4 P.M. EDITION

London Advertiser

DON'T Waste Words But USE E'M

41ST YEAR. NO. 17182 THE ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO, MONDAY, APRIL 18, 1904. PRICE TWO CENTS.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, LONDON, ONT.

JAPS ARE PROUD OF TOGO'S FEAT

How Mikado's Admiral Worked Countermine System.

MARKED COURSE OF RUSSIANS

Then Planted Mines Along the Whole Trail and Decoyed Makaroff Across Them.

Tokio, April 17. — The Japanese are elated over the successes they have won at Port Arthur. They are also proud of the achievements of Vice-Admiral Togo, particularly of his newest strategy of countermining the enemy's harbor and decoying him across this field of mines to an equally dangerous flank attack.

The success of the system of placing deadly countermines is due largely to a series of careful observations made by the Japanese during their previous attacks on Port Arthur. The Japanese saw the Russian fleet leave the harbor and return to its anchorage, and it discovered that the Russian warships followed an identical course every time they came out or went in, evidently for the purpose of avoiding their own mines. The Japanese took bearings on this course. When the destroyer divisions of the Japanese torpedo flotilla laid the countermines during the night of April 12-13, they placed them along this course. The laying of these countermines was exceedingly perilous, because if any Japanese boat with mines on board had been struck by a lucky Russian shot, she would have been annihilated.

The weather of the night of April 12-13 favored the work. There was a heavy rain, the night was dark and cloudy, and the Russian searchlights playing over the channel failed to reveal the presence of the Japanese destroyers.

Rear-Admiral Dewa was in command of the Japanese squadron which destroyed the Russian ships over the field of mines. His squadron consisted of the cruisers Chitose, Yoshino, Kasagi and Takasago, all unarmored vessels, which presented a tempting bait for the heavier Russian ships.

Vice-Admiral Togo directed the flank attack. He had the battleships Hatsuse, Mikasa, Asahi, Shikishima, Yashima and Fuji. He waited thirty miles out at sea until Rear-Admiral Dewa signaled him by wireless telegraphy to come in. His vessels then dashed at full speed toward the entrance of the harbor. All the battleships under Admiral Togo are capable of a speed of eighteen knots, and they quickly covered the distance. It is not clear what warned the Russians that they had been trapped, but they probably discerned the battleship squadron on the horizon and retreated precipitately to the harbor. Vice-Admiral Togo did not succeed in preventing the Russians from entering, but it did force them to a disastrous retreat, which ended in the destruction of the Petropavlovsk and the disabling of the Pobieda. After these occurrences the cruisers Nishin and Kasuga were used to bombard Port Arthur. They possess the highest angled guns in the fleet, capable of throwing shells to the elevated Russian land works which are beyond attainment by the average naval weapon.

A SEALER MISSING

Newfoundland Steamer Kite, 120 Men Aboard, May Be Lost.

St. Johns, Nfld., April 18.—Fears are entertained for the safety of the sealing steamer Kite, the smallest vessel of the fleet. The Kite has not been reported by any steamers which have arrived here lately, and the outlook respecting her is regarded as serious, especially as the weather is extremely severe. She had on board 120 men.

A PREACHER SUICIDE

Rev. Colin Duguid, of Montreal, a Presbyterian, Shoots Himself.

Montreal, April 18.—Rev. Colin Duguid, a Scotchman, and pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Maissoneuve, near Montreal, shot and killed himself last night in his boarding house. The deed was committed just before the evening service. No reason is known for his terrible deed.

STABBED TO DEATH

An Italian Killed in Quarrel at Dance in Montreal.

Montreal, April 18 — During a quarrel last night amongst a number of Italians, Domingo Camino, 29 years of age, was stabbed to death by a number of his countrymen at a dancing party. Several arrests have been made.

KAISERS COME HIGH

Emperor Building a New Palace at a Cost of $1,500,000.

