

## LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL

News of the Day Selected from Friday's Evening Times.

## ENTIRELY NON-COMMITTAL

The Premier Will Not Promise an Exhibit for Midwinter Fair.

A deputation from Victoria, Vancouver, New Westminster and Nanaimo waited on the provincial government last night. The object of the deputation was to urge the government to have a British Columbia exhibit at the San Francisco Midwinter Fair. The government had negatived the idea some weeks ago and the deputation was sent to get the government to change the negative into an affirmative. The following composed the deputation:

From Vancouver—Dr. Lefevre and A. H. B. Macgowan, secretary of the board of trade; Westminster, Mayor Curtis and T. J. Trapp, president of the board of trade; and Aid. Nightingale was Nanaimo's delegate; Victoria, A. C. Flumerfelt, president of the board of trade, C. E. Renouf, Gustav Leiser, D. R. Ker, T. B. Hall, H. D. Helmcken and the secretary, F. Elworthy.

Premier Davis, Hon. Mr. Pooley and Hon. Col. Baker received the deputation. Different delegates spoke at length on the advantages of an exhibit in coal, fish and minerals, particularly as the American tariff is going to be revised very favorably to the exportation from British Columbia of large quantities of these articles. It was pointed out that the coal trade between British Columbia and California amounted to \$2,500,000 annually and there was no reason why it should not be greatly increased. Ten thousand or fifteen thousand dollars would be well spent in a British Columbia exhibit. Premier Davis in his reply told the delegates the time to get together an exhibit was too short. It was thought to obtain the Chicago exhibit but that had already been shipped to the Imperial Institute, London. There was no funds at the disposal of the government, and while the government could get a special appropriation by the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor, this was only in cases of emergency. The question was one of money. He would not give any reply other than saying that the first decision of the government was not so strong as to be unchangeable. The government would again consider the matter and do what they considered was in the best interests of the province.

## The Debut Arrives.

The steamer Dumbie returned at 3 o'clock this morning from the north, after an uneventful trip. The weather in the north has been very cold, but outside of that there has been nothing new. The following passengers came down: Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Stone and family, Mrs. Alexander, Miss Williscroft, Geo. Williscroft, Walter Williscroft, C. W. D. Clifford, J. L. Alexander, A. S. Robertson, R. J. Woods, Rev. J. R. Cuthbertson, T. A. Muir, Mr. Walsh, Dan Morrison and J. A. Carthew.

## ST. ANDREW'S NIGHT.

The Scotchmen of Victoria Celebrate.

St. Andrew's day was fittingly celebrated last evening by the members of the St. Andrew's and Caledonian societies, who after installing their new officers, adjourned to the Hotel Grand where the annual banquet was held. About 120 gentlemen sat down to the tables which were arranged along three sides of the spacious dining room. The tables were beautifully decorated.

At 9 o'clock President Robert Irving took his seat at the head of the table. On his right sat the Hon. Messrs. Davis and Turner, and on his left Hon. Robert Beaven and Dr. Milne, M. P. President Burnes, of the Benevolent Society, and officers of the Sons of England, and Sons of Erin societies, occupied seats near the head of the table. John Coltart and J. Colquhoun occupied the vice-chairs.

Letters of regret were read from Lieut-Governor Dewdney and United States Consul Levi W. Meyer, both of whom were absent from the city. The following greetings, exchanged with other Scottish societies, were read:

Mt. Pleasant, Victoria—"There's mair here than could fail and haggis. Happiness and long life ye ae all—Robert Irving, president."

Vancouver to Victoria—"There's a sowe o' water between us. Let's mix't w' Glenlivet an' ha' a rick guid w'ly we may for muid lang syne—Wm. Skene, president."

Victoria to Vancouver—"We ha' the Glenlivet and the water and here's to the briter Scots in Vancouver—Robert Irving, president."

