Programme Well Chosen

Mass Meeting Makes Arrangements For Celebration of Coronation Day.

Sub-Committees Appointed to Carry Out The Various Details.

(From Friday's Daily.)

There was a good, big meeting at the City hall last night, and from the enthusiasm which on all sides ruled, there is no doubt but that Coronation Day will be observed in this city in right royal fashion and that Victoria's reputation in matters of this sort will be more than sustained. The proceedings were brief and businesslike, and instead of kicking about little details, everyone seemed eager to do all possible to forward the making of the many arrangements necessary and to push the whole to a splendid issue.

On the meeting being called to order by Mayor Hayward, the minutes of the former meeting called in this behalf were adopted as read by Acting Secretary D. Leeming.

The report of the special committee, which had been preparing a programme, and had on Monday last drafted one, was then submitted. W. H. Price thought that the programme was a good one, and Sergt. Redgrave moved that it be adopted as a whole. It ran as follows:

THURSDAY.

Morning—Review of Navy and Army at Macaulay Point.

Afternoon—Coronation Ceremonies at the Government Buildings.

Evening—Band concert in front of Government Buildings.

FRIDAY.

Morning—Baseball, Leland Stanford University vs. Victoria, at Oak Bay Park.

Afternoon—Parade through city, Societies' Reunion at Caledonia Park, with sports and games.

Evening—Band Concert at Beacon Hill Park, and at the corner of Yates and Douglas streets.

SATURDAY.

Afternoon—Baseball, Stanford University vs. Victoria, at Oak Bay Park.

Evening—Band Concert, corner of Government and Johnson streets.

For this about $1,000 would be needed to be raised.

C. J. Moore took some exception to the programme generally. The day was one of historical significance, and should not be marked by baseball matches or the reunion of the societies.

F. S. Futcher inquired how many holidays were going to be had, as the storekeepers should not be expected to suspend business for several days in succession.

His Worship in reply pointed out that Coronation Day itself was the only legal holiday, the keeping of the other days being optional with the business men.

J. H. Fullerton showed that the societies were making their event a purely charitable one. In other years, the city had voted $500 towards their function, and so might well do so again.

W. J. Hanna corrected the last speaker by saying that the $500 had been voted towards a Labor Day celebration and not to the societies. Of course, if the city gave this time it would be for the coronation alone, but if it did not, the money could be raised without much trouble.

On motion of H. D. Helmcken, M.P.P., the question of music for the societies' day was left in the hands of the general committee.

Geo. Jeeves thought that the city should pay the whole shot, so did Mr. Fullerton.

W. H. Price moved that a finance committee shoudd be appointed. In seconding this, Mr. Helmcken reminded the meeting of the ease with which money had been raised in Victoria in the past for the celebration of victories as well as for many other similar things. They collected $100 in the chamber of the legislature to help send the New Westminster lacrosse team East to fight for the Minto cup.

Dr. Milne thought that the money could be easily raised.

The motion to appoint a committee was then carried, the following gentlemen being appointed: H. Dallas Helmcken, Dr. Milne, W. J. Hanna, Jos. Wilson, A. J. Dallain, E. E. Leason, W. Dalby, Ald. Worthington, Ald. Grahame, Sergt. Redgrave, J. Maynard, Chief Watson and W. H. Price.

Geo. Jeeves then moved, and it was carried, that the council be requested to vote $1,000 for this purpose.

On motion of W. H. Price, His Worship Mayor Hayward, H. Dallas Helmcken and the other city members were appointed a special committee to arrange with the government for the state ceremony on the afternoon of Coronation Day.

It was also decided to draft an address to Their Majesties the King and Queen, to be adopted by the citizens at the afternoon meeting, the preparation of the address being left to His Worship and the city members.

A band committee was then appointed, consisting of Ald. Worthington, W. H. Price, Sergt. Redgrave, W. J. Hanna and A. J. Dallain.

As a decorating committee, the following were appointed: Chief Watson, Geo. Jeeves, Wm. Dalby, W. Ridgway Wilson and H. H. McDonald.

The printing and advertising committee are: Messrs. W. Luxton, J. Wilby, C. H. Lugrin, E. E. Leeson, G. W. Walker and J. C. Darling.

Sec'y Leeming then read a letter from Messrs. Hitt Bros. regarding fireworks, the set pieces of which were representations of Their Majesties, etc. This was laid on the table.

On motion the committee of 30, appointed at the last meeting, were asked to continue their services in a general way. Acting Secretary D. Leeming was also appointed permanent secretary, and Ald. Vincent as treasurer.

