old homestead and others nearby. The eldest owns some 1,800 acres, 1,400 of which are under wheat at present, the remaining 400 under oats and barley.

Mr. McKenzie's news from his sons is that prospects for the coming season are fine and a great harvest is expected.

Mr. McKenzie is over 80 years of age and still a fine, hale specimen of active and healthy humanity.

Preparing For The Big Fair

Busy Scene at New Westminster in Arranging for the Exhibition.

Anticipated That the Completed Grounds Will Have No Peer in Canada.

Few persons who have not actually seen the grounds, can realize the extent of the preparations being made for the Dominion Fair in New Westminster. Though much has been done much still remains to be done, but when completed it is safe to say that though some will surpass them in size, in symmetry and beauty the New Westminster Fair grounds will have no peer in Canada.

A representative of the Vancouver News-Advertiser had the pleasure of being shown over the grounds by the genial and courteous Manager, Mayor Keary. Sixteen acres have been cleared and added to the already spacious grounds of Queen's Park, making a total area of about fifty acres cleared and enclosed. The high and airy situation of this plot of land, which falls in a gentle slope overlooking the wide waters of the Fraser river, makes it an ideal spot for a fair ground. The old entrance will be boarded up, and at the southeast corner of the grounds a portal fifty feet wide, finished in white plaster work, and containing six turnstiles and wide gates surmounted by an arch of welcome, will afford means of entrance and exit. A macadamised drive fifty feet wide, and still in course of construction, will lead round the bleachers and straight to the main Fair buildings.

The Main Fair Buildings

are three in number—the old Exhibition Hall, which is to be painted and renovated, serving as a right wing. The central building is the machinery hall, or manufactures' building, which makes a very artistic centrepiece. It is composed of three parts. The front portion is two stories high, and is entered by a broad flight of steps leading up to three arched doorways. The upper part of this building will be given over to the Local Council of Women, who will use it as "rest" rooms, where they will dispense tea and sandwiches to visitors, with the intention of turning over the proceeds to the Royal Columbian Hospital. The lower portion of the front part will be merely an entrance to the lofty machinery halls, which run back sixty feet on either side, leaving an open court between. These buildings are strongly constructed to stand the jar of heavy machinery in motion, and the open court may be utilized for threshers and harvesters and such machinery as is too large to put inside. The old Exhibition building will be devoted entirely to agriculture, horticulture and floriculture. On the ground storey will be displayed the agricultural exhibits, and the upper portion will be disposed of the horticultural products and flowers.

Fresh from the builders' hands and westward of the main trio stands the

Industrial Building.

This is built in massive proportions and balances well with the old main building which stands on the west side of the grounds. It has a frontage of 100 feet and a depth of 200 feet, and the lower storey will be devoted chiefly to the use of merchants and wholesale men for their displays. It has a spacious, airy look, and is well lighted, and every foot of space has been already applied for. In the top storey of this building a space, 80 by 100 feet, has been reserved for the use of the Educational Department. A large space will be given to art and the display of ladies' work and fancy work generally; and the front portion is divided into a sort of Administration Department. There are special rooms for the management. Company, Mayor Keary, the Secretary-Treasurer, and by no means least, there is a large, well-lighted room which is to be devoted entirely to the press. Here the "pencil-pushers" will be provided with tables, telephone and every convenience. In addition to this it may be mentioned that the old bandstand is being fitted up for the convenience of the reporters on the grounds, and will be furnished in like manner, so that the gentlemen of the press will have little to complain of at the hands of the Exhibition directors.

The Machinery Building,

which is in the centre of the three main buildings, is set back about forty feet from the other two, so that it leaves a spacious court between. It is the intention of the directors to have a concert drive run round this to the main entrance of the central building, and a large fountain will be placed in the centre of the green space that will be left, thus completing a charming frontispiece.

