School Libraries Ably Discussed

Importance of Well-Selected Reading Matter for Young Students.

School Studies Should be Supplemented With Choice Literature.

Everyone who is at all interested in the matter of education, and desires to see the introduction of better methods of training into the schools of the province, should read with attention the following very able paper by Mr. David Wilson, B.A., inspector of schools. This paper was read and made a very deep impression at the meeting of the Provincial Teachers' Institute at Revelstoke, last Easter. The ideas set forth by the author provoked a lively discussion, and it is considered quite probable that the sound, practical common sense of his suggestions will be acted upon before very long by the government. All the critics admitted that the paper was a very valuable contribution to the great question of improved educational methods. Mr. Wilson has kindly allowed the Colonist to publish the paper, which is as follows:

At this day, it should not be necessary to advance arguments in favor of the establishment and maintenance of a library in every public school. But just to fortify ourselves, let us hear the opinions of several eminent educators. Horace Mann: "No one thing will contribute more to intelligent reading than a well selected school library." Dr. G. Stanley Hall: "The school has no right to teach how to read without doing much more than it now does to direct to the taste and confirm the habit of reading what is good rather than what is bad." Sir Joshua Fitch: "Until a good library is attached as a matter of course to every one of our elementary schools, a great opportunity of refining the taste and enlarging the knowledge of the young will continue to be wasted, and the full usefulness of those institutions will remain unattained. After all, it is the main business of a primary school, a chief part of the business of every school, to awaken a love of reading, and to give children pleasant associations with thought of books." Joseph Baldwin: "Carlyle has said that 'the true university of these days is a collection of books.' It is an education to know how to read and what to read. The school does its best work when it develops a taste for the best literature and fosters the reading habit. Man of thought as well as of action get their inspiration from books. A choice school library wisely used, doubles the efficiency of the school."

Further, the library movement of the present day adds another reason for having school libraries. The free public library has come to be regarded as a necessity, and justly so, for it can be made one of the great educational forces of the land. The library wants trained readers; it is certainly the duty of the school to provide this training. So important has this factor come to be regarded in the United States that Dr. W. T. Harris, commissioner of education, has gone so far as to say: "The school is set the task of teaching the pupil how to use the library in the best manner—that, I take it, is the central object towards which our American schools have been unconsciously tending." Dr. Harris thus makes the school to be merely an adjunct to the library.

Eminent educators then regard a library as an essential part of the equipment of a school. And it is, therefore, safe to repeat that a few shelves of books—well chosen, that is, some for entertainment and inspiration, others for information—and well used, come very near doubling the efficiency of a school. It is not to be wondered at that children whose reading habits receive little cultivation should have no love for books, at least, for those books which are wholesome and helpful. Nor at this point should we forget that the golden opportunity to cultivate the taste for reading and to direct it into proper channels is afforded in the elementary schools. It has been found that commonly the desire to read becomes strong about 8 years of age, increases steadily to 10, then rapidly from 11 to 14, culminating about 15, after which it often declines. The home, the school and the public or school library, working in harmony, should be able to provide for the child's needs in this matter. And, again, the opinion is offered that "every school should have its own little collection of choice books adapted to the stage of development of the children, and in the periods of leisure before school, after school, at the rainy day recess, or in leisure moments of finished lessons, the children should be allowed to use these books freely."

A university would not presume to exist, except on paper, without reference books in the different departments of literature and science. A High school, before receiving recognition as such, should also include a library as part of its equipment. Now, as far as I know, but two of the eight High schools in this province have much more than a mere beginning in this direction. While this is hardly creditable in the case of our High schools, the situation of the other schools in this respect is even worse. Of the several schools now in operation throughout the province, it is within the truth to state that not fifteen possess a small collection of books which may be dignified with the name of "school library." The establishment of these libraries, too, has been owing to the generosity and intelligence of a few city school boards as well as to the efforts of teachers interested.

