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—OF—
Chas. H. Fletcher
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ot sold in bulk. Don't allow anyone to sell
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WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.
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e of the meeting the petition was
ed by almost all present.
r. C. Bazett drew attention to the
atisfactory state of the law on
gages, and moved the following
ution, which was seconded by Mr.
IcKinnon and carried: "That this
ting draw the attention of our mem-
to the present mortgage law, and
ress upon them the necessity of
e alteration which shall protect the
gagee from the present unjust
ite, by which the property mortg-
is not sole collateral for the sum
nced; also that they should en-
or to secure the abolition of the
gage tax."
e Reeve said, as the political part of
business seemed completed, he would
the meeting to consider whether
thing might not be done to develop
wealth of coal which he believed lay
r our feet. He read a letter from
Robins, manager of the Vancouver
Co., in answer to an inquiry on the
f boring, and pictured the advan-
to the whole community which
d arise from the establishment of a
mine in our midst. He thought a
e subscription to meet the cost of
might be the best way to advance
patter, and expressed his readiness,
e meeting endorsed the scheme, to
the list with $10.
e chairman suggested a committee
uiry, which was supported by Mr.
eaumont. Mr. James Evans pro-
the Reeve, Mr. Beaumont, Mr. A.
e and himself. This was seconded
r. Beaumont and carried.
. Horn moved "that our members
structed to oppose the system of
ing bonuses." This was seconded
r. C. Bazett and carried.
ved by the Reeve, seconded by Mr.
ythe and carried, "that the secre-
forward copies of the resolutions to
embers and the press."

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NOTICE.

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intend to apply to the Chief Commis-
of Lands and Works for permission to-
se 160 acres of pasture land, situated at
ers Springs, about 7 miles north of Alkali
Lilloet District, described as follows:
mencing at the N.W. corner, thence south
ns; thence east 40 chains; thence north
ins; thence west 40 chains to point of
mencement.

HENRY BOWE.
H Lake, B.C., Jan. 8th, 1897. ja16.

The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

THIRTY-NINTH YEAR. VICTORIA BRITISH COLUMBIA THURSDAY FEBRUARY 18 1897. VOLUME XXXIX. NO. 19

OCCUPATION OF CRETE.

Four of the Great Powers Land Marines at Canea—Turkey's Attitude.

Warlike Preparations at Athens—Greece Will Carry Out Policy of Annexation.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—A dispatch to the Times from Canea, dated 6 p.m. on Monday, says that at 3:15 p.m. a launch from H.M.S. Revenge, the flagship of Rear-Admiral Harris, entered the harbor, the launch being commanded by Lieut. Nelson. Sub-Lieuts. Addison and Hunt landed with a detachment of marines, who were drawn up on the quay. Next came launches from H.M.S. Rodney and Barfleur, followed shortly afterward by French landing parties. Then the Austrian, Russian and Italian forces put in an appearance. The weather was pleasant and the scene brilliant and highly picturesque. The Mohammedans did not make any demonstration of any kind. The British force, consisting entirely of marines, was met by Consul-General Billiotti and other British officials. Some Turkish officers were present as well as the military attaches of the French and Italian embassies, and the Constantinople Marines. The sailors of the various nations then marched to the quarters prepared for them by the authorities at the request of the Italian admiral, the senior commanding officer, who also arranged the order of precedence in landing. The British forces occupy the large buildings adjoining the telegraph office.

The great majority of the Mohammedan population seemed apparently pleased with the occupation of the island by the powers. Many of their leaders begged that the occupation be extended to the whole island. Only a small minority of the more fanatically disposed seemed discontented. It was arranged that the occupation of Heraklion and Retimo should take place simultaneously if possible. Without doubt the landing of the troops will produce a great effect upon the Christians and tend to restore peace.

Mushavir Ismail Bey, after a conference with the military authorities, addressed a note to the foreign admirals stating that he gladly accepted the occupation and that he hoped it might be extended to Sitia, Kisamo, Selino and elsewhere.

