THE ANXIOUS CANDIDATE—"Wonder if I can claim credit for abolishing that bar?"

THE MUNICIPAL FIELD.

Good Men Are Wanted in Every Ward of the City.

council and trustees for 1908 selected.

dealing with the big problems involved.

good field of candidates is to be obtained.

a chance to vote for men of ability. Give them that chance.

Two weeks from Wednesday the municipal elections for Victoria will be held, and the Mayor,

The issues at stake, particularly with reference to the water situation, are so important that

Instead, there seems to be an absence so far of men of outstanding ability whose presence at

The remedy lies with the people themselves, and it is to them that this appeal is made. If the

There are good men who will allow their names to go to nomination if they can be shown that

the liveliest interest should be shown by the citizens in securing the nomination of men capable of

the council board would insure efficient treatment of the questions which will arise. Some good

men have offered, but there have not yet been enough citizens of known ability announcing them-

public-spirited citizens in each of the wards shown in the above chart will co-operate and decide

upon the best men in their respective localities and then approach them with a request that they

there is a genuine desire for them to do so. But they will not seek the office. They must be ap-

proached, and this can be done as effectively by a small number of public spirited men in each

ward as by a formally organized association. Surely this is a more sensible course than to indulge

in criticism of those who may offer themselves, but who may not meet the popular requirements for

of executive ability. It cannot afford to mark time any longer in regard to a number of pressing

reforms. Intelligent advertising has started the stream of hand-picked settlers to this city; bung-

ling and incapacity at the city hall will soon stop it. Where the interests of all are involved, all

must co-operate. Given a few years of progressive and wise administration and results as import-

ant, comparatively speaking, as those achieved by Joseph Chamberlain in Birmingham, may be at-

tained here. This is a time for action, not apathy, and the movement must be started at once if a

and then use your utmost efforts to persuade the best men to go to nomination. The people want

Study the boundaries of your ward. Canvass the number of "possibles" with your friends,

In 1908 Victoria will need, and need badly, men at the city hall of initiative, of resource and

selves to give the electorate an opportunity to select a working business council.

aldermanic timber. Pre-election action is better than post-election carping.

accept nomination, a great step forward will have been made.

YEAR'S MINERAL **PRODUCTION**

IT IS EXPECTED TO

Drop in Price of Metals Has Had Evil Effect--Coal Will Show

Increase.

The mineral output of the province of provincial mineralogist, W. Fleet Robertson, who is the best authority on ing arrested. the subject in the province. Mr. Robertson says that in the absence of official reports from the various mining companies he is not in a position to say definitely what the production will be. He did not care to say more therefore than that in his opinion the value of the production this year would exceed

that of last year.

From other sources it is learned, however, that while there has been a somewhat lighter production of copper and silver lead, the coal output has increased quite materially, so that the total will show a good increase. The price of copper throughout the early months of the year was very high, which will help to bring the value up.

The gold production will be lower than last year. Atlin will, roughly speaking, give about the same as last year. The likelihood is that if any variation appears between the two seasons it will be a reduction in the present year. Last season over \$287,000 was overed. Cariboo will probably see a slight falling off this year also.

In the coal the Wellington Colliery

their production. Probably 100,000 tons perial conference to deal with the submore will be mined by that company ject. The Crow's Nest Coal Company's production will be radically increased, although an estimate of it is hard to get

With the increased prices in coal the returns from this end of the mining industry will be very much greater than last year.
(Continued on page 6).

ROMANTIC CAREER OF DEAD HERMIT

Oxford Student, Canadian Journalist, and Poet Met With Lonely

Melrose, Mass., Dec. 27.-An investigation by the officials of the poor de- 25th was \$729,000; but up to noon yes ally unravelled the mystery of the identity and life-story of a man who month exceeds \$750,000. died unknown in the Melrose hospital yesterday. The man was known, on yesterday. The man was known, on account of his habits of life, as "The NOT PURSUING Hermit of the Middlesex Flats," but was not known until after his death. According to Mr. and Mrs. George Beckford, who were his intimate acquaintances, the hermit's name was Great Number of Japanese Troops Charles Frederick Powell, a native of Plymouth, England, and he had a romantic career. Powell possessed an exceptionally good education, and was familiar with art and literature, although his mode of life was that of a one time he was a student of Trinity

