Local News

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

Legal Business.—Mr. Justice Martin presided in chambers yesterday and dealt with several applications as follows: In Hale vs. Atlin & Willow Creek Company, statement of claim amended; Breen vs. Chaplin et alia., motion to dismiss action stood over until the 14th inst.; estate of H. B. W. Aikman, deceased, letters of administration with will annexed granted to the three children.

Branch at Kelowna.—The Kelowna Clarion, in its issue of November 3rd, referring to the opening of a branch of the Bank of Montreal at that point, says: "The opening of a branch of the Bank of Montreal in Kelowna, which took place on Tuesday, marks another step in the progress of our town. The inconvenience experienced in having to do all banking business at a distance has been a great annoyance to everybody in this locality. The system in vogue of paying by check has often left the place with comparatively little cash. This evil is, however, permanently removed by the establishment of the bank, and the improvement will be welcomed by all. The Bank of Montreal does the greatest business of any bank in America, and its methods are much approved. The establishment of a branch here will doubtless assist materially in the upbuilding of the place."

Fatal Gun Accident.—One of the most distressing shooting accidents of the season occurred at Mayne island on Saturday morning, which resulted in the death of Catherine Emilie, the 12-year-old daughter of Frederick David. Mr. David's children were playing about the beach when they noticed an otter close into the shore. The eldest boy procured a rifle with which to shoot the animal, and when about to do so the little girl ran in the line of fire to pull her little brother out of danger. The boy with the gun pulled the trigger before he noticed his sister, and the bullet passed through her abdomen, killing the otter at the same time. The wounded child was brought to St. Joseph's hospital and every means taken to save her life, but she died at 6 p. m. Dr. Hart, considering an inquest unnecessary, the remains will be forwarded to Mayne Island this morning for interment. Much sympathy is expressed for the parents, who are in poor circumstances, and the Sisters and others at St. Joseph's hospital took up a subscription to defray expenses as far as possible.

Raid on Tremont.—At Tacoma on Sunday undeclared dutiable goods to the value of several thousands of dollars were found on the Oriental liner Tremont. They consisted of Chinese laces and silks, Canton fabrics of various kinds, fine cigars, dress goods, and Oriental novelties. The members of the crew, who are the supposed owners of the goods, were not expecting a search and were taken by surprise when Customs Inspectors Loftus, Brinker and Knox, of Seattle, and several inspectors of Tacoma, boarded the vessel. The goods were found in every conceivable place. Beneath several tons of rice in the storeroom a valuable cache was found, another was unearthed beneath a bunk in an officer's stateroom, and crannies and nooks gave up small batches of costly goods. Inspector Dorsey, under whose supervision the search was made, estimates the total duty on the goods seized at $1,000. In the quarters of some of the officers and crew who had reported to the customs department that they had certain amounts of goods, was found much more which was concealed. All undeclared was confiscated.

Spanish Chestnuts. — The first chestnuts of Spanish variety to be grown in marketable quantity in Victoria have been placed on sale by Robert Mowat, the grocer. They were raised by Wm. Robertson of North Chatham street, and are pronounced of excellent quality.

Opens in Ladysmith.—Roy Dier, of the firm of Dier Bros., dental surgeons of this city, is to open a branch office at Ladysmith during the course of a few days. Ladysmith is going ahead at such a rapid rate that it is considered a very promising point for all kinds of business ventures.

Grand Trunk Rumor.—The Vancouver Province is authority for the statement that private information has been received from Eastern Canada to the effect that the Grand Trunk Pacific people have acquired the charter held by a British Columbia syndicate for the building of a railway from Kitamaat to Hazleton.

Hotel Foundations.—A third large scraper was yesterday afternoon placed at work by the contractors for the C. P. R. hotel foundations. It will be manipulated by a huge donkey engine of 75 horse-power, which has been placed in a position on the extreme eastern end of the flats. Notwithstanding the prevailing rains the work is proceeding in a fairly satisfactory fashion.

"To the Victors," etc.—An interesting political rumor was afloat yesterday to the effect that the various names which had previously been mentioned in connection with the vacant collectorship at the port of Victoria, have now been sidetracked in favor of that of Rev. E. S. Rowe, who is considered by those "in the know" to have the best chance of getting the position which is now being so capably filled by Mr. John Newbury, the deputy collector. Rumor further has it that a series of other official changes are on the tapis.

Yukon Coal.—A Dawson exchange just to hand contains the information that the Klondike coal output for the year just ended will aggregate 6,000 tons, more than double that of any previous year. Over $50,000 have been expended this season at the mines in the way of permanent improvements. The docks and ore bins which were built last year have been abandoned owing to such having been constructed alongside an eddy, which, during the summer, has shoaled to such an extent that steamers can no longer get within reach to take on cargoes.