The smaller buildings and stables will be grouped as artistically as possible round the rear and sides of the main buildings. The old poultry building is being renovated and removed, and will be used for the dairy exhibit, which will be in charge of Professor W. A. Wilson, Superintendent of Creameries in the Northwest Territories, who will give lectures on dairying from time to time. For the poultry exhibit the old machinery hall will be used, so that there will be plenty of space, and as it has to be entirely refitted, the work is being done in the most up-to-date manner. A place of special interest to mining men will be the mineralogy building, where specimens from the whole Dominion will be displayed.

The old open stock sheds are all being torn down, and long rows of new and up-to-date buildings are being erected in their stead on the newly-cleared portion of the grounds just east of the main buildings. They will be so constructed that people having valuable horses can sleep there if they wish. Formerly accommodation was provided for about 1,000 head of stock in all, but the new buildings will contain 2,000, or just about double. Even at that entries in this line are coming in so fast that there will be

No Room to Spare.

It is pleasing to note that many of the entries in this line are coming from the Northwest Territories, and the towns of Edmonton and Strathcona have shown their interest by asking that special space be reserved for their exhibits.

Of the general outside aspect of the grounds a great deal might be said, and very little adversely. The whole fifty acres is surrounded by a high fence and a twenty-foot drive. A little to the east of the main buildings a large new race track is being constructed, and it is thought that the old one round the athletic oval is too small. Round the athletic oval itself a new fence is being built, the old bleachers are being raised and painted, and will be surmounted by handsome colonnades. A large new bandstand will also be erected there, the old one being given over to the use of the press.

About $45,000 has already been expended, but more will be required before the work is completed. A large gang of men is engaged on the grounds and buildings, a stone crusher is chopping up stone for the walks and a steam roller is rolling them down. The old places will have to be painted to make them harmonize with the new but the completed work will be worthy of the effort, and it is only to be regretted that the execution of this giant task has been left almost entirely to the plucky citizens of New Westminster, who are devoting their time and energy to it.

The arrangements for the entertainment of the visitors have been made on a lavish scale. About twelve bands of various kinds are expected to be present to keep the air filled with music. The principal of these will be the famed

Irish Guards Band

from the Old Land. They received special permission from His Majesty the King to visit Canada, and will come on west after playing at the Toronto Exhibition. They are accompanied by Viscount de Vesci. The bands of the Fifth and Sixth Regiments and Nanaimo will also be present, as well as some from the upper country and the Boys' Brigade band. On Sunday October 1st a drumhead concert will be held, at which all the bands and the local militia are expected to be present, and also the sailors from His Majesty's ships Egeria and Shearwater, which will lie out in the Fraser river during the Exhibition. Exhibitions in "broncho busting" will be given for several days on the oval by expert riders from the interior.

Aquatic Sports

will be a prominent feature among the attractions of the exhibition. It is expected that Stansbury, the world's champion, will be there from Australia, and will row all-comers for the championship; and Scholes, of Toronto, will also be on hand to defend the amateur single scull championship. Noted oarsmen from every city in Canada have expressed their intention of being present.

About 4,000 Indians will be congregated there, and many of them are building special canoes for the races on the water. They will also furnish entertainment and excitement in other ways.

The B.C. Electric Railway Company has kindly offered to help in the illuminations, and the grounds and buildings at night will blaze with thousands of lights. Fireworks will also add to the night attractions, and Hitt Brothers, who have been awarded the contract, will see to it that this is by no means the least admirable part of the show.

The judging in live stock and agriculture will be done by the best experts from Eastern Canada, and the entries already received show that the wide Dominion will be well represented in these lines. Though, unfortunately, neither Lord Roberts nor the Governor-General is likely to be present to open the exhibition, the task will be performed in all likelihood by His Honor

The Lieutenant-Governor,

and will probably be one of the last functions of the kind that he will perform during his tenure of office. Among the distinguished visitors will be the Governors of the neighboring states of Washington and Oregon, and some of the most prominent personages of Manitoba, the Northwest Territories and the Eastern Provinces are expected to be present.