Trinity, having had some trouble in construction in Chinese territory west the institution. Later his father sent of the Liao valley, and claims that it him to a university in Germany, but he remained there only a short time. After going back to his home he interfered in a quarrel between his father and mother, and taking his mother's part, struck his father, who thereupon ordered him out of the house. Powell and never returned to his home.

time with the Toronto Mail. For the last three or four years he had made his home in the vicinity of Melrose, home at North Bennington on April living much of the time in a cave in 28th last. Mahan, after being arrested, the Middlesex Flats. In the cave he confessed that he had taken liberties had only a blanket for a covering, and with the little girl, and killed her to an oil stove on which he cooked such prevent her from telling her parents.

According to Mr. and Mrs. Beckford Powell was something of a poet, and he told them he had a small trunk filled with poems. This trunk, he said he had buried in the ground. Search for it will be made to-morrow.

In the clothing of the dead man two ld photographs of Pewell's mother and sister were found. They were taken in Liverpool, Eng. Powell's concerning the condition of the Emleath was due to pneumonia, resulting from exposure. He was 56 years old.

ILLNESS OF DR. RUTHER FORD.

Ottawa, Dec. 28.—Dr. J. G. Ruther-ford, veterinary director general and live stock commissioner, who was,

SLIM HOPES FOR TERRORIST.

Formidable Series of Charges Agains Tschaikovsky, the Revolu-

London, Dec. 28.-Friends of Nicholas schaikovsky here hold slender hopes hat he will escape from the clutches of the Russian police, who for many years have been awaiting an opportunity to arrest him. They declare the evidence against Tschaikovsky, on a formidable series of charges, is chiefly connection with the importation of revolutionary literature into Russia. The fact that he is a close friend of Maxin Gorky constitutes a serious of-fence in the eyes of the Russian authorities, they say and further he was very active at the congress of social revolutionists in London last spring arranging for the accomodation of the delegates and providing them with disguises, aliases and passports, to enable them to enter Russia. Altoge ther, much surprise is expressed by hi British Columbia will this year probably exceed that of 1906 in point of value. Such is the opinion held by the paid flying visits to his native land, he

RESERVE LAND FOR ORIENTALS

NEW SOLUTION FOR **IMMIGRATION PERIL**

Commission to Assist Imperial Conference in Problem.

In the coal the Wellington Colliery
Company on Vancouver Island has produced about the same tonnage as last
year. The output in 1906 was 803,000
tons of coal, and nearly 10,000 tons of
coke. This year, however, the price has
coke. This year, however, the price has
the Coriental immigration problem the
Indian congress as tenging to bear out
those anxious to justify the exclusion
of Indians as well as other Oriental
arcae from the colonies and advocates London, Dec. 28.-In an editorial been much higher than during the greater part of last season, so that the returns will be considerably larger.

The Western Fuel Company at Nanaimo will have a material increase in
naimo will have a material increase in

It suggests that the evidence taken before such a commission might con-vince some of the colonies of the impossibility of banding against Oriental immigration, and thinks that certain parts of British territories, most suited to Orientals and least suited to white-men's habitation, might be especially

reserved for Oriental immigration.
The editorial concludes: "At present the Oriental races realize our difficulies, but a swarming inrush of even marmed paupers cannot be restricted

TORONTO CUSTOM DUTIES.

Total Up to Date For December Would Indicate Policy of Retrench ment By Importers.

Toronto, Dec. 28.-Customs duties co ected at the port of Toronto so far this month would indicate that a policy of retrenchment is being adopted by Toonto importers. For December. the total amount of duty collected here was \$801,472, and the total to December partment and the police to-day parti-

OPEN DOOR POLICY

Still in Manchuria---Forbid Chinese Ry. Construction.