Long-distance 'Phones.—Cable connection for the new telephone service between Victoria and the mainland having been completed last week, as recorded in the Colonist, on Sunday Steve Jones, proprietor of the Dominion, received a "call" from G. McCartney, constructing superintendent, who is in charge of operations at San Juan. He announced that the cable had just been regulated and offered Mr. Jones the honor of being the one to first converse over the line. Mr. Jones says the conversation was carried on with remarkable clearness. It is anticipated the system will be in working order with Vancouver and other points on the mainland, all that now remains being the connecting of the cables between San Juan island and Vancouver.

A Great Attraction.—The new C. P. R. wharf is proving a great attraction to Victorians and also to visitors. The wharf was visited by a large number of people and keen interest was manifested when the Princess Victoria steamed up. This magnificent steamer has been receiving an overhauling on Bullen's marine slip. It was a treat to see the easy way the boat glided up to the wharf. She was moored alongside the dock in a very few minutes, the new wharf being splendidly situated.

Poultry Association Meeting—A meeting of the Poultry and Pet Stock Association was held at 124 Government street last night. The president, H. E. Levy, occupied the chair. The secretary, W. H. Jamieson, read the minutes of the former meeting and after the regular routine business had been transacted arrangements were made for the exhibition next January. C. G. Hinds, of California will be judge. The association accepted Weiler Bros. tender for a lot of new coops, as a very large exhibit is assured. The dates fixed for the exhibition are from the 11th to the 14th of January inclusive. The old Methodist church was chosen as the most suitable place for the show. Pet stock will be made a special feature.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

Received Commission.—The commission from Ottawa empowering him to conduct an enquiry into the affairs of the pilotage board in Victoria, has been received by R. Elliott, of this city.

More Indians Fined.—The police have been rounding up a lot of Indians lately and yesterday six more were fined for having been intoxicated or in possession of liquor. The fines inflicted amounted to $76.

Van Anda Claims.—At the sale of mining claims for taxes, held at Ladysmith on Monday, five Van Anda claims were sold. These claims, the Lorindale, Silver King, Chemainus, Mountain Chief and Golden Era, were well known names in Victoria seven or eight years ago. The purchaser is H. W. Treat.

A Poundkeeper.—Applications will be called for shortly by the city clerk for the position of city poundkeeper, rendered vacant by the death of the late Wallace Craig. Already a number of applications have been filed at the city clerk's office, but they are premature, until the customary notice calling for the same has appeared in the newspapers.

Fish Expert.—A visitor to Victoria a few days ago was John M. Cowie, the well-known Scottish fish expert, who had come to the coast to investigate the possibility of curing herring in these waters. If the outlook is favorable here the industry will meet with the same encouragement that has been extended to it in the East.

Aids to Navigation.—Word has been received from the deputy minister of marine and fisheries to the effect that a fog alarm will be established at Cape Beale as soon as the exact locality is determined. The estimates for a light at Sehl's point have gone to Ottawa, and as soon as a reply is received the light will be installed.

Rice Mills.—At tomorrow evening's meeting of the Board of Trade a proposal emanating from James Townsley to the effect that he is prepared to establish rice mills here, will be discussed. Mr. Townsley asks that local merchants support him by giving preference to his output, price and quality being equal, to the outside product.

Ladysmith's City Hall.—Ladysmith has decided upon erecting a modern city hall building to cope with the constantly increasing business of that promising town. The building will be two stories high, the lower part devoted to fire hall and police cells, the upper portion being a council chamber 23 feet wide by 35 feet long. It will cost $1,200. A hand hose cart for the firemen is now on the way from Portland. Chief Morrison, of the fire department, resigned last night, and the city will call for applications for the position.

Lumber Shipments. — Victoria mill men are getting a good share of the big business resulting from the extraordinary demand for lumber which has resulted from the wonderful development of the Northwest. Messrs. Lemon Gonnason & Co. are daily shipping from two to three cars and yesterday forwarded a big shipment.

Board of Trade.—Tomorrow evening the monthly general meeting of the Board of Trade will be held. The business will be: Coasting laws, resolution requesting cancellation of order-in-council permitting other than Canadian vessels to carry Canadian freight destined to the Yukon upon the Canadian Pacific railway undertaking to provide a thoroughly efficient and up-to-date service. Harbor improvement, report of special committee upon proposal to extend the ocean harbor. Songhee Indian Reserve, report of special committee. Fire insurance, further consideration of fire insurance matters generally.

Nahmint Mine.—Among the passengers on the Queen City from the West Coast yesterday morning was R. L. McLeary, of Portland, Ore., who has been visiting Alberni canal. He is interested in the development of the Nahmint mine, which was recently taken over by a syndicate of American capitalists. Already they have invested approximately $100,000 in the property, an indication of confidence that it will ultimately prove one of the best-paying mines of the West Coast. This money has been expended principally in repairing the machinery necessary for the continuation of operations. The plant has been thoroughly overhauled and, although there is no ore in the bunkers for shipment, the aerial tramway is ready for work as soon as it is needed. Preparations show the intention of the capitalists interested to open up this, and perhaps, other properties, as soon as it is proved that the ore is there in paying quantities.