On the suggestion of Dr. Milne, the duties of the printing committee were extended to cover transportation matters as well.

In case fireworks should not be decided on, Mr. Fullerton thought that some bon-fires would brighten up the nights of the celebration.

The meeting then adjourned.

NECK AND NECK.

But Not Known Whose Head Will Fall.

Toronto, June 5.—(Special)—Great interest centres in the recount of Lennox, which opened today at Napanee. Madole (Liberal) had been declared elected by a majority of two. When the recount had proceeded some time, a ballot was found marked for the Conservative candidate wrongly counted for Madole. This was given to the opposition candidate, and left the candidates a tie, in which position they remained when adjournment was made. Recounts will also be held in South Norfolk (Liberal), East Hastings (Liberal) and Centre Bruce (Conservative).

WHOLESALE ARRESTS.

Serious Charges Against Tramway Conductors in Toronto.

Toronto, June 5.—(Special)—The street railway company has lately been suspecting employees of theft, and an investigation set afoot resulted in the arrest of nine conducors tonight, while on duty on the cars, charged with robbing cash boxes. It is claimed these nine men were members of a very large gang of conspirators, which has been robbing the company of thousands of dollars during the last few months. They used small steel diggers to extract fares from the boxes, and these were found in the possession of the men when arrested.

FUAD PASHA.

High Turkish Official Sentenced to Life Imprisonment.

Constantinople, June 5.—The official announcement of the finding of the final court martial, which tried Fuad Pasha, formerly under secretary of the interior, has been made. Fuad had been found guilty of revolutionary acts, and sentenced to life imprisonment in a fortress, to degradation of rank and to be deprived of his decorations. Fuad Pasha was tried by court martial in March, but the sentence of this court was not ratified by the Sultan, and the case was referred to another court.

An irade has been issued confirming the sentence imposed by the final court and designating Damascus as the place of Fuad Pasha's confinement.

Marshal Fuad Pasha, who was one of the most brilliant Turkish officers in the Russo-Turkish war was recently suspected of being identified with the young Turkish party, although his loyalty to the Sultan had never been seriously questioned. Te was arrested on suspicion, and tried by court martial on the charge of having entertained seditious designs.

THREATS OF COURT MARTIAL

Extraordinary Charge Said to Be Hanging Over General Miles.

Kansas City., Mo., June 5.—The Journal will say tomorrow: Lieut.-Gen. Nelson Miles, commanding the United States army passed through Kansas City last night on his way from Fort Riley to Washington, called there by President Roosevelt, and threatened with an immediate court martial on a charge of having betrayed official secrets.

Gen. Miles went through here the day before, attended by several other members of the board, convoyed to observe long-range gun tests at Fort Riley, to be so engaged for several days. He came back yesterday afternoon entirely alone, and in such haste that he had not even reserved a sleeping berth.

GOMEZ DECLINES.

Does Not Want Pension Unless Others Are Paid.

Havana, June 5.—General Maximo Gomez has published an open letter here in which he refuses to accept the annual pension of 6,000 provided for him in a resolution, which is now before the Cuban House of Representatives. General Gomez asks his friends to defeat this resolution, saying it would be unfair for him to accept money so long as the other Cuban soldiers have not been provided for. General Gomez asserts that he has a bill against the government for war services which some day will have to be paid, but that he is willing to wait until such time as Cuba can pay all such claims.

FAST STEAMSHIP SERVICE.

Reported Negotiations for Better Connections for Canada.

London, June 5.—The negotiations of the British and the Canadian governments and some of the other colonial governments with the Cunard line and other lines comprising what is now termed the Liverpool Syndicate, which is opposing the Morgan Shipping combine, contemplate, according to the Westminster Gazette, both a fast service of mail and passenger steamers in conjunction with the Canadian Pacific railroad, and a fleet of fast freight steamers. The mail steamers, which it is proposed to build will be of enormous size, capable of steaming 25 knots an hour, and will be fully equipped for use as armed cruisers, carrying eight quick-firing guns (six inch) forward and aft, and broadsides of three 4.7 inch guns.

The freight steamers will be 16-knot vessels, carrying 6,000 to 7,000 tons dead weight.

The Westminster Gazette thinks it probable that Milford Haven will be the port of departure of the fleet. The scheme contemplates a line of steamers running to China, Japan and Australia from Vancouver, British Columbia. Canada and Australia are expected to join in paying subsidies. The draft of the scheme involves the home government guaranteeing a small interest on the capital invested. This will have to be ratified by the House of Commons, "where," says the Westminster Gazette, "it will probably meet with opposition."