Shortly after ten o'clock President Irving commenced the toast list by proposing "The Queen," the orchestra playing the national anthem. The president also proposed the Sons of England, the Sons of Erin and other Members of the Royal Family, which was drunk to the tune of "God Bless the Prince of Wales." The other toasts on the list were:

"The President of the United States," Vice-President John Coltart, response by Lieut-Col. Kane.

"His Excellency the Governor-General," Vice-President John Colquhoun.

"The Lieutenant-Governor," George Bishop.

"The Press," Munro Miller, responded to by W. H. Ellis and William Templeman.

"The Army, Navy and Volunteers," J. H. Falconer, responded by C. G. McPhillips and Captain Palmer.

"Dominion Senate and Commons," by the president, response by Aid. Belyea.

"Local Government and Legislature," Captain John Irving, response by Premier Davis, Hon. Robert Beaven, Hon. J. H. Turner and Dr. Milne, M. P. P.

"The Bench and Bar," by A. B. Gray, response by E. V. Bowdell and F. B. Gregory.

"The Mayor and Council" by the president, responses by Mayor Beaven, Aid. Munro, Bragg, Belyea and Robertson.

"St. Andrew's and Caledonia Society," by Hon. Theo. Davis, response by President Irving.

"Sister Societies" by John Robertson, responses by presidents of Pioneer and Benevolent societies and J. J. Austin for St. George's society.

"The Commercial, Agricultural, Manufacturing and Mining Interests," by W. Templeman, response by J. H. Falconer.

"The Land We Live In," by Aid. W. A. Robertson, response by Aid. Belyea.

"Scotchmen Wherever They Are," by George Walker.

"The Ladies," by Secretary E. C. Shaw.

During the evening Hon. Theodore Davis, C. E. Redfern, John G. Brown, Scott McAllister, A. M. Muir and Geo. Harris favored those present with songs.

Before the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" the president introduced Mr. Jas. Deans, the bard of the society, who read the following original poem:

## STRAY THOUGHTS.

(While wandering through the beautiful grounds of the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1893.)

By a Rustic Bard.

Let us haste to that land where the streams ever flow.

And the fairest of flowers in rich verdancy grow.

While bright summer suns shine on fountains and streams.

Where art in its power everlastingly gleams.

Excelling fair nature o'er all this bright world expands.

Where fancy leads onward its beauteous train.

Where the grandest of lamps ever varying and bright.

Turns into bright day the grim darkness of night.

Let us go by yon bridge, let us linger in the cool shady bowers of the fabled Wooded Isle.

While we rest in its shade, try and number the throng.

Of youth, age and beauty ever gliding along.

If a student of nature, of mankind's advance.

Let us turn in our way, take the Midway between the past and the future we find.

Where to your liking will be subjects galore.

From Africa, Java and far Labrador.

Or yet more, while your study is on, go by the South Pole and while there.

All the subjects for study, so grand and sublime.

Gather in from each age, every land, every clime.

Let us pass o'er yon stream, let us join in the throng.

Where strains of sweet music float ever along.

Where fountains keep time to the music's merriment.

And vast crowds enraptured join in anthems of praise.

Let us go to yon dome, let us rest in its towers.

Inhale for a while the sweet breath of the flowers.

Come view the rich fruits and admire the display.

And bear their sweet fragrance along on your way.

Pass not the mines building, there is much to be gleaned.

In its vast stores of wealth, drawn from darkness of night.

Neglect not while you advance your way.

The splendid machinery just over the way.

Go to the Art Gallery, slowly walk through its halls.

You'll admire the grand paintings all round each wall.

Calmly study them well, wherever you go.

There is much to admire above and below.

Tell your friends to come here, from each side of the globe.

And spend a few weeks amongst these wonders sublime.

Let tales in their praise, be the theme of your song.

While the echoes afar its sweet cadence bring.

J. DEANS.

The lines were received with loud applause and the suggestion, that they should be published was unanimously endorsed.

From Saturday's Evening Times.

Coal Shipments.

