

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

Prospects for Nanaimo Trade More Favorable—Sudden Death of a Prominent Merchant.

Annual Report of Westminster's Finance Committee—Mining in East Kootenay.

(Special to the Colonist.)

VANCOUVER, March 31.—M. H. Herschberg, a prominent citizen of Vancouver, died suddenly last night from the rupture of a blood vessel. The deceased was a member of the A. F. and A. M. and A. O. U. W.

A communication has been received from Lady Aberdeen by the local council of women respecting the preliminary work to be performed at the meeting of the national council of women to be held in Montreal on May 10.

VANCOUVER, April 1.—The Nationalists were addressed last night by Mr. Howell on "Proportional Representation."

At the Mock Dominion Parliament of the Burrard Literary Club last night a motion asking for Canadian independence was overwhelmingly defeated.

The funeral of Mrs. M. H. Herschberg on Wednesday will be in charge of Cascade Lodge A.F. and A.M.

There was a certain amount of excitement in some circles yesterday over the announcement that Horace G. Robinson, son of Mr. Robinson, the Vancouver tailor, had eloped with and married Miss Nina Maud Smith, the daughter of a millionaire mining man, who could not be considered a fortune teller.

There were seventy-five cases in the police court during March.

The vital statistics for March are as follows: Fifteen deaths, nineteen births, and eleven marriages.

WESTMINSTER, March 31.—The annual report of the finance committee of the city council announced continued financial depression, excellent crops, but with decreased prices and exceptionally large Fraser river fishing returns.

D. R. Young, of Ainsworth, while inspecting a mine of which he is manager, was struck by a boiler, his ankle being dislocated.

Charles Fiolliott has retired from the management of the Kaslo and Siccan railway. W. H. McGraw has also severed his connection with the company.

WESTMINSTER, April 1.—Work on the co-operative cannery building will be commenced immediately.

There is an unusual amount of illness in the city, chiefly neuralgia and bronchial affection due to the changeable weather.

NANAIMO, March 31.—Prospects appear to be extremely favorable for the coal trade and the indications are that within the city it will soon show a marked improvement.

Speculators in this city are satisfied that the Alberta mine will prove a profitable investment and inconsequence shares have risen.

At a recent meeting of school trustees it was decided to open the new school building after Easter Monday.

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The inland revenue receipts for March are: Spirits, \$222.51; malt, \$83.82; cigars, \$135; total, \$441.33.

The vital statistics for March are: Twenty-six births, four deaths and four marriages.

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A coroner's inquest was held on the body of Mah Sue on Tuesday evening, when the jury returned a verdict that deceased met his death by drowning.

Captain Olive Phillips Wolley and F. McQuillan were among the latest arrivals from Alberni. Captain Wolley has been inspecting his claims on Granite creek.

Mr. McQuillan states that the Duke of York claim will be in readiness for hydraulic by May 1.

Two large parties are preparing to leave for Cook's Inlet in the course of the next fortnight. Messrs. M. Ferguson and Charles Manson, the owners of the schooner Gehopper, now lying in the straits, are organizing one, and J. McLeod of the sloop Boss the other.

George Davison, D. Ord, J. Miles and Messrs. Ferguson and Manson, while Messrs. Ferguson and Manson, among those who will take passage in the Boss.

REVELSTOKE (From the Kootenay Mail.) John McSorley has been killed while working on the C.P.R. bridge across the Columbia by a broken casting falling upon him.

The weather for the last ten days was warm and summerlike. The mouth of the river is quite clear, but the North-east Arm is still covered over but is fast melting. Several attempts were made to reach Thomson's Landing, keeping on this side of the Arm, but they had to be abandoned on account of the rotten state of the ice.

John Sweeney, foreman; Peter Levesque and J. McCreary, of the Consolidation mine on French creek, Big Bend, who

are down on a holiday, express themselves as well satisfied with their property. The output for the past four months amounted to \$4,000, with four men working. Nuggets worth from \$5 to \$20 are comparatively common, but Sweeney brought down two like of which are not picked up every day; one goes just an even \$50 while the other weighs a few cents over \$43.

FORT STEELE. (From the Fort Steele Prospector.) Some very rich quartz for shipment to Spokane was brought in from the Lilly May claim during the past week.