PREMPEH'S SACRED LAKE.

The Little Sheet of Water That the Ashantis Regarded as Fetich.

About twenty-five miles southeast of Kumasi, the old capital of Ashanti, is a little lake that was held in great awe by the subjects of the cruel King Prempeh until the English destroyed his power. Its name is Lake Busumchwi, the word "busum" meaning sacred or fetich. The kings of Ashanti probably encouraged the idea that the lake was sacred because they desired to monopolize its fisheries. The people were forbidden to fish there, under penalty of death, excepting the King's own fishermen, who plied their industry for the benefit of their royal master. It would have been highly irreligious to dwell on the banks of this sacred bit of water, and not a single hut could be seen anywhere along the shores. The natives were taught to believe that they would perish if they committed the sacrilege of swimming in its waters: so they gave the lake a wide berth, only the most venturesome of them daring, now and then, to gaze upon the placid sheet from some hill top.

A great change has occurred at the sacred lake since King Prempeh was taken far away to spend the rest of his days in exile. The natives thought no power was strong enough to make their king a prisoner, but when disaster came they lost all faith in him as a mighty potentate. They concluded also that he had been lying about the sacred lake. Busumchwi is no longer a sacred mystery to them.

They have planted twenty-five villages around the shores, with a total population of nearly 10,000. They disport themselves in its waters whenever they are so inclined. They wash their clothing along the beach, a crime that would have deserved instant death a few years ago. They have made a great industry of fishing, the lake teeming with fish which are not easily caught with a baited hook, but are captured in large supply by means of huge wicker baskets.

Seated on cottonwood logs, the fishermen paddle about, sinking their baskets now and then and trapping a fish or two that ventures to inspect the interior of it. People come from far and wide to yams and other food for the fisher folk, who carry on no cultivation.

Thus the little lake is very useful, now that it has been bereft of its sacred character. It has been dignified by being placed on recent maps, a survey having been made of it by Mr. Malcolm Fergusson, who says the lake is nearly circular, with a diameter of about six miles. It lies in a basin, entirely enclosed by hills, which rise about 500 feet above the level of the water.

CASE OF MAJOR CROSSE-GRAIN

Laughable Illustration of the Ways of Red Tape in India.

From St. George's Gazette.

A correspondent from India, some little time ago, sent us a cutting from The Civil and Military Gazette, published at Lahore, dated as long ago as March 6, 1896. Space has not hitherto been available for reprinting it in the pages of St. George's Gazette, but we are glad now to have the opportunity to do so. India is well known to be the land of red tape and officialism, and to those who have or have not been there, the extracts we print should prove, if not instructive, at least amusing reading. The first letter from Major Crosse-Grain, to his friend Bodega, is not an official communication; the rest all come under that category:—

"Private.

"Bogglewallah, May 23, 189—

"My dear old Bodega,—At last luck has turned; my worthy old aunt is dead. She has left me a most excellent collection of shekels, which will enable me to view London town (with you, of course), in a manner I have always thought befitting.

"It will not surprise you to learn that I have resolved to quit this beastly profession, and this still more beastly country.

"I am determined to part with no more of such intellect as I possess, and am, therefore, going, it is the matter of my going that may interest you.

"I have, as you know, never distinguished myself in peace or in war (except by occasionally permitting myself to act with common sense), and I feel it only right to clothe my departure at any rate with distinction.

"Tomorrow is the Queen's birthday parade.

"I have provided myself with a false nose, exceedingly long and exceedingly red, adorned with two very life-like warts.

"Wearing this false nose I intend to march past the General. I shall be careful not to put it on until the battalion is formed up at the saluting base, when, as commander of the leading company, I shall be able to carry my project into execution without being subjected to the annoyance of previous argument on the question of propriety.

"I shall have to leave the service, of course, possibly without my pension; but this, fortunately, now is a matter of complete indifference. I shall let you know the upshot.

"R. CROSSE-GRAIN."

The first official letter on the subject is from Major Grosse-Grain's commanding officer to the assistant-adjutant-general, and like the rest of the correspondence, speaks for itself:—

"Confidential—(Discipline).

(1) Bogglewallah, 24th May, 189—

"From the officer commanding 2nd Bushwhackers, to the A.A.G.

"Bogglewallah District.

"Sir,—I have the honor to report for the information of the major-general commanding that I have placed Major R. Crosse-Grain under arrest.