It will thus be seen that with a school system thirty-two years old British Columbia has made but little progress in this field; in fact, scarcely a beginning. And the probability is that until the legislature takes some action and grants some pecuniary assistance, the progress in the establishment of school libraries will be extremely slow and unsatisfactory. If there is any doubt as to the wisdom of such a course on the part of the legislature, let that honorable body look abroad for evidence of the great value attached to education through libraries, and observe the readiness of other enlightened governments to appropriate public money liberally for the purpose with the full approval of the people.

Throughout Canada and the United States various plans have been adopted for securing libraries for schools, but only one can be said to have succeeded.

Under the permission plan, school boards are authorized to appropriate a certain sum yearly for the establishment and maintenance of libraries. This plan is varied by permitting the ratepayers to vote each year as to whether any sum shall be expended for library purposes. There is no instance where under this system even half the schools have secured libraries. Nova Scotia has this plan, but the 113 school libraries in that province worth $17,875, are found mostly in the wealthy sections, drawing an extra grant on account of class of teacher (one condition of the extra grant being the possession of a library.)

Under the duplication plan, the state, under certain limits, votes a sum equal to that raised by local tax for libraries. In Minnesota, after books are purchased by the local authorities, a suitable book case provided and a librarian (generally the teacher) appointed, a certified statement is sent to the State Superintendent of Education, and thereupon requisition is made upon the state auditor for one-half the amount expended, but no district can receive more than $20 the first year and $10 each succeeding year. A similar act (called the Library Act) is in force in New York, but in neither State are more than half the schools reported to be supplied with libraries. Two years ago the State of North Carolina passed a law appropriating $5,000 from the state funds to be paid out $10 to every school district that would appropriate $10 and whose citizens would contribute $10. The State Superintendent not long ago reported that the $5,000 was taken up in three months and that the State proposes to renew that vote ($5,000) every year until every school and every boy and girl had access to the best literature of the world. In Ontario regulations approved by order-in-council as late as last July, provide that any rural school board which purchases a library for the pupils shall be entitled to a share of whatever money may be appropriated for the purpose by the legislature, if it purchases such books as are contained in the approved list. The grant equivalent to half the sum expended, is not to exceed $10 in any one year. Ontario, you will notice, has just begun this work in connection with its common schools. In New Brunswick, wherever a school district raises a sum of money for establishing a library, or adding thereto, the Board of Education may grant to it a sum equal to one-half the sum so raised, not to exceed $20 in any one year. In 1899, only 24 of 1,471 schools in that province, were reported as purchasing books. In Connecticut the State makes grants to districts or towns for library on condition that a like sum is raised or expended. This is a somewhat more liberal regulation than those already mentioned, and it has provided more than half the schools with libraries.

Under the mandatory plan, school trustees must set aside annually for the purchase of library books a certain per cent of the school grant apportioned to each district. In Wisconsin the treasurer must withhold annually for the purchase of library books an amount equal to ten cents for each person of school age residing within the district. In Iowa, from five to fifteen cents, as may be ordered by the board, is withheld for each person within the age of five and twenty-one, for the purchase of library books. In California the county superintendent must set apart for district libraries not less than 5 per cent nor more than 10 per cent of the county school fund annually apportioned to the district. In cities the library fund consists of a sum not to exceed $50 for every 1,000 children or fraction thereof, between the ages of five and seventeen years. Under this plan nothing is left to local initiative, and a library is actually secured to every school. The latest addition to the ranks of those following the mandatory plan is the Northwest Territories. In 1901, a section was embodied in the school grants ordinance making it compulsory on the part of all districts to expend a small sum annually for the purchase of books. The section reads as follows: The board of every district receiving a grant under clause 3 of section 3 hereof, shall expend one-half of the amount of such grant in each and every year on the purchase of books for a school library, and such books shall be selected from a list authorizing and furnished by the department." To show what has been accomplished in consequence, it need only be mentioned that the estimate of grants under this head for 1901 to 275 schools, was $5,154.93. One-half of this amount, or $2,577.95, must, last year, have been expended in procuring libraries for the schools of the Northwest. Even before the passing of the ordinance referred to, 105 districts had provided libraries, containing some 4,229 volumes, and all brought about by the successful efforts of teachers alive to the importance of having a small library of books suitable for school children.