London, Dec. 28 .- A dispatch to the tramp. He told the Beckfords that at Times from Pekin calls attention to the one time he was a student of Trinity college, Oxford, and was a member of the college choir. King Edward of in Manchuria, though the country is England was a student there at the same time, Powell said, and was frequently in the audiences which attend-

The dispatch also gives an instance Powell did not finish his course at of the Japanese forbidding the railway tion with any national interpretation of the open door policy.

GHASTLY CRIME.

Bennington, Vt., Dec. 27. - A jury then came to this country, 26 years ago, was secured to-day to serve on the trial of Alfred Mahan, charged with He was at one time connected with the murder of his four-year-old niece, the Montreal Gazette and at another Ethel Mahan. The court then adjourn-

Illness of Her Majesty Not Regarded as Serious.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—An authoritative announcem concerning the condition of the Empress of Russia. Her illness is in no sense critical, but her convalesce has been slower than her physicians had hoped. Her Majesty has suffered no relapse. On the contrary, there has

MARSH LAND MURDER MYSTERY.

Newark, N. J., Dec. 27.-The idenity

C. P. R. AND CARMEN.

ford, veterinary director general and live stock commissioner, who was, some time ago, granted leave of absence on account of ill health, has so the privilege of going away to recuperate, being confined to bed at his cesimes to arouse alarm. It will be months fence here. Mr. Rutherford is seriously ill.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 27.—The award of the young woman whose body was found in a pond in Harrison, a suburb of the young woman whose body was found in a pond in Harrison, a suburb of the board of council and investigation in the matter of the dispute beliate few years has told heavily upon her, but there is no evidence of weakness to arouse alarm. It will be months fence here. Mr. Rutherford is seriously ill.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 27.—The award of the young woman whose body was found in a pond in Harrison, a suburb of the poart, of the dispute beliation of the dispute beliation of the board will remain in effect until July, 1908. The award is signed by all the members of the board, but it was signed by all the members of the board, but it was signed as a majority award in the ceremonies of the court. grants the request of the men for a and not as an unanimous one.

A WILD REPORT.

That Canadian Bank of Cor merce Is on Smash Causes Panic in Fernie,

Fernie, B. C., Dec. 28.—There are wild cenes here to-day. There is a report that the Canadian Bank of Commerc s on the smash and the street is ful of people waiting for the bank to open to withdraw their money.

The report is that the directors have speculated with the reserve money and got it locked up at Chicago. Peo pleple are struggling with one anothe to get first. They have been waiting ne hours for the bank to open

SAVAGE ATTACK ON BOY.

Vancouver, Dec. 29.-Frank Deuster a carpenter, lost his temper yester day, and chased and attacked a fifteen year-old boy, named Eddie Taylor, with an axe. A fearful wound was inflicted along the backbone. Taylor was

FIVE KILLED IN G. T. R. COLLISION

PASSENGER TRAIN

Trainmen Buried and Mangled Among Wreckage at Lenox, Mich .-- Names of Victims.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 27.-Speeding through a dense fog at 40 miles an bour, Grand Trunk passenger train No. which left Port Huron shortly before o'clock to-night for this city, collided head-on with a double-header freight train one mile north of Lemox, Mich. Five trainmen met death, four being debates, although there may be some on the finance and emigration questionality and the passengers established the finance and emigration questions. hours later. All of the passengers escaped injury except a baby, who was ever, that all the leaders are practicalonly slightly hurt by being thrown ly agreed on the government's policy

The following is the list of dead:

August Berhowski, freight engineer, George Boughmier, freight fireman, in view of the fact that this is the last session of the Diet. The general elec-

Willard G. Tyler, freight switchman, Albert McCall, passenger fireman, PARALYZED, FAR under the engines of the double-header, and the trainmen were buried

in the wreckage. Their bodies were terribly mangled, and scalded by the scaping steam. Engineer Fred Haugh and Fireman shburn of the second freight en-

e, escaped death. Haugh was aught in his cab, but was taken out nhurt. Washburn jumped and was only slightly injured The freight train had switched from

the main track to a siding to allow the passenger to pass. It is unofficially charged that the switch was not pro perly closed, and on account of the fog which prevailed the passenger crew closed, and on account of the could not see that the target was set against them.