The flight of Prince George Berovitch, governor of the Island of Crete, and the resignation of Daoud Pasha, brings affairs on the Island of Crete to a crisis. Mustafa Pasha, second in command of the troops, is at Heraklion, and Edhem Pasha, commandant of the fortress, is disabled by a wound. Thus both the civil and the military powers are in a state of abeyance. Chaos is complete. Ismail Bey has been appointed civil governor of Crete, succeeding Prince George Berovitch. Mussulman Badeyes has been elected mayor of Canea.

A dispatch to the Chronicle from Athens says that the commander of an English ironclad threatened the commander of one of the Greek cruisers that he would sink his boat if he again fired at the Turkish transport. The Chronicle also gives dispatches relating to the substance of an interview between Prince George of Greece and the British Admiral at Canea, and vouches for their absolute correctness. The Prince having admitted that his orders were to prevent the disembarking of Turkish troops by force if necessary, the admiral without any reservation declared that he had strict orders to use every means in his power to prevent the execution of the plans of the Prince, and, however much he might regret it, he had no option in the matter. He then desired to know the Prince's intentions under the circumstances. Prince George replied that he should execute to the letter the service with which he had been entrusted. The Chronicle editorially denounces in a highly indignant manner the foregoing treatment of a friendly Prince and nation, and says that it will cause a thrill of passionate shame to enter the heart of every man caring for freedom. The Chronicle's editorial then exhorts Greece in God's name to go on.

From one of the ambassadors in London, whose name cannot be published, a representative of the Associated Press has obtained the following information: The King of Greece is determined at all costs to carry out the annexation of Crete. In this he has the complete sympathy and every possible assistance upon the part of the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the royal family of Denmark, and the Czar, consistent with the necessary official attitude of the powers in view of the Turkish situation. The agreement of the powers provides for the occupation of Canea, Heraklion and Retimo only, and they will prevent any landing of troops or ammunition at these points.

A dispatch to the Chronicle from Constantinople says the council of ministers sat until early this (Tuesday) morning. It is impossible to learn whether any decision was arrived at or not, but it appears that Turkey is extremely unwilling to make the Cretan question a casus belli with Greece.

The Athens correspondent of the Standard says that a high Greek official has assured him that Emperor William was largely influential in bringing about the present solution, which extricated Greece from an embarrassing position and which guarantees peace and order for the island of Crete. Public anxiety has been greatly relieved and it is considered that the crisis is at an end.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Vienna says M. Delyannis has declined to accept the responsibility for his warlike action and resigned. The King, however, has refused to accept his resignation.

The Rome correspondence of the Daily Mail says that Crete now practically belongs to Greece. If Turkey accepts the situation the marines will withdraw and Crete de facto passes under the sovereignity of Greece. The Grecian government assents to this arrangement, and Prince George and his flotilla will be withdrawn from Cretan waters.

A dispatch to the Times from Constantinople says the porte is sending a note to Greece and threatens to break off diplomatic relations unless the Greek squadron is withdrawn from Turkish waters.

The secretary of the foreign office, Mr. Curzon, in the House of Commons today said that the British admiral in Cretan waters could not have used the threats of Prince George to Greece which were attributed to him in press dispatches from Canea yesterday. The British commander was said to have threatened to use force against Prince George, in the event of the latter executing the orders he had received from the King of Greece and the Greek government.

CANEA, Island of Crete, Feb. 16.—British, French, Russian, Italian and Austrian flags are floating over Canea, and this fact has caused general satisfaction here. The state of uncertainty which has so long prevailed is now at an end, and the Christians believe themselves to be rid for all time of Mussulman rule. There are 450 foreign marines ashore, and they occupy the best positions in the town. The British, Russian, French and Italian warships each furnished 100 marines to the landing party, and the Austrian warship contributed 50 men to the foreign garrison. Shortly after landing yesterday afternoon the naval commanders issued a summons addressed to the commander of the Greek army at Platonic to withdraw his troops, and the insurgents were called upon to cease hostilities pending the decision of the powers as to the future of Crete. To this the Greek commander replied: "I have come here with four battalions of Greek troops with orders to occupy this country, and I must carry out my orders pending further instructions." The order of the foreign admirals being confined to preventing the landing of Greek forces at Canea and Retimo, they could not interfere with the Greeks.