With such liberal promises of outside patronage already received, with the splendid showing of work already done, with the unsurpassed climate and varied products of our own province as a basis to work on, it only needs the hearty co-operation of Vancouver and the neighboring places to crown the plucky efforts of the citizens of New Westminster with the success they so well deserve.

News Notes Of The Dominion

Prince Louis of Battenburg and Cruiser Squadron Arrive at Quebec.

Mr. Wainwright Denies That Kaien Island Is G. T. P. Terminus.

Quebec, Aug. 12.—Amid the thunder of the guns from the citadel, the ships of the second cruiser squadron, under the command of His Serene Highness Prince Louis of Battenburg, arrived in the harbor of Quebec yesterday afternoon and cast anchor, to remain for a visit which promises to be of greatest interest and in honor of which the citizens of the Ancient Capital have made preparations on a grand scale for a round of festivities such as have been seldom witnessed here. Admiral Prince Louis with his staff landed about 6 o'clock and drove to the Governor-General's quarters to make his official visit to His Excellency Lord Grey, and returned to the ship about 7 o'clock. This morning Lord Grey returned the visit on board the admiral's flagship.

Kaien Island Not Terminus

Toronto, Aug. 12.—W. Wainwright, general assistant and comptroller of the Grand Trunk railway, was in the city yesterday, and said that the story that Kaien island had been chosen as the Pacific terminus of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway was all bosh; that the 10,000 acres on which the railway had an option had nothing to do with the terminus.

Mrs. Ham Dead

Montreal, Aug. 12.—Mrs. Ham, wife of George H. Ham, of the C. P. R. advertising department, died this morning.

More than 3,000 immigrants passed through the Windsor station of the C. P. R. this week, breaking all records.

Sawmills Burn

Fredericton, N. B., Aug. 12.—The Aberdeen sawmills, with all the machinery and buildings connected therewith and 10,000,000 feet of lumber, were destroyed by fire last night. The loss is between $150,000 and $200,000, with insurance of $60,000.

Death of Mrs. Mullholland

Nelson, Aug. 12.—Mrs. R. Mullholland, of Toronto, died at the Strathcona hotel this morning from an attack of spinal meningitis. The remains will leave in the morning for the East. The deceased lady, with her husband, her daughter, Mrs. A. E. Curren, of Toronto, and a friend, Mrs. H. F. Sharp, also of Toronto, was returning home from a trip to the Pacific Coast, including the Portland fair. She was taken ill at Arrowhead last Wednesday and brought here for treatment.

Forest fires continue to rage all around this section, and this city is covered by a pall of smoke, blotting out the scenery and increasing the discomfort caused by a prolonged hot spell. Unless rain falls shortly, the fire area will spread considerably.

HOBOKEN DIAMOND HUNT.

New York, Aug. 12.—A diamond hunt is going on in the ruins of the Lackawanna railroad terminal at Hoboken. There was a vast quantity of baggage in the building at the time of the fire, and none of it was saved. Among other things consumed was a trunk said to have contained $15,000 worth of diamonds owned by a wealthy woman.

SIR WILFRID THEN AND NOW.

Woodstock Express.

If salaries were paid to our representatives in parliament in proportion to the services rendered, the leader of the opposition would often be entitled to more than even the first minister. It is often the leader of the opposition who maintains the best traditions of government and keeps the interests of the people to the front. Sir Wilfrid Laurier as leader of the opposition, stood for what was best in the public life of Canada—for efficiency of administration, economy and honesty in the public expenditure, purity in the public life, progress in policy and methods, reform of old abuses and equal privileges for all. Sir Wilfrid Laurier as the head of the government, with a powerful majority at his back, stands for lavish expenditure, for grafting contracts, for special class privileges, for the repudiation of provincial rights and the perpetuation of time-worn institutions and methods.

Education of Deaf and Dumb

Principal of Government School Tells of Work Carried on at Winnipeg.

System by Which Mutes are Instructed—British Columbians Among Pupils.