Berlin, April 18. — Great dissatisfaction is expressed throughout Germany, especially in Berlin and the other large cities, where there is a large Radical and Socialist population, with Emperor William's project of building a palace for himself in the Polish city of Posen. At first it was believed that he would pay for it out of his own pocket, but this belief was crushed when the Government asked for $250,000 for preliminary work and plans, and then for $750,000, and still later $500,000, making in all $1,500,000. Under no circumstances can the Emperor live in Posen more than six or eight days in a year, and for this $1,500,000 is deemed too much. The Government affects to be convinced that with this palace in Posen the disloyalty of the Poles will gradually vanish, but that notion is absurd, and it angers the German people to think that $1,500,000 can be easily found for so silly a project when poverty is abroad, the schools are starved, and the whole land is groaning under heavy military and navy taxation.

TWO BIG POWERS DISLIKE TREATY

German and Russ Dislike Anglo-French Agreement.

BAD PLIGHT OF CZAR'S ARMY

Pessimism Increasing in St. Petersburg—King Edward's Possible Opportunity.

London, April 18. — Nothing in many years has had such an important effect on the general situation as the execution of the Anglo-French agreement. Now that some days have elapsed for a study into its bearings, it is realized that the really perilous crisis of a few weeks ago has been changed into a condition of comparative security.

It is not that a series of long-standing disputes has been settled. None of the issues involved was important from a worldwide point of view. The importance lies in the fact that the attitude of cold politeness between the two great powers has been changed to cordial friendliness. It means, and this was the prime object sought by both sides, that the danger of a general war has been reduced from the dimensions of a grave peril to an ordinary diplomatic problem.

Whatever exigency may be created or accidentally arise out of the crisis in the far east, it is certain that France and Great Britain will use their utmost effort to prevent the spread of hostilities beyond well defined areas. These efforts, moreover, must, in the ordinary course of events, be successful.

The Anglo-French convention, coming as it does, at this critical moment, ranks as one of the greatest victories for peace in modern times. It is because this is its true character that its reception in various quarters acquires peculiar significance. There are in all the world only two exceptions to the unfeigned joy with which it has been welcomed.

Russia, save for two or three platitudinous public comments is seriously disturbed and displeased by this action of her ally. Just at present time no one need condemn that unhappy nation for this perfectly natural feeling. There has been an impression created in Russia that the new entente with England has deprived the Franco-Russian alliance of its vitality. She realizes that no matter how dark the fortunes of war may develop, she can hope for no material assistance from France.

Letters from St. Petersburg today suggest that Russian influence will, if it sees any chance of success, endeavor to secure the early downfall of the Combes ministry and the removal of M. Delcasse from the foreign office. It is not improbable that the Combes regime will end before long, but intrigues against the new Anglo-French friendship cannot hope for success in the near future and it is almost a foregone conclusion that M. Delcasse will be included in any new ministry.

GERMANY'S DISAPPOINTMENT.

It is in Germany that the Anglo-French agreement rankles. Deep irritation and resentment are general throughout the country. There is some perfunctory approval of the pacific tendency of the event, but words fail to conceal the fact. It is just this feature of the agreement which is regretted. Criticism such as is expressed in the Reichstag is, of course, directed only against the threatened damage to German interests chiefly in Morocco.

Germany really sees in the relationship the active co-operation of Great Britain and France in all the developments and the final settlement of the far eastern war. Such a combination means the almost inevitable defeat of

(Continued on page 5.)

PORT ARTHUR MAY BE ABANDONED

Kuropatkin Says It Is Useless for Military Purposes.

A JAP CRUISER REPORTED LOST

Clash Between Chinese and Russian Troops Narrowly Averted—Disease in Both Armies.

London, Monday, April 18. — Vice-Admiral Togo's report is accepted here as fully explaining the mystery of the destruction of the battleship Petropavlovsk, and the newspapers pay warm tributes to the daring and skill displayed by the Japanese, contrasting these with the apparent lack of foresight and vigilance on the part of the Russians.

MAY QUITP ORT ARTHUR.

London, April 16.—A dispatch from Mukden, via Rome, says General Kuropatkin has advised the Czar to abandon Port Arthur. Unless the fleet can be reinforced and made effective the place is useless for military purposes during war.

SITUATION AT PORT ARTHUR.