It is almost unnecessary to state that some of the plans outlined has been adopted in this province. In fact, our school system in its present form is scarcely prepared for the general adoption of any one of these plans. But it does seem possible to adopt the duplication plan for rural districts and the mandatory plan for city districts.

Now, in order to apply the duplication plan in rural districts, it would be necessary to obtain pecuniary assistance from the legislature. Since 1898 a grant of $500 has been annually made by the legislature for "traveling libraries." A system of traveling libraries is an excellent thing, and there are now no less than 39 of a hundred volumes each, in use in this province. But the claims of the rural school children ought surely to be regarded as of more importance than those of all the adults whom these libraries can possibly reach. Consequently, it does not seem unreasonable to suggest that if no additional sum can be voted by the legislature, the "traveling library" grant be applied for a few years at least to the purchase of libraries for rural schools on the duplication plan similar to that adopted in the State of Connecticut. Let the boys and girls of the rural schools carry away with them the reading habit as one of the most precious gifts of the school system. Children who form a taste for good literature are reasonably safe both intellectually and morally. "The person who has learned how to read and not what to read, is placed in a position of great danger."

The application of the mandatory plan to city districts might be effected through the government grants made on account of high schools and the attendance of all pupils. This plan could at least be applied to high schools by declaring that the equipment on which the grant depends shall not be considered satisfactory unless it includes a suitable library of reference and other books.

It may not be out of place to mention that another plan not yet referred to or outlined in this paper, has been tried with excellent results in several city districts of the interior. It may be designated as the voluntary plan. Within the past year the school boards of Grand Forks, Nelson and Rossland have expended sums of money in the purchase of libraries for their respective schools. Both the high and the graded school of Nelson are now provided with small libraries which will in all probability be added to from year to year. The action of these school boards is certainly worthy of imitation and fully proves the value of the fourth or voluntary plan which of course requires funds, generosity and intelligence for its successful application.

There is another phase of the library question which is important and which seems to present some possibilities in this province. I refer to the helpful co-operation of the public library with the public school. This, as you know, is possible only in cities which have large free public libraries, such as New Westminster, Vancouver and Victoria, and it would undoubtedly do much to solve the school library question in these cities. For instance, the Victoria High School is now pressing for a good library of reference books for teachers and pupils. Why should the city hesitate to establish in the High School building a branch of the public library containing the books asked for? In fact, all our public libraries should be managed so as to help the local schools in every way. The time has surely gone by when the librarian is merely a custodian of books; he must now seek alliance with the teacher, his co-worker in the educational field. It is not too much to say that the public library which has not connection with local schools is neglecting its mission and ignoring one of its noblest opportunities. But how is this connection to be brought about? It may properly be regarded as the duty of the local school trustees, who should approach the managers of the libraries and secure their co-operation in the work of education. Or better still, the local school boards should be represented on the board of managers of the public library. Such co-operation should lead to the opening in the public library building of school reference rooms or school departments, with books for teachers as expert workmen on special lines, books for the immediate work of the child as well as for his work after leaving school projected along the same lines as those set forth in the course of study itself.

