RECIPROCITY WITH CANADA

President Taft Dwells on Many Matters of Interest to Canadians at the Opening of Congress.

In the course of his address at the opening of Congress, President Taft said:

"Several important treaties have been negotiated with Great Britain in the past twelve months. A preliminary diplomatic agreement which has been reached regarding the arbitration of pecuniary claims which each government has against the other. This agreement with the schedules of claims annexed will, as soon as the schedules are arranged, be submitted to the Senate for approval.

"An agreement between the United States and Great Britain with regard to the location of the international boundary line between the United States and Canada in Passamaquody Bay and to the middle of Grand Manan Channel was reached in a treaty concluded May 21, 1910, which has been ratified by both governments and proclaimed, thus making unnecessary the arbitration provided for in the previous treaty of April 11, 1908. The convention concluded January 11, 1909, between the United States and Great Britain providing for the settlement of international differences between the United States and Canada including the apportionment between the two countries of certain of boundary waters and the appointment of commissioners to adjust certain other questions has been ratified by both governments and proclaimed.

Tariff Act.

"The work of the international fisheries commission appointed in 1908 under the treaty of April 11, 1908, between Great Britain and the United States has resulted in the formulation and recommendation of uniform regulations governing the fisheries commission appointed in 1908 under the treaty of April 11, 1908, between Great Britain and the United States has resulted in the formulation and recommendation of uniform regulations governing the fisheries of boundary waters of Canada and the United States for the purpose of protecting and increasing the supply of food fish in such waters. In completion of this work, the regulations agreed upon require congressional legislation to make them effective and for their enforcement in fulfillment of treaty stipulations.

"The policy of broader and closer trade relations with the Dominion of Canada which was initiated in the adjustment of maximum and minimum provisions of the tariff act of August, 1909, has proved mutually beneficial. It justifies further efforts for the readjustment of commercial relations of two countries, so that their commerce may follow the channels natural to contiguous countries and be commensurate with the steady expansion of trade and industry on both sides of the boundary line.

Dominion Reciprocation.

"The reciprocation on the part of the Dominion Government of the sentiment which was expressed by this government was followed in October by the suggestion that it would be glad to have the negotiations which had been temporarily suspended during the summer resumed. In accordance with this suggestion the secretary of state by my direction despatched two representatives of the department of state as special commissioners to Ottawa to confer with representatives of the Dominion government.

"They were authorized to take such steps for formulating a reciprocal trade agreement as might be necessary and to receive and consider any proposition which the Dominion government might care to submit. Pursuant to the instructions issued conferences were held by these commissioners with officials of the Dominion government at Ottawa in the early part of November. The negotiations were conducted on both sides in a spirit of mutual accommodation. The discussion of common commercial interests of two countries had for its object a satisfactory basis for trade arrangement which offers the prospect of a freer interchange from the products of the United States and Canada.

Resumed in January.

"The conferences were adjourned to be resumed in Washington in January when it is hoped the aspiration of both governments for a mutually advantageous measure of reciprocity will be realized.

"With reference to the government of Alaska, I have nothing to add to the recommendations I made in my last message on the subject. I am convinced that the migratory character of the population, its uneven distribution and smallness of number, which the new census shows to be about 50,000, in relation to the enormous expanse of territory make it altogether impracticable to give to those people who are in Alaska today and may not be there a year hence, the power to elect a legislature to govern an immense territory to which they have a relation so little permanent. It is far better for the development of the territory that it be committed to a commission to be appointed by the executive, with limited legislative powers sufficiently broad to meet the local needs, than to continue the present insufficient government with few remedial powers or to make a popular government where there is not proper foundations upon which to rest it.

FATAL FAMILY FEUD.

Pennsylvania Neighbors Engage in a Pitched Battle.