Oak Bay Hotel.—The contract for the erection of the Oak Bay Hotel has been awarded to George Mesher and work on that structure is to be started almost immediately. The lumber and mill work is to be supplied by Messrs. Lemon, Gonnason & Co. The contract price is in the neighborhood of $13,000. It is intended that the hotel shall be completed and ready for business at the opening of the tourist business next spring.

Go to Winnipeg.—Says the Nelson News in its issue of Sunday last: "F. W. Teetzel will shortly leave this city for good and will take up his residence in Winnipeg. He has finally disposed of his business interests here and leaves tomorrow morning for the Similkameen country. After spending a couple of weeks west he will return to this city when he will be joined by David Bogle, a one-time resident of Nelson and later editor of the Victoria Colonist. Both men will at once leave for Winnipeg. Their new business plans are not yet thoroughly arranged."

(From Thursday's Daily.)

More Dredges.—Recent arrivals from Atlin are of the opinion that it is not improbable that two more dredges will be working at Atlin next season. The timber for one new machine has been sent into the interior and the machinery will follow as soon as the winter has set in and the ice becomes sufficiently hard for transportation purposes. This dredge is being constructed by the British-American Dredging Company. Another syndicate is contemplating a third machine equally as large as either of those belonging to the B. A. company.

Cable Rates.—The committee of the Board of Trade which has been investigating the matter of alleged excessive cable rates to the Orient, have submitted a report, in which it is stated: "As our trade with Japan is increasing and the necessity for frequent cables becomes more pressing, the rate of $1.58 per word is prohibitive, and your committee think you should take this matter up from this Board of Trade with the various Boards of Trade in this province, in the states of Washington, Oregon and California, and ask them to co-operate with us to urge upon the cable companies a revision of their Pacific coast-Oriental cable rates."

Improved Mill Plant.—In amplification of the announcement made in yesterday's Colonist to the effect that the Brackman-Ker Milling Company has extensive improvements in contemplation in connection with its Westminster branch, it is to be mentioned that during the last few months improvements of a comprehensive character have been made to the mill at the outer wharf in this city—to an extent making it the most modern of its kind on the continent. The machinery has already arrived, and millwrights will be busy in a few days putting in a plant for the manufacture of cooked foods, similar to those of Eastern manufacture already on the market and so extensively advertised. A name has not yet been decided upon for this food, but Mr. Ker states everyone will have an opportunity of furnishing this, as it is their intention to offer a handsome prize for what may be considered the most suitable and appropriate name.

Atlin Clean-Up.—L. W. Sageman, of the White Pass & Yukon railway, estimates the total gold output of the Atlin district this summer to be $100,000 in excess of that of the previous year. It amounts to about $600,000. Mr. Sageman is associated with J. Lipscombe in the management of the Atlin office of that company. They arrived from the north on the steamer Humboldt. Mr. Sageman says also that the season has been much shorter than usual, making the clean-up more remarkable.

Cement Factory.—Work on the plant of the Vancouver Portland cement factory at Tod creek is proceeding with all possible expedition. The machinery, which is of the very best quality known to manufacturers of Portland cement is being installed with the utmost care, so that no hindrances may follow after the factory begins operations. The works will be put in shape this winter so that a start may be made in sufficient time to have the Vancouver brand of Portland cement on the market ready for next season's work.

Slight Train Mishap.—During a dense fog which prevailed yesterday morning a slight mishap occurred on the E. & N. railway near Ladysmith, which fortunately did not result in serious damage. The coal train was going by the "Y," and simultaneously the southbound freight came along. Owing to the density of the fog the engineers did not see the danger and a slight collision occurred which damaged the fronts of the locomotives somewhat, but the rest of the rolling stock escaped injury. The trainmen were not hurt.

Cable Is Broken.—Word was received at Seattle yesterday morning that on Sunday night the newly-laid government cable between Sitka and Valdez had snapped and communication between the two points had been entirely shut off. It is supposed that the wire has broken not many miles north of Sitka. The cableship Burnside is now engaged in cable laying between the Sound artillery stations, and as soon as she can get ready for the trip she will proceed to Sitka and repair the break, bringing that town again in communication with the outside world.

Promising Mine.—The King Solomon mine, situated seven miles from Cowichan station, is considered one of the most promising properties on the island. A syndicate, at the head of which is J. S. H. Matson, has been formed to work it under an option. Already the syndicate has shipped 30 tons to the smelter. The ore went 9.64 per cent. in copper wet assay. Deducting 1.50 per cent. for drying, the net value of the copper went at nearly $16.70 a ton. The ore is carried a mile and a quarter to the wagon road, which runs to Cowichan station, and is then shipped to the Ladysmith smelter. A new wagon road is projected which will shorten this route by about three miles.

