QUESTIONS BEFORE LOCAL SPORTSMEN

FAVOR INTRODUCTION OF A GUN LICENSE

Are Opposed to Prohibition of Sunday Shooting and Killing of Hen Pheasants.

Over one hundred sportsmen attended a combined meeting of the Victoria Fish and Game Club, and the two local gun associations held on Wednesday at the Driard hotel. Expecting the usual number Proprietor Harrison had set aside a cosy inner apartment for their use, but as the time for the opening of the proceedings drew near the crowd grew to such dimensions that even the accommodation of the sitting room was taxed to its utmost capacity. Upon motion R. H. Pooley was voted to the chair, and no time was lost in introducing the business on the tapis.

The first question, and that which created the most animated discussion, was the proposal to impose a gun license upon all carrying firearms for the purpose of killing game. Much to the surprise of those who have been active in bringing the matter to the attention of local nimrods the principle was unanimously endorsed, although there was some difference of opinion in regard to the amount of the tax to be recommended. The original suggestion was $2.50, but others present thought that it should be $5 at least or else its utility would be so curtailed as to result in very little material benefit in the protection of game. Finally $3 was agreed upon. One point upon which there was striking unanimity of opinion was that the license would be supported only upon the understanding that the provincial government agree to devote the revenue thus derived exclusively to the improvement of the present system of protecting British Columbia's game during the closed seasons. Everyone seemed to think that the provisions of the Game Act were not enforced now as stringently as was desirable, and were quite willing that they should be taxed to the extent mentioned providing it would prevent the wholesale slaughter of the birds with which Vancouver Island and the Mainland abounds, and which provided sportsmen with the means of spending an enjoyable day at neighboring resorts at any time during the periods shooting was lawful.

Thus when the appended resolution, moved by J. Musgrave and seconded by N. B. Gresley, was put it carried unanimously:

That, in the opinion of this meeting, it is necessary for the better protection of game that a license of three dollars be levied on every person using or carrying a firearm usually used for killing game in the province of British Columbia during the shooting season. Members of any military or volunteer service when carrying arms in the course of their ordinary duties and bona fide resident farmers, farming twenty acres or more of cultivated land, and while shooting over land, shall be exempt from this license, and any person found carrying firearms without such license shall be liable to a fine not exceeding $100.

Upon other points there was little discussion. It was pointed out that it would be advisable in the interests of game protection that certain districts now "unorganized" should be made "organized" by act of parliament. The reasons for this were enumerated, it being explained that at the present time the law allowed anyone holding a miner's license to shoot any quantity or any variety of birds or deer in these districts. Many who were not bona fine miners, but held certificates previously obtained were, therefore, able to slaughter as much as they might desire without rendering themselves liable to prosecution. Any fair-minded person could see the injustice of this, and it was proposed to ask the government to remedy it at the next sitting of the legislature. A motion asking for the organization of all that part of Vancouver Island south of latitude 50 be declared an organized district according to the provisions of the Game Act was passed without dissension.

Sunday shooting—the subject that was expected to rouse indignant protests—was dealt with in a quiet and common-sense manner. The communications from officials of the Lord's Day Alliance were submitted and filed. Those present expressed their disapproval of any such proposition. It would be unjust and without the results which those interested wished to bring about. It was tacitly agreed, however, to leave the matter in abeyance, and to take no definite action until steps are taken to induce the authorities to prohibit shooting on the Sabbath.

One of the last issues debated was that of recommending that the shooting of hen pheasants be permitted during the last fortnight of the shooting season. Some contended that these birds were becoming so numerous that there could be no possible harm in making it lawful to kill them for a brief period annually. The majority, however, objected. Their argument was that there are already quite a number of hen pheasants killed either by mistake or intent throughout the shooting months, and that the adoption of such a suggestion would mean altogether too great a slaughter, in fact it might seriously effect the following year's broods. One of the speakers made a very minute calculation, stating that if only one hundred sportsmen went out per diem it would mean six hundred for one day, and if the average bag were only four birds—a very small average—it would mean the extermination of no less than two thousand four hundred hen pheasants. Those who were acquainted with the condition of game upon Vancouver Island would agree that the legalizing of such a slaughter would not be wise.