D. W. McDermid, principal of the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb of Winnipeg, a government institution in which not only the deaf and dumb children of Manitoba, but also those of the Northwest Territories and British Columbia are taught, is in the city. Yesterday he visited the parents of four Victoria children, who are taught at the institute, one of whom has made remarkable progress, and on graduation has been given the post of supervisor of the girls. This young lady, Miss Olive Jenkins, is one of the most talented of the 85 pupils in the institution. Her name, as well as of another Victorian, Master George Riley, son of Capt. Riley of the government tug Earle, is on the honor list, and the Misses Bella and Jennie Campbell of Victoria are also among the pupils ranking high in the classes. There were fourteen in all from British Columbia, four from Victoria, and one, Miss Hillier, from Nanaimo.

Yesterday in an interview given to a Colonist reporter, Mr. McDermid said that seven years ago he arranged with Mr. Robinson, superintendent of education in British Columbia, to have all

British Columbia Children

who were deaf or dumb sent to the institution. Since then fourteen were sent, but two of whom have completed the course. Some have dropped out, being unable to complete the course of instruction. Nine remain, four from Victoria and one from Nanaimo.

"My desire is," said Mr. McDermid, "that something should be known of the institution and its work throughout the country, for there must be many deaf mutes throughout the country who would be glad to take advantage of its opportunities. The government pays for the tuition, board, lodging and clothing of the pupils, as does the province of Manitoba for those hailing from the Prairie Province. There are about fifty pupils from Manitoba and twenty-five from the Northwest Territories.

"It is very important that children should be sent to the institution at a proper age. The receptive age is between seven and ten years of age. If children do not enter the institution when between those ages they are handicapped in receiving instruction afterward. The reason why some of the children sent from British Columbia did not finish the course was because they had been sent too late in life to take the full course. The age limit of pupils in Manitoba is from 7 to 24 years of age, but pupils are taken at any time if it is thought any good can be accomplished whatever their age.

"The Education of Pupils

consists of a common school course, including all subjects taught at the public schools, and apart from this each pupil is given an opportunity to take up a trade, such as printing, carpentry, engraving, dress-making, fancy work, etc. At the same time every girl is expected to take a course in house work.

"The institution prints its own organ, a splendidly printed periodical called The Silent Echo, which has letter-press such as would honor a first-class magazine and fine engravings—some in four colors—which would grace any publication, all being the work of pupils of the institution.

"It is because one hears that "one can speak" said Mr. McDermid, "that people were without his hearing he would be unable to speak, for the vocal organs of the deaf child are usually in good order. He had seldom heard of a deaf person regaining his hearing. In this he has had experience there were but two cases. The time is coming when it will be necessary to have an institution in this province, but until that time arrives it is perhaps better that the present arrangement be continued. A local school would, of course, not have such good facilities as the larger school is able to provide, and the per capita expense would, moreover, be double what it is at the present time.

"As regards the

Methods of the Institution,"

Mr. McDermid went on, "there is what is known as the combined or electric system. The finger alphabet is used as well as the sign language. Also the oral method of instruction, and auricular—that is, where children have a degree of hearing, it is developed. By these methods the deaf can be taught to speak intelligible sounds. This is done by showing them the position the vocal organs must be in to produce certain sounds, first letters, then syllables and later words. It is true deaf persons do not learn to speak in a natural tone, but when taught to articulate can be readily understood. The fact that they have no hearing makes it impossible for them to modulate, and when they have been taught to articulate, they do so in a monotone."

The institution at Winnipeg is a large structure, which cost the Manitoba government $75,000. It has at present 85 pupils. The buildings are equipped with all modern conveniences, in fact, the institution is most modern in every respect. There are seven such institutions in Canada, the largest being that at Belleville, Ontario, which has 250 pupils.

Mr. McDermid will be at the Driard hotel this morning between 9 and 10 o'clock to give any information regarding the institution of which he is principal to anyone who is desirous of obtaining it.

EDMONTON HAS BRIGHT PROSPECTS

Metropolis of the Far West May Be a Formidable Rival of Winnipeg.