Platttisville, Pa., Dec. 12.—Homer Dillon, 17 years old, is dead, his father, Henry Dillon, 48, is dying; William Dilliard, 50, is seriously shot and Ralph Dilliard, 21, his son, is badly beaten as the result of a battle between the two families. The fight started last Friday over the amount of corn the Dillons, sub-tenants of the Dilliards, had raised. Today the Dillons drove to the Dilliard place. Dilliard, Sr., saw them coming, and, according to the dying Dillon, sent his son Clifford into the house for a shotgun. As the boy came out, Dilliard says he opened fire and shot Homer Dillon in the head, killing him instantly. A pitched battle followed. It is declared that the Dilliards went off after the fight, leaving the body of young Dillon in the barnyard where hogs had almost devoured it before it was found.

Minard's Liniment used by Physicians.

CHRISTIANS MASSACRED.

Bedouins Take Revenge For the Execution of a Chief.

Constantinople, Dec. 12.—A telegram from Jerusalem reports the Bedouins having massacred the Turkish garrison at Kerak, a town in the Turkish Vilayet of Syria, and killed more than 100 Christian inhabitants of the place in revenge for the execution of a Bedouin chief. The Bedouins, the despatch adds, now hold the fortress in the vicinity of which there has been desultory fighting between the tribesmen and Government troops for the past year and a half. Kerak, formerly ly capital of Moab, has a population of 8,000 of whom 6,000 are Moslems. The town is the last one on the road from Damacus to Mocca, where Christians may reside. It stands on the mountains of Moab, and may be seen from Jerusalem, 50 miles away. There are no American missionaries there, the only missionary station being that of the British Missionary Society for Africa East. This is a branch organization at Essalt, and consists of one missionary, his wife and one native worker.

ALBERTA'S DEFICIT

Big Sum Will Have To Be Taken Out of Waterways Bond.—Estimated Revenue for 1911 With Expenditure.

Edmonton, Dec. 13.—Premier Sifton brought down the estimates for 1910 and 1911. The estimated revenue of 1910 is $3,078,490.79.

The estimated expenditures were: $202,266 for civil government; $106,000 for legislation; $616,175 for administration of justice; for public works, $705,113.99 chargeable to income and $1,149,493.49 chargeable to capital account; department of education, $583,553.43; department of agriculture and statistics $384,591.02; hospitals, charities, etc., $84,700; miscellaneous, $1,134,039.27; telephones, $155,575.57 chargeable to income, and $844,424.43 chargeable to capital account. This makes a total of $5,925,923.20.

The list of liabilities amount to $8,815,432.48, including $1,450,000 promissory note on the Imperial Bank, $130,866.82 overdraft on public accounts, general revenue and smaller amounts for grain seed express, unpaid grants of the Dominion, public buildings from the Dominion.

Need the Money Sure.

In order to clean up this there has been found the necessity of using much of the A. & G. W. bond fund. When everything is cleared up for 1910 there will be left the sum of $3,156,433.38 of the A. & G. W. bonds.

For Next Year.

The estimated revenue for 1911, including the A. & G. W. remnant, totals ..6,603,177.17.

The estimated expenditures are:

Civil government	$ 217,230.00
Legislation	57,990.00
Administration of justice	425,100.00
Public works—Income	513,000.00
Capital	1,616,333.00
Education	605,230.00
Agricultural and statistics:	
Income	411,680.00
Capital	125,000.00
Hospitals, charity, health	97,000.00
Miscellaneous	537,750.80
Telephones:	
Income	408,090.00
Capital	742,625.00
Prisoners and insane	145,000.00
	$5,904,028.80

It is estimated that the keep of the legislature and departmental buildings will be $160,000 this year; the new government house at Edmonton will cost $30,000; Fort Saskatchewan court house grounds will cost $1,000; maintenance of government house, $5,000; ferry service, $25,000; construction of roads $200,000; colonization roads, $20,000; bridges, $220,000; contribution toward the high level bridge at Edmonton, $58,333; surveys, $15,000; land titles office and additional site at Edmonton, $50,000; Lethbridge court house, $22,000; parliament buildings, grounds and power house, Edmonton, $515,000; sites for public buildings, $50,000; jail at Lethbridge, $95,500; asylum at Ponaka, furnishing, completion and outbuildings, $160,000; Edmonton court house to complete, $140,000; jail or jails, $100,000; construction of court house, Calgary, $50,000; finishing dormitory, building and grounds, $40,000.