The foreign shipments of coal from the New Vancouver:

1-Str. Type, Port Townsend	68
2-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
3-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
4-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
5-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
6-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
7-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
8-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
9-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
10-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
11-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
12-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
13-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
14-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
15-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
16-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
17-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
18-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
19-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
20-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
21-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
22-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
23-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
24-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
25-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
26-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
27-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
28-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
29-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
30-Str. Wanderer, Port Townsend	12
Total	20,927

Marine.

The steamer Mystery returned yesterday from a trip around the island.

The steamer Victoria is due here tomorrow from Japan and China. She has a full cargo of freight and 125 passengers.

The schooner Chieftan ran ashore near Esquimalt several days ago and stove a hole in her hull. It can be easily repaired.

The shipping returns for November are:

Deep water	60
Coastwise	126
Clear	126
Deep water	58
Coastwise	137
Clear	137
The tug Phantom which ran on the rocks at Gordon Head some time ago, has slipped off the rocks into deep water and is now beyond recovery.	

Customs Returns for November.

Exports	
Produce of Canada	\$441,121.00
Not Produce of Canada	7,068.00
Grand total	\$448,189.00
Imports	
Free value of	\$2,586.00
Dutiable value of	\$2,241.00
Total	\$4,827.00
REVENUE	
Duties collected	\$57,443.16
Other revenues	1,943.77
Total	\$59,386.93

American News.

Chicago, Dec. 1.—Fire in the Haymarket theatre building, near the corner of Madison and Halstead streets, gutted a number of stores and caused a loss of \$60,000, fully insured.

New York, Dec. 1.—The indicted officers of the wrecked Madison Square bank appeared before Recorder Smythe in general sessions to-day to plead to true bills found against them. Pleas of not guilty, with the privilege to withdraw or put in a demurrer within a week, were entered.

San Francisco, Dec. 1.—Louis, the abducted princess of Tahiti, sailed for her home on the brig Gallifre this morning.

The best medical authorities say the proper way to treat catarrh is to take a constitutional remedy like Hood's Sarsaparilla.

## "T'WAS CUT AND DRIED."

Ald. Baker and Bragg Criticize the Mayor in Council.

ON THE PURCHASE OF SERE PROPERTY

And Charge Him and the Finance Committee With Collusion—A Long Debate Ensues—The Property Purchase Appropriation Is Not Granted.

All the members of the council with the exception of Aid. Harris attended the special meeting held on Friday afternoon.

The meeting was called for 4 o'clock, but the town hall clock had struck half-past 4 before the meeting came together.

The use of the city hall to hold a non-union labor meeting on Tuesday evening was granted on the application of W. P. Winsby.

Mayor Beaven reported that John B. Sere had agreed to accept \$10,000 for his property near the isolation hospital. Mr. Sere asked a lease of the property for one year. That was the only stipulation. Report adopted.

When the report of the finance committee was read there was an appropriation for the \$10,000 necessary to purchase the Sere property, and this item met with the disapproval of several of the councillors.

Ald. Belyea—I do not care for the idea. I would like to know the exact rights of Mr. Sere.

Ald. Bragg—Now that the report of the committee is in I see that this is a cut-and-dried affair. I think the mayor or knows something about the matter.

The board has made a mistake in assessing the school rate at six mills. Four mills would have done. What is the good of buying the Sere land? It is not needed. Why not keep the money in the bank? The value of land will not go up.

Mayor Beaven—There is nothing cut-and-dried. I was authorized by the council.

Ald. Bragg—Not by the council. Mayor Beaven—Keep order, Aid. Bragg.

Ald. Bragg—You were not authorized by the council, but by the board of health. Why was not a notice put on the bulletin board?

Mayor Beaven—I was authorized by the council, sir.

Ald. Bragg—It is a funny thing that the finance committee have signed a report for such a sum of money without the other members of the council knowing anything about it.

Ald. McKillop—The purchase is a right one. I am acting in the interest of the citizens of Victoria in favor of the purchase.