Later.—Officer Gen. D'Armes has sent to Akroliri to notify the insurgents of the joint occupation of Canea by the forces of the powers, and calling upon them to lay down their arms and cease hostilities. The insurgent leaders promised to consider the matter, and, it is understood, will send a delegation for that purpose to Canea.

ATHENS, Feb. 16.—It is generally believed here that the Cretan feature of the Eastern question is now almost a thing of the past, and the landing of Greek troops on the Island of Crete yesterday afternoon is not likely to turn out a casus belli between Turkey and Greece. The absolute decision of Greece to persist in the occupation of Crete and the protectorate of the Christians of that island in spite of the attitude of the powers is formed on the declaration of the Cretans that they are prepared to shed the last drop of their blood in order to accomplish their national aspirations, which, they add, cannot be satisfied by anything short of complete union with Greece. These circumstances were communicated by Greece to the powers, and the policy of the Greek government has been carried out in every point. An order of the minister of war, M. Smolenitz, has been gazetted, appointing Colonel Vasse aide-de-camp of the King and commander of the Greek army corps landed yesterday at Platonic, a short distance from Canea.

After explaining that the action of Greece is due to the fact that she is unable to tolerate any longer the "lamentable situation of the Christians (in Crete) to whom we are united by the sacred ties of religion," the order proceeds, "the government consequently decide to occupy the island in the name of King George and raise his flag over the fortresses of which we will take possession. All your actions shall be accomplished in conformity with Greek laws in the name of King George and on the responsibility of his government. So soon as you have landed you will publish a proclamation announcing the occupation of the island by Greek troops."

This has been done. Colonel Vassess, after landing at Platonic, issued a proclamation to the Cretan people, announcing the occupation of the island in the name of King George of Greece and calling upon the Turks to surrender to the Greek forces. The reservists, who have been called to the colors, are rapidly registering at the different military centres, but it is hoped that the most serious difficulty to be anticipated is the possible severance of diplomatic relations between Greece and Turkey.

ATHENS, Feb. 15.—Replying to the collective note of the powers, the Grecian government has declared that its intervention in the affairs of Crete is justified by the massacres there and that it is not due to a desire to disturb the island. The Greek government announces that it is determined to continue to dispatch troops for the purpose of restoring order. Great excitement prevails here. The reserves of 1872-73 have been called upon to rejoin their colors within 48 hours. Crowds continue to throng the rooms of the legislative chamber, anxious for news from Retimo, Candia and Canea, where the Christians are in the minority. Two steamers full of insurgents started for Crete at midnight. The rebels on the island are divided into three bodies. They are commanded in the vicinity of Candia by a captain of engineers and in the vicinity of Canea by a captain of artillery.

According to a dispatch received here from Crete this afternoon, Greek troops have attacked and occupied Fort Aghia, capturing 400 Turks, including 100 soldiers.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 16.—A council of ministers has been sitting at the Yildiz Kiosk all day. As a state of war between Greece and Turkey now practically exists, it is believed that the council will decide to recall the Turkish minister at Athens, As Imbey, and give the Greek minister, Prince Maurocordate, his passports.

COLOGNE, Germany, Feb. 16.—A dispatch to the Cologne Gazette from Canea says that Greek warships are stopping Turkish merchantmen.

EFFECTS OF THE FIRE.

Expert Opinion on Restoration Work—Dominion Analyst for British Columbia.

Victoria, Vancouver and Eastern Railway—Incendiary Developments at Ottawa.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Feb. 15.—Hon. Mr. Tarte has brought up a building expert, Peter Lyall, of Montreal, to give his opinion in regard to rebuilding the western block. Mr. Lyall says that to make the building thoroughly fireproof the woodwork from the basement to the attic will have to be taken out and ironwork substituted. To do this work will take many months, but the building could be restored to its former condition in six or eight weeks.

Sir William VanHorne and Vice-President Shaughnessy were here on Saturday to object to a charter or aid being given to the Victoria, Vancouver and Eastern syndicate.