Agricultural Expenditures.

The department of agriculture is spending $535,680, of which $125,000 will be for the purchase of five demonstrating farms and equipping the same. There will be $48,000 in grants given; $20,000 for the destruction of noxious weers; $8,500 toward the protection of game; $14,500 for the promoting and encouraging of dairy work under the dairy commissioner; about $5,000 in grants to breeders' associations; $25,000 for immigration and colonization; $4,000 for the maintenance of poultry breeding stations, and $3,300 to promote and encourage the poultry industry; and a grant of $100 to the Alberta Fish and Game Protective association.

The sum of $12,000 will be spent in equipping and maintaining a dry-farming demonstration station at Medicine Hat.

In behalf of public health $20,000 will be expended, with $66,000 to hospitals. The premier's expense account to the coronation is cut down to $7,500.

The province has laid aside $75,000 for hail insurance, and has allowed for a grant of $8,000 to the Lacombe home at Midnapore.

Telephone expenditure, including the maintenance and upkeep and extensions, is figured at $1,150,715.

The care of prisoners and insane is estimated at $63 000 for maintenance and transportation of prisoners; $7,000 for guarding and maintaining the insane; $75,000 for maintenance of asylum.

Sifton Delivers Budget.

Edmonton, Alta., Dec. 12.—This afternoon Premier Sifton delivered his budget, which was very lengthy and went into detail. Beyond explaining various items nothing new was stated. Referring to the apparent costliness of the parliament buildings, he said the expense up to the present had surprised him. So far they had cost nearly $1,000,000, and $2,500,000 would be the total cost. The premier also touched on the appropriations to establish demonstration farms and showed their usefulness. Referring to the telephone system of the province, he stated that there had been a profit this year. Rural lines are operated at a small loss, but the cities make this up.

FISHERIES REGULATIONS

International Agreement Reached And Will Be Brought Into Effect Within A Few Days.—Contentions Upheld.

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—It is understood that as a result of the conference held here during the past three days between Professor David Starr Jordan, the United States representative on the International Fisheries Commission, and Professor Prince, the Canadian commissioner, an agreement has been reached whereby the joint international regulations governing the fisheries in inland boundary waters as drafted over a year ago, will be brought into force without further delay by simultaneous promulgation at both Washington and Ottawa.

The chief cause of the delay in bringing the regulations into force has been the contention of American fishermen in Saginaw Bay that the new restrictions in respect to the size and character of nets are unduly oppressive on them. There has also been some objection raised by fishermen on Lake Erie that the proposed regulations are unnecessarily hard on individual fishermen who cannot afford to purchase new and expensive outfits.

The commissioners have found that some of the objections are well founded and have agreed to some changes that will secure justice to all parties and at the same time will not interfere with the underlying principle of the conservation of the food fishes in all the boundary waters.

Meanwhile, however, the regulations as drafted will be promulgated, probably early next month. Saginaw Bay may for the present be exempt from the operation of the new rules, pending the amendment of the regulations by the commission after they have been formally put into force.

MORE RECORDS BROKEN.

Some of the Unusual Developments on Canadian Farms in 1910.

The Eye-Witness, Birtle, Man., states that Wm. Taylor, of Bird Tail Valley, had a 20-acre oat field which threshed 113 bushels per acre. The Province, Innisfail, Alta., says that W. Scarfe threshed 1,142 bushels of oats from 10 acres. And P. A. Switzer, Lacombe, Alta., won the "acre yield" competition in oats at the recent Dry Farming Congress in Spokane, Wash., his yield being 132 bushels and 15 pounds.