Mr. J. St. Clair Blackett, formerly of Victoria and now one of Edmonton's representative business men, was seen by a Winnipeg Free Press reporter, and expressed the greatest surprise at the rapid growth of Winnipeg since his last visit some years ago. He is unstinted in his praise of the pluck and energy displayed by the business people of Winnipeg, of the magnificent city they have built, its great present importance and wonderful future possibilities.

The bustle and energy in evidence everywhere, he thinks, is more characteristic of the large American business centres than of our Canadian cities.

Asked by the reporter in regard to Edmonton and its future, Mr. Blackett said he considered it behind Winnipeg as yet in commercial importance, but with a promise to rival it in all but population in the course of a very few years. It occupies an ideal site on the north bank of the Saskatchewan river, and as a natural townsite is surpassed by few cities in Canada. It is today the distributing centre for thousands of square miles of agricultural territory; it supplies that vast territory stretching into the great lone land to the Arctic Circle; it is the fur emporium of the whole Northwest country, and the objective point of three transcontinental railways and possibly a fourth. The Canadian Northern Railway are building with all possible despatch, and expect to be running through trains to Edmonton by October or November next. With the rapid development following railway construction and operation, Mr. Blackett expects to see the growth of Winnipeg repeated again in Edmonton. What Edmonton needs today is capital for the development of the diversified natural resources tributary to the city, as local capital is so largely invested in real estate and business enterprises that but little can be spared for this purpose, still considerable is being accomplished. A local company is at present drilling for the natural gas believed to flow beneath the city. This has cost a large amount of money up to the present, but the stockholders express themselves as well satisfied with the results and prospects so far attained, and hope to strike a large flow of gas at any time.

"The asphaltum oil oozing from the ground near Egg lake," said Mr. Blackett, "about 25 miles northeast of Edmonton, was long a source of curiosity to the old-timers. Coming to the notice of a California oil expert, he gave it careful investigation, and fully believes he has discovered a field which gives promise of rivalling in importance the great oil fields of California. The Edmonton Oil Company is at present drilling on this field, and I notice in your issue of yesterday that they had struck a flow of gas in their well, and expected to strike oil at any time. The development of the oil industry will be of the greatest importance to Alberta generally and Edmonton in particular; old as an economical and perfect fuel for railways and manufacturing plants is unequalled today among the fuel products of the world, as instanced in the extensive use to which it has been put as a fuel in the state of California."

Asked as to his opinion in regard to Edmonton real estate, Mr. Blackett said he considered it a gilt-edged investment. While it is considered high-priced by many people who do not understand the conditions, it is not so in the light of the prospects ahead. While the present owners have discounted the future values to some extent, on the whole they are not far astray, and in his opinion desirable business property in Edmonton will be much dearer before it is any cheaper.

A Rush on For More Trap Sites

Canners Have Surveying Parties on West Coast of the Island.

Fishing Warden Howard Is to Strictly Enforce the Close Season.

A gentleman prominently identified with the fish trap operations, who was interviewed by a Colonist reporter yesterday evening, made the statement that a rush for additional trap sites is now in progress amongst the principal canners interested on the West Coast of the Island. He said:

"Quite a boom in the trap site business has developed during the last few days. Messrs. Bell-Irving and others have surveyors busily engaged in surveying trap sites along the coast west of the present location. There is in fact quite a stampede to secure advantageous positions. Dennis Harris is down there with a party and Thos. Gore is also in the field with his party, and the competition is pretty keen.

"The new fishery warden, Mr. Howard, of Esquimalt, paid an official visit to all the traps today. He issued instructions to those in charge of the traps that he intended enforcing the weekly close season, commencing at 6 o'clock on Friday morning, until 6 a.m. Sunday. Mr. Howard will remain on the fishing ground during the season to see that the provisions of the fishery act are duly carried into effect.

"Messrs. Todd & Munsie lifted 1,500 salmon from their traps today, and a full new load of which will be taken to their cannery at Esquimalt. It is understood that this firm will complete their tin-filling of 30,000 cases by Saturday; after this the fish will be towed to their canneries at the Fraser river.