Port Arthur, April 17. — Since the bombardment of Friday, all is quiet here. Viceroy Alexieff has hoisted his flag on the battleship Sevastopol. The Easter gifts received from the grand duchesses have been distributed to the soldiers and sailors.

St. Petersburg, April 16. — Viceroy Alexieff took over the command of the Russian fleet at Port Arthur this afternoon, and raised his flag on board the battleship Sevastopol.

Port Arthur, April 16.—The inhabitants have organized a volunteer regiment, the members of which will be used as guards and sometimes assigned to the batteries. The Chinese laborers are continually strengthening the fortifications.

Viceroy Alexieff was accompanied here by 850 men intended to assist in the defense of this place.

Che Foo, April 17, 3 p.m.—A letter from Port Arthur dated April 8, says: "I would like to tell you of conditions here, but the censorship is too severe."

JAP CRUISER LOST.

A dispatch from Port Arthur received at St. Petersburg says several eye-witnesses assert that a Japanese cruiser was lost outside Port Arthur, April 12, by striking one of its own floating mines.

ON THE YALU.

The Echo de Paris this morning publishes a dispatch from its St. Petersburg correspondent saying that General Kuropatkin has telegraphed to the Emperor of Russia, indicating the precise positions of the Russian and Japanese troops on the Yalu. The dispatch adds that continuous rains have made the Manchurian roads almost impassable and operations have been suspended pending an improvement in the weather.

ALMOST A CLASH.

A dispatch, delayed in transmission, dated Liao Yang, April 2, says: "The outside world does not know how near Russian and Chinese troops were to a clash on the border of Manchuria. In order to remove the menace of a large Chinese army from the Russian flank, General Linevitch, the Russian commander in Manchuria, deemed it necessary to communicate an ultimatum to Yuan Shi Kai, supreme commander of the Chinese army and navy, ordering that the Chinese troops withdraw three hundred or four hundred versts into the interior. If this demand be not fulfilled at the order of the viceroy," said the ultimatum of General Linevitch," I will form a special division which will drive the Chinese troops back to the frontier." Yuan Shi Kai is an implacable hater of Russia and tried friend of the Japanese. In view of Russian demands, the Chinese troops have already begun to retire into the interior of Pe Chi Li Province.

NO BATTLE AT WIJU.

Seoul, April 16, 10 p.m.—No battle has been fought at Wiju. The Russians occupy strong fortified positions at Chiu Tien Cheng (on the Manchurian side of the river, and about ten miles north of Antung), and near Tiger Hill, a rocky promontory jutting out into the Yalu River. The Japanese forces and batteries are screened behind the hill between the river and Wiju.

HEAVY ROADS.

War correspondents arriving at Ping Yang report that the roads are in a terrible condition, but that the Japanese troops in marching display splendid endurance.

JAPS BRAVE FIGHTERS.

The Daily Mail's Ping Yang correspondent says that food supplies are being pushed forward on a gigantic scale. All the preparations prove that the Japanese are in readiness to sustain a campaign. The correspondent describes the irresistible courage shown by the Japanese in the fighting at Chong Ju, charging recklessly uphill in the face of superior numbers. He relates an incident showing the individual initiative of the Japanese soldiers. A private became isolated and saw the main body of the Russians making for the south gate of the town. He hid himself until the Russians approached, and then deliberately shot the Russian commander, throwing the force into confusion.

A Port Arthur dispatch says: Rumors are current here that 20 Japanese transports, conveying troops, have been sighted steaming in the direction of Yin Kow. The rumor cannot be confirmed. The Russians impatiently await a Japanese landing.

TYPHUS AMONGST JAPS.

According to the reports of spies, the Japanese troops in Korea have been ravaged by various diseases. One of these diseases, called "imbion," is a kind of intermittent typhus. Another, called "souda," which has not yet been studied by European doctors, produces premature senility. The patients loose their teeth, become extremely weak, and the nails are twisted back on the fingers. Dysentery is very prevalent among the Russians at Harbin.