The Pioneer, Summerside, P.E.I., announced that Andrew Johnson, Margate, P.E.I., got 44 bushels of wheat from two bushels sown, and also got 1,002 bushels of white oats from eighteen acres.

Manitoba's record crop for 1910 is said to be that on McMillan Bros.' farm, near Westbourne, who have a total crop of 70,000 bushels, netting $40,000 off 2,200 acres.

John F. Leask, of Hartford, N. S., raised 116 bushels of buckwheat on four acres. And the Province, Innisfail, Alta., states that C. F. Ashmore, of the Calder district, had 70 machine bushels of barley to the acre.

Uxbridge, Ont., comes along with a big cabbage, and James Cooper of that place grew one 41¼ inches in circumference, 14 inches across the top, and weighing 11 pounds, and the Uxbriage Journal says, "John Nicholls left us a sample of cabbage which weighs 18¾ pounds, measures 45 inches around and 15 inches across."

At the office of the Times, Wingham, Ont., "Master George Hanna left a cabbage stalk on which there were nine heads, many of them perfectly formed."

The south riding of Wellington County, Ont., has done itself proud in the matter of growing turnips. George Weatherston, of Everton, grew one weighing 16½ pounds, Jas. Black, of the same place, grew three weighing a total of 66 pounds, and George A. Darby, of Marden, had several weighing over 20 pounds each. And the correspondent of Armstrong's Mills for the Herald, Guelph, says, "We were talking turnips. One said he had five turnips that weighed 62 pounds. Another said that he had five which measured a bushel. A third claimed to have one that weighed 19 pounds."

The Morris correspondent of the Times, Wingham, Ont., says that "Joseph Robb weighed six giant Levithan mangolds that scaled 96 pounds, or 16 pounds on the average."

And the Sentinel, Lucknow, Ont., proudly announces that the larger of two carrots, left on exhibition at the newspaper office by James Lane, was 16 inches long and 14 inches in its largest circumference.

Favorable to Company.

Winnipeg, Dec. 13.—The arbitrators appointed as a board of conciliation to settle the disputed matters in connection with the Winnipeg Street Railway company and its men have handed out decisions in the form of majority and minority reports. The majority report is submitted and signed by W. J. Christie and Captain William Robinson. The minority report is submitted and signed by Mayor Peltier, of Port Arthur. The majority report sustains the action of the company in dismissing four men for drinking while in uniform. The minority report submits that the rule violated was not generally enforced and recommends the reinstatement of the men. It would seem that there is yet a chance for an amicable settlement.

Implement Amalgamation.

Toronto, Dec. 12.—A very important step has been taken by the Massey Harris Co. in the purchase of the Johnston Harvesters Co.'s work at Batavia, N. Y. The sum involved is between two and three million dollars. The Johnston Harvester Co. is one of the oldest and best known companies in the United States. About half of its business is done in that country, and the remainder is export trade. It now employs twelve hundred men and has a larger ground area than the Massey Harris works here.

Entertained A Lunatic

Boston, Mass., Dec. 12.—The heads of several departments in the Federal Building, who were so favorably impressed with a Frenchman who represented himself as being a member of the staff of the Paris Figaro that they devoted some of their valuable time showing him through the building were obliged to stand considerable good natured bantering yesterday, when they learned that the distinguished Frenchman recently escaped from a lunatic asylum in Montreal.

Immigration Commissioner Billings was notified, and at once ordered a search for the visitor, but up to a late hour he had not been found.

SPEAKS ON RECIPROCITY.

James J. Hill's Address Before Canadian Society, New York.

New York, Dec. 12.—James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway, made a strong plea for reciprocity with Canada at the fourteenth annual dinner of the Canada society.

Mr. Hill is out west at present, and the speech he was to deliver was read by Dr. George David Stewart, former president of the society. Both nations, he said, demanded a closer and more definite commercial compact and he thought that if a concensus of opinion could be taken, reciprocity would have a majority on both sides of the line.