It was decided to allow the question to drop for the present.

After according Proprietor Harrison a vote of thanks for the use of the rooms the meeting adjourned.

SPLENDID CONCERT

Given by Choir of First Presbyterian Church at Semple's Hall, Victoria West.

One of the best concerts ever given in Semple's hall, Victoria West, was the verdict of the large audience that gathered to hear the First Presbyterian church choir in that splendid Scotch entertainment on Tuesday. The hall was crowded and the funds of the Ladies' Aid Society of St. Paul's Presbyterian church, Victoria West, will be materially augments.

The programme was a lengthy one and was carried out without a hitch, due in large measure to the tact of the chairman, Wm. Henderson, and the conductor, J. G. Brown. The choir singing was well done, although marred by the bad acoustic properties of the hall, the tone seeming to go back from them instead of going forward into the hall. This was true of all the numbers, the vocalists finding a difficulty in making free use of their voice. Jesse Longfield contributed one of his enjoyable violin selections; Miss M. Wilson sang a very dainty modern Scotch song in fine style; Mr. Brenner gave the old favorite, "Mary o' Argyle," and followed by Mr. Gordon in that splendid song, "The McGregor's Gathering." Mr. and Mrs. Moir sang a beautiful little duet seldo mheard, entitled "Row Weel My Boatie, row Weel." Mrs. Gregson was at home in her singing of "Angus Macdonald," as was also Miss R. L. Wilson in "Caller Herrin'." Mr. Kinnaird is fast making a reputation for himself in the humorous line, singing "John Grumble" in good style. The duet between Miss Wilson and Mr. Brown, "The Crooked Bawble," the dancing of the Highland Fling by little Miss Hill, and Mr. Brown's humorous selections in character and his comic readings were the hits of the evening. Mrs. Lewis Hall played the accompaniments in her usual finished style.

DIED MONDAY.

R. Offerhaus Passed Away at Jubilee Hospital After Brief Illness.

At the Jubilee hospital on Monday R. Offerhaus, who for many years was generally recognized as one of the most prominent educationalists of British Columbia, passed away after a comparatively brief illness. Recently Mr. Offerhaus had presided over the public school at Crofton. About a week ago he was taken ill, and, coming to Victoria for treatment, died quite suddenly, despite the best medical attention.

It was approximately a quarter of a century ago that Mr. Offerhaus left his native land, Holland, for the then undeveloped West. He settled in Victoria, and shortly after was appointed to a responsible place on the teaching staff of the Collegiate school. Later he resigned and became identified with the Victoria High school, where he taught for thirteen years, proving himself during that time one of the most able mathematicians ever connected with the local institution. Not only was he particularly well qualified in that line of study, but as a general instructor he was very successful.

Some years ago Mr. Offerhaus was well known as a vocalist of no mean ability. Possessed of a fine baritone voice, he was much in demand in local musical circles.

Mr. Offerhaus, who was 52 years of age, leaves a widow, now teaching at the Cedar Hill public school; a son, Herman, in business at Nelson; a daughter, Marion, teaching at Salt Spring Island; and two younger daughters living at home.

The funeral arrangements have not yet been announced.

AID FOR THE JEWS.

Local Congregation Emanu-el Takes Up Case of Co-Religionists in Russia.

The Times has been requested to publish the following on behalf of the congregation Emanu-el of this city:

Massacre of the Jews in Russia.

The civilized world to-day is horror-stricken at the horrible deeds of the Russian savages against our co-religionists in that terrible country, Russia. The unhappy Hebrews have been done to death, tortured and pillaged, by many thousands in over 80 towns in Russia.

Let us not neglect our duty in trying to ameliorate—no matter in how slight a degree—the acute sufferings of the poor homeless ones who have lost many near and dear ones by rapine and murder. It is a solemn call to us who five in this free and liberty-loving land to assist our poor, persecuted Russian co-religionists. For shame's sake, let us not turn a deaf ear to their cruel sufferings.