"Messrs. Findlay, Durham & Brodie lifted a scowload of 12,000 fish this morning. These were sent over in tow on the tug Kildonan to their cannery on the Fraser.

The B. C. Packers' Association despatched the steamer Selkirk to their Fraser river canneries with 10,000 fish from their trap at Sooke.

"Messrs. Bell-Irving did not lift today, but their traps contained quite a quantity of fish.

"The Capital City Canning Company intend lifting tomorrow. They estimate some 20,000 fish in their two traps.

"The B. C. Packing Company claim to have raised six varieties of salmon from their traps today, not to mention fine big, lively porpoise.

"Splendid sport is being secured by sportsmen with rod and line, the salmon are taking the spoon or any artificial with avidity, and individual fishermen are taking from ten to forty-two fish per boat. The forty-two were caught with a spoon bait in two hours.

"This run of salmon continues until late in October, and should afford one of the greatest attractions to sportsmen from Victoria. It is a matter of surprise that this magnificent source of amusement, which, moreover, would attract the right sort of people if properly made known, is not taken up more by the Tourist Association and the dealers in sporting gear in Victoria. If proper attention were devoted to the matter it would result in material profit to those interested, in addition to forming an attraction to the place of a nature upon which the reputation of others famous holiday resorts has been entirely based with success."

THE BOSS FISH STORY OF 1905.

Ottawa Citizen.

A genius up at the Balena whale fisheries has, according to veracious reports, succeeded in domesticating the cow whale. The whales are not exactly household pets, but according to Prof. Muller, their owner, they are very useful. Fifty of the whales come daily to a little inlet and are milked, each of them giving five to seven hogsheads a day of milk. When the adventurous Prof. Muller began to experiment with cow whales he found great difficulty in persuading them to keep still while being milked. The whales could not understand the process. But they like good things to eat, particularly sweets. They were lured, a few at a time, into an inlet, where they were taught that no milk meant no food. And they submitted. They now stand without hitching and have never been known to put a foot in the pail when stamping to keep off flies.

UP TO HIM.

"I have heard," stammered her timid admirer, "that you are engaged. Is it—er—true?"

"I'm not engaged yet," replied the fair girl," but I hope to be soon."

"Er—how soon?" he asked.

"In a few minutes," she replied with shining eyes.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Nicola is feeling the effects already of the construction of the railway from Spence's Bridge to that point by the C.P.R. The Bank of Montreal is established there and is putting up a building constructed by the Royal City Planing Mills at Vancouver of a type known as knock-down buildings. Mr. Gamble proceeded thence to Kamloops through the cattle and hay country, where everything was looking flourishing, there concluding a lengthy and exhaustive tour he returned via Vancouver to Victoria.

Wash greasy dishes, pots or pans with Lever's Dry Soap a powder. It will remove the grease with the greatest ease. 36

Winnipeg Man Talks of Victoria

Charmed With City and Prospects for Vancouver Island Development.

Predicts This Will be Great Residential City of the Pacific Coast.

A recent issue of the Winnipeg Telegram had the following interesting article: "H. S. Crotty, senior member of the firm of Crotty, Love & Co., has returned to Winnipeg after an absence of 17 months. Mr. Crotty, in company with Mrs. Crotty, has spent his time in British Columbia and in Southern California. They went first to the coast, where some time was spent in Victoria and Vancouver, proceeding then to Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, where the past winter was spent. In the early spring they returned to Victoria, B. C., where Mrs. Crotty now is awaiting Mr. Crotty's return.

"In speaking of California as a place for the average man to live he said that it was no poor man's country. A man needs money to start there and among the fruitgrowers, the man without capital has little chance. He cited instances where fruit farmers after all expenses had been paid had only come out even, and in some cases they lost money. This is caused by heavy losses in shipment and through the dishonesty of dealers where the quality of the fruit upon reaching its destination was misrepresented. Mr. Crotty visited California with the express purpose of ascertaining whether or not the climate and general conditions were more suitable for residence than British Columbia, and after a prolonged stay in both places he decided in favor of Victoria, B. C.