States' Third Best Customer.

Canada, he pointed out, is today the third best customer of the United States, and our imports from and exports to the Dominion have increased within the last ten years 131 per cent. Our present import duty, he said, was not a protection, but a punishment for the consumer. The opportunity for re-establishing free trade between the two countries, he declared, was never better and he advised that it be seized before it was too late. The dinner was one of the most successful in the history of the society.

HETTY GREEN HARD WORKER

Son Speaks on Life of Richest Woman in the World.—Has A Wonderful Memory For Minute Details.

It so happened that I was born abroad. We lived in England until I was 8 years old, and we might be living there now had not a bank in this country failed owing my mother a large sum of money. She came to New York to see about the failure, and since then has lived in America and taken an active part in business.

We returned to Bellows Falls, in Vermont, where I prepared for Fordham College, from which I was graduate at the age of eighteen. I sometimes thought, as I now remember, that it would be nice if mother would make me president of the Chemical National Bank of New York. But I had vague ideas concerning the future. I had been told by my mother that the property she had was not her own, that she was entitled to the income and interest, but no part of the principal. The property, she said, was to be handed down to her children, and they, in turn, guarding it carefully as honest and prudent trustees, were to hand it down to their children.

Exactness in Affairs.

My mother is careful concerning the expenditure of money, because she has exact rules on which to conduct her business. It is not for me to say that the rules are faulty. From results obtained they appear to be about right.

"Never give a penny to a well man," she has told me more than once. "Help him, but make him do something in return, if it is no more than to carry a brick around the block. When a man is willing to work give him a steady job if you can. Compel every one in your employ to earn his pay, otherwise you are injuring him and yourself."

"'If a man owes you $956.17,' she often said, 'don't accept $956.15. If you do your books will not balance, nor will they balance if, owing him $956.17, you only pay him $956.15.

"'After your business is over you may take him to dinner and the theatre, but don't invite him until the transaction has been closed and the money paid.' Much has been printed about my mother that is untrue. She has been represented as being a parsimonious woman. Such is not the fact, however; the Greens care very little about dress. I prefer, when the weather is warm, to wear an unstarched shirt and a belt. But the Greens want to be neat, if they are old-fashioned.

Essentially of Memory

I am back in New York possibly to remain permanently. My mother is 76 years old. She has worked harder than has any man in New York. She can work yet, but sustained labor, although her health is good, wearies her, and so I am here to share some of her burdens. As to personal qualities necessary for success in business, I put memory first on the list. We may say that some particular man is able and brilliant. What we mean, although we do not realize it, is that he has an abnormal memory. If you will think the matter over, you will see that I am right.

Memory and the genius to apply it prevents one from repeating his mistakes of judgment or fact. Mrs. Green will say: "That transaction," referring to a matter long since closed, "involved the sum of $526,429.36." The clerks, before they got used to it, would open their mouths and eyes simultaneously. Some men will come in and remark that property on Fifth avenue and Thirty-third street is bound to increase in value. "Mr. So-and-So," mother would reply, "expressed the same opinion three years ago last September."

Greens Not Speculators.

Besides an extraordinary memory, my mother has great wisdom and a clear and sure vision.

She has never made any money in speculation—the Greens don't speculate. She has been what you might call a one-bank man. You may have noticed when currency is scarce in New York Mrs. Green always has plenty to lend on good collateral. There is no better judge of commercial paper in the United States. I am sure her total losses on that particular kind of security have been less than $10,000. Again, showing her method of management, she rarely if ever sells any of her property. She buys it intelligently and then keeps it, regardless of the market fluctuations or the increase of value.

She has done better than most men She has worked night and day, being a trustee, she holds, of the estate that was left to her and which, unimpaired she must leave to others.—Edward Howland R. Green, in interview in Cincinnati Enquirer.

Fall at Rink Fatal.