I most earnestly request your attendance at the Victoria hall (near the synagogue) on Thursday, 30th instant, at 8 p. m., and any sympathizers will be welcomed.

Yours respectfully,
H. L. SALMON,
President.

BOUNDARY FALLS SMELTER.

Has Been Blown In—One Furnace in Commission.

The Boundary Falls smelter was blown in Monday by W. G. Thomas, smelter superintendent for the Dominion Copper Company. The one furnace now in commission, will reduce about three hundred and fifty tons daily from the company's Brooklyn, Stemwinder and Rawhide mines in this camp. The second furnace is to be blown in later. This amount will be doubled whenever the smelter is ready to blow in the second furnace. Manager Drummond will also probably increase the force of men at work in the three mines of the company here, as it is understood development is to be kept well in hand in advance of shipments. The beginning of shipments from these mines will cause the employment of another train crew by the C. P. R. on the Phoenix hill. This makes a total of over three thousand tons of ore daily now being shipped from the mines of Phoenix camp, the Granby output being twenty-seven hundred tons per day.

It is expected that the eight-hour day will be put in force at the Boundary Falls smelter, as it was last Monday at the Granby smelter.

—The Daughters of Pity on Monday decided to present the Jubilee hospital with a motor drill. They also discussed arrangements for the Cinderella dance which will be held in the Assembly hall on Friday evening.

EVERYTHING READY FOR A NEW START

WHALING STATION TO COMMENCE OPERATIONS

Local Company Secure British Columbia Patents on Apparatus From a Bostonian.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

L. Rismuller, of Boston, a prominent man in the whaling industry, who visited this city about a year ago for the purpose of seeing the new station established at Sechart on the West Coast, is again registered at the Driard. This morning he attended a meeting of the members of the local company and the balance of the time he spent in company with Capt. Balcom, the manager of the company. Both will leave this evening, taking the steamer Orien, which is on her way to port, and visiting the station on the coast before their return to Victoria.

Mr. Rismuller holds the Canadian patents on a large quantity of whaling apparatus and his trip here has been made in connection with the transfer of British Columbia rights to the Victoria company. Having secured these the Victoria company will now be able to go ahead with its business. From now on, says Capt. Balcom, the industry on the coast will be under full swing. For months the station has been doing very little for different reasons, the principal one, it is understood, being the trouble which the dryer gave. The first installed did not give entire satisfaction, and so a new one had to be introduced. This is now in place and it is expected that henceforth all interruptions will be of a minor character.

Last week a few whales were taken to the station by the Orion, these having been the first killed in many weeks. It is not officially stated, but it is believed that a test of the new equipment was made with these, and that this test was satisfactory would now appear evident in view of the commencement of operations. A large force of men has been retained at the station in anticipation of this, so that there will be no delay for want of labor. Mr. Rismuller, who appears on the Driard register as from Vancouver, could not be seen to-day. The newspaper man who attempted to obtain an interview with him had his card returned with the cheerful note that Mr. Rismuller was very busy to-day, and would see the reporter to-morrow.

COMING TO COAST.

Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Has Announced Intention to Build.

A dispatch from New York says: At a special meeting of the directors of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, the board formally authorized the building of the St. Paul extension to the Pacific coast from Evarts, S. D., to Seattle and Tacoma.

It was specified in the official announcement that the work of construction is to begin forthwith. It is estimated that the cost will be about $50,000,000.

It was announced at the close of the meeting that as yet no plans had been determined on for financing the project. This matter in all probability will be decided upon at a meeting of the executive committee to be held tomorrow. An issue of convertible bonds has been under consideration, but there is no likelihood of an increase in the road's capital stock, about $25,000,000 of which is still unissued.

Preparations already have been made for the incorporation of a new railway company from Evarts, which, however, will be entirely financed by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul.

While all the details of the route have not been decided on, the line will run toward the Rocky mountains, west by north of west, to Butte. Thence it will be extended westerly, crossing the Bitter Root mountains, through Lolo pass and ultimately connecting at Wallula, Wash., the terminus of the recently incorporated Pacific railroad, which runs to that point from Seattle.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul will also seek an outlet at Tacoma, and will touch Helena, Spokane and Portland. The work of construction will be begun simultaneously at Seattle on the Pacific road and at Evarts.