The British Columbia delegation saw Sir Henri Joly to-day to urge the appointment of Mr. Lawson, of Toronto, to the position of public analyst for British Columbia. The late government proposed to appoint Dr. Fagan, of Westminster, but the Governor-General withheld his signature.

The inland revenue department has issued orders that whiskey for export must be put up in cases branded "export," instead of stencilling these letters. In time past instances have arisen that exports of whiskey on which no excise duty was paid have been diverted to home consumption.

An innocent little query from the Ontario government on a matter of postage followed by a constitutional opinion from Sir Oliver Mowat, has led to cutting off the franking privileges enjoyed by the provinces for some years.

City postmasters have been advised that as soon as the postal guides for 1897 are out, which will be in about ten days, that the law will be enforced in reference to the classes of mail matter hitherto allowed free, which will have to pay postage at the rate of one cent for two ounces. The provincial secretaries of all the provinces have been appraised of the opinion of the Minister of Justice, and that franking privileges hereafter must be confined strictly within the limits laid down by the statute, viz: to petitions and addresses sent to the legislatures and to reports of departments and other papers printed by order of such legislatures.

Extraordinary incendiary developments occurred here to-day on three occasions, the fire brigade being called out by private alarms to the Harmon school, a young ladies seminary, which has a large number of boarders. The first alarm was at 10 o'clock last night in the basement of the building, which was quickly extinguished. Then at 1:30 a.m. the brigade was summoned for a fire in the class room. One of the girls was suspected and at 3 o'clock this afternoon Miss Harmon sent her home. Half an hour later there was a second fire in one of the class rooms. Fortunately in each case the damage was light. To-night as a matter of precaution all the girls are sleeping away from the building.

TRADE IN CANADA.

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—R. G. Dun & Co., in their last weekly review, say of Canadian trade: "No considerable change appears, but orders for spring delivery in dry goods and hardware are fairly numerous at Toronto, and the outlook is considered better. At Winnipeg trade is but quiet, and collections are only fairly good. Montreal quotes no important increase, and business is but moderate, with collections slow. At Quebec the distribution of merchandise has been fair in most lines and a slight improvement is reported in collections. Wholesale trade at St. John, N.B., is fair for the season, but retail trade is very dull. The prospects for the spring trade are considered hopeful, though several failures during the week are disquieting. Vancouver reports a fair amount of business with no change in the general jobbing trade and collections not yet satisfactory. A number of vessels have arrived there to load lumber. Victoria reports trade quiet, both wholesale and retail, with fair collections."

HEALTH OF THE POPE.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—The report of the illness of the Pope has been adequately disproved by the heavy programme of functions for Lent and the anniversary of the coronation of His Holiness which has just been drawn up at which he will actively assist. The coronation anniversary will be observed on March 4. His Holiness will deliver an important speech, and in addition to the usual consistories, will officiate at the fatiguing ceremony of canonizing Father Ferrier, the apostle of Lorraine, and Father Lacaris, the founder of the Barabites in St. Peters on Ascension Day.

MISERY AND FAMINE.

HAVANA, Feb. 13.—Capt.-General Weyler continues to advance eastward. The insurgent forces in the province of Santa Clara are reported to be retreating in the direction of the Provinces of Puerto Principe. The Spanish columns are destroying everything along the route they are following, their passage being marked by dense columns of smoke on all sides. The troops are burning all the huts abandoned by the peasants, and the families of the latter are enduring misery and the pangs of famine.

GERMAN NAVAL INCREASES.

BERLIN, Feb. 13.—Emperor William's remarks at a parliamentary dinner given by Dr. Miquel, minister of finance, strongly urging that the strength of the German navy be increased, and advocating a coalition of the Conservatives, Imperialists and National Liberals in order to carry out this patriotic work, have been commented upon throughout the empire, and the newspapers point out that it is evidently the life dream of His Majesty to make Germany as powerful at sea as she is on land. But all the papers, even the Conservative organs, maintain this dream is unrealizable, and the Centrists, as the strongest party in the reichstag, are deeply offended at being omitted by the Emperor in his list of national parties. The leading Centrist organ, the Volks Zeitung, says definitely that the Centrists will not support "such inflated naval plans," adding, "and if the reichstag is dissolved for rejecting them the elections will only put the government in a worse position. The election cry of new vessels and new taxes spell a sure defeat for the government. Let the Conservatives and the National Liberals consolidate. They will still be powerless." The Agrarian mouthpiece, the Deutsche Tuges Zeitung, also flatly denounces the naval scheme. It claims that the national parties will only unite under the banner of Agrarianism.