It is the intention of the owners of the Gold Hill property to develop the mine during the coming spring. This is a low grade proposition, with a mountain of quartz in sight.

Ore has been struck in the lower tunnel of the St. Eugene. There are reported to be 3,000 and 3,500 tons on the dump. The lead in the first drift is 7 feet in width.

Negotiations are pending for the purchase, by a strong syndicate from the United States, of all the claims on the North Star not owned by the Mann company.

A large amount of ore has been taken out of the North Star, one of the largest silver lead properties on the continent, during the winter. There are 2,400 tons at the company's landing on the Kootenay river ready for shipment, some 800 tons at McGinty, and nearly 3,000 tons at the dump. Last week another strike of the rich wire silver was made in another drift separate from where the former discovery was made. There is a strip in the roof of the drift some 15 feet in length with lead crystals and wire silver. Parties who have seen them say it is a beautiful sight, the crystals hanging from the roof and sparkling with wire silver.

NELSON. (From the Nelson Tribune.) The owners of the Reo mine in Slokan district, recently divided \$30,000 among themselves as profits from ore shipped.

W. F. McCulloch, assayer and mine buyer, arrived from Victoria on Monday, to conclude a deal for a gold property in which he is interested near Nelson.

Water is beginning to interfere with work at some of the Kaslo mines, and miners are being laid off in consequence.

The Silver King mine, 4 1/2 miles south of Nelson, is easily British Columbia's greatest precious metal mine, judging from its output. Last week the shipments of matte from the smelter at Nelson aggregated 213,665 pounds, of the value of \$26,045 according to the entries made at the custom house.

Porter Brothers and Pat Welch, who have a bond on the Black Fox and Daisy, on the south fork of Kaslo creek, report that on Thursday last the main lead was struck in the tunnel at a depth of 329 feet from the mouth. There is also a thickness of rich ore seven inches in thickness.

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Nelson has been made the head office for all the Canadian Pacific branch lines in Kootenay, so as to more readily effect settlements between the railway company and the Columbia & Kootenay Steam Navigation Company.

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HAMMOND AT LIBERTY.

The American Engineer Released on Heavy Bail—Britain's Message to Kruger.

Hon. Cecil Rhodes on the Future of South Africa—An All Night Debate.

LONDON, March 30.—The Times will publish a despatch from Pretoria tomorrow, which says that John Hayes Hammond, the American under trial there, has obtained leave to go to Cape Town on account of his health, but his bail has been increased to £20,000.

"The other reform prisoners," says the despatch, "are under guard here. The British government has intimated that it will hold President Kruger and the House of Commons to-day. It announced a despatch from Cape Town, also to the Times, further announcing that Mr. Hammond has arrived there.

LONDON, March 31.—A Cape Town dispatch to the Times says: "Hon. Cecil Rhodes, in the course of a speech delivered at Umali, said he appreciated the difficulties that settlers had to face, but he knew that things would come right in twenty-five years. The company in times past, he said, being pressed for money, had granted concessions, but no more would be granted. He did not think his residence in Rhodesia would be a temporary one."

LONDON, March 30.—Dr. J. E. Kenny, Parnellite member for College Green, Dublin, will retire from parliament. The Parnellites have selected to succeed him J. L. Carey, ex-member for Kildare. In the late general election Kenny was returned unopposed.

LONDON, March 30.—To-night was a night of obstruction in the House of Commons. T. Gibson Bowles (Con.), from Kings Lynn, moved that it was the duty of the government to fulfil its treaty obligations in Turkey. Right Hon. J. H. Chamberlain thereupon attacked the dealings of Sir Philip Currie, British Ambassador in Turkey, with the Sultan. There was a long debate on Mr. Bowles's motion and it was voted down. Mr. Labourers at 3 o'clock in the morning attacked the proposed Nile expedition, and Mr. Balfour replied at length. The discussion was prolonged to 4:30 a.m., when the house adjourned.