A St. Petersburg dispatch says: It is said that the Japanese torpedo flotilla attack on Port Arthur, April 13, was intended to cover a landing from nine transports at Shwang Tai Tse, 20 miles southwest of Takushan, with a view of cutting off the retreat of the Port Arthur troops to Siu Yen and Kaiping, destroying the railway and preventing troops stationed in Southern Liao Tung, affecting a junction with the main Russian forces concentrated at Liao Yang and Mukden. The execution of this operation only failed, owing to the fact that all places on the peninsula suitable for the landing of troops are protected by mines, are well fortified and strongly guarded.

WAR NOTES.

From several sources reports have been receiced here saying shrdluuuup been received at Tien Tsin saying that a Japanese fleet of over 70 transports is heading for Kin Chou, north of Port Arthur.

Admiral Sir Ciprian Bridge, G. C. B., of the British navy, has arrived at San Francisco on the steamer Gaelic from Hong Kong en route to England. He lately has been in command of the British naval forces on the Chinese station and was recently retired on account of age and long service, and was succeeded on the station by Vice-Admiral Sir Gerald Noel.

THE WAR NEWS.

It is again reported that Port Arthur is to be abandoned. Kuropatkin is said to have advised the Czar to that effect, as he now considers it useless from a military standpoint. The Russians claim that an attempt by the Japs to land troops north of the fortress with the object of isolating it was frustrated by the batteries along the coast of the Liao Tung Peninsula. According to Togo's official account of the last naval battle the loss of the Petropavlovsk was due to a Jap mine over which the Mikado's admiral had decoyed Makaroff and his flagship. The report that the battleship Sevastopol has been destroyed is officially denied. Disease has broken out in both the Russian and Japanese camps, and the roads over which the armies must march are in a terrible condition, a combination of circumstances that may postpone any decisive land fighting for some time. An unconfirmed dispatch says a Jap cruiser has been lost off Port Arthur.

THE BRITISH BUDGET

Believed It Will Include a Reimposition of Corn Tax.

London, April 18. — The Chronicle learns on good authority that the salient points of the forthcoming budget will be taxes on imported timber, petroleum and kindred oils, and silk, an increased tax on sugar and the reimposition of the corn tax.

A WHEAT PREFERENCE

Figures Quoted to Prove That It Would Be a Mistake.

London April 18. — Broomhadd's Corn Trade Year Book, just published, estimates that in consequence of the unfavorable summer of 1903 only 3,500,000 quarters of British wheat will reach the mills, making it necessary to import 27,000,000 quarters of foreign and colonial wheat. Ten years ago Britain took 70 per cent of her grain from the United States. In 1903 she took only about 40 per cent, Argentina and Russia taking the place of the United States. In thousands of quarters Canada sent 3,292, India 2,459 and Australia 86. With the eight years ending in 1903, the imports of wheat, and flour from the countries within the empire varied between 7 per cent and 24 per cent.

The total import, Broomhall says, illustrates the danger of a preferential tariff if the colonial and Indian crops failed. Arguing that a colonial preference fails in regard to Algeria, Broomhall asks what certainty is there of a modest preference of two shillings a quarter doing any good to the Canadian or Indian or Australian agriculturist if the grower on the north African coast, with a preference of twelve shilling and twopence a quarter in the French markets, separated only by a narrow sea, has not succeeded in ousting all competitors or greatly extending his hold on the French markets.

WEATHER BULLETIN.

TOMORROW—FAIR AND COOLER

Toronto, April 17—8 p.m.

Fine, milder weather has been general throughout Canada today, and there has been a return to high temperatures in the western portion of the Territories.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 26—52; Port Simpson, 40—54; Victoria, 44—58; Calgary, 24—58; Qu'Appelle, 20—40; Winnipeg, 24—44; Parry Sound, 26—42; Toronto, 22—43; Ottawa, 28—50; Montreal, 26—46; Quebec, 16—40; Halifax, 20—40

FORECASTS.

Monday, April 18—8 a.m.

Today—Moderate winds and cloudy.

Tuesday—Strong northwesterly winds; fair and cooler.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather.
Winnipeg	22	18	Clear
Parry Sound	34	22	Fair
Toronto	36	28	Fair
Ottawa	36	30	Fair
Montreal	28	22	Cloudy
Quebec	34	28	Cloudy
Father Point	36	32	Cloudy

London, Monday, April 18.