NEW GERMAN TARIFF.

BERLIN, Feb. 13.—A statement made in the reichstag by Count Posodoswski, secretary of the imperial treasury, that the so-called autonomist tariff will be adopted by the government, has created a sensation in commercial and financial circles, as it is the general belief that such a tariff at the expiration of existing commercial treaties will be used as a weapon against the countries whose competition is dreaded the most and against the United States. An official of the foreign office, who enjoys the full confidence of Baron Marschal von Bieberstein, minister for foreign affairs, says that the new tariff will be prepared jointly by the foreign office and finance department. The first stage of the work is just begun. Expert statements are being obtained from every point of the empire in order to get an accurate picture of the condition of the various industries and trades, and especially husbandry, so as to fix precisely the degree the protection needed in each case. The new tariff based on this inquiry will be passed by the reichstag in time to be used as a means of pressure to conclude favorable treaties, dating from 1903.

TOTAL LOSS OF MANHOOD.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Representative Cummings of New York has introduced a resolution requesting the Secretary of State to give the house of representatives any information he may have concerning the incident of the stripping of three lady passengers on board the U. S. mail steamer Olivette in the harbor of Havana, by Spanish soldiers and detectives. The resolution was referred to committee on foreign affairs, and a favorable report is expected next Wednesday. Mr. Cummings said: "If an English woman on an English vessel had been stripped by Spanish officers, as it has been alleged that an American woman was stripped, within 48 hours Moro Castle would come down or some apology would be made for it. I doubt even if Japan would have stood it. In my opinion it indicates a total loss of manhood and the keenest sympathy with savage inhumanity."

FRANCO-GERMAN "ENTENTE."

BERLIN, Feb. 13—Articles published in the press as to the advisability of a Franco-German entente against Great Britain are followed with much interest here. Prince Bismarck's organ, the Hamburger Nachrichten says: "Much as we like to welcome in the interests of peace, the choice of France in favor of Germany against England, yet we do not believe that French politics will yet make such a choice. France is ready temporarily to co-operate with Germany in the instance of the far East or in the African colonies, when directed against England, especially if Russia sanctions, but we do not believe for a moment that France, under any circumstances, would relinquish her hopes of recovering Alsace-Lorraine and regaining military and political preponderance in Europe."

DEEP WATER WAYS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Senator Davis, from the committee of commerce, has reported with favorable recommendation an amendment to the sundry civil bill introduced by Senator Davis, making an appropriation for a deep water way between the great lakes and Atlantic tidewater. The amendment was amended so as to require an estimate of the cost of such a canal as is required, as well as an examination and survey, so as to make $100,000 of the $150,000 appropriation immediately available, and to require that the work be done by a board of three army engineers.

THE CLERGY IN POLITICS.

MONTREAL, Feb. 15.—(Special)—J. A. Briquart, a prominent local Liberal, speaking before the members of the Letellier club, said the provincial contest which was about to begin was a fight of the Canadian clergy against civil liberty in that province. When a priest preaches from the pulpit to remind us of our religious duties, he went on, it is God who speaks and he must be obeyed, but if he speaks politics he is no longer a man of God, but he becomes a politician, and we have the right to believe that our cause is as good as the one which he defends.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report
Royal Baking Powder
ABSOLUTELY PURE

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

Vancouver Wants a New Drill Shed—Farmers' Convention in the Royal City.