The line further south, which is in the course of construction from Chamberlain, S. D., to Rapid City, in the Black Hills, a 200-mile project, will also be connected at the northwest extension branch line. It is porbable that branch lines will extend to the Coeur d'Alene country, east of Spokane, for the mining and timber business of that section.

TOOK LAUDANUM.

Young Man in Jubilee Hospital—Police Investigating.

The case of Richard Davidson, a young man who is now in the Jubilee hospital, is being investigated by the local police. A few nights ago at the Victoria hotel where he is staying he took some laudanum, whether by accident or design is not definitely known. Dr. Frank Hall was summoned and after using the stomach pump to good effect ordered the man to the Jubilee hospital, where he is now progressing favorably.

Chief Langley will look into the matter as soon as Davidson is able to be out, although the occurrence was not officially reported to him. Davidson is a stranger here.

—The funeral of R. Offerhaus took place on Wednesday from Hayward's undertaking parlors, and later at the Reformed Episcopal church. Services were conducted by Rev. T. W. Gladstone. The following acted as pallbearers: J. P. McLaughlin, S. W. C. Pope, D. R. Ker, John M. Campbell, Munro Miller and R. Johnston.

THE CORBIN ROAD.

Work on Spokane International Will Be Pushed Forward.

The first steel on the Spokane International road will be laid next week, says the Spokesman-Review. Thereafter the work will be carried on steadily, as much of the grade on the north end of the road is in shape to receive rails.

The Canadian Pacific has advised the Spokane International officials that the connection to the Crow's Nest road will be completed on Monday. This is a spur line running south from Yalk, B. C., or Spokane Junction, B. C., on the Crow's Nest to the point on the international boundary line where the Corbin system will join. The C. P. R. has had this branch under construction for six months, a variety of setbacks having hampered the operations. Over the link the Canadian Pacific will deliver steel and equipment for the Corbin system.

The first consignment of steel for the Spokane International is ready for delivery on the north end, and further large shipments will be hurried across the Middle West, so that no delay is likely on this score.

E. J. Roberts, chief engineer of the Spokane International, has left Spokane for the north end to inspect the work and arrange for the commencement of track laying.

CONVICTION SECURED.

Well Known Guide Fined Heavily for Infraction of Game Act.

Many Victorians acquainted with Wm. Manson, one of British Columbia's most celebrated guides, whose headquarters are at Lillooet, and who is reported to gather in thousands of dollars annually by taking parties of wealthy English and American Nimrods through the interior in search of big game, will be interested to learn that recently he was convicted of an infraction of the Game Act. Learning of Mr. Manson's return from an expedition before the opening of the season, the head warden, Bryan Williams, proceeded to investigate and succeeded in obtaining sufficient evidence to secure a conviction.

Writing to Secretary Musgrave, of the local Fish and Game Club, in reference to this case, he says:

"Now about the Manson case. It came off on the evening of the 24th and a good fight was put up on both sides. The case lasted nearly three hours and in the end Manson was convicted and fined $50 and costs. The case caused a great amount of interest, the court house being crowded. Mr. Murphy, of Ashcroft, defended, and Mr. Reid, of Cowan & Reid, Vancouver, prosecuted. Everybody expressed satisfaction at the result, as it was felt that if the case was lost it would give game protection a setback. Manson took it very well, and it is to his credit that he came to me after it was over, acknowledged that he had been breaking the laws, but that he saw that it was to his advantage to protect the big game, and that now he would do all he could to help me."

FORCED TO FLEE IN THEIR NIGHT CLOTHES

Home of J. Whitta, at Nanaimo Destroyed by Fire—The Occupants Had Narrow Escape.

Nanaimo, Nov. 30.—Another disastrous fire visited this vicinity this morning, when the home of John Whitta, who has a farm on the five-acre lots, a mile north of the city, was completely destroyed.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitta and their eight children were asleep in the house when the fire was discovered, and so fiercely was it blazing then that they had barely time to escape in their night clothes.