"I have the honor to state that Major Crosse-Grain admits that he wore a false nose on parade today. He maintains that he had a perfect right to do so, and the use of a false nose on parade is nowhere prohibited in army regulations.

"He also states that he used it as a convenient receptacle for the whistle which, he points out, is directed always to be carried, while no provision is made for its carriage in the existing uniform.

"I can obtain no further explanation of his conduct from him.

"Your obedient servant,

"A. CHUMP,

"Lieutenant-Colonel,

"Commanding 2nd Bushwhackers.

(2)

"To O. C. 2nd Bushwhackers:

"Hits this officer ever suffered from sunstroke? Was he sober yesterday, and is he of temperate habits, generally speaking?

"Obtain medical evidence on these points.

"B. SNOOKS, Major, A.A.G.,

"Bogglewallah District

(3)

"Bogglewallah, 25th May, 189—

"To A.A.G.,

"Surgeon-Major Jobs has interviewed Major Crosse-Grain, and states that in his opinion the prisoner is quite responsible for his actions.

"His previous medical history does not point to sunstroke as having affected his mind.

"Major Crosse-Grain has always been to my knowledge strictly temperate.

"A. CHUMP, Lieutenant-Colonel,

"Commanding 2nd Bushwhackers.

"Bogglewallah, 26th May, 189—

(4)

"To O. C. 2nd Bushwhackers.

"The G. O. C. cannot conceive any reason for Major Crosse-Grain's conduct other than that of temporary insanity. From sympathy with the prisoner's wife the Major-General is willing, on receipt of a written apology from Major Crosse-Grain (provided also that he retires from the service), to overlook the matter.

"B. SNOOKS, Major, A. A. G.

"Bogglewallah, 26th May, 189—"

(5)

"To A.A.G., Bogglewallah District.

"Major Crosse-Grain firmly declines to offer an apology whatever, as he considers his conduct does not require any.

"I must inform you that I consider any sympathy with Mrs. Crosse-Grain thrown away, as that lady has been hysterical ever since witnessing the march past, and cannot be induced to discuss the matter seriously.

"A. CHUMP, Lieutenant-Colonel,

"Commanding 2nd Buchwhackers.

"Bogglewallah, 27th May, 189—

(6)

"To Judge-Advocate-General,

"20th Circle,

"The G.O.C. requests that you will be good enough to frame a charge against Major R. Crosse-Grain, 2nd Bushwhackers, based on the conduct described in the attached correspondence. Early compliance requested.

"B. SNOOKS, Major A.A.G.

Bogglewallah, 27th May, 189—

(7)

"To A.A.G.:

"I consider a charge under section 142, Army Act, viz., 'False Personification,' would be suitable for the case. Charge sheet in duplicate herewith.

"C. GOBBLE, Colonel,

"Offg. Judge-Advocate-General, 20th Circle.

"Boggleywallah, 4th June, 189—"

(8)

"To Judge-Advocate-General, 20th Circle:

"The G.O.C. cannot imagine why you wish to charge Major Crosse-Grain under this section. Why not section 16, viz., 'Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman?'

"B. SNOOKS, Major, A.A.G.,

"Boggleywallah, 4th June, 189—"

(9)

"To A.A.G.:

"There appeared to me to be legal difficulties in the way if a charge were made as suggested. Perhaps I was wrong. Charge in accordance with section 16 in duplicate herewith.

"C. GOBBLE, Colonel,

"Offg. Judge-Advocate-General, 20th Circle.

"Boggleywallah, 19th June, 189—"

(10)

"To A.A.G.:

"I have read the charge to the prisoner. He informs me that he will object to the charge, inasmuch as he alleges that the false nose worn by him was not 'unbecoming an officer or a gentleman;' indeed that it becomes him more than his own. He has stated his intention of proving this to the satisfaction of the court by ocular demonstration.

"As a defense of this nature might tend to be somewhat ludicrous, I would respectfully suggest trial under another section of the Army Act, viz., section 40, 'Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.'

"A. CHUMP, Lieutenant-Colonel.

"Commanding 2nd Bushwhackers.

"Boggleywallah, 11th June, 189—"

(11)

"To Judge-Advocate-General, 20th Circle:

"For Opinion.

"B. SNOOKS, Major, A.A.G.,

"Boggleywallah, 11th June, 189—"

(12)

"To A.A.G.:

"It is regrettable that there is no section in the Army Act dealing specifically with acts of this nature. Having regard to the nature of the parade, I am in some doubt as to whether the charge should not be preferred under section 35, as treason.