British Columbia Better

"To anyone who wishes to find an equitable climate, healthy and invigorating, Mr. Crotty recommended British Columbia. The weather is free from the extremes of temperature and the sudden changes that prevail in Manitoba, while the winter months bring sufficient frost to add a sharpness to the air that is invigorating and refreshing. Mr. Crotty has come back full of enthusiasm over the prospects there. He looks forward to Victoria becoming the great residential city of the coast. The Canadian Pacific railway is constructing a $500,000 hotel that will be the best on the coast. The company is improving the docks and wharves, and before the works have been completed it will have spent $1,000,000. The coast cities afford splendid opportunities for profitable investment. They have been so far rather slow going, but the change has come and the remarkable advances in realty values that have been made in Winnipeg during the past few years will be enjoyed by those who invest there. At the present time capital is in greater demand than labor. The fisheries, mines and forests of Vancouver Island are awaiting development, and fortunes are in store for those who step in and develop the natural resources of this rich island.

"Speaking of the fruit business Mr. Crotty pointed out that but small capital is required to start. The best of land can be secured near Victoria for $50 to $100 per acre, and a ready market can be found for all that can be produced. The city council of Victoria is carrying on some important improvements. The streets are being improved, sidewalks laid and boulevards and parks laid out. The whole surroundings of the city is one natural park, and comparatively little expense is required to make it beautiful. Beacon Hill park is a lovely place, and on the Gorge, an arm of the Pacific, a splendid park is now being laid out. Mr. Palmer, the provincial fruit inspector, who was in charge of the British Columbia exhibit at the Winnipeg exhibition, has a splendid orchard grove, and his example, in taking advantage of the opportunities nature has afforded, has led many others to plant orchards and grow fruit.

"The natural richness of the soil, the splendid resources and the desirable climate leads Mr. Crotty to predict that British Columbia will soon be the richest province of the Dominion. It was noticed in traveling through the West toward Winnipeg that the crops looked exceedingly well. The wheat is turning a golden hue under the warm summer sun, and the farmers are looking forward to the best crop in the history of the West. Mr. Crotty will remain for a visit in the city and then return to Victoria."

MADE A TOUR OF THE INTERIOR

F. C. Gamble Speaks of Promising Conditions in Upper Country.

F. C. Gamble, C.E., of the public works department of the provincial government, has just returned from a tour of the interior. From Ashcroft he proceeded to Enderby, Vernon, Penticton, Fairview, Rock creek, Hedley, Princeton, Nicola lake and Kamloops.

Crops are looking extremely good, the cattle are also in good condition. Enderby is enjoying great prosperity and has the newly acquired importance of being raised to a municipality. In the vicinity of Vernon also crops are very good. There are said to be 700 acres under fall wheat, which promises a large return. Everything looks extremely well up the White valley towards Lumley; Kelowna also shows signs of increasing prosperity. At Peachlands on the other side of the lake the peach crops are splendid and the people of the district are much encouraged, one man having realized $500 for his crop. There are great prospects of activity at Penticton, where the lime company are opening up work and irrigation works are in prospect under the auspices of the South Okanagan Lands Company, on Mr. Thomas Ellis' estate.

At the present moment things at Fairview are very dull, all the mines having shut down, and people are looking forward to the coming of the lime company, which is expected to give an impetus to the business of the vicinity soon. The country between Hedley and Rock creek is showing every sign of increased prosperity, crops are being grown at an elevation which a few years ago was thought impossible.

The V., V. & E. railway are preparing to extend the line from Midway to Myer's creek; thence up the creek to Rock creek, recrossing to the south of the boundary a little east of Sidley.

At Cahremens a large irrigation scheme is under way by W. H. Armstrong, whereby a large area of valuable land will be brought under cultivation.

Further up the Similkameen river at Hedley the Daley reduction works, under M. R. Rogers, are in full operation. At Princeton there is little going on except on Copper mountain, where a great deal of development work is being undertaken.

At