MEETING VIEWS OF U. S. GOVERNMENT

Discussion Between Japanese Foreign His agony could find no form of ex-Office and Ambassador O'Brien on Restricting Immigration.

Tokio, Dec. 28.—A discussion of the Japanese government's programme and found he embraced the shadow he had methods of the limitation of emigration so long waited for, has commenced between the foreign office and the American ambassador, cleared a small patch of land, built a O'Brien. Immediately after the depar- cabin-a small log cabin. His nearest ture of the Canadian minister of labor, neighbors were two miles away, and Lemieux, Baron Chinda, vice-minister his nonappearance fora few days did not of foreign affairs, drove to the Ameri- occasion any surprise. can embassy from the station and dis-

It is understood that the discussion of life to the frozen limbs. His atte

It is quite evident now that the Jap- that he died. The little group knelt anese government recognizes the mistakes of administration on the part of a minor official in the past, which led a minor official in the past, which led assistance they could. In the last

The difficulty of dealing with the pos-The difficulty of dealing with the possibilities of emigrants going over the borders of Canada and Mexico is now borders of Canada and Mexico is now but from Oregon to join him on his land, but found him dead. ccupying much attention, because it is ecognized that while the possibility ontinues it will not be possible to pre vent a recurrence of complaints.

PLAYFUL TRAGEDY.

Brampton, Ont., Dec. 27.-John David Terrace, accused of murdering William fully pointed the gun at James Curry, not thinking it was loaded, and the latter made a grab at it and the nine-hour day, but makes no increase the weapon was discharged, the shot singing about Deputy Warden O'Leary:

the weapon was discharged, the shot singing about Deputy Warden O'Leary:

entering the body of Wm. Curry, kill"We'll hang O'Leary on a sour apple in the rate of wages per hour. The ing him. Terrace's story is believed to tree."

EMPEROR OPENED JAPANESE DIET

CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN POWERS

Deliberations on Fiscal Measures of Importance---Brilliant Scene in Tokio.

Tokio, Dec. 28.—The 24th Diet was formally opened at 10 o'clock to-day by the Emperor, who delivered the speech from the throne in the House of Pee The Empror laid stress on the increase ingly cordial relations with foreig powers, and the important bearing o peace in the Far East, of the enten cordial co cluded with Russia and France by Japan.

He dwelt on the importance of the nore careful deliberation of fisca measures, and said he expected the concurrence of the Diet in the budge which would be presented by the gov-

The opening scene in the Upper House was a brilliant one. The 377 nembers, composing the House, were lothed in full regalia dress, while the members of the diplomatic corps were dressed in uniforms. The Emperor was driven to and from

the Diet in a closed carriage, under the escort of a company of lancers.

The replies of the two Houses to the speech from the throne will be short, and similar replies will be presented to his Majesty in the palace later in the day, after which the presidents of both Houses will report back to their re spective Houses the Emperor's appre ciation, and both Houses will adjourn for three weeks, at which time the business of the session will commence. The overwhelming majority of the gov-

out of its mother's arms and over a looking toward the restriction of emisseat when the trains crashed. It is probable that a motion of lack of confidence in the cabinet will be introduced, because of the proposed in crease in taxation, which is unpopular

tions will occur in the spring, at which time a new Diet will be chosen. FROM HUMAN AID

Frozen, Anhungered, and Athirst Bella Coola Settler Died Shortly After Aid Arrived.

Bella Cooia, Dec. 16 .- Suffering all the horrors of thirst and hunger, unable to move hand or foot, John Johnson, an American settler, lay in his shack in the Bella Coola valley for six solid days before help came. A man past the allotted three score years and ten, he was suddenly stricken by paralysis and

fell to the floor. First he was assailed by cold. thirst. then hunger, condemned to die a ling-ering death. His blankets lay within three feet of him; water stood in a pail pression, even speech was beyond him. If ever man waited for death with joy, it was the unfortunate settler. It did not come until the sixth day, in a week that seemed like ages. Then he was being on his weekly rounds, and shortly

S. Gladhill, the mail carrier for the can embassy from the station and discussed the American proposals and suggestions offered by Ambassador O'Brien for the help of the Japanese government.