FRIENDS OF MISSION.

W. C. T. U. Acknowledge Receipt of Donations For the Month.

The management of the W. C. T. U. mission hall on Yates street has asked the Times to acknowledge the following donations:

Cash—The Lieut.-Governor, $25; A Friend, $5; cash at door, $47.75.

Lumber—Taylor Mill Co., Shawnigan Lake Lumber Co., Lemon & Gonnason, Sayward Mill Co., Moore & Whittington.

Hardware—E. B. Marvin & Co., J. Nicholles, McGregor & Sons, S. Shore and E. P. Prior.

J. Sears, painting signs; Hastie, pitchers, vases, etc.; Powell, putting up stove and stovepipes; Mr. Warner, sink and plumbing; Albion Iron Works, stovepipes; Cookson, stovepipes; Clark & Pearson, stovepipes; A Friend, bath; Friends, tables, etc.; A Friend, per Mrs. Hardie, bed; Friends, flowers; Hall & Walker, coal; Smith & Champion, hearth rug and removing awning; Weiler Bros., blinds; D. Spencer, Ltd., carpet for platform; Young Bros., curtains; Wescott Bros., tablecloth; Richardson, tablecloth; Mrs. Teague, carpet and curtains; Mrs. Watkins, matting, etc.; Mrs. Williams, curtains; Piercy & Co., cretonne; Waitt & Co., loan of piano; Mrs. F. Campbell, stove; Mrs. Captain McCulloch, blanket, sheets; Mrs. Carne, Angel hotel, blankets, etc.; Mrs. Adams, sundries; W. J. Pendray & Sons, sundries; fixing electric lights, Messrs. Hinton and Hawkins; reduction in moving gas stove, Victoria Gas Company; free expressage, Messrs. Walsh, Porter, Yeo, Styles, Wiggs and Alexander.

Messrs. Dawson, Percival, Young, Molyneux, Field, Topham and Higman and others attending the mission, free labor.

Thanks are extended to all friends who have assisted in any way.

Donations of the following articles would greatly assist the work: Tables, bedding, crockery, screens for lunch tables, etc.

DON'T BURN YOUR FLESH.

Corn salves poison and burn; besides they seldom cure the corn. For fifty years Putnam's Corn Extractor has cured all kind of corns, warts and bunions. Painless, safe and guaranteed—that's "Putnam's." Try it.

—The provincial authorities have given notice that the law against removing gravel from the sea beach will be enforced. The provincial police, therefore, will prosecute should anyone be found taking gravel from the shore between this city and Sidney.

LEGISLATURE TO MEET IN JANUARY

A DISSOLUTION IS REPORTED IN SIGHT

Hurried Trip of Ministers to the East is Construed in This Way.

Before Premier McBride and Hon. R. G. Tatlow left for the East the provincial government decided upon calling the legislature together on Thursday, January 11th. A proclamation to this effect appears in this week's Gazette.

The hurried visit of the ministers to the East is in fact generally connected with the calling together of the House. The Premier before leaving intimated that there would be brought to the attention of the government at Ottawa some departmental matters which would not occupy longer than perhaps two or three days. It is expected therefore that the visit will not be confined to Ottawa but there will likely be word received that side trips to Montreal and possibly Toronto may be undertaken. By doing so the ministers will be able to go fully into the question of railway construction in the province, the mention of which has about it something that savors of an election not being far off.

It is equally recognized that there are three great companies preparing to build to the Pacific through Northern British Columbia; these are the Grand Trunk Pacific, the Canadian Northern and the C. P. R. Under the circumstances it is not at all likely that the government delegation will return home without talking "business" with these companies.

It would appear as if a change had taken place among members of the government relative to railway negotiations. In former times the Premier was always assisted by Hon. R. F. Green. The Minister of Finance, however, it would appear, has now been called in and for some reason Hon. Mr. Green has been left at home.

For some months past there have rumors of an appeal to the country on the part of the present government. The recent visit of the Premier and Hon. Mr. Green to the interior has revived these rumors. The hurried trip to Ottawa, to be followed by the calling of the House together, has aroused a further suspicion that a dissolution may be sought by the government depending, of course, upon the results of the visit to the East.