A Unique Find. — On Tuesday in English bay near Vancouver, R. T. Burtwell, Dominion Government Fisheries Officer, picked up a queer looking object which greatly resembles a Japanese mine. Built of wood, a solid piece of some hardwood not native to this coast, bound with steel wire and sheet steel and studded with iron or steel bolts to the number of no fewer than a hundred and fifty, the object is certainly a suspicious-looking thing, says the News-Advertiser. Inscribed on it are characters thought to be Japanese. It is shaped somewhat after the fashion of a barrel, and weighs in the neighborhood of fifty pounds, is a foot and a half long, and a foot through.

Lumber shipments.—Though the building season is about over in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories there is still a considerable demand for lumber from that section and shipments are constantly going forward from the local mills. The Sayward Company has in hand a large share of this business, taking full advantage of the excellent facilities which now exist to ship in carload lots. It is anticipated that the business thus being built up between island mills and the Northwest will assume enormous dimensions.

Jobs With G. T. P.—British Columbia engineers are finding good places on the Grand Trunk Pacific staff. A. E. Hodgins has been appointed district engineer of the line for the district of Winnipeg, which will cover about 250 or 300 miles east and west of the prairie capital. Another well-known provincial engineer, Mr. Proctor is seeking to get control of a hundred mile section. Hodgins went to South Africa from Nelson as a lieutenant in the Kootenay company of the First Canadian contingent. He was under fire on several occasions and took part in the famous battle of Paardeberg. He stayed in the country after the war and was assigned to the construction department of the South African railways.

WHERE SOUTH AFRICA STANDS.

A plain official statement comes from South Africa of the public feeling there regarding inter-Imperial preferential trade. Hon. Dr. Smart, minister of railways in the Cape government, in the course of a speech at Fort Beaufort a couple of weeks ago, said that "The government of Cape Colony and of all other South African colonies favored preference, not only as far as South Africa was concerned, but throughout the Empire, with a view to the consolidation and unification of the Empire which was the ideal of those who were working for preference." That is plain enough to even shut up Lord Rosebery, we suppose, who has so far shown himself quite incapable of understanding the English language in so far as it has been in any British state in favor of preferential trade.

WAR LOAN WELL RECEIVED.

Tokio, Nov. 9.—Japan has responded with great enthusiasm to the government's third issue of exchequer bonds, and the new loan has been subscribed three times over.

DO YOU HICCOUGH?

Pretty disagreeable complaint, isn't it? Why don't you take a few drops of Nerviline occasionally and get cured—it never fails. Polson's Nerviline is a perfect treasure for folks bothered with hiccoughs and stomach gas. Nothing better made than Nerviline: get a 25c bottle today. Permanent cure is guaranteed.

Budget Of News From Far North

Prospectors Report Promising Signs of Gold on McMillan River.

Lively Movement Into Tanana—Shortage of Wood Along the Yukon.

Dawson exchanges, dated October 31st, just to hand, say that Bob Henderson, discoverer of the Klondike and assistant mining inspector, returned last evening from a trip up the McMillan river, one of the largest forks of the Pelly. Henderson went up the Pelly with Judge Dugas and a party of hunters. Henderson did some prospecting while up the river, and reports that he found a number of indications of gold in the country. He says he may make another trip there this winter.

"While up the Pelly," says Henderson, "we were caught for a time above two jams of ice. The jams were near the junction of the McMillan with the main stream. After a time the ice broke, and we were able to get down. After Judge Dugas and the others came down the river I remained behind alone for a time and made the run of several hundred miles down with a canoe with no one acompanying me. I shot a fine moose and brought him home for the use of my family."

Dawson markets took a general stiffening this morning. Nearly all kinds of feed and foodstuffs advanced on the average 25 per cent. Tomatoes, potatoes and eggs are the only commodities claiming any exception. The advance is made by all merchants of the city, the big companies included. The cause given for the advance is that the cost of keeping goods in stock so long during the winter and the expense of warm storage in cold weather, justifies an advance, and the further arguments that some goods have been lower in summer than they should have been is made. Some of the merchants announced this morning an advance in the price of eggs by the case, but not all are willing to go in for the advance, and the price will probably be held down to one level by those who refuse to advance. Scarce is the biggest factor in refusing to advance on eggs. He says the camp is long on eggs and has more than ever before, and that he will not advance. The egg-consuming pace of the camp is now about 600 cases a month.

The first scows of the season from White Horse arrived last evening. They belong to Barton & Authier and Schade, and brought 100 tons of fresh beef, pork, mutton and halibut. The stock was slaughtered at White Horse, and there packed on the scows immediately after being killed. The run from White Horse was made in eight and a half days. No delays were experienced. Henry Henderson, brother of Discoverer Bob Henderson, was commodore of the fleet. Each scow is 18 by 60 feet, and each carried fifty tons of meat. Henderson reports that other scows may come down the river. He says the White Pass was willing to build scows for the shippers who were desirous of shipping left-over goods by scows.