A Steamer Frozen In—Another Chinese Murder—From the Chilcoten Cattle Range.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, Feb. 14.—J. W. Haskins, manager of the Orphan Boy, says that in eleven years of active prospecting work he has staked out over 250 propositions and some of them are the most prominent claims in the province. He claims to have staked the first quartz claim ever recorded in British Columbia—namely, the Monarch mine at Field—which was afterwards lost to him in a lawsuit. Since then there has been $100,000 worth of work done on the mine. He was the first to locate claims in the Lardeau and Duncan, having located 40 claims in the Lardeau district alone. The best work that he had done, however, he claimed to have been in the Big Bend country, where some 60 quartz claims have been located by him. There are also many placer claims being worked, perhaps the most successful of them being the Consolidated French Creek Co., operating on McCullough creek, and averaging an output of $10 a day to the man, and this average has been kept up for a great many years, and the end is not yet. The Columbia hydraulic company are also drifting on French creek with great success, and $2,850 has been so far taken from French creek from a patch not more than three-quarters of a mile long. Chicago and Seattle firms are getting in machinery for their claims on French and McCullough creeks. Besides these a large number of smaller claims are also being worked along the numerous streams. There are also over forty leases in the country. Ten quartz claims staked by Mr. Haskins have recently been bonded by a Seattle syndicate, who purchased them from Vancouver owners.

It has often been said that mines in the Big Bend country could not be worked, owing to the expense of transportation. This, says Mr. Haskins, is a fallacy. A steamer could ply eight months in the year within eighteen miles of the principal camps, and call at numerous smaller camps all along the route. Machinery can be carried to the Orphan Boy—Mr. Haskin's mine—by going up the Columbia to the mouth of the Gold Stream, within eight miles of the mine. The government intends in the spring to build a new trail from the mouth of the Gold Stream to the camps on McCullough and French creeks. Heretofore a large hill called "the Devil's garden" had to be travelled. The new trail would shorten the route. The ore is all free milling, and after a mill is erected, costing $2,000 or $3,000, the actual cost of extracting the bullion, exclusive of mining, is about 60 cents a ton, abundance of water being handy for water power. Mr. Haskins said that since 1888 he had been trying to demonstrate that the Big Bend country was among the best mining sections in the province. For a long time he was about the only one who thought so; but he is making converts very fast now, and scarcely a day passes that some new deal is not under negotiation or a mine claim transferred, Mr. Ferguson, M.E., perhaps being the latest to interest large English capital in the camp.

City Clerk McGuigan is inviting tenders for the site of a drill shed.

The local stock market is still very dull. Golden Cache is yet the most active stock. Two Friends is held for 35 cents. These two stocks are practically all that are changing hands.

The annual report of the Orphan's Home showed that 41 children had been admitted to the home during the past year and 19 discharged, leaving at present 28 in the home; the oldest child is 13 years and the youngest eight months old. There had been no deaths during the year. Miss Penhale's management of the home has been reported as very satisfactory. The home is in a sound financial condition, having a balance on hand of $77.08.

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, Feb. 15.—Saturday a gang of miners entered the west level of the longwall workings of the Union colliery and on reaching a point where the roof is higher than in the surrounding slope owing to a fault crossing at that point, were received by a violent explosion of gas ignited by their naked pit lamp. Those who were injured were Mr. Thompson, overman of the mine, and another white man, both badly burned, and a Chinaman who had his arm broken by a falling piece of rock. None of the injuries are serious and all are doing well.

After a short illness of only ten days, Mr. Frank Rowbottom, proprietor of the Union bakery, an old and respected citizen of this city for many years, passed away at 10 o'clock on Friday night. Mr. Rowbottom had been suffering from inflammatory rheumatism, which during the last few days has been accompanied by a high fever and affection of the heart. He was 56 years of age and leaves a wife, three daughters and five sons to mourn their great loss. Deceased has also two brothers living here, Messrs. Fred and William Rowbottom. The family are natives of Churchanson, near Sheffield, and have lived in Nanaimo for nearly sixteen years.

WESTMINSTER.

WESTMINSTER, Feb. 15.—G. W. Henry has been elected manager of the B. C. Fruit Exchange, and Mr. T. R. Pearson secretary.