Sun sets...7:05 p.m. Moon sets..10:01 p.m.

Sun rises..5:30 a.m. Moon rises..7:22 a.m.

WEATHER NOTES.

The weather is now fine and fairly mild from Ontario to the Maritime Provices, but the outlook is not very favorable, another cold wave having appeared over Manitoba, and which will move slowly eastward across Northern Canada. High temperatures again prevail in British Columbia and Alberta.

The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m., Saturday, were: Highest, 28°; lowest, 18°. Sunday—Highest, 43°; lowest, 18°.

KENT WAS HARD HIT BY FROST

Fall Wheat Crop Badly Damaged by Severe Winter.

GROUND MUST BE REPLOWED

The Recent Big Snowstorm Proved To Be an Angel in Disguise to the Farmer.

Toronto, April 18.—The following reports have been received from correspondents as to the condition of fall wheat throughout the Province, and of small fruits and fruit trees. The reports are generally optimistic, but in some counties, more particularly Kent and Brant, much of the land devoted to fall wheat will have to be plowed up, the crop being a failure. The general condition, however, is probably decidedly better than in the United States, where the fall wheat is far below the average.

FALL WHEAT IN OXFORD.

Woodstock, April 18. — On the whole, the wheat in this district has come through the winter well. The only places where it has suffered have been on heavy land, where it was affected by recent severe frosts. The deep snow which lasted throughout the winter, afforded ample protection, though the high banks along some of the fences smothered the plants to some extent. The recent extraordinary snowfall of a foot and a half will not, it is believed, hurt the crop, but will tend to improve it, as the wheat will be protected from the injurious effect of warm sunshine in the day and frosts at night. This alternate freezing and thawing tends to expose the roots. Up to the present there has been little germination. If the snow disappears slowly and no trying weather follows the plant, it is thought, will get an excellent start.

REPORT FROM WELLINGTON.

Guelph, April 18. — The fall wheat in the county of Wellington has come out all right, and no wonder, as the fields have been buried for four months and a half with snow. Now they are all clear with the exception of fence corners. The bare spots are few, except on very low portions and places where it has been covered with soil from the hills. There was very little frost in the ground, and plowing was possible as soon as the snow went. The few cold days of last week, however, retarded the plant, especially Friday's rain and frost, which, as a farmer put it, "would have an effect something like 'putting a plaster on sore fingers' and browned the wheat plant." The seven inches of snow that fell Friday will do much to improve this. At present the outlook is most favorable for a large yield. The area sown is considerably larger than last year. The clover crop also came out in fine condition.

KENT COUNTY.

Chatham, April 18.—Reports from every quarter of this county represent the fall wheat as in the worst possible plight. At the close of winter its condition was considered to be bad, but it was hoped that with the coming of mild weather the crop would revive. The worst fears are now realized, and many farmers where agricultural operations are possible are already plowing the wheat under with a view of sowing some other crop. In some sections where timothy was sown with the wheat this has survived the hardships of the winter and will in a measure redeem the loss by the death of the wheat. This is more especially the case in the area inundated during the recent freshet, where the alluvial deposit has enriched the land. Clover, however, is largely killed. The destruction of the wheat dates from Feb. 7, when the first great thaw took place, flooding lands that had not been under water in a quarter of a century. A cold wave followed, and for about six weeks the crop was under water, due to a succession of snowfalls, thaws and freezings.

ELGIN AND KENT COUNTIES.

St. Thomas, April 18. — The fall wheat in the county of Elgin does not look very promising. An occasional field has pulled through the severe winter all right, but the larger portion looks as if it was badly damaged. However, there has not yet been enough warm weather to produce vegetation, and it is hardly possible for a week or more to determine the actual condition of things. Most of the fields, however, have not a flourishing look. Large patches have been drowned out, while some wheat in the higher lands and lighter soil looks fairly well. In Kent, in the vicinity of Ridgetown, most of the wheat has been winter-killed, and farmers are plowing up their fields to sow other crops.