Randy McLennan of the staff in the gold commissioner's office, will leave tomorrow for Rosebud creek, where he will receive applications for claims staked on that stream. A discovery was located on Rosebud a short time ago. Fourteen applications have already been filed here for claims on Rosebud.

It is evident there will be a lively movement over the trail between Dawson and Fairbanks all the coming winter. Already preparations are being made by Dawsonites to travel the long trail with horses and dogs, and some men will walk all the way to the new camp, perhaps, and draw sleds with ropes around their own necks. But the wise always take dog teams or horses. Many who are seizing the last opportunity to get part way on the journey by boat are going in rowboats or scows from Dawson to Circle, whence they will make the overland trip. Those who embarked the last day or two are running in a river covered with ice floes, and the peril increases daily. With no trouble the run from Dawson should be made in about four days.

Shortage of wood has seriously interfered with the operation of the steamers on the lower Yukon. The supply is so short that it has put owners of the independent steamers to a great added expense of time and money. Were it not for the general shortage of wood along the lower river the steamer Monarch might return to Dawson this fall before the close of navigation. It might be possible for her to get back anyway. One of the owners of the vessel says it is likely the craft will remain at Chena all winter. With wood so short steamers have to turn out their crews to cut fuel, and as the darkness makes it impossible to cut at night, the operation consumes a great part of the day time when the boat could otherwise be making progress. It is impossible to travel in the dark, so after wood is cut there is little time for the steamer to hit her course.

A judgment was rendered in the gold court today in a dispute which reveals the fact that the big hydraulic operators are expressing an appreciation of the value of water that will not be wanted for use for at least ten years more. O. R. Brenner and others, figuring among the heaviest operators in the Yukon with big plants, brought action against A. B. Palmer and others, big hydraulic opertors, for title to certain water after a certain existing grant to the water shall expire ten years hence. In the judgment the court holds that the rights of the two litigants will be equal at the end of the ten years, and that they then will be entitled to share the water equally.

Fifty tons of hay raised on Mazie May creek, a tributary of the Stewart river, has been frozen in there and cannot be brought down by steamer this year. Incidentally Sam Henry, the owner, is out $500 cold cash as a result of a failure of the steamer Lightning to reach Mazie May. The Lightning was chartered to go to the Mazie May farm for the hay. She left here last Sunday, and ascended the Stewart as far as possible. The steamer found it impossible to get to Mazie May, and had to come back with it. The hay perhaps could be hauled to the overland trail from where it is without traveling a great distance, but most of the people who intend to use hay on the overland trail this winter are stocked to some exent, and fifty tons would be far more than needed within hauling distance of that part of the trail. Hay is quoted in the Dawson market today at $85 a ton. This would make Henry's fifty tons worth $4,250. It perhaps will sell early next spring before Labarge opens.

J. W. Williams, president of the Dawson Electric Light and Power Company, has completed plans for one of the largest enterprises ever promulgated for the Dawson water front. As soon as the Yukon river is closed for the winter he will begin the construction of coal bunkers at the foot of Albert street. The enterprise will be completed this winter, and will entail the outlay of between $12,000 and $15,000. The bunkers will be two stories high, and will hold several thousand tons of coal. The coal to be handled will be that from the Coal creek coal mines, below Forty-mile. The new bunkers will have a heavy rock cribbing for a foundation. The foundation will be put in during the winter because the Yukon river then is lowest.

A BAD LOT.

Charge of Aggravated Assault Against Ruskin Dismissed.

In the Police court yesterday Magistrate Hall dismissed the charge preferred against a young man named John Ruskin, by Dai Quan, a Chinaman, of aggravated assault. In giving this decision the magistrate stated that he was not satisfied of the truth of the story told by Ruskin and his female companion, Marie Harris, and warned Ruskin that if he desired to keep out of trouble he should choose better company than at present.

The row started in an opium den. Of course, the story told by the informant, Dai Quan, and his witness differed in almost every particular from that told by the defence.

According to Dai Quan's story he was in Lee Ping's opium joint off Fisguard street at 6:45 on Saturday morning when the accused, Ruskin, and Marie Harris came in and the accused picked a quarrel with him, chased him out of the joint and down the street, caught him by the pigtail and hammered him with a half a brick.

Ruskin and Harris stated, on the contrary, that they went to Lee Ping's to eat noodles and have some tea, and that Dai Quan started the row by calling Ruskin offensive names and striking at him. They also said that Dai was armed with a knife and that Dai and another Chinaman, armed with a club, chased Ruskin down the street while he fled for his life. Ruskin also averred that Dai struck at him with the knife twice, on one occasion cutting his trousers and that Dai's reputation was that of a murderer. Ruskin and the woman denied that they had gone to the opium den to "smoke."

One Young a white man living at Lee Ping's and who recently left gaol after doing time for stealing paint brushes from the Melrose establishment, gave evidence partly bearing out the story told by Ruskin, and so the weight of evidence was with the defence. Young admitted that he took the "black smoke," and the others looked as if they did. Mr. Courtney appeared for the accused.