THE GARROTE. HAVANA, March 31.—Five Cubans, classed as "murderers, violators and incendiaries," belonging to Cavajabo, had been sentenced to be garrotted at 7 o'clock this morning. A strong force of infantry was drawn up around the spot where the garrote had been erected. The executioner, Valentine Ruiz, acted upon this occasion as assistant to his own assistant, the first man was placed in the chair the acting executioner nervously twisted the handle behind that part of the post opposite the neck of the prisoner and the corresponding part of the iron collar. He was terribly nervous and his hands slipped repeatedly from the lever. There were horrible smothered choking cries from the scaffold, and it was only after a long period of agony that the Cuban was pronounced dead.

The second victim was led up to the scaffold by the priest and the assistant executioner. He made an effort to say something but the executioner's hand covered his mouth and he was hastily bundled into the chair. In another moment the iron collar was around his neck, the cap was over his head and the first turn of the lever had been given. The executioner was nervous at the first killing, he was ten times more so now. The result was a more slow, fearful strangulation, and another horrible extirpation of the spectators. By this time the prison officials, the priests and the officers in command of the troops denounced the action of the executioner and called upon him to let another man take his place. Thereupon the acting executioner feverishly called upon the executioner-in-chief, Valentine Ruiz, who is looked upon as being the greatest expert in the line of business to come and do the deed. Ruiz, however, almost as nervous and excited as his assistant, succeeded in accomplishing the execution with less horror than his assistant. The fourth Cuban was then turned over to Ruiz, who was shaking all over, and stumbling away from the death-post, insisted in choking tones that his assistant must finish the day's work. Consequently Ruiz was then again tried his hand, but was as unskilful as before, for there was another scene of horror, which nearly caused strong men to faint before the Cuban's life was pronounced extinct.

WINNIPEG, March 31.—[Special.] Hannah Hutton, unmarried, aged 23 years, was murdered half a mile from Holland on her way home about 10 o'clock last night. Her throat was cut and there were marks of blows upon her head. The ground was clear of snow and was frozen hard. There is no evidence of a struggle beyond the fact that her cape, mittens and rubbers were scattered about. There is no clue to the murderer. A post mortem examination has not yet been made.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria. When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria. When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria. When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

HAMILTON, March 30.—Instructions have been received from the Attorney-General's department to exhume the body of Ollie Reichart to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock. It will be taken to the morgue, where Dr. White will hold a post mortem examination preparatory to an inquest.

SERIOUS FOR SETTLERS.

Movements of the Matabeles Most Serious for the White People.

Natives Well Supplied With Arms Which Are Needed by the Other Side.

LONDON, March 31.—It is reported that the British Chartered South African company is seriously alarmed at events in South Africa, and has made strong representations to the British government, showing that it is absolutely necessary that a large force be immediately dispatched to the relief of Bulawayo and pointing out the difficulties that have arisen in the way of the company being able to do so at present.

The company was authorized to raise an additional force of 500 men in South Africa and further to send two additional battalions of British regular troops will be immediately sent to South Africa.

The Leeds Mercury says the government will shortly issue orders for two fresh battalions of troops to proceed to South Africa.

CAPE TOWN, March 31.—It is difficult to obtain accurate information regarding the progress of the rebellion of the natives of Matabeleland. The authorities are withholding all information possible as there is no doubt it would be made use of by the enemies of British rule in South Africa. The situation becomes darker every day and a very strong force of men will be necessary to restore order.

Additional advice received here from Bulawayo show that the work of placing the town in a state of defence has been completed as far as means at hand will permit. But the lack of arms and ammunition with which to supply the many settlers who have gathered from the outlying districts since the uprising commences, the men in many cases have made their own arms and ammunition, and the stock of ammunition procurable for them is small. Consequently it has been found desirable to replace these rifles as far as possible with Martini-Heads rifles served out to the police, the stock of ammunition for the latter being fairly adequate. But the number of Martini-Heads rifles available is small now.

Nearly every good rifle procurable was gathered up and smuggled into the interior previous to the Jameson raid. The authorities here are feeling the effects of this policy of weakening the defenses in different parts of British South Africa. Until arms and a supply of ammunition arrive from England the British will be almost helpless, and the combined uprising on the part of the Boers and natives who cannot be bribed into healthy might be very disastrous.