There was a small attendance at the B. C. farmers' convention, though considerable business was done. H. T. Thrift, of Surrey, was elected president; W. H. Hayward, MacIntosh, vice-president, and a committee was appointed to revise the by-laws. In Mr. Hayward's address that gentleman stated that the farmers on the Island were much interested in the convention and were with them heart and soul. The slim attendance was not due to lack of interest, but to the inconvenience many of them would be put to in attending.

During the last year 39 cases were received in the Woman's hospital, 13 of them being operation cases. Much charitable work was done by the institution. Miss Phair, formerly of Toronto, a thoroughly competent nurse, is in charge.

KAMLOOPS.

(From the Inland Sentinel.)

Merchants at Alkali lake complain of a very light trade in furs, although fur-bearing animals seem to be more plentiful than ever. The Indians this winter are unwilling to trap.

Jack Hepburn has arrived to commence work on the Gold Cup mineral claim on Sugar Loaf mountain.

In spite of the weather the prospectors are busy all around the hills, and twenty-two fresh claims were recorded during the week.

Messrs. Cook and Armstrong, of Toronto, interested in the company operating the Iron Mask, were in town this week. They are pleased with the looks of things on Coal Hill. A rumor was current during the early part of the week that an offer of $25,000 had been made for the Iron Mask, but Mr. W. T. Newman denied all knowledge of such an offer.

The extreme dry weather of 1896 naturally left the Chilcoten cattle ranges in a barren state. Stock was poor at the early approach of winter, and last of all, such a sudden, "snappy" change in the weather, lasting many days, was a severe shock on stock. The loss, however, is not so far great, but authentic reports state that a big loss on cattle is expected ere spring opens up. There is every indication of an early spring.

Mr. C. H. Olson, of Tacoma, was up a few days ago, accompanied by Mr. J. Patterson, of New Westminster. The object is to build a dredger near the junction of the Chilcotin river. This particular place has been long known to miners as being very rich, and has been more than once tested by wing dams, etc. Operations will commence on or about March 1. It will require some 30,000 feet of lumber to construct the scow. There have been at least twenty-five Chinese rocking in this vicinity, all apparently making a few dollars, as some 25,000 pounds of freight were shipped up along the river early last fall. Far up into the headwaters of the Chilcotin is a vast country that has never been thoroughly prospected. This region has every appearance of a gold-bearing surface and of the existence of quartz as well.

REVELSTOKE.

(From the Kootenay Mail.)

The concentrator at Laurie is fast nearing completion under the management of Mr. Abeling, and will be in good running order by April 1.

Hugh McPherson, of the Great Northern, at Trout Lake, is steadily sorting and packing ore, and will keep on shipping while cowhiding lasts. Craig and Hillman, who have the contract for freighting this ore, have about 40 tons to the Landing. The cost of getting Great Northern ore down from the mine to Arrowhead is about $15 a ton and from there to Nelson $2.50.

CARIBOO.

(From the B.C. Mining Journal.)

It is reported that an Eastern company has taken a bond on the Blackwater, owned by Miller and Bressler, and that they will commence work as soon as possible.

A few men are steadily working at the Law claim and the tunnel is now carried about 150 feet into the hill side. It is expected that in the early spring the force will be largely augmented.

A special stage has arrived at Quesnelle carrying a party of six miners to work for Mr. Marsh at the quartz mines near Barkerville.

A good telegraph office has been opened at Pavilion, on the Ashcroft, Lillooet line, for the convenience of the public, with R. Cummings as operator. It will be thoroughly appreciated by the Pavilionites.

The Occidental claim, owned by Perkins and Bowron, is to be developed this spring, Mr. Baker, of the Cottonwood claim, having decided to investigate its possibilities.

The steamer Charlotte is being lifted from her bed of ice. D. McCaskill is superintending the construction of ways and means of hauling her on to terra firma, and it is hoped that a few days more will find her raised beyond the possibility of danger.

News of another Chinese case comes from down the Fraser a few miles below Ashcroft. A Chinaman was found dead with his throat cut. The affair, which is supposed to be one of the secret murders ordered by Chinese clan.