Brandon, Man., Dec. 12—Roy Powell, aged 30, one of the best known young men in Brandon, died in the hospital this morning of blood poisoning. He was the son of Peter Powell, owner of the Grandview hotel, of which deceased was manager. The young man sustained a fall at the skating rink last Wednesday and injured his elbow. He did not complain much till Friday, when the injury became very painful. He went to the hospital for treatment Saturday and died at an early hour this morning. He was in the hotel business at Melita and Oxbow before coming to Brandon.

PRIZES FOR SEED FAIR

To Be Held in Regina During January.—Several Changes are Made and New Sections Added Since Last Year.

The Saskatchewan College of Agriculture is issuing a list of the prizes offered at the Provincial Seed Fair, which will be held in Regina in January next. Several changes have been made since last year. New sections have been added and cash prizes are now offered for wheat, oats, barley, flax, peas, potatoes, corn, western rye grass seed, brome grass seed, alfalfa seed, and red clover seed. In last year's prize list there were no classes for peas, potatoes, corn or alfalfa.

Instead of requiring that all exhibits be made through the agricultural societies, as was the case last year, the rule has been broadened to allow any person in the province to exhibit, and entries will be received direct from growers of seed. Agricultural societies may themselves exhibit and compete for prizes, but members of the society will have to make entry on their own behalf. The provision which made of the province two districts, a northern and a southern, has been changed and at the forthcoming seed fair all grain of the same kind will be in direct competition.

Prize lists will be mailed in a few days to secretaries of agricultural societies, to the winners of prizes in the seed fairs which are being held in Saskatchewan this year, and to the exhibitors at previous seed fairs. Any other persons who desire copies should at once write to F. Hedley Auld, Director of Agricultural Extension, Saskatoon.

A trio of experts have been invited to judge the exhibits at the Provincial Seed Fair, Prof. C. P. Bull, of Minnesota College of Agriculture; Prof. John Bracken, of the Saskatchewan College of Agriculture, and C. J. Turnbull, manager of the Steele Briggs Seed Co., Winnipeg. The judging will be done during January 24-28, and the annual farmers' convention, which has become such a popular event, will be held during the following week. The convention dates are January 31 to Feb. 3. A splendid programme is being prepared for both men and women, and it is probable that a programme for dairymen will also be offered at the same time. A provincial competition in judging seed grain will be held at the convention and a championship prize will be offered for the highest aggregate score for judging wheat, oats, barley and flax.

ELEVATOR PROSECUTION.

Criminal Proceedings Commenced Against Thunder Bay Co.

Winnipeg, Dec. 12.—Criminal proceedings were officially set on foot by Warehouse Commissioner Castle in the City Police Court against the Thunder Bay Elevator Co., Ltd., of Fort William. The information charges that on December 11th, the Thunder Bay Elevator Co. did unlawfully render an untrue and incorrect statement to the warehouse commissioner of the quantities of 1, 2, and 3 Northern and No. 4 grades of wheat respectively in store in its elevator for the week ending December 10th, 1909, such elevator having been declared a terminal elevator and, said company's warehouse manons was issued and hearing set for Wednesday before Hon. Daly, but it is understood it will then be further adjourned.

This action has been pending some time and it is generally known to the grain trade that this information is but one of several that may be laid on the strongest information in the possession of the commissioner. While the exact wording refers only to untrue and incorrect statements, it is understood the real basis of action taken by the commissioner is the belief that mixing had been resorted to. Several cases were brought nearly a year ago against several terminal elevators who pleaded guilty to mixing and paid fines of $500 each after appearing before Magistrate Daly.

Fatal Fall Into Well.

Brandon, Man., Dec. 12.—Joseph Parker fell into a well on Paterson's farm west of Brandon Sunday night and lost his life. He was foreman on the farm and went out in the evening to attend to some work. Not returning a search was made and at midnight the unfortunate man was found at the bottom of the well, apparently having broken through the planking at the top. When discovered he was in a critical condition as the result of his fall and remaining in the ice cold water. The doctor was quickly summoned from the city, but was too late to render any aid. Parker came here a number of years ago from Franksville, Ont.