Matabeles, Selous and Napier at Bulawayo have done everything possible under the circumstances, and as a result of good scouting work they are keeping "quiet" in the area of their operations, they are doing their utmost to conceal the weakness of the position of the British, while anxiously awaiting supplies of arms and ammunition necessary, but these supplies are not second in such a quantity. Thousands of stands of arms, which were believed to be at the disposal of the British Chartered Company's officials, seem mysteriously to have disappeared. The whereabouts of these arms is in the hands of the Boers. This time must elapse before arms and ammunition can reach here from England, and in the meanwhile the situation must necessarily grow more grave.

The agent of the Chartered Company has been authorized to raise an additional force of five hundred men, but, though the men are available, arms, ammunition and horses are wanting. The whole country, outside of a radius of twelve miles around Bulawayo, is in a state of anarchy, and the Matabeles and other natives are flocking to Motopo hills, where the son of the late King Lobengula is said to have been raised to his father's rank with much ceremony preparatory to taking command of the army of natives flocking from the hills from all parts. The vicinity of Bulawayo is kept clear of rebels by white scouts, but it is believed that a force of being kept in full information of all that is going on, and nobody doubts the root of the trouble is at Pretoria and Berlin, which are kept well informed regarding the progress of the uprising.

Advices from the Transvaal show that the work of preparing for war is being continued there night and day. Gangs of men relieve each other at intervals in the work upon the forts designed to protect Pretoria, the plates for which have been furnished by the Creusot Works and the guns by the Krupp firm in Germany. Drilling artillerymen under German officers goes on openly every day. There is no longer any concealment in the preparations being made. A foreign legion, composed almost entirely of Germans, who have recently entered the country, has been organized, and this force will be mostly infantry and artillery, the Boers being relied upon to furnish all the cavalry necessary. The general opinion expressed here is that the British government greatly under-estimate the serious state of affairs which prevails here. This seems to be especially the case with the British government, which is not only intentionally or unintentionally misled by the Chartered Company's officials or by others. In this connection it is reported that Sir Hercules Robinson, governor of the Colony, seeing the approach of the cloud, was desirous of resigning before the storm breaks, and there are other officials who, rumor has it, would like to do the same. In a short, British presence in South Africa has been rudely shaken, and the shaking, under encouragement from Germany, is still going on and most energetic steps will likely be necessary to enable Great Britain to

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Trade With West Coast and Northern Points Improving—Phenomenal Number of Births.

Except for the Alaska rush, in which unfortunately this city has not shared as it was expected to have done and the West Coast trade which is increasing satisfactorily as spring advances, the shipping for March showed no particular activity. The little extra amount, which it possessed seemed most apparent in the Northern trade which promises to be much larger than ever before. The cotton business is what is beginning to cause considerable stir, and this is not confined to the Mainland this year, but its development includes the coast of Vancouver island, existing facilities having been almost inadequate to the amount of freight which was being forwarded to West Coast points. The entries and clearances at this port during the month of March were: Entries—deep sea, 92; coastwise, 117. Clearances—deep sea, 103; coastwise, 118.

The month of March in police court circles was very quiet, there having been even less business than was done in the previous month. The city-lock-up register has recorded for March 1 case of aggravated assault, 8 of assault, 4 of unlawful mind, 8 of stealing, 3 of malicious injury to property, 10 of drunkenness, 2 of safekeeping, 1 of creating a disturbance, 2 of using obscene language, 1 of infraction of PostOffice Act, 1 of infraction of public morals by-law, 3 of infraction of revenue by-law, 1 of arson, 2 of perjury, and 1 of refusing to pay wages, making a total of 49 cases.

Forty-two is the almost phenomenal number of births which has been recorded during the month of March. During the same time only 17 marriages and 20 deaths were registered.

For the first quarter of the year the losses by fire in this city total in the neighborhood of \$905, which is mostly covered by insurance. During March the following alarms and fires have been recorded: Sunday, March 7, 2:45 p.m.—Box 41; chimney fire; no loss. Monday, March 2, 3 p.m.—Still alarm; fire at one-story frame residence, 44 Herald street; cause defective fire place; loss \$10. Saturday, March 7, 7:20 p.m.—Box 31; drill. Sunday, March 8, 7:20 p.m.—Box 23; false alarm. Wednesday, March 11, 8 p.m.—Still alarm; rubbish burning in ash pit; no loss. Saturday, March 14, 11:10 p.m.—Box 71; fire at one-story frame building, View street; cause incendiary; loss \$20. Thursday, March 26, 1:15 p.m.—Fire at one-story frame building, 32 Store street; cause unknown; loss \$10. Fire and alarms, 10 losses, \$29.