The hearty co-operation of the public library with the public school is one of the most noticeable features of the modern library movement in the United States. The utmost anxiety is there displayed to have the library assist the school in every possible way. Teachers are supplied with teachers' cards, allowing them to take many books at a time and to retain them for a long time. Classes are supplied with books, and boxes of books are carried from school to school. All the public libraries of California recognizing the needs of the boys and girls. San Francisco public library opened a juvenile department in 1895. In that city more than 15,000 children's books are circulated monthly. The old city of Brookline, a wealthy suburb of Boston, extremely conservative in almost everything but education, has, through the efforts of its Education Society, practically brought the public library into the schools. A school room has been opened in the public library building and made the headquarters of school children. The person in charge of this room assists and instructs school trustees) are collected in this room, and reveals its resources. Books selected by the school committee (that is, board of school trustees) are colected in this room, especially books adapted for the use of school children, and such as throw light upon their studies. These books are at the command of teachers and are sent to the school rooms upon their requisition, on the principle of the traveling library. All the other books and resources of the library are accessible to the school children under proper restrictions. Classes of pupils are taken to the school-room in the library for lectures and instruction. The school librarian visits the teachers, learns their needs, and encourages a more general use of books, other than the regular text books, in the school-room. Thus the public library is brought into the schools for the school children are made familiar with the use of the library, given systematic instruction in the use of books, and encouraged to form the habit of using a library. In Los Angeles all the city school libraries were as early as 1891, deposited in the public library building and placed under the care of the librarian and his staff. Both teachers and pupils were thus given access to a large number of volumes. In 1897 a school reference room was established, and copies of many valuable books of reference secured. In addition to books, the school department of the Los Angeles library has a large collection of mounted pictures for concrete illustration of lessons. Besides these, groups of pictures of interest in connection with various holidays, current events and occasions of note are always displayed from time to time in this department. On the occasion of my visit early in 1901, pictures of our late beloved Queen (then recently deceased) were on exhibition to teach the young American the history of our own greatest sovereign. The rooms were crowded with the children just from school, who were selecting books or drinking in information through the eye from the pictures of the day. In this way the people of Los Angeles help the schools and the library, working together in the utmost harmony and accomplishing the maximum amount of good upon the minimum money, time and energy.

Thus far, in this paper the effort has been to justify the need of the school library by giving the opinions of several well known educationists of eminence, to outline the plans adopted elsewhere for securing such library, to suggest means of applying two of these plans to this province. But for all this outpouring it may still be necessary for us to be content with the means at our own disposal. If such prove to be the case we must then fall back upon teachers and trustees as the prime movers in this work. Already several teachers alive to the value of a few shelves of books in their schools, have raised sums of money by subscription or by school entertainments and purchased small libraries. It is in this way that each of such schools as Cranbrook, Ducks, Fernie, Kaslo, Sandon, Trail and Vernon became possessed of a small collection of books (not always well chosen, however) to serve as an additional educational influence in the district. Where there is a will there is always a way, and the excellence of the way will generally be in direct proportion to the energy of the will.

A useful library for a rural school can be purchased for $20 or $25, a $10 library (or even a $5 one) should not be despised. After raising a small library fund by either of the means just mentioned, the first difficulty to confront the teacher will be the proper selection of books for the various needs of the school. This difficulty will no doubt be met by the issuance, as in other provinces, of a catalogue of books recommended for public school libraries. It is necessary to seek such guidance so that the library may be organized with a definite view to future growth, as well as with a clear purpose to make it contribute to the school activities and to foster the intellectual life of the children.

To the teacher, the library, however small, can be made a most important auxiliary. To himself, it may be a source of entertainment, inspiration and instruction, and if it is not such, neither he nor it should be there. No teacher can use a library to advantage who does not care for its contents. To entertain or inspire others, he must be entertained and inspired himself. The pupils can, through the medium of books, be brought into touch with thoughts and ideals whose influence once felt can never quite be lost. The mind is not only to be exercised, but like the body, is to be fed also. But it is not my purpose to pursue this division of the subject any further, that is, to continue a discussion of the value of literature in education or the educational value of the use of books, and the responsibility of the school in inspiring and directing a few years. That is really another story, which will no doubt be told at length when the problem of securing a library for every school in the province has been satisfactorily solved.

DEATH DUE TO NATURAL CAUSES

Coroner's Inquest Held Yesterday Regarding Death of Ethel Frith.

The coroner's inquest held yesterday morning by Dr. Hart at the city hall resulted in a verdict of death from natural causes being returned, the deceased girl having died through acute indigestion. Dr. R. L. Fraser, the first witness, had performed the post-mortem examination, and he deposed that the deceased died as a result of inflammation of the bowels and some peritonitis, due to acute indigestion. He found part of an undigested meal of potatoes, eggs, cucumber, bacon and ham in the stomach, but no trace of poisoning. There were similar cases lately, an epidemic of indigestion being on.