Loving Couple Wait Law's Delay

Chief Justice Hunter Defers His Assent to a Hasty Marriage.

Fraser River Canners Wish to Secure Sites for Their Traps.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Nov. 9.—Two Victoria young people were in a great hurry to be married here today. They are still awaiting the approval of Chief Justice Hunter. The young lady is Miss Regoletta Winch, who was born in December in 1883 in Victoria, therefore lacks a month of being twenty-one and her own mistress. As her father is "beyond sea," the consent of a justice of the Supreme court had to be asked. T. O. Townley presented the case to Chief Justice Hunter, who replied, in effect, that it was not a matter to treat lightly and he was not going to hurry, that the young couple had to wait until tomorrow that a wire might be received as to the young man's ability to keep a wife and as to his character. The young man is Mr. Argate Furnell.

The Fraser River Canners' Association is requesting the provincial government to define its stand on the trap question. While the Dominion government has granted trap licenses the provincial authorities have not given assent to the holders of these licenses securing foreshore as trap sites. The canners claim there is a deadlock. Several canners here claim they have the licenses for traps or can secure them, but the sites cannot be secured. They wish the government to announce without delay if it is the intention to grant sites, as it would be necessary to commence pile driving at once to be ready for the coming season.

STORM RAGING IN NORTH SEA.

Hamburg, Nov. 9.—The Thalia and the Neptune, both from Hamburg, have foundered and all hands have been drowned. A severe storm is raging in the North Sea.

THE NORTH SEA INCIDENT.

The New York Times is pro-British in sentiment, and discusses British politics and events with a sympathetic tone that is unusual in American newspapers. It takes the British side with reference to the Russian attack on the fleet of trawlers, but is inclined to think that Britain has been too mild in the matter. A. M. Wakeman who contributes poetry to its columns frequently has a vigorous poem entitled "The North Sea 'Incident,'" which opens as follows:

And is this Britain—this the rugged land
Where nascent Freedom curbed the pride of Kings;
Where faith increased with order, hand-in-hand,
And self-reliance, such as power brings?
Is this the land th' Armada made its goal
Till Drake's rough coasters deftly closed the door,
Till wrecks of galleons marked each reef and shoal,
And Spanish bones lay bleaching on her shore?
Is this the England where great Churchill rose
To manhood shewn at Ram'lles, Oudenarde,
And glorious Blenheim, where Bavaria's snows
Were red with blood of Briton's dying hard?

The poet rings the changes on Wolfe, Nelson, Wellesley, and other British heroes, and concludes:

Yes, this is Britain, marked upon the charts
As Greece is marked, and Rome—their glory fled!
Alas, 'tis not the Britain of our hearts,
And surely not the Britain of our dead.

The sentiment of the poem represents the feeling of a great many Englishmen and others of the British people, but when we consider the terrible responsibility of going to war and possibly embroiling all Europe in it, and the probability of the "incident" arising, as is claimed, out of a mistake, we think Great Britain has taken the proper course. Peace with honor is preferable to war with honor, especially in these days when war is such a ghastly thing, and involves such tremendous financial burdens on the people. A war that costs many lives and a million dollars daily must give the bravest government pause before undertaking it.

There is a great deal of satisfaction in making a prediction that proves to be accurate. The Winnipeg Free Press stated that Sir Wilfrid Laurier's majority might reach as high as seventy-four. Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick foretold sixty. However, the making of predictions is a matter of hazard, and when made by party managers is part of the game which most politicians play.

JAPANESE LITERATURE.

Tacoma News.

More than a thousand newspapers and magazines are published in Japan. The imperial public library at Tokio has half a million volumes, nearly one thousand of which are printed in the languages of Europe. Since the advent of the modern era the literature of all nations has been translated into Japanese. Even Shakespeare, Carlyle and Emerson have been done into the vernacular; and although the result sends shudders through the sensorium of Western scholars, the little brown polyglots will tell you complacently that they have improved upon the original, modifying the Anglo-Saxon context to suit the more subtle understanding of the Oriental. Great freedom is frequently taken in the translation of novels. The imported plot is changed to conform to Sunrise standards, and characters are re-christened with Japanese names. The work becomes an adaptation. Nor is plagiarism considered a literary offence in Japan. On the contrary, it is looked upon as an indication of extensive reading and tenacious memory. The more a writer can interlard his story or essay with ideas, phrases, and even paragraphs from the works of masters, foreign or domestic, the greater the proof of his scholarship.

There is one American writer of today who has succeeded in impressing his work upon the mind of commercial Japan. Every clerk in the stores, banks, commission houses, railway and steamship offices and godowns of the Mikado's empire is familiarly acquainted with "Old Grogan Graham," oracle of the Chicago stockyards. Heads of big houses all over the empire bought the book wholesale and distributed copies among their employees. Published in paper covers and selling at 40 sen, the book reached a circulation of over 200,000, but with no profit to the author, as there was no international copyright. In the Japanese appraisement of the book its humor was entirely overlooked. The production was accepted solely as a serious gospel to over-confident young manhood.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED.