5. Gladnii, the mail carrier for the district, dropped in and found the unfortunate settler still lingering in the throes of the dread paralysis. Building a fire he tried to bring back the glow It is understood that the discussion was eminently satisfactory, and that a memorandum on the subject, in the shape of a reply, will soon be forthcoming.

Of life to the frozen limbs. His attempts met with a little success, but it was just the rally before the end. Summoning help he prepared a little litter, and it was whilst they were removing the success. Johnson to more comfortable quarter determined that the future restriction of emigration will make complaints from the American government and slight pressure of the hand, and then all was over. His brother and sisterin-law arrived the day after the old

"WE'LL HANG O'LEARY."

Dungeon for Convicts Who Break Into Popular Refrain Against Unpopular Warden.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 27.-It has leak-Curry, to-day stated he did not intend ed out that there was a lively time all victim. He said he play- Wednesday night at the penitentiary. For some reason the convicts when they were placed in the cells, began

FIRE WIPED OUT THE BUILDI

AT THE EXHIBITION **GROUNDS LAST**

The Cause of the Conflagra a Mystery--Insurance W \$12,000.

(From Friday's Daily. Last evening the exhibitio together with a number of sory structures, were comp ut of existence. The ma rom the very character of tyle of architecture, lent prey to the flames once the meadway. The scene was a from a spectacular standpo when the fire was at its height tral part of the city was lit day. The fire broke out she o'clock in the southwester tion of the main building, tion occupied at the last exh David Spencer, Ltd. In a s the fire was beyond control a strong wind blowing from east. Very soon the flames the entire height of the b was one mass of flames. last long. With the numerous broken by the heat the wil through the structure and m work of the building. Then ing timbers fell, leaving

ance as the last to be by the flames. Thousands of citizens made to the scene by tramcar, by automobiles and on foot. How the fire started is a 1 Bothwell, the caretaker at th who lives in a small house grand stand, said he was grounds just before dark. one about of a suspicious The building was all locked nothing indicated that there thing wrong. He says the o'clock he noticed the fire. Bothwell was wrong in fixing at 7, as it was more likely He unlocked the front door the place to find that the in the southeast section, also in the central part. thinks the fire started at the tioned spot and had spre-central part by tattered r drapings. He is not sure, ho the order may have been re-the start made in the centre At that time, he says, he put it out had he had hos to the hydrant, located qu the front entrance. No hose, was kept there, and this I w. McIntosh, superintend old Men's Home, had also flames about the same ti once notified the fire department fact. He then made as fast possible to the building. past few months Mr. McIn

enstructing a launch dur moments. He had permiss the machinery hall, which is main building, and detach The launch was nearing and it was with difficulty the tendent McIntosh was able out of the building before spread to it. As it was he of his tools. On receiving the alarm at station Chief Watson left in his buggy. He reached

about fifteen minutes, but to do anything when he go distance was too great mplish anything when t The hose cart drawn by

made a fast run, but the v was in flames when it re

The remainder of the rever got to the scene. cal engine from Yates street got across the culvert which small stream flowing back o lows, on the road-pleading grounds. There the wheel's su mud which covered the water ing to the grounds. The e completely put out of bu wheels on one side sinking to In the meantime the John gine was being hauled to the one of the big teams. The weight and the condition along the route made the ta before the Willows was reaceeding along the same stre

to the grounds the wheels gine likewise got on the l water main laid last summer down to the exles, putting that the engines were go taken back to the stations.
With the main building bu machinery hall, the building restaurant, the poultry hou joining structures all bur ground, the flames ran alon sheds, threatening to wipe

work of salving the appai their attention to putting there. A body of citizen realizing the situation, also portion of the sheds so as fighting chance. The fire

created. The main building was 1891 by the Agricultural So initial cost of \$25,000. Since it has been improved by to of cement foundations an ing of the central part, the auxiliary buildings sents a very considerable

The insurance was made n the mainbuilding, \$2,500 and horse stalls, \$1,000 house, \$500 on the mach on the office, making

The sheds were only stroyed, so that in all loss collectively will be a Mayor Morley seen regard to the fire, said he did