A good criterion of the steady progress of business is found in the customs returns, which for the past month show a very marked improvement on the month of March, 1895. The revenue then totalled \$38,759.16—\$37,603.09 being the amount of duties collected, and \$1,156.07 other revenues. The value of the imports was \$151,862; \$50,907 worth of free goods, and \$100,955 representing the value of articles subject to duty. The exports for that month were valued at \$61,652—\$58,537 for Canadian goods and \$3,115 for goods not produced in the Dominion. For the past month the imports dutiable amounted to \$222,311; and the imports free to \$299,458; making a total of \$521,769. The duty collected was \$35,411, which, together with the other revenues amounting to \$3,378.82, made a total of \$66,115.23. On the other hand, the exports produce of Canada amounted to \$27,873, and those not the produce of Canada, \$9,224, making a total of \$37,197.

THE RESULT GENERALLY REGRETTED—Progress Made With the Remedial Bill.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, March 31.—From Sir Charles Tupper's statement in the house, confirmed by private telegrams from Winnipeg, it is evident that the Dominion commissioners and provincial authorities have failed to come to terms. It is alleged that the province was willing to meet the views of the minority in regard to the question of religious teaching, etc., in the schools as far as it was possible to do so without granting purely separate schools. In this regard there was every prospect of a satisfactory settlement, but the province would not agree to this on condition that the remedial legislation at Ottawa should be withdrawn. To this the Dominion commissioners could not agree and consequently there was a deadlock. It is said that the commissioners will leave for Ottawa to-morrow. Great regret is expressed here at the apparent failure of the negotiations.

It is stated that Sir Charles Tupper received a telegram from Winnipeg to-night from one of the federal commissioners to the effect that the two sides were too far apart and urging that the remedial bill be pressed.

Two clauses of the remedial bill were passed, when Mr. Dupont moved that the third be struck out because it gave full control of separate schools to the board of education. This clause was finally passed, and the House adjourned at four o'clock.

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Hon. E. G. Pease and Mr. Earle have been successful in securing an order by the government allowing a refund on the cotton lines entering into the manufacture of fishing nets. This will be a great concession to the manufacturers engaged in this industry in British Columbia.

An interesting discussion took place on the motion of Mr. Mara relating to the improvement of the navigation of the Duncan and Lardo rivers. Mr. Mara pointed out the importance of this work being done, in order to assist mining development. Hon. Mr. Outimet assured the members that his representations would be attended to.

Mr. Martin got off some of his irritated remarks, but was promptly squelched by Mr. Mara and Hon. Mr. Day.

The military men were the offer of the New Brunswick Hussars for service in the Sudan. While appreciating the patriotic motives inspiring it, it is felt that it would be inconsistent with the government's intention to increase the defenses of Canada to allow one of the best corps to leave the country. Col. Donville has had offers of service from all parts of Canada.

The government proposes to allow net fishing for salmon in the non-tidal waters of New Brunswick.

Important regulations have been promulgated regarding the mobilizing of Canadian forces in time of war.

Sir Charles Tupper informed Mr. Ingram that no legislation to prevent the sweating system would be established this session.

The government does not intend to impose an export duty on pulp wood.

THEY WILL AMUSE THE CHILDREN

Handsome Dolls With Change of Dresses.

We have secured a new and very taking novelty known as the Diamond Dye Dolls. These are made of bright, colorful, and handsome dresses and will prove a great attraction for the little ones.

A set of Six Dolls with Six Extra Dresses will be mailed to you on receipt of four cents in stamps. Thousands are going to all parts of the Dominion, giving universal satisfaction to all who receive them.

Users of Diamond Dye will please bear in mind that it will be to their advantage to examine the package of dye that they buy, as worthless imitations are now being sold. See that the name "Diamond" is on each package. Wells & Richardson Co., 200 Mountain Street, Montreal.

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