

Personal News

of the Rossland fraternal during the past year has throughout not up to the lodges of three years ago.

of the Knights of Pythias—The of the Knights of Pythias last Friday night at Queen street.

LES.—The grand opening of Rossland Aerie No. 10 of the Order of Eagles last Monday night.

FELLOWS.—The members of the Odd Fellows' home fund. The Canadian provinces has for in the course of cond efforts are now being a home in this province.

MEMBERS OF THE WORLD.—The members of the World held a Wednesday night at their club.

LADIES OF THE MACCA.—The ladies of the Macca ladies' club held a party at their club.

OF ST. GEORGE.—The members of the St. George's library room above the question of adding more room was brought up.

UNDLAND STORMS.—Have Perished in a Blizzard Now Raging.

S. Nfld., Feb. 9.—The brig, Captain Taylor, arrived morning after being 77 a Glasgow.

AND BOLIVIA.—Reached in Regard to Put Territory.

IRO, Feb. 9.—The termination of the dispute between and Bolivia regarding provides in addition to an administration of by Brazil pending a definite, the abolition of the prohibitive transit duties Amazon.

LUMET AND HECLA.

Mass., Feb. 9.—A dividend was declared by the Calu directors. It is the third that amount for the fiscal May last.

EL POST DELAYS.

Feb. 7.—The Anglo-American is coming in for severe Times is printing letters sent business men giving and provoking delays parcels sent from New York.

H. W. SIMPSON= DOWN BY THE SEA SERIOUS CHARGE

Is Accused of Deliberately Setting Fire to His Store.

An Act of Incendiarism in the Very Heart of the City.

(From Saturday's Daily.)

H. W. Simpson, the grocer, was arrested last night on the serious charge of arson. He was promptly locked up in the city jail and was not released until 1 o'clock this morning.

Simpson's grocery is on the south side of Columbia avenue and midway between Washington and Spokane streets. Between 7 and 7:30 o'clock last evening passers by noticed smoke and flames arising from the floor of the store.

The chief of police and chief of the fire department were upon the scene almost as soon as the discoverers of the fire. They made a close examination of the premises, and are satisfied that a deliberate attempt had been made at incendiarism.

Chief Bradshaw lost no time in dispatching one of his men to arrest Simpson. The suspected man was found at his residence, which is the first house east of the hospital on Columbia avenue.

Simpson subsequently attempted to explain his innocence to the police, but without success. He finally admitted that he was the last to leave the store and was the only person having a key to the premises.

Shortly after Simpson was lodged in jail he sent for L. Bruce, principal of the central school, who has apartments at the Simpson residence, and J. Macdonald, who is retained to defend him.

Mr. Macdonald applied to the police magistrate to fix the amount of Simpson's bail, which was arranged at \$3000. Then followed great hustling on the part of the suspected man's lawyer to raise the necessary sureties.

Mr. Bruce was at the city jail when a Miner reporter arrived. He appeared much distressed about Simpson's trouble, and found it hard to believe that the suspected man is guilty of the grave charge now hanging over him.

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Among those who heard of Simpson's arrest last night great astonishment was expressed at the comparatively small amount of the bail demanded by Judge Boulter.

THE PILGRIMS. A Society for the Cultivation of Friendly Relations.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—At a meeting of the charter members of the Pilgrims of the United States, founded for the promotion of friendship between the United States and Great Britain and her colonies, the society was formally organized today.

TALK OF IRON SMELTING WORKS BEING STARTED ON THE COAST.

CANADIAN GOODS FOR AUSTRALIA—THE QUESTION OF GAMBLING.

The purchase of the well known Van Anda mines on Texada island by Mr. T. J. Vaughan-Rhys and his associates, says the Vancouver Ledger, is a very important piece of news in itself, for it means the expenditure of a large amount of capital and a permanent market for Vancouver supplies.