New York, Nov. 9.—It is reported in a World despatch from London that Miss Nancy Leiter, daughter of the late Chicago millionaire, Levi Leiter, will be married shortly to Captain Colin Campbell, aide de camp to Lord Curzon. The ceremony is expected to take place in about three weeks.

Forty Millions For New Warships

Proposal to Ask Congress to Authorize Additions to U. S. Navy.

Three First Class Battleships to Cost Eight Million Dollars Each.

Washington, Nov. 9.—Three battleships, five scout cruisers, six torpedo boat destroyers, six torpedo boats, and two squadron colliers at an aggregate maximum cost of $41,300,000 is the building programme which the United States has recommended to the secretary of the navy to urge Congress to authorize at its next sitting. The board suggests that the new battleships shall be of the general type of the Connecticut class. This would give the navy nine first-class battleships of 16,000 tons displacement each.

The board estimates that the complete cost of each battleship when ready for sea will not exceed $8,000,000, making a total of $24,000,000 recommended for this.

LEGISLATURE DISSOLVED.

Charlottetown, Nov. 9.—Prince Edward Island legislature dissolved today. Nominations November 30th; election December 7th.

PRONUNCIATION OF ENGLISH.

Toronto News.

Mr. Morley's pronunciation of the English language may be regarded as a minor point, yet it is of some importance. There is a general impression that the English pronunciation of the old world differs from that of the new, in that the Old Countryman says pawss and glawss, while on this side of the Atlantic we give the letter a narrower sound. On this point there is an agreement between those who ridicule and those who admiringly imitate the fashions of the old world. Hence, we hear some strange combinations of old-world precision with new-world carelessness, such as bar'l and or'nge. The main difference is between care and carelessness. The chief characteristic of an educated but unaffected speaker like Mr. Morley is that he pronounces all the syllables of his words, and pronounces them accurately. In this respect there is room for improvement in Canada, as there doubtless is in England, Ireland, and Scotland. On this continent the careless pronunciation is a little more in evidence among educated people, because this is a democratic country, and there is less class distinction. Our educated people talk a little more carelessly, but our uneducated people talk better than those of the old world. That is the main difference.

REGICIDES WERE RUSSIAN AGENTS

Sensation Caused in Belgrade by Revelations Concerning Royal Murders.

Belgrade, Nov. 8.—A great sensation has been caused by the statement of the newspaper Narodillist that it has proofs to the effect that the regicides and conspirators are spreading among the people. The assertion is made that it was Russia which desired the removal of the Obrenovich dynasty. It is claimed by the paper that a Russian official frequently had a confidential conference with the principal actors of the tragedy.

It is pointed out by the paper that every one of the regicides has received the star of Karageorgevich, and the statement is now made that they are soon to receive some distinction from the Czar of Russia.

The editor of the paper challenges the Servian government to start an action against him, as he says he is prepared to prove his statements in the courts.

THE OPPORTUNITY.

The Chicago Tribune.

It was night.

They—he and she—were sitting on the porch looking at the stars.

"You know, I suppose," he whispered, "what a young man's privilege is when he sees a shooting star?"

"No," she answered. "I haven't the slightest idea. There goes one!"

WORRIED.

The Chicago Record-Herald.

"Why, dear," said the poet's wife after the acceptance of his first poem by a magazine, "what is the matter? You seem to be awfully downcast."

"Yes," he sadly replied. "I am. I'm worried about our child. The sons of great men seem to have such a poor chance to turn out well, you know."

IN WOMAN'S FAVOR.

Few treatments stand so high in woman's favor as Dr. Chase's Nerve Food. This is not only because of the extraordinary control which this preparation has over diseases and weakness peculiar to women, but also because of its power as a tissue builder. By weighing yourself while using Dr. Chase's Nerve Food you can prove that new flesh and weight is being added to the body.

Old Londoners Dine Together

Ye Olde London Wanderers Club Hold Annual Banquet on Lord Mayor's Day.

Spend a Pleasant Evening With Music, Speeches and Good Cheer.

Lord Mayor's day, the big annual event in London, was fitly celebrated by Ye Olde London Wanderers Club at a banquet at the Vernon hotel last night. This was the third annual feast of the society and was a success in every way.

The chair was taken by the president, Mr. H. F. Langton, with the vice-president, Mr. J. M. Lancaster, at the other end of the table.

Some forty members and guests took their places at the festive board at 9 o'clock and enjoyed the elegant repast provided by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Patterson.