If the times are considered propitious a short session, followed by a dissolution, might be expected.

POULTRY ORDERED.

Plentiful Supply For the Christmas Trade—Wholesale Quotations That Will Be Charged.

It would appear as if there would be an abundance of poultry for the Christmas season now less than a month distant. The scarcity reported at Thanksgiving has seemingly passed, and according to present predictions made by local merchants there will be a plentiful supply of poultry of all kinds on hand for the holiday trade. Large orders have been placed. One wholesaler informed a Times representative this morning that he expected his carload would reach the coast by the 16th inst.

A. Brenchley, of F. R. Stewart & Company, interviewed on the subject this morning, said that he knew of about fifteen carloads coming through to the coast, of which three were destined for Victoria. He expected that the first shipments would leave the East in a day or so. Mr. Brenchley said that he had not heard of any scarcity. Sometime ago there had been a little discussion about it, but this was, he thought, for the purpose of stiffening the market.

All the poultry ordered, of which he has knowledge, is coming from Smith's Falls, Ont. There they are packed the best of any place in the East. They will be placed on the wholesale market in Victoria at the following quotations: Turkey, 18 to 18½; geese, 13½; ducks, 16½, and chicken 16½. These prices are pretty much the same as ruled last year. How they will be marked up by the retailer will depend largely, of course, on the conditions of the weather, merchants having sometimes to cut prices very low on account of "soft" weather.

Home grown turkeys invariably bring higher quotations because many consider that the frost injure the poultry in the matter of their eating quality. Nevertheless there are some men in the business who hold the opinion that the Eastern turkeys are superior to those raised on this coast, contending as a general thing that they are better fed.

ASSOCIATION FORMED.

Meeting of Electors Was Held at North Ward Monday Night.

The North Ward Municipal Association was organized in North Ward school Monday evening, a large number of electors being present. D. Spragge occupied the chair, and after a general discussion the following officers were elected: President, N. Shakespeare; vice-president, Geo. Jeeves; secretary, J. A. Grant; executive committee, Geo. Anderson, Robt. Erskine, J. Malcolm, Jno. Taylor, C. C. Johns, D. Spragge, R. D. Finlayson, E. E. C. Johnson, A. J. Bechtel and R. Dinsdale.

A motion was passed that the association will direct attention first to the redistribution of the city wards on the lines laid down by the city assessor; the general revision of the assessment roll for the purpose of equalizing the assessment.

It was also moved and carried unanimously "that we disapprove of the present civic audit system and recommend that an independent auditor be appointed."

A motion to adjourn to next Monday night was then passed. In future the meetings will be held in Mr. King's room, North Ward school, instead of in the assembly room.

CROW'S NEST LINE.

C. P. R. Decides to Lay New Rails—Contemplates Improvements Will Cost $1,250,000.

A dispatch from Cranbrook says the C. P. R. has decided to relay with new steel next year the entire Crow's Nest Pass line from Lethbridge to Kootenay Landing, a distance of two hundred and eleven miles. The total contemplated improvements will cost $1,250,000. Each mile will take about 125 tons of rails, or say 26,375 tons for the entire distance. Each ton of rails will cost (exclusive of freight) $33, or $869,275. Labor will cost about $120,000 and the ballasting of the road for the new rails will mean an outlay of $211,000, extra expenses of one kind or another will exhaust the appropriation of $1,250,000.

The effect of the improvements will be to make the road from Lethbridge to Kootenay Landing identical in permanence and general equipment with the C. P. R. main arteries; while the object is to secure that the running conditions over the Crow's Nest Division shall be as good, safe and comfortable as those which exist between Spokane and St. Paul, Minn., via the C. P. R. and the Soo line system.

Another aspect of this most important matter is the coal business which will be created between the Hosmer coal mines of the C. P. R. and the city and neighborhood of Spokane when the Spokane-International is completed.