Mrs. Frith, mother of the deceased girl, said that she had seen her daughter last on Tuesday evening, when she complained of biliousness and was given a purgative. She did not know what her daughter had eaten, she having been staying at Mrs. Jordan's residence. Mrs. Jordan said that the deceased girl had complained of cramps and vomited on Monday. She said she had such spells previously. She was placed in bed and vomited again. She complained of thirst, and was given tea. She felt better in the evening and slept through the night. She had no dinner Monday night and no breakfast Tuesday. She looked bad Tuesday, but said she was well enough to go to her mother, and was placed on the car. She had no complaint, but said she felt queer and feared she would be sick. She had eaten some cucumber, cold ham and mutton at her last meal. The cucumber was fresh.

Mrs. Brown, of Pandora street, deposed that deceased came to her residence on Tuesday. She appeared to be ill. When her mother left she was put to bed and complained of thirst. She was given tea and went to sleep. Witness saw her at midnight. Next morning she gave her some tea, bread, eggs and bacon, but she did not eat the bacon. She said she felt better. She became worse, though, and about 8 o'clock Dr. Hart was sent for, and he prescribed for deceased, but he said she was dying. She died before the medicine prescribed was procured.

Dr. Hart, summing up the evidence, said death from acute indigestion was not uncommon. The symptoms in this case and that of ptomaine poisoning were somewhat similar. When he saw the girl on Tuesday he did not think an inquest necessary, but in response to popular feeling he had held one.

The jury then returned a verdict that the deceased had come to her death from natural causes.

After the verdict was returned, the coroner spoke of the incorrect reports regard to the case through the incorrect concerning the case in the evening newspaper. Unfounded and incorrect reports in this newspaper had, he said, tended to cause an agitation for an inquest, the public being deceived in reports of the evening paper. Foreman Petch of the jury, suggested that a rider be attached to the verdict condemning the reports in question.

IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMER TIME.

Everybody suffers more or less from cramps, stomach pains, headache and should have a bottle of that good family remedy, Polson's Nerviline, always on hand. "Just a few drops of Nerviline in sweetened water makes a pleasant invigorating drink," writes E. A. Allen of Swansea. "It's just splendid for stomach and bowel troubles and stops summer complaint at once. In our house we use Nerviline for the pains and aches of the whole family and seldom need the doctor because Nerviline is always handy." Sold in large 25c. bottles everywhere.

Along The Waterfront

Robert Searles Encounters a Typhoon---Boscowitz Down From the North.

Brings News of the Salmon Pack on Northern Coast---Danube Due.

Capt. Piltz of the schooner Robert Searles, writes from Haipong of the experiences of the schooner in a typhoon. He says: "After a fair passage we arrived at Haipong, having had fairly good weather until just the day before we arrived, when we encountered a typhoon which tore us all to pieces. Our sails were torn away before we could get them in, and our small boat was actually blown to bits. Worst of all, just after cutting away what remained of the boat we were boarded by a heavy sea in the spanker rigging. The sea washed Second Mate Johnson and one seaman overboard and they were lost. Had it not been for the cook, I would have been in a tight place, as I had left only four Mexican Indians that were able-bodied, but they could not speak English. When the typhoon had completed its work, we had seven feet of water in our hold. The typhoons are too much for the sailing vessels, and I doubt if vessels less staunch than the Searles could have weathered such a storm. At any rate, I hope that never have the same experience again. We leave this port July 6."

Capt. Piltz also adds that First Mate Anderson and another sailor were injured during the storm. Johnson's home is at Berkeley, Cal., and the captain does not give the name of the seaman who was lost.

HER REPAIRS FINISHED.

The repairs to the British steamship Robert Adamson, which met disaster in collision with the Seattle-San Francisco steamship Queen off West Point lighthouse May 3, have been completed. The vessel arrived on Friday morning off Smith cove, Seattle, where she began reloading the lumber in the stream—taking it from lighters—which she discharged after being beached. This lumber, about 500,000 feet, was taken to Smith cove, the rest being discharged at Quartermaster harbor. The repairs to the Adamson were made in the Esquimalt dry dock. She is now declared to be as strong and seaworthy as ever.

The Adamson when she sails will have a cargo of about 2,000,000 feet, all consigned to Buenos Ayres.

The litigation growing out of the collision is still on in the United States district court of this city, with no prospect of an early settlement.

EUDORA WON SUIT.