A DEFECT IN THE TREATY

Point Overlooked That Would Injure the Newfoundland Fisheries

St. Johns, Nfld., April 18.—The text of the Anglo-French colonial treaty has not yet been published here. A serious defect has been found in it which the Colonial Government is trying to have corrected.

The second clause of the French shore arrangements obliges French and British fishermen to terminate their operation by Oct. 20 each year. This clause, if enforced, would make the condition of the Newfoundland fishermen worse than before, because they would be prevented from fishing during six months of the year. Especially would it debar their prosecution of the winter herring fishery at Bay of Islands and Bonne Bay, to which United States and Canadian vessels resort for herring cargoes. It would also cause trouble between Great Britain and the United States, inasmuch as the fishermen of the latter country were granted fishing rights there by the treaty of 1818.

It is understood that the Newfoundland Government will not guarantee the ratification of the treaty unless this defect can be remedied.

BANQUET POSTPONED.

Windsor, April 18. — The Windsor Board of Trade banquet will not take place until next October. Premier Ross, who was to be the star attraction, informed Secretary Macpherson that he would not be able to be present in May.

AN AMERICAN EMPIRE

Europeans Say the United States Will Soon Have an Imperial Court

Paris, April 18. — The clubs and the more thoughtful, though fashionable salons have been seriously discussing whether or not the United States will soon be an empire.

In the salons of the Duchess d'Uzes and the Duchess de Bellune that subject his been taken up. It has been made the topic of discussion even in the salon of Mme. Adam, who has just returned from Cairo.

Mme. Adam was the friend of Gambetta, and has the most intellectual salon in Paris. The Jockey Club, the Automobile Club, the Army Club of the Avenue de l'Opera and the Club of the Rue Royale are debating the matter.

The growth of the imperialistic spirit has been dwelt upon. Senator Clemenceau, who is a most intense republican, points out with pain that the simplicity of the olden time has disappeared from American life.

A certain well-known New York woman has been quoted as saying that what is wanted in the United States is a court.

HUMAN RACE ROSE FROM SEA WATER

Startling Discovery Backs Up Darwin's Theory.

THE OCEAN AS SOURCE OF LIFE

A Noted French Scientist Finds Many New Elements in the Human Body.

New York, April 18. — The Sun today has the following from London: Ten years ago the injection of salt water as a restorative to patients dying from loss of blood aroused general interest. The discovery of this quality of salt water probably suggested to the French savant, M. Quinton, a long and patient research concerning sea water, the conclusion of which throws unexpected light on and adds support to the Darwinian theory of evolution.

M. Quinton maintains that sea water is the natural source from which, as Prof. Haeckel believes, elementary bodies rise which develop into all the species, including the human. The environment wherein the anatomical elements of living creatures exist in neither more nor less than a marine one. Our tissues and cells continue to exert their functions in a fluid where the composition bears the closest resemblance to that of sea water.

Hitherto the number of elements entering into the composition of the living body was considered about fifteen. M. Quinton has shown the existence of traces of at least fourteen others, which are also found in sea water, such as copper, lead, silver and gold. Further, if an animal is bled to the point of exhaustion and the place of the blood supplied with sea water the animal regains its strength in one day, and there is complete recovery in five days. M. Quinton injected into animals a quantity of sea water greater than their own body weight without toxic effect. The injection of pure water rapidly causes death. Thus sea water appears to be the true nutrient fluid for animals, in fact, their natural plasma.

New York, April 17. — In his cable letter to the Tribune Mr. Isaac N. Ford says: Dr. Baskerville's discovery of new elements has attracted much interest among men of science. His reputation is already established here as an investigator of methodical habits and genuineness. His researches are not questioned by men like Sir William Crookes, Lord Rayleigh and Sir William Ramsay. They are not prepared to discuss the subject until Sir William Crookes receives samples of the two elements and experiments with them. He knows Dr. Baskerville, and regards him as one of the most thorough investigators engaged in research work, and expects that the verification of the American experiments will speedily follow the tests instituted here. He is not disposed to commit himself prematurely to any opinion of the new elements, since Sir William Ramsay himself recently detected a mysterious substance while experimenting for radium with crystals from Ceylon, and there is a possibility that this new element discovered here may be identical with Dr. Baskerville's carolinium or berbelium. Sir William Ramsay and Sir William Crookes agree that the American discoveries will stimulate research work here.