The R. M. S. Mowera sailed lately for Australia, every available inch of cargo space being filled. A pleasing feature about her freight, which consisted chiefly of flour, paper, dressed hogs, etc., was that it was nearly all of Canadian production.

At a meeting of the Victoria police commissioners, the question of gambling was introduced, and Mayor McCleod assured the board that public or open gambling had been suppressed under his instructions.

The Western Canadian Fish company have chosen their directors as follows: H. C. Cannon, John Boyd, E. W. McLean, Robert Doswell and J. E. Miller. The company has purchased the ship Blakeley, and will dry fish for the markets of the world on an extensive scale.

"Not in twenty years have I experienced such a mild and beautiful winter in Victoria," remarked an old resident of the city to a Colonist representative. He recalled the fact that in March, 1892, there was a heavy fall of snow on the 5th, the beautiful day of the sun.

A party of American canners are making great preparations for the extending of their traps at Point Roberts and other places before the opening of the fishing season this year.

After changing its mind many times the city council of Victoria has decided to aopt the pin bridge plan for the bridge at Point Ellie.

BARRED OUT. The Saxon Princess Cannot Even Visit Her Child.

DRESDEN, Saxony, Feb. 7.—The separation of former Crown Princess Louise and Professor Givco does not change the present legal situation and will not have the slightest effect on the divorce proceedings.

GENEVA, Feb. 7.—The lawyers of the former crown princess today received a telegram from Dresden, definitely refusing the princess' request to be allowed to see her sick child under any circumstances.

INSURMOUNTABLE. Claimed That Natural Conditions Govern Wood Supply.

The lower cost of production in the country tributary to the Spokane Falls & Northern railroad and not high rates on the Canadian Pacific is alleged to be the reason why cordwood and mining timbers are imported and not produced in the Kootenays, according to local Canadian Pacific officials.

"With regard to this question of rates on cordwood and mining timbers it will be found if the subject is looked into that the Canadian Pacific's rates on these commodities are lower than the Spokane Falls & Northern's, and a comparison of schedules will show this. The real reason why most of Rossland's cordwood and mining timber is brought in from territory tributary to the Great Northern lies in the conditions existing where the timber is cut.

In a nutshell, the situation is that wood and timber can be delivered at points along the Spokane Falls & Northern much cheaper than at points on the Canadian Pacific equally distant from Rossland.

A PHILIPPINE FIGHT.

Constabulary Encounter. The Force of General San Miguel.

MANILA, Feb. 9.—A force of 100 constabulary under Inspector Keithly yesterday defeated a body of 200 insurgents near Maringuna. A Smith, Inspector Harris, and one of the constabulary were killed and two other men of the constabulary were wounded.

VENEZUELAN FIGHT.

Another Revolutionary Force Defeated by Government.

CARACAS, Feb. 9.—A force of 2000 men with fifty horses and two runs under the command of the minister of war, General Ferrar, left Caracas this morning in the direction of the seaport Higuera, fifty miles east of Caracas.

CARACAS, Feb. 9.—The government troops captured the town of Guatre at noon and are now marching on Rio Chico.

WANT EXTRADITION.

PARIS, Feb. 7.—The French authorities have forwarded a request for the extradition of a Belgian named Thucous and his woman companion, who are said to be now in the hands of the police in the United States.

ITALIAN EXPLOSIVES. Mixtures Used for Firearms and General Purposes.

The principal explosives used in Italy are perite, ballistite and solnite. Perite is a form of picric acid but is made in a new way by treating phenol (or carbolic acid) with a mixture of concentrated nitric and sulphuric acids.

Ballistite is a smokeless powder, invented by Nobel, to whom the Italian government pays 45 lire (or about 30 cents) per kilogram. It consists of a mixture of guncotton and nitro glycerine, with a little diphenylamine. It is used in the small arms in the form of little cubes, but for field guns is used in the form of threads, and is then called alitte.