The menu was as follows:

CAVIAR.
Puree of Game Soup.
RELISHES.
Celery and Olives.
FISH.
Boiled Salmon. Egg Sauce.
Boiled Halibut.
SALADS.
Lobster Mayonaise.
Lettuce with Dressing.
BOILED.
Ham. Champagne Sauce.
ENTRES.
Chicken Patties. Lamb Chops.
Petits Pois.
ROASTS.
Prime Ribs of Beef. Batter Pudding.
Stuffed Grouse. Bread Sauce.
VEGETABLES.
Brussel's Sprouts. Cauliflower.
Mashed and Baked Potatoes.
DESSERT.
English Plum Pudding. Brandy Sauce.
Apple Pie. Maraschino Jelly.
Fruit. Assorted Cake.
Nuts and Raisins.
Tea. Coffee. Beer. Claret.
Whisky and Shasta Water.

When the banquet was over, an excellent programme of music, toasts, etc., was commenced. Mr. R. B. Berks opened with a pianoforte overture, an arrangement of the melody of "Alice, Where Art Thou?" The chairman then proposed "The King," which was drunk to the tune of the national anthem, "The Royal Family" was the next toast, also proposed by the chairman, and accompanied by the assembly singing a verse of "God Save the Prince of Wales."

The next toast was proposed and responded to by the Hon. Abraham Smith, United States consul in Victoria, and was "The President of the United States." Mr. Smith made an excellent speech, in which he eulogized President Roosevelt and her services to the great Republic. He described the President as a typical American, without fear and without reproach, who had reached the high position he holds by reason of his sterling character and the admiration in which he is held by his countrymen. The toast was drunk with musical honors, terminating in three cheers and a "tiger."

Mr. A. W. Mesher then sang a very amusing Cockney song, after which Mr. H. L. Salmon proposed the toast of "The Lord Mayor" in very happy speech, in the course of which he remarked on the importance of the position of the chief magistrate of the city of London, and the romantic interest that centres round that position by reason of the fact that it is open to all men of industry and probity. This toast also was drunk with musical honors.

Mr. E. A. Tuson then sang "The Stowaway," after which the vice-president proposed "Our Native City," which he described as being only a speck on the map, but yet one of the greatest influences in the progress and commerce of the world.

Mr. H. L. Salmon sang "The Powder Monkey," and the secretary, Mr. J. A. Williams, gave the toast of "The Club." In the course of his remarks, Mr. Williams expressed the general satisfaction felt by all present at the opportunity afforded old Londoners of spending a sociable evening together, and hoped that there would be even a larger gathering at next year's banquet.

Dr. C. N. Cobbett sang an old English song, and then the treasurer, Mr. J. Buckley, proposed "Our Adopted City," and spoke appreciatively of the manifold charms of Victoria.

Herr W. Peters then gave one of his wonderful exhibitions of sleight-of-hand, after which Mr. Martin proposed "The Press," which was responded to by the representative of the Colonist.

Mr. J. A. Williams sang "The Last Watch," and Mr. H. L. Salmon, in a highly entertaining speech, proposed the health of "The Ladies." Mr. R. B. Berks obliged with a song, and Dr. Cobbett proposed "Our Visitors," remarking that at the last banquet he had been one of the visitors himself, and hoped that some of this year's visitors would follow his example and join the club. "Absent Friends" was proposed by Mr. Williams; "The Chairman" by Mr. Lancaster, and "Our Host and Hostess" by Mr. Langton.

The gathering broke up after singing "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the King."

CONSERVATIVES AND THE G. T. P.

News-Advertiser.

Of course no one could foresee the promulgation of such a complicated and fantastical arrangement as has since been evolved, nor was it possible for outsiders to realize that the astute railway promoters had the bovernment so completely in their control as events have since shown was the case. Where we think the Conservatives made the mistake was in not at once supporting the scheme if carried out as a government undertaking. There is no doubt that the local and other conditions were extremely favorable for an experiment in that direction, since the territory was unoccupied and with great potentialities in the way of traffic and development. It is also equally certain that with the confirmation of the proposed agreement, the people have lost a magnificent opportunity and one that from the circumstances can never present itself again. Had the Conservatives put that before the country last year, we believe it would have received such support as would either have led the government to abandon its scheme or caused its defeat. But the golden opportunity was allowed to pass and the interval that elapsed before the opposition unfolded its alternative proposal was almost necessarily fatal to its approval by the electorate. That the time will come when the adoption of the present scheme will be bitterly regretted—especially by the people of Western Canada, who will have to bear the chief part of the burden of unnecessarily high freight rates in order to provide interest on watered stock—we are convinced. But we are dealing now with the present situation, and there is no question the Grand Trunk Pacific was a great vote-catcher.

ROUTING BURGLARS.

The Cleveland Leader.

"You can't lose my wife."

"No?"

"Well, listen. I was away from home for three days last week. One night she heard burglars—the same burglars that she has been hearing ever since we were married. I'll make them think there's a man in the house,' she decided. So she put on a pair of my boots and tramped about on the hardwood floors for an hour to scare them away. My wife is a diplomat."