THE G. T. P. DEBATE

An Attempt Will Be Made to Wind It Up by Wednesday.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, April 18. — The debate on the Grand Trunk Pacific bill will not be closed before Wednesday's sitting of the House. Indeed, it is doubtful if it can be finished them, as there are some twelve speakers yet, to take part, and it will take three sittings at the least to dispose of them. The arrangement between whips last week was to close Tuesday if possible, and if not then, on Wednesday.

D. D. Mann, of Mackenzie & Mann, is in the city today. The contracts for the number of miles of railway which Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann intend building this summer have not yet been let, but the probability is that from four to five miles may be constructed between now and winter. The Canadian Northern is now about 85 miles west of Grand View, and by the fall of the year it will be pretty near Edmonton, if it has not actually reached there.

ASK REPEAL OF ACT

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Petitions to Do Away With Prohibition.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., April 18. — A petition was submitted to the council of this city Saturday afternoon asking that body to petition the Provincial Legislature, now in session, to repeal the prohibition act or grant a referendum. The petitioners claim that after a trial of three years the act is not satisfactory, and that drunkenness is on the increase. The temperance people argued that prohibition is satisfactory, and the laws enforced. The council voted down the petition four to three.

MR. HYMAN DINED AT MONTREAL

Reform Club Entertains the Member for London.

SPEECH BY THE NEW MINISTER

Points Out the Benefits to Come From G. T. P.—Praises Mr. Ross' Leadership.

Montreal, April 18. — Hon. C. S. Hyman, M. P., London, and Mr. W. F. McCreary, M. P., Selkirk, were joint guests of honor at a banquet Saturday night by the Montreal Reform Club. Mr. James Cochrane, M. P. P., president, was in the chair. Others present were: Mr. H. Hamilton, vice-chairman; Senators Dandurand, Casgrain and Cloran, Hon. J. C. McCorkill, Hon. W. A. Weir; Messrs. Robt. Bickerdike, M. P.; A. Rivert, M. P.; Honore Gervais, M. P.; M Hutchinson, M. P. P.; Peter Lyall, B. J. Coughlin, J. C. MacDiarmid, J. A. Drouin, Peter Smith and Joseph Fortier.

Rising to respond to the toast, "Our Guests," Hon. Mr. Hyman took occasion to approve of the sentiment of sympathy and harmony that was increasing between the two Provinces, and then paid a high tribute to Hon. George W. Ross, Premier of Ontario. The Government's majority in that Province, it was true, was small, but with a man of such qualities and instincts of leadership as were possessed by Mr. Ross it would be many days before the Conservative party would get possession of the treasury benches.

Speaking of Britain's ability to consume all the wheat grown in Canada, Mr. Hyman said that the other day the Duke of Sutherland had told him that Great Britain had only six weeks' food supply on hand, and that his grace, as chairman of the recently-formed commission on food supply, had been induced to come to Canada to take for himself a measurement of the capacity of the Dominion. Figures were then given to show that Canada would in a few years more than satisfy the demands of the mother country. The Grand Trunk Pacific, in giving cheap transportation in the west, would go a long way towards making a protective tariff popular. Mr. Hyman observed that it had been charged that the Liberal party were inconsistent as regards their fiscal policy, but he thought they should not be held to account for the statements of individual members made at an earlier stage of the country's development. Mr. Hyman concluded by making an appeal for the throwing aside of all pessimistic thoughts and uniting for the progress and prosperity of the Dominion.

The main point of interest in Mr. McCreary's speech, which was full of matter relating to the Northwest, was the statement that the Americans were giving a railway service that afforded the people of Winnipeg every facility to trade with St. Paul and Minneapolis, which was evidence enough of the need for the Grand Trunk Pacific. The Americans were trying to follow the large immigration from their country to Canada and to secure the trade, and he feared that many Canadians were using the American railways. He knew of some persons who came in via Duluth and other American points who actually had C. P. R. passes in their pockets. Great efforts were also being made to induce Canadians to ship their grain products over the American railways and out via American ports.