The Shipping Gazette and Lloyd's List just to hand contains an account of the suit brought by the British bark Eudora against the steamer City of Gloucester in the Admiralty division of the High Court of Justice. The suit was brought to recover compensation for damages sustained in a collision between the two vessels on June 27, during a heavy fog off Wolf Rock. The Eudora had on board a cargo of timber from the Hastings mill for Plymouth, while the City of Gloucester is a steamer engaged in the English coasting trade. The case was decided in favor of the Eudora on all points. In his decision, the judge found that the foghorn on the Eudora was sounded at the regular intervals and that her speed was not excessive. The City of Gloucester, on the other hand, had suddenly increased her speed, and to that cause he assigned the collision.

BOSCOWITZ RETURNS.

Brings News That Salmon Pack Is Small in the North.

Steamer Boscowitz, Capt. Warren returned from Naas and way ports yesterday morning, bringing a large number of passengers, mostly cannerymen, from the North. The steamer brought news that the pack on the Skeena river is a very poor one, the pack put up being about a third of an average pack, the canneries having from 4,000 or 5,000 cases to 10,000 cases. On Rivers Inlet, though, the canners have a full pack, Wadhams having a pack of 23,000 cases, and the R. I. C., 20,000 cases—the other canneries ranging from 15,000 to 20,000 cases. The pack is small on the Naas, and at Alert Bay the pack is but 1,500 cases.

IN CHAMBERS.

Applications Heard in Chambers Yesterday Before Chief Justice.

The following applications, having been adjourned from the previous day, were heard in chambers yesterday morning by the Chief Justice:

Re Kimberley and Land Registry Act. Application by H. Robertson to amend plan granted.

Camsusa et al. vs. Coigdarripe. Application for an order to produce documents for inspection. Inspection having been given, costs granted to plaintiff up to time of inspection. L. Crease for plaintiff; G. Jay, contra.

Re Tribune Association. Application for liquidator's costs to be taxed and paid. Order made. J. H. Lawson for plaintiff; W. E. Moresby, contra.

Lawson vs. Smith et al. Application for receiver to pay into court stands over and day of hearing to be fixed. G. A. Murphy for plaintiff; J. P. Walls contra.

Hobbled Six Years With Rheumatism

The Remarkable Case of Mr. Cullen, a Chronic Sufferer, Who Was Cured in Six Weeks by

Ferrozone

Mr. Cullen of Sturgeon Bay, writes: "For six years I hobbled about like a cripple, unable to move without crutches and canes. I used quantities of medicines, and special baths, but they didn't help me very much.

"On the advice of a Presbyterian minister I used Ferrozone, gave it a good trial at first, and when I saw it was helping, I bought six boxes and took one tablet at the close of each meal. I am perfectly cured, and am today as spry as a youngster of ten. I am convinced that my recovery is entirely due to the marvellous action of Ferrozone."

Mr. Cullen's case is a fair example of the kind of cures that Ferrozone is effecting every day. In severe cases of Neuralgia, Sciatica, Rheumatism, and Lumbago, it acts with surprising alacrity, and no case is recorded where it failed.

Ferrozone cures these diseases because it is a solvent for uric acid in the blood. Then it builds up and invigorates the system, and makes weak, sickly people strong and well enough to resist and ward off disease.

The best Rheumatism remedy is Ferrozone. It relieves quickly, and cures so perfectly that the disease never returns. After all other remedies fail, it cures, and that is the sort of medicine you want. Price 50c per box, or six boxes for $2.50. Sent to your address on receipt of price is forwarded to The Ferrozone Company, Kingston, Ont.

Re H. Gaydon, deceased. Order made for probate upon application of J. P. Walls.

Re Elizabeth Hand, deceased. Order made for probate upon the application of J. M. Bradburn.

Re Thos. Ferguson, deceased. Order for letters of administration granted upon the application of H. Robertson to the official administrator.

Anderson vs. Reid. Application for directions regarding sale. Order for sale to be advertised in Nelson and Kaslo papers, and further affidavit to be furnished. G. H. Barnard for plaintiff.

Re. W. H. Robertson, deceased. Probate granted upon the application of F. Higgins.