GERMAN FINANCES.

Will be Able to Balance Expenditures With Income in a Year.

Berlin, Dec. 12.—Herr Wermouth, Secretary of the Imperial Treasury, explaining in the Reichstag the financial position of the empire, showed that one year hence Germany for the first time in many years will be able to balance her expenditures with her income. The government has borrowed on an aggregate nearly $72,000,000 annually since 1900.

The extraordinary expenditures under the naval law are approaching an end and the reduction in this by some six million: will begin in the budget for 1912. The extraordinary expenses for new construction will disappear, the said said, in 1917.

The improved financial position brought about by the new taxes was indicated by the reduction in treasury bills from $159,000,000 in May, 1909, to $40,000,000 at the present time. The secretary said the time was not far distant when the finances of the country would be on a sound basis.

CHANGES IN CHINA

Will Have a Democratic Form of Government After New Year.—An Imperial Parliament With Duke Tsai as Premier.

Pekin, China, Dec. 12.—It seems safe to announce that the ancient and absolute regime in China will exist only historically after the Chinese New Year in January, 1911. It is stated that the throne has decided to accede to the resolution of the Imperial Senate praying for the immediate creation of a constitutional cabinet. Political events in China have moved with a rapidity that appears almost revolutionary when it is considered that the provincial assemblies, representing the first step toward popular government is the Empire's history of thousands of years, were inaugurated so recently as Oct. 14, 1909.

The first Imperial Senate met on October 3 last. The late Empress Dowager had decreed that a general representative body to be known as the Imperial Parliament be convoked in 1915, at the end of a nine-year period of preparation. The reported compliance to the throne is regarded as a compromise. The Senate will not press for an immediate Parliament, but proposes to introduce the government on a single chamber basis until 1913. It is understood that the venerable Prince Ching, of Boxer memory, the present "power behind the throne," will retire and that Duke Tsai will become Prime Minister.

In this connection it is recalled that the Duke was a member of the travelling commission for the investigation of foreign parliamentary governments in 1905-6, and that in the earlier years his life was attempted in this city.

The Senate at present is discussing the financial budget in committee and seriously reducing what it considers the unnecessary expenditures of the old regime. The body, however, is not likely to attack the gravest burden, namely the Manchu pensions, which extend to every member of the conquering race of Chinese, though it is said that there is a determination to cut off these pensions when the power of the legislating assembly is completely electoral.

December Athletic World.

The Athletic World by its December number more strongly than ever establishes its position as the best athletic and sports magazine in Canada. Its exhaustive treatment of the whole national and world aspects and occurrences in the realm of outdoor and indoor sports fills a long felt want. The illustrations are many and excellent, depicting the happenings in universal athletics, especially presenting to Canadians everything of sporting moment in the Dominion, giving a complete resume of the past month's seasonable sports. It is a national monthly of world scope for Canadian followers of athletic sports.

Continuous Coincedence.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Within three miles of each other's home, Mrs. Elizabeth L. Mountz and Mrs. T. M. Patterson died recently at the same hour. They were both 85 years old, and were close companions since girlhood. Some three years ago, on the same day as their death, both fell and fractured the right hip, within three hours of each other. Since that time both had been confined to bed. This incident created widespread attention, and almost daily, enquiries were made as to each other's condition.

Melville Bank Burned.

Melville, Sask., Dec. 12.—The branch of the Dominion Bank here was totally destroyed by fire early this morning. The blaze started shortly before midnight and rapidly spread to all parts of the building. The bank was erected here less than a year ago, and was the finest building of its kind in town.

OVER NINETY MILLIONS

Population of the United States Is Growing Rapidly.—Iowa Is The Only State To Show A Decrease.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 12.—The population of the United States should be 91,193,490 if the rate of increase shown by states on which complete returns have been received and tabulated by the census office is maintained.