"I am afraid I could not advise trial under section 40, unless there is some evidence to show that the wearing of the false nose by the prisoner produced effects injurious to good order and military discipline.

"Did any of the soldiers show by their conduct that this was the case?

"C. GOBBLE, Colonel.

"Offg. Judge-Advocate-General, 20th Circle.

"Boggleywallah, 20th June, 189—"

(13)

"To O.C., 2nd Bushwhackers:

"The G.O.C. distinctly heard the men in Major Crosse-Grain's company laughing.

"Can you obtain any other evidence in support of this amongst the N. C. O.'s or men?

"B. SNOOKS, Major, A.A.G.

"Boggleywallah, 20th June, 189—"

(14)

"To A.A.G.:

"Upon inquiry I find it would be undesirable to seek evidence in this direction.

"Major Crosse-Grain, though unpopular with the senior officers, is undoubtedly popular with the younger officers of the regiment and his men. There is a feeling, I find, amongst the men that their laughter is the principle cause of Major Crosse-Grain's trouble.

"I have reason to believe that, if called upon to give evidence, the men will state that the cause of their laughter was the conduct of the G.O.C.'s charger at the moment the company marched past.

"A. CHUMP, Lieutenant-Colonel.

"Commanding 2nd Bushwhackers.

"Boggleywallah, 22nd June, 189—"

(15)

"To the Judge-Advocate-General. 20th Circle:

"Please frame a charge against Major Crosse-Grain under section 40, Army Act.

"B. SNOOKS, Major, A.A.G.

"Boggleywallah, 22nd June, 189—"

(17)

"To A.A.G.:

"I have read the charge to Major Crosse-Grain. He states that he is prepared to meet it. He desires me to inform you that he will call upon the G.O.C. as a witness for the defense. He intends to prove that the G.O.C. was wearing a false set of teeth, or at all events, some false teeth on the parade of the 24th May, and that the G.O.C. constantly wears false teeth on and off duty. He also intends to call evidence to show that a staff officer in Badbonnger is allowed to wear a glass eye without question. I presume the prisoner is within his rights?

"A. CHUMP, Lieutenant-Colonel.

"Commauding 2nd Bushwhackers.

"Boggywallah, 3rd July, 189—"

(18)

"To A.A.G.:

"If Major Crosse-Grain will send in his papers the G.O.C. is willing to overlook the conduct of that officer, and will dispense with further action.

"B. SNOOKS, Major, A.A.G.

"Boggleywallah, 3rd July, 189—"

(19)

"To A.A.G.:

"Major Crosse-Grain consents to send in his papers upon being granted leave of absence from this date pending retirement, and upon being furnished with a copy of the correspondence in the case.

"A. CHUMP, Lieutenant-Colonel,

Commanding 2nd Bushwhackers.

"Boggleywallah, 4th July, 189—"

(20)

"To O.C., 2nd Bushwhackers:

"Leave granted. Correspondence (original) herewith.

"B. SNOOKS, Major, A.A.G.

"Boggleywallah, 4th July, 189—"

—St. George Gazette.

OVERRUNNING THE LAKE.

Cat Fish Are Now Plentiful in Shawnigan Lake—Destroying the Trout.

A couple of years ago a gentleman, who, if he had thought over the matter, would no doubt have acted differently, was induced to place in Shawnigan Lake a dozen or more cat fish, which a local restaurant-keeper had brought to Victoria, but could not sell. These fish have multiplied until the lake is crowded with them, and hundreds are being caught. They say they are good table fish, but certainly they are not a game fish, and it is feared that before long they will destroy the fishing in the lake. While it is not likely that they bother the trout a great deal, they like all fish that feed on the bottom, will destroy the spawn. There has been some talk of placing catfish in Sooke, Prospect and other lakes of the Island. Before doing so those who had so intended should give the matter a little thought. They are not a game fish, and those who want them for the table can get all they want at Shawnigan.

There has been some talk of the Dominion government introducing Dolly Varden and Rainbow trout into the lakes and streams of the Island. This move will be hailed with delight by sportsmen, and while doing this the government should look into other matters in connection with the fisheries. There is the question of a more stringent enforcement of the close season for trout, and steps must be taken to protect the bass which have been placed in Florence and Langford lakes. As for Langford lake, trout could very easily be introduced into the waters. All that is necessary is to build a couple of fish ladders in the stream, which, in its present condition, the trout are unable to ascend.