Re Bear Valley. Application to fix date of hearing appeal from award of fence viewers. Not being vacation matter, application stands over till first chamber day after vacation. Lindley Crease for applicant.

Re Land Registry Act and plan 719. Application to amend plan enlarged till next Friday. G. H. Barnard for application.

Re A. B. Fleming. Order made upon application of H. Robertson for sale of property at $200.

THE MANCHESTER TRADER.

Montreal, Aug. 17.—It is expected that the steamer Manchester Trader, that went ashore at South Point last week, will be able to get off without much damage. Divers report the bottom of the vessel, so far as they can see, to be all right.

Leech River To Fore Again

Victorians Believe the Old Diggings Will Yield Rich Returns.

Coarse Gold Being Found in the Crevices of the Rocks.

Many of the pioneers of the province who can recall the various rushes to Leech river, which took place in the early days on account of placer gold being found in paying quantities, have never abandoned their belief that there yet will be discovered a vast treasure of the yellow metal in the adjoining hills. This faith has been strengthened by the fact that gold is being constantly found in ground which has been worked over at different periods. Chinamen have been panning and rocking out gold on Leech river each season for the past 20 years, and every summer a few white men pay regular visits and come back with sufficient gold to last them through the winter months. Acting on the belief that a fabulously rich ledge of quartz is in existence somewhere on the slope of the mountains through which Leech river winds its course, prospectors have made careful search to uncover the hidden gold, but without success.

Alex. Lipsky, proprietor of the Empire hotel, is one who still retains faith in the possibilities of Leech river as a lucrative gold producer, and is proving his faith by spending money in systematic hydraulicing. With other associates, over $2,000 has been spent in endeavoring to find gold in paying quantities. This season he has located at the Devil's Grip, where, with his partners, Oscar Devereaux and James Ellis, a hole has been pumped out, measuring 70 feet square and 40 feet in depth. Some old miners stated that the hole could not be pumped out. Companies have been formed for the purpose before, but the work appeared too formidable, and the effort was abandoned. The pumping process has been slow, the water being only reduced 22 inches per day. Mr. Lipsky and associates are now confident of success, as they have found coarse gold in the crevices as the water receded. Although the water is now pumped out, there is still considerable work ahead in removing large boulders before the gravel is reached.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FLOWER SHOW

Event set For Friday and Saturday---Few Entries By School Children.

The horticultural fete fixed to take place on Friday and Saturday next promises to be a great success. The fete is under the joint auspices of the Horticultural Society and the Woman's Auxiliary Society, and will take place in the grounds of the Royal Jubilee Hospital.

The prize list for the flower show shows very great interest, and the ladies are uniting together to arrange for tea, ice cream and various other attractions, foremost among which is an exhibition of sleight-of-hand by Mr. Peters, who is an expert in this art, and who has most kindly offered to assist the occasion in this manner.

The grounds will be especially illuminated, and there will be various booths and games. The fete will last two days, and will commence at 3 p.m.

The entries of the school children for the silver medal and bronze medal offered by the society at the forthcoming show is somewhat disappointing. Out of the ten public schools in the city only two were represented at the city hall on Saturday, and of these two only the children attending one of them are fairly in the competition. Miss Blackwell, of the Hillside school, has taken a personal interest in the matter so far as the individual children are concerned, and twenty-four exhibitors is the result, the children only averaging eight years old. The Rock Bay children have unitedly cultivated garden flowers, both boys and girls assisting at the work. The exhibit will, therefore, be from the Rock Bay school. Had the other schools come forward in the same proportion as Hillside, the competition would have been more worthy of the City of Flowers, but small beginnings sometimes eventuate into large endings, and another year, it is hoped, will see a more satisfactory result than the present one.

Mr. BORDEN WILL SPEAK ON TUESDAY

Will Lay Down Policy of Conservatives on Grand Trunk Pacific.

Ottawa, Aug. 15.—(Special)—Mr. Borden's speech on Tuesday on the railway question is expected to be an important deliverance. He will lay down clearly and with full approbation his followers' policy, which Conservatives will advocate in this matter.