The tests to which it has lately been subjected proves that it gives a comparatively low pressure, little corrosive action, possesses great stability and safety in preparation and fills the chamber of the rifle in use entirely, so that overloading is impossible.

UNEXPECTED VALUES.

Mines That Proved More Profitable Than at First Supposed.

The history of the Camp Bird mine, in Colorado, shows how possible it is for even good mining men to overlook some error, trifling in itself, a veritable bonanza. In early days this property and adjacent mines were thoroughly, though superficially, prospected.

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DECLARED SANE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—William Hooper Young, on trial for the murder of Mrs. Anna Kingston-Fuller, was declared perfectly sane today by a commission in lunacy.

REFERENCE TO THE HAGUE

Preparations for Arbitration of Venezuela Question.

A Secret Alliance Formed by Germany and Italy.

CARACAS, Feb. 7.—A committee composed of two Germans, two Frenchmen, one Englishman, two Dutchmen and two Spaniards, representing the foreign residents of Caracas, called on W. W. Russell, secretary of the American legation, and informed him that by next Tuesday the city of Caracas would be without illuminating gas and that as a result great fear is felt for the safety of life and property under such conditions.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Disclosures of a secret alliance between Germany and Italy constituted the most important development in the Venezuelan situation tonight. The fact has been made known to the British ambassador, and it will put all of the negotiators more closely on their guard in the drafting of the protocols which they hope to submit to Minister Bowen during the next few days.

Several more or less sensational stories have been in circulation during the last few days which have caused considerable annoyance to the British ambassador and to the negotiators regarding the note Mr. Bowen addressed to the former last Monday proposing that the question of preferential treatment go to The Hague.

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BAGGAGE DEPARTMENT.

Changes Decided Upon by General Agent Morris.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 5.—R. H. Morris, of Montreal, general baggage agent of the C. P. R. system, who has been on a visit of inspection to points west as far as Vancouver, returns to the east today.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC.

Dividends Declared by the Board for the Last Half of Year.

MONTREAL, Feb. 9.—At the meeting of the board of the Canadian Pacific railroad today a dividend of two per cent on the preference stock and two and one per cent on the common stock was declared for the half year ended December last.

MONT PELEE ACTIVE.

PARIS, Feb. 7.—The governor of the island of Martinique in a cable dispatch to the Colonial office announces that the Mont Pelee volcano continues active. Its summit is constantly changing shape, and masses of incandescent matter are thrown out.

THE PATENT LAW.

Changes Likely to be Made at the Coming Session.

OTTAWA, Feb. 5.—Legislation will be introduced next session to amend the patent act. The necessity for this has been strongly urged upon the government by interested parties. The principal demand has been to strike out the clause in section 8 which the judicial committee of the Imperial privy council has interpreted to read that the Canadian patent of any invention becomes void on the expiry of the foreign patent for the same invention.

A RAILWAY PROJECT.

Plans of New Owners of Brockville & Westport Road.

OTTAWA, Feb. 5.—Charles F. Holm, attorney; John Gerken, capitalist; Valentine Schmitt, brewer of New York, and Clarence P. King, of Philadelphia, railway president, who have purchased the undertaking of the Brockville, Westport & Sault Ste. Marie Railway Co., under a judgment in an action in the high court, with others are making application to be incorporated under the name of the Brockville & Sault Ste. Marie Railway Company, with power to exercise all the rights conferred upon the former owners of the line.

WINNIPEG BONSPIEL.

A Tremendous Gathering of Curlers in the Prairie City.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 5.—The Winnipeg curling bonspiel opened today with 171 rinks entered in the Grand Challenge event. The entry list was 193 rinks, of which 22 defaulted, leaving 684 players in competition, the largest gathering of curlers ever held here. Great interest is added to this year's bonspiel by the presence of the Scotch curlers. Today the visitors played in the challenge competition. Skip Ritchie of Scotland defeated Andrew of Morden 14 to 13 after an exciting game.

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