HOUNDS TRACK THIEF.

From Trail News.

Captain Devitt's bloodhounds evidenced their natural trailing qualities early last Monday morning, by running down a Chinaman who had robbed David Jelly's garden of about 300 pounds of rhubarb. There was little delay in taking up the scent, and the dogs soon led the way to the Chinese garden in the gulch, where about 300 pounds or freshly cut rhubarb was ready for market. The celestial was thoroughly frightened and confessed. He received his hearing and was fined $20 and costs.

D. S. O. MEDALS FOR BRAVES.

From Rossland Miner.

J. Hendry of Rossland, has been recommended for the Distinguished Service Medal, a decoration second only in sentimental value to the Victoria Cross. The D. S. M. is awarded for deeds of bravery and merit in the field and is coveted by every army man. Hendry is a member of the South African Constabulary, having enlisted in this city when the corps was raised. A Nelson man and a Cranbrook man have been recommended for the same decoration.

INVESTS IN OMINECA.

From Phoenix Pioneer.

George S. Waterlow, of London, England, one of the largest shareholders in the Snowshoe Gold and Copper Mines, Ltd., operating the Snowshoe mine in this camp, is becoming interested in claims in the Omineca district. His syndicate has recently entered into an agreement for the option to work and investigate a property on Vital creek in the Omineca country, the syndicate's engineer being already en route to report on the mines.

A MILLION FOR STEMWINDER.

From Nelson Miner.

It is stated on reliable authority that an English company has offered the New Fairview Corporation $1,000,000 for the Stemwinder, one of its properties.

THE BARTON WAR AIRSHIP

Description of the One He Is Building For War Office.

From London Daily Mail.

The War Office has contracted for the construction of an aerial battleship.

This vessel is being built under the supervision of its inventor, Dr. F. Alexander Barton, of Beckenham, Kent.

This gentleman has devoted the past twenty years to the investigation of aerial transit and after countless experiments and disappointing failures he has now evolved an airship which will enable one to travel through the air with facility.

The Barton airship is a unique contrivance and the inventor is the first exponent of the combination of the balloon and aero-planes in an airship. Dr. Barton has experimented with vessels both lighter and heavier than the air.

The first type is exemplified in the baloon, but with the latter description of vessel in which flight is desired by means of extensive plane surfaces or wings, propelled through the air, the propulsion causing the contrivance to ascend, nothing has been achieved.

The utilization of the aeroplanes in this airship fulfills a very important function. With the balloon it is either necessary to throw out ballast or let out the gas to ascend or descend respectively. With the aeroplanes both rising and falling motions are easily controlled without losing gas or discarding ballast.

When Dr. Barton first drew the attention of "My Lords of Pall Mall" to his invention, in 1898, and explained at length the potentialities of the same for surveying or reconnoitering purposes, the military authorities declined to consider it.

At the same time a French Government firm approached Dr. Barton, and offered to buy out his invention, lock, stock and barrel. But the inventor animated by patriotism, determined that his country solely should benefit by the result of his years of tedious experiments, and again hammered at the War Office.

The Doctor's persistency has been rewarded; for the War Office at last ordered the construction of an airship, which is to undergo its maiden trip within the course of the next few months. The War Office has notified the special requirements that the vessel must fulfill, the principal of which is that it shall remain steaming in the air for twenty four hours at least without descending to the ground. There are several other requirements which are not made public; but Dr. Barton says he has not the slightest doubt of being able to comply with them, and will probably do far better, and this is the opinion of several experts who have examined his plans and model.

The vessel measures 180 feet from stem to stern. The balloon is cigar-shaped, with its maximum diameter of 41 feet, 72 feet from the ground, and has a capacity 156,000 cubic feet of hydrogen gas. The balloon proper is made of varnished Japanese silk, and is divided into three compartments. The diaphragms of walls dividing the compartments are loose, so that in the event of the forward or stern sections being seriously injured the gas in the damaged compartments can be pumped, by means of a unique contrivance fitted to each diaphragm, into the central chamber, the increased pressure of gas forcing out the dividing wall so as to form a new nose or stern to the balloon as the case may be.

In the central compartment is fitted the balloonette—a smaller balloon—which is filled with air, pumped thereinto from the car beneath. This baloonette performs an important work.

When the balloon ascends, the surrounding atmosphere, becoming rarer, causes the gas with which it is inflated to expand. In the case of an ordinary balloon the mouth is left open, so that this expanding gas may escape. In the Barton airship the hydrogen is not lost, but greater space is given to the expanding gas by letting out the air from the baloonette by the aeronaut in charge.