The finance department announces a surplus of fourteen and a half millions for the past fiscal year.

The statement of the revenue and expenditure appearing in the Canada Gazette today, shows receipts of $60,043,514, and expenditure of $43,013,750.

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More Goods at Wholesale

Something Everyone Should Have

Send us $8.25, and we will ship you the following assortment of goods, which would cost you at retail ordinarily about $11.75; these goods boxed weigh about 120 lbs, and the freight will be from 50 cents to $1.00 according to the distance; so you are bound to save a lot of money anyway. If the goods are not as represented, send them back, and we will return your money and pay freight both ways.

25 lbs. best Br. Col. Granulated Sugar; 5 lbs. Monsoon Tea; 14 lbs. Victor Rolled Oats; 10 lbs. Japan Rice; 1 lb. Black Pepper; 12 lbs. Windsor Table Salt; 12 bars Crown Laundry Soap; Two 12-oz. cans White Star Baking Powder; 2 lbs. Durham Corn Starch; 5 lbs. Small White Beans; one-4 oz. bottle Imperial Lemon Extract; one 4-oz bottle Imperial Vanila Extract; 8 lbs. "Electric Light" Candies; 2 lbs. Parisian Washing Blue; 20 lbs. Wire Nails, any size.

This is no "Bankrupt Stock" goods, but everything fresh, good, and up-to-date. We sell everything you want at wholesale prices to consumers. Send us your want list, and let us quote you prices. We have sent out a large number of our first combination offer, and have not received one complaint. If you are afraid of us write, and tell us so, and we will send you such references as you may require.

Let us hear from you, we want your trade, and after having dealt with us once, you will want to deal right along, for we SAVE YOU MONEY.

Western Mail-Order House

DOW & CO., 532 CORDOVA STREET, VANCOUVER, B. C.

Mention the Colonist when you write.

WHITNEY GO-CARTS ARE THE BEST

The leaders for 40 Year

Reclining Go-Cart, No. E 9, price $14.00 Complete with cushions, parasol top, rubber tire wheels, foot brake and enameled gears, either oak, green or maroon.

Have anti-friction wheel fasteners, no nuts to fall off. Wheels can be taken off instantly for oiling. Whitney patent foot brake, quickly adjusted by slight pressure of the foot on lever.

All are fitted with rubber tire wheels and enameled gears. Extra parts if required, supplied from our stock at once. Illustrated sheet showing 28 latest styles with prices and full descriptions from $4.50 to $28.00, mailed free on request.

WEILER BROS

Complete Furnishers,

VICTORIA, BC

THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFIED

That's the way with our patrons, as satisfactory goods at reasonable prices make them feel that they can rely on us to supply their needs in the best possible manner. We purchase at close prices and sell the same way.

CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S SOUPS, Pint Glass Jars	50c.
CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S JUGGED HARE, Tin	75c.
CAPT. WHITE'S CURRY PASTE, Jar	50c.
SCHWEITZER'S COCATINA, Tin	35c.
NABOB SAUCE, Bottle	35c.
EGYPTIAN LENTILS, Pound	15c.

DIXI H. ROSS & CO., CASH GROCERS

$1.00... Per Year

The subscription price of the Semi-Weekly "Colonist" has been reduced to $1 per year to all countries in the Postal Union.

Why You Should

Buy your Groceries at our Stores.

BECAUSE—You have large selected and well bought stocks to choose from.

BECAUSE—Our Groceries are sold on small margins of profit, giving the purchaser the benefit of our buying.

BECAUSE—The Standard of Quality is always the highest, and our Groceries are always fresh.

To make room for our New Goods, we offer for a few days Christie Brown's celebrated Biscuits at these exceptional low prices:

Sultanas, Wheat Meal, Ginger Nuts, Coconut Bar — 2 lbs. for 35c — Jubilee, Mexicans, Strawberry Sandwich, Orange Sandwich

The Saunders' Grocery Co. Ltd.

PHONE 28. 39 AND 41 JOHNSON STREET.

—AND—

The "West End" Grocery Co. Ltd.,

PHONE 88 42 GOVERNMENT STREET.