Ald. Baker—The citizens will not like to have the property. There is no necessity for purchasing the land. Mr. Sere asked for the use of the ground for one year. The council agreed to that and that was a proof that the council did not want it for a year.

Mayor Beaven—A portion of the ground.

Ald. Baker—The money would be better in the bank. A notice of motion should have been posted on the bulletin board. This was a hole-and-corner meeting.

Is the council afraid of its action? The public know the facts first about it. I do not approve of the mayor's action or the action of the council.

Mayor Beaven—If you say that the report of the finance committee should be posted on the board you make a mistake.

Ald. Baker—I say that the notice authorizing you to make the purchase should have been posted on the board.

Mayor Beaven—That has not been done either.

Ald. Bragg—I move the matter lie over a week. I wish to introduce an amendment.

Ald. Henderson—I am quite taken aback to see the report of the finance committee. There seems to be too much money had been collected on the special rate. The health fund revenue is in excess and the council seems to be in a great hurry to spend it. The Rithet property, it was understood, was ample for the hospital station and perhaps for the purchase of the land. I had no intimation of this meeting. I never received any notice.

Mayor Beaven—The notices were sent out.

Ald. Belyea—This matter did not originate with the council. It was in the board of health, and I believe the board of health authorized the mayor to make the purchase. The sum of \$10,000 is too much for the property. The owner of this property, Mr. Sere, had built a house and the board of health had prohibited the use of the Rithet property first purchased. Then he threatened the corporation with a law suit and the city buy him out. If we buy this piece the man on the next side may also build a house and the house building would go on till you reach Mt. Tolmie. Action should have been taken by Aid. Baker and Bragg at the meeting of the board of health.

Mayor Beaven—Those who voted in the negative were Aid. Baker and Bragg.

Ald. Belyea was not there.

Ald. Henderson—I want my name struck out. I was not in the committee room when the vote was taken.

Ald. McKillop—You gave your consent.

Mayor Beaven—My recollection is that you gave your consent.

Ald. Belyea—The mayor is obliged to do anything the majority of the council have for him. He is sitting as a board of health or council. If the contract has not been made the council may draw out of it. I will not vote unless I have a more thorough knowledge of the matter.

Ald. Strife felt himself justified in voting for the purchase for \$10,000. The board of health authorized the offer of that sum. I do not think that the mayor has purchased the property.

Mayor Beaven—I did not buy the land.

Ald. Strife—I opposed the excessive taxation right along. It was no use taking time. The people had been as-

essed and the money had been secured. Incoming aldermen would do well to take a hint in this affair.

Ald. Baker—Is there anything in writing binding the city?

Mayor Beaven—Not as far as I am concerned.

Ald. Baker—Is there anything else? Mayor Beaven—I have put nothing in writing. I suppose a man's word is worth something.

Ald. Robertson—I favored the \$10,000 purchase, but Mr. Sere refused and wanted to make provisions. That settled the matter. This is another proposition. He did not accept the \$10,000 proposition and I shake my hands clear of anything else.

Ald. Munro—I think the matter should lie over till there is a full board. An attempt had been made to hold the finance committee responsible. That is very silly. It is necessary to have the signatures of the members, else the report does not hold any status in the council. The council required six acres, and if 11 acres could be obtained at a little increase in price I thought it was a good idea. I think an old man's home could be erected there. Any legal difficulty in connection with the erection of the old man's home on this property could be settled by court councils.

Ald. Bragg—Ald. Munro's idea of the action of the finance committee is ridiculous. That manner of doing things is introducing the third edge of the wedge.

The consideration of the subject was laid over till Monday.

The Police Department by-law was put through final stages and the council adjourned at 5:35 p. m.

## PROSPECTS OF TRADE WITH CHINA.

To the Editor: From time to time there appear in different Canadian papers articles expatiating in the wonderful prospects of trade between the Dominion of Canada and China.

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