By this ingenious arrangement no gas is lost, and the balloon is maintained absolutely rigid. Dr. Barton says that this idea of having a second internal balloon is comparatively old, but that his consulting aeronaut (M. Gaudron) has devised some very important improvements which are at present a profound secret.

The aeroplanes, which constitute the salient feature of the Barton vessel, are attached to a frame below the balloon and above the deck of the car.

There are three triple sets, placed forward, amidships, and astern respectively. The aeroplanes rest horizontally, and each measures 12 feet in length by 18 feet in width, thus producing a superficial area of 216 square feet per aeroplane, or 648 square feet for each set of planes, and as there are three such sets the total superficial area of the aeroplanes is 1,944 square feet. They have a vertical oscillating motion, by which means the rising and falling movements of the vessel are controlled.

The airship is propelled through the air by six sets of triple propellers, placed three on each side, at the bows, amidships, and astern respectively. The propellers are each two-bladed, measuring 17 feet from tip to tip by 2½ feet wide. Each pair of sets of propellers is driven by a 45 horse-power petrol motor, and has been found by actual experiment to give a thrust of 20 pounds per horse power. As there are three of these propelling engines—one for each pair of propeller sets—the aggregate horse power is 135, which produces a total thrust of 2,700 pounds.

In connection with this propelling machinery, Dr. Barton does not aim at rapid revolutions of the screws.

One of the most perplexing problems to the aeronauctical engineer is the counterbalancing of his vessel to prevent its tilting either forward or aft.

Dr. Barton in his airship has devised an ingenious system of automatic water balance. At each end of the car—which is 104 feet in length—is a tank capable of storing fifty gallons of water. These tanks are connected by two pipes underneath the car, which amidships pass through a double pump, forcing the water in opposite directions.

Close to the aeronaut in charge of the steering apparatus is is a pendulum suspended from the aeroplane frame, and also connected to cocks fitted to the above pipes. These cocks control the flow of water in either direction, and are opened or closed automatically according to the swing of the pendulum. When the ship is perfectly horizontal the pendulum hangs at right angles to the deck, and both cocks are half open, water circulating freely between the two tanks. Immediately the ship dips ever so slightly at either end, the pendulum indicates the degree of deviation from horizontal, and the water is shut off from flowing into the depressed from the raised tank, while it is pumped more freely into the latter, thereby equalizing the weight and causing the ship to resume its equilibrium.

There are other important points which have not been patented, and are being kept profound secrets.

Dr. Barton says that the model he has been showing is by no means a perfect machine, but that it contains the essential points for making one, and he believes after he has experimented with this machine and added the improvements above referred to he will be able gradually to decrease the size of the balloon and increase the size of the aeroplanes until he arrives at an ideal airship.

Louis Sloss, president of the Alaska Commercial Co., is dead at San Rafael, California.

AT VICTORIA THEATRE.

Watkin Mills and Associate Entertainers Gave Clever Concert.

A concert was given at the Victoria theatre last night by Mr. Watkin Mills, the noted basso, Mr. Owen A. Smiley, who has been aptly called the Canadian Grossmith, and Mr. Eduard Parlovitz, a talented Polish pianist, who form a concert company, which was well worth hearing. The audience which greeted them was not a large one, although it was very appreciative. The concert, was however, worthy of a far greater attendance than that present, for it is not often that such clever entertainers are heard by a local audience. The trio certainly rank among the best that have been here for some time. Mr. Mills has a full, rich voice, clear and true, and his many solos were given in excellent manner, well meriting the encores received—which were so readily given. Mr. Smiley gave several bright sketches, and told many laugh-provoking stories, all of which were loudly applauded, and Mr. Parlovitz was heard in selections of a wide range of music, all of which were rendered in a manner which showed that he was a master of the ivory keys.

TRAIN WRECK.

Three Men Killed on C. P. R. Near Calgary.

Calgary, June 4.—(Special)—A serious accident occurred on the C. P. R. five miles east of here at half-past six this morning. Owing to the recent heavy rains, a culvert had become undermined

MAY ATTENDANCE IN CITY SCHOOLS

More Irregularity Than During the Previous Month—Poor Percentage.