The C. P. R. burns, on the Crow's Nest section alone, over $16,000 worth of coal per month. What a saving the operation of the Hosmer mines will mean to the company can be realized from this one fact. It is likely that coke ovens will go in at Hosmer, and that from them the Trail smelter will be supplied in the future.

Besides the expenditure on culverts and bridge foundations the C. P. R. during the past summer spent $58,000 on ballasting the line; $30,000 on widening the embankments; $9,000 on taking down and removing loose rock from the sides of rock-cuttings and such places as there was a liability of those masses falling and obstructing the line and endangering life. A further sum of $19,000 was spent in clearing the right-of-way, making in those departments alone an outlay of $116,000.

ALL NON-BELIEVERS CONVINCED

Once doctors thought Catarrh incurable. Now they know better because every case yields to Catarrhozone. It cuts out the phlegm, cleanses the membranes and instantly relieves headache. Stop experimenting—use Catarrhozone—that's all.

HOSPITAL AFFAIRS.

Regular Meeting of the Women's Auxiliary Was Held at the City Hall.

The Women's Auxiliary of the Jubilee hospital met on Wednesday in the city hall. There was a good attendance. The visiting committee presented the report for the month as follows:

Madam President and Ladies:—The hospital was visited on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., and found in perfect condition. Several of the patients were spoken to, and they all expressed great satisfaction at the kind treatment received.

The matron asked for tray cloths and table napkins which were urgently needed; also if any of the ladies had old linen, or cotton rags. Those are most useful and always needed at the hospital.

Yours truly,
ANNIE HALL.
ROSINA ROBERTSON.

The resolutions for the annual meeting of the Council of Women were discussed, and the delegates instructed. An effort will be made to have as many members as possible attend this meeting, which will be held in the city hall December 11th and 12th.

A vote of $30 towards providing Christmas cheer at the hospital was passed. Mrs. Bickford and Mrs. Maclure were appointed to do the purchasing in that connection.

The question of something to take the place of the annual ball will be discussed at the next meeting. The children's Cinderella was called to the attention of the society, and the members asked to give all the aid possible to this function, which will be held on Friday evening under the auspices of the Daughters of Pity.

No special visiting committee was appointed for the month of December as it was felt that nearly all the members would during the Christmas holidays visit the institution.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, January 30th.

Bright's Disease

A CURE OF MARVELOUS MERIT THAT GIVES INSTANT EFFECT FOUND AT LAST.

No malady is more stealthy or fatal than Bright's Disease.

Every year it claims more victims than famine and war combined.

In the beginning it is marked by puffiness under the eyes, yellow, sallow skin and pain in the back. The urine becomes scanty, often contains sediment, causes great irritation and pain.

Reader, if you are troubled with these symptoms, get Dr. Hamilton's Pills at once. This vitalizing medicine will fast restore brilliance to your dull anxious eyes. Exhaustion will be replaced by surplus vigor. Your back pains and urinary disorders will cease.

Renewed life is put into the kidneys, and Bright's Disease passes away forever.

Permanent Cure in Every Case.

"I was stricken with Bright's Disease two years ago," writes Mrs. G. E. Matthewson, Middletown. "I grew worse. Sugar was almost eleven per cent. and the doctors gave me up.

"After using Dr. Hamilton's Pills one week I began to mend.

"Dr. Hamilton's Pills have made a well woman of me, and I know others who have been cured also by this medicine."

Why suffer any longer? Dr. Hamilton's Pills will restore you to robust good health. No medicine in the world so efficient for diabetes, Bright's Disease and affection of the kidneys, liver and bladder. Price 25c. per box, or five boxes for $1, at all dealers, or by mail from N. C. Polson & Co., Hartford, Conn., U. S. A., and Kingston, Ont.

JOHN CORT AND VICTORIA THEATRE

ANOTHER STRING TO HIS MANAGERIAL BOW

His Advent Here May Mean Desired Changes in Local Playhouse—Five Year's Lease.

Local theatre goers were very much interested in the announcement made by the Times Wednesday that J. Cort had leased the Victoria theatre for five years with the option of purchase. At the same time it was generally expected that a move would be made in this direction before very long in view of the tremendous battle that has practically been started between the syndicate and anti-syndicate forces.