Senator Dandurand intimated that it would be better for the equilibrium of party if there were more Conservative representatives in Parliament from Quebec Province and more Liberals from Ontario. He hoped that the next general election would show such a result.

The banquet was a decided success.

A DESPERATE MURDERER

Neidermeier, Car Barn Bandit, Attempts Suicide in Jail.

Chicago, April 18. — Peter Neidermeier, one of the carbarn bandits attempted to commit suicide in his cell early today, and not until he was unconscious from the effects of loss of blood was his condition noticed. He was taken at once to the jail hospital and was revived. His condition is serious, but the physicians said his attempt would not prove fatal.

The heads of matches were eaten as one method by which the bandit attempted to cheat the gallows. The other method was by opening an artery in his left arm. This was done by means of a lead pencil, with which he tore a jagged wound in his wrist.

Guard John Roeder, passing Neidermeier's cell, saw him huddled on his cot with a blanket drawn over his head. A moan attracted his attention, and when his attempt to arouse him proved fruitless he summoned Jailer Whitman and the cell was opened. Neidermeier was unconscious, and his clothing and the blanket were found soaked with blood, which was flowing from a ragged hole in his wrist. He was taken to the jail hospital and the artery in his wrist was fastened. Then it was learned that he had attempted to poison himself. In his cell was found a quantity of matches, from which he had eaten the heads, and Jailer Whitman said most of these probably had been smuggled to him by other prisoners.

A letter written by Neidermeier prior to the attempt at suicide was found concealed in his cot. In the letter the writer incidentally expresses repentance for his career and he regrets leaving the few who loved him, but chiefly the letter is a morbid glorification of the writers' courage and his loyalty to his kind, in contrast with Neidermeier's associate, Gustav Marx. The letter says:

"There are four reasons why I should take my life:

"1. Because of the public boast that I cannot commit suicide while I am so closely guarded.

"2. That I cannot cheat the scaffold.

"3. That they cannot say they executed me and made me pay for a crime.

"4. To have another mystery for the ignorant to solve."

NED BUNTLINE BURIED

Waterloo, N. Y., April 18. — The body of Ned Buntline, the author who died in the west recently, was brought to his old home here today for burial. The author's real name was Horace Williams.

RUSSIANS FOIL AN ATTEMPT TO ISOLATE PORT ARTHUR

Jap Transports Driven Off by Heavy Fire From Batteries.

St. Petersburg, April 18. — An attempted landing by Japanese troops on the shores of the Korean Bay, between Port Arthur and the Yalu River on April 12, was frustrated by the Russians. A Japanese torpedo-boat flotilla scouted the shores of the bay, but was received with such a heavy fire from land batteries at Taku Shan, Ching Tai Tse, Tchanhe and Bedcino, that it retired.

Vice-Admiral Togo's flagship then recalled nine transports, which were on the way to land troops. A squadron of ten warships protecting the transports withdrew with them. The Russians have 20,000 troops concentrated at Taku Shan.

A force landing between Taku Shan and Ching Tai Tse would have been in a position to isolate the defenders of Port Arthur and cut their line of communication. Taku Shan is in Manchuria, about 50 miles to the westward of the estuary of the Yalu River and Ching Tai Tse is about 25 miles west of Taku Shan, or about 150 miles from Port Arthur. The other towns mentioned are smaller places on the coast in this vicinity.

JAPS BEHAVE ADMIRABLY.

Seoul, April 18. — A dispatch from Ping Yang under yesterday's date, received here at 7 o'clock this morning, says that the country in the wake of the Japanese army is resuming its normal conditions. The majority of the inhabitants left their homes before the troops arrived, but are now returning. They have learned that the Japanese soldiers treat the people well, pay for their supplies and are under strict discipline. Several thousand coolies are employed carrying rice to the front at more than customary wages. Altogether the Japanese army is giving an admirable exhibition of order and self-restraint There is no looting or robbery, although the soldiers' rations are limited, and the country is full of cattle, poultry, and other provisions which might be taken. An engagement with the enemy is not expected immediately.