Counting New Mexico and Arizona as states, full returns of the enumeration under the thirteenth census have been tabulated for thirty-three out of the forty-nine and the District of Columbia. They show a grand total of 66,355,178 as against 55,299,636 for the same area in 1900. This is a gain of 20 per cent. over the 75,994,575 indicated by the census of 1900. A corresponding increase for the sixteen remaining states would bring the figures for the entire country up to the number stated.

The states not yet announced are Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, New Jersey, North Dakota, North Carolina, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Of these it is expected that Texas and Washington will show large increases and that Georgia, New Jersey, Montana, Utah, Wyoming and the Dakotas will go beyond the average, so that there is little doubt that the total will be even more than the present tabulation indicates. It would not be surprising if the aggregate would be almost 91,500,000.

The aggregate increase in the thirty-three states accounted for is 11,055,542.

Oglahoma with 109.7 per cent., and Idaho with 101.3 per cent. are the only states whose increases have run over 100 per cent., and Iowa is the state which has shown a decrease.

IMPROVING HORSE BREEDING.

Country Is Not Making the Progress That it Should.

Is this country making the progress in horse breeding that it should? asks the Canadian Farm. The highest success cannot be said to have been attained until the average farmer has been reached and is doing his best to produce the type of horse the market demands and which will best meet his own needs. Has Canada reached that stage yet? This country can boast of possessing some of the best horsemen to be found anywhere, men who know their business, know the kind of horse to breed to, and how to take care of the progeny so as to make the most out of it. These men have done yeomen service in bringing in first-class breeding stock and in maintaining Canada's reputation for good horses outside of the Dominion. But step down a stage, in fact, a number of stages, to the every day farmer who rises one or two colts a year. Is he keeping up his end of the game in this horse-breeding business? The impetus given to horse breeding in recent years has, no doubt, had some effect and worked for the improvement of the general horse stock of the country. But there is much to be done before the average horse produced in this country is of a quality that will command the top price on the market. A big educational campaign is needed. Farmers' Institutes might do more than they have been doing in this connection.

Balaglava Hero Destitute.

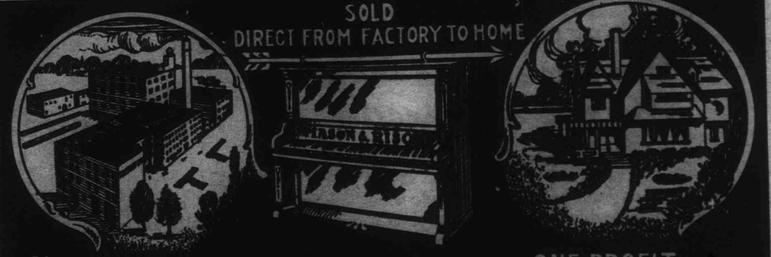
Oakland, Cal., Dec. 12.—Geo. Smith, one of the immortal six hundred that rode in the charge of the Light Brigade at the battle of Balaklava, now at the age of 84, is seeking charity from the Oakland board of supervisors. He is asking for sufficient funds to carry himself and his daughter to British soil in order that he may revive his claim to a pension from the British government. For bravery in the Indian mutiny he was awarded the Victoria Cross and received a personal gift of twenty sovereigns from Queen Victoria. After the Indian mutiny Smith came to America, later becoming a citizen.

Girvin Robbery.

Girvin, Sask., Dec. 12—Another chapter was added to the series of burglaries which have bee ntaking place in the province when early Saturday morning the Girvin post office was made the scene of a bold robbery. Owing to the confusion and the general excitement in the town it is impossible to get any details of the burglary. The first alarm was given by the explosion which wrecked the safe, and which also did some damage to the interior of the building. It is reported, however, that the safe was pretty well cleaned out and that the contents made up a good substantial sum, although no figures are to be had as yet.

Mason & Risch Pianos

SOLD DIRECT FROM FACTORY TO HOME



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