John Cort is a pretty big man in the syndicate or the Northwest branch of it, and controls a considerable number of theatres because of that connection. He is the manager of the Seattle and Grand opera houses in the Sound city, and for years has had a great deal to say as to what shows would visit Victoria or give it the go-by. The owner of the Victoria theatre, Mr. Boscowitz, who returned from Vancouver Wednesday admitted that the lease had been taken up but said he did not think the new arrangement would affect the local staff; in fact, he thought the new management would be pleased to retain its present force.

There is no doubt about that last observation. It is a big question if there is a man in the Cort retinue or among the satellites of Klaw Erlanger who is as indispensable as Ted North, who knows the Victoria and local conditions as a father does his firstborn. In fact Mr. North's familiarity with the modus operandi of theatre manipulating, which extends from the electric switchboard to the box office and bill posting, so impressed a dramatic writer in the New York Telegraph during his visit here that he delivered himself of a column eulogy and warmly invited the subject of it to the Atlantic metropolis.

It is to be hoped that the appearance of Mr. Cort upon the local theatrical horizon will mean an improvement in the roster of attractions. The average of one a week is somewhat slow and the quality of many might be greatly improved upon. It is also to be hoped that the new lessee will make some arrangement with Mr. Boscowitz for the alteration of the house. The fact is conclusive that few cities of Victoria's prominence on the continent have more dismal looking show houses. Of course nobody cares to make a big outlay of money without an appreciable return in sight, but with a good class of attractions, and the field properly worked up a profitably large clentele might be established for the Victoria theatre. Mr. Cort will have to give the city good shows or he will have to close his house.

The leasing of the Victoria by the Seattle manager, however, effectually closes the door to what are known as "independent" stars. These are the actors and actresses who are being exploited by the Belasco combination, which has been organized to fight the syndicate, and has acquired a considable number of theatres. The only place Victorians could hear Mrs. Fiske, for instance, in this city would be one of the smaller amusement houses, which could hardly accommodate enough people to justify the venture. However, as independent stars have not been in the habit of visiting this city its condition in that respect is no worse than it was before.

GEORGE AGAIN IN JAIL.

Collins Unable to Postpone His Trial For Perjury.

A dispatch from San Francisco under date of November 28th says: "All the efforts of Attorney George Collins to postpone his trial on the charge of perjury have failed, and to-day the empaneling of the jury is in progress before Judge Lennon.

"Four jurors were accepted and at the close of the proceedings the judge instructed Bailiff Walsh to take the defendant into custody. Collins pleaded to be allowed to prepare subpoenas for his witnesses and to do other necessary work, but the judge told him that that was in discretion of the sheriff.

"It was while the jury was being empaneled in the bigamy case that Collins fled to Victoria, B. C.

"His battle for delay this time was based on an affidavit that his rights demanded the presence of Rev. M. D. Connolly, who would prove that Collins was married to Agnes M. Newman, on May 15th, 1889, and not to Charlotta Newman, and that Father Connolly would be in San Francisco on December 24th. The motion was overruled when the prosecution filed an affidavit that Connolly was traveling in Europe with Archbishop Riordan, and the time of his return was indefinite."

TREASURE EXPEDITION.

Organization Incorporated in Seattle to Search for Hidden Wealth on Cocos Island.

"A novel business organization was incorporated Tuesday for the purpose of recovering hidden treasure," says the Seattle Star. "The incorporators boldly declare it their purpose to organize an expedition for seeking out and unearthing the $32,000,000 of gold hidden by pirates on islands in the southern seas as far back as 1821.

"The incorporators claim they know where the hidden treasure is, but that a mountain has toppled over upon it, and to wash away the mountain the Cocos Island Hydraulic and Treasure Company has been organized.

"The incorporators are Captain Fred Hackett of Vancouver, B. C.; John W. Lamarr, James A. Steele and S. E. Squires."

—Joseph Hancock passed away at the Provincial Royal Jubilee hospital on Saturday. He was 61 years of age and a native of Liverpool, England.