There was more irregularity in the attendance of pupils in the public schools during the month of May than in April, the percentage of regularity being only 83.63, as against 89.55 in the preceding month. One school, however, the Boys' Central, excepted itself from the general falling off. It stands alone for the month in having reached 90 per cent. Of the 57 divisions only 13 were in the honor list for regularity, and of these six were in the Boys' school. The attendance follows:

	No. Att.	Daily Av.	P.C.
High School	157	135.93	86.58
Boys' Central	418	378.07	90.68
Girls' Central	438	385.56	88.02
South Park	399	332.54	83.34
North Ward	435	375.45	85.85
Victoria West	289	248.17	85.87
Spring Ridge	197	174.20	88.42
Hillside	133	114.94	86.34
Kingston Street	133	109.73	82.50
Rock Bay	76	64.76	85.21
Central Annex	35	29.57	84.49
	2710	2347.92	86.63

Following are the divisions whose daily average attendance reached 90 per cent:

High school, division 1, 93.12.

Boys' school, division 1, 93.75, teacher, Mr. Gilles; division 2, 91.06, teacher, Mr. Salloway; division 5, 90.07, teacher, Miss McKenzie; division 6, 91.50, teacher, Mrs. Taylor; division 7, 92.73, teacher, Miss Barron; division 8, 91.63, teacher, Miss Nason.

Girls' school, division 6, 90.37, teacher, Miss Shrapnel; division 7, 90.11, teacher, Miss Brown.

North Ward, division 1, 90.57, teacher, Mr. Tait.

Victoria West, division 1, 93.11, teacher, Mr. Winsby.

Spring Ridge, division 1, 90.14, teacher, 90.65.

THE CONGRESS AT TORONTO

Resolutions on Imperial Subjects Passed by Dominion Boards of Trade.

Toronto, June 4.—The Boards of Trade congress opened here this morning with delegates present from every important commercial body in the country. A. E. Ames presided, and after a brief speech, was appointed permanent chairman.

A resolution expressing unbounded satisfaction at the return of peace was adopted. Capt. Gaskin, of Kingston, moved that the rate of postage on newspapers between Canada and the Motherland be reduced to the same figure as the domestic rate. The resolution was adopted without debate.

Next in order was a resolution of the Montreal Board that Great Britain can best serve the interests of the Empire by giving the products of her colonies preference in her markets as against the products of foreign countries. The motion was amended to incorporate a suggestion contained in the Toronto board's resolution that the Premier of Canada urge at the Imperial conference the securing of a royal commission representing Great Britain and the colonies to investigate conditions, and suggest such preferential treatment of imports from various parts of the Empire as shall be calculated to insure the fullest benefits.

A resolution was also adopted that preferential duty on British goods coming to Canada and Canadian goods to Great Britain under the proposed arrangement be given only on goods imported and exported through British and Canadian ports.

PETER'S PENCE.

From Pall Mall Gazette.

Once upon a time, before the pontiff became so aged and so weak, he dispensed communion at certain times of the year to the components of his court, allowing pilgrimages and private audiences to give way to this; but now he is no more able for the duty, and does his best to give audiences to the foreign patricians and prelates, who, with the Peter's Pence, replenish the papal coffers. Notwithstanding this, the Peter's Pence revenue is not at all what it was, so that a regime of the strictest economy has been inaugurated at the Vatican.

Thousands of petitions which are sent and addressed to Leo XIII. from widows, orphans and old pontifical soldiers, imploring assistance, remain, to the rest pain of the Pope, either unanswered or a letter is sent saying that there are no funds. Also, from motives of economy, nominations are retarded, the consistories postponed from time to time, and while, before, the personnel of the Vatican had large manacle (presents in money) at Easter, they now have nothing. The cardinal who has charge of the purse is always preaching the necessity of economy, until it is difficult to have the money for even necessary and unavoidable expenses. The hopes raised for the present papal jubilee are dying out; these celebrations have been too frequent, so that even the pockets of faithful Catholics would seem to be closing.

"He's a mighty hard man to get along with," said the practical politician sadly, "mighty hard."

"He seems thoroughly honest."

"Of course he is. That's what makes him so erratic and unsatisfactory. Every once in a while he insists on doing something simply because he thinks it is right, without waiting to figure out what its effect on his political prospects is liable to

Dr. M. Elkenberg, of Gothenburg, has

Five New School Districts

Formal Notice of Their Creation Published in the Official Gazette.

Resignation of J. D. Graham Atlin's Government Agent Is Accepted.

(From Friday's Daily.)

Five new school districts, Beaver creek, Matsqui, Notch Hill, Pilot Bay and Bunbury, have been created, according to notices in the current issue of the Provincial Gazette and the Delta and Gill districts have been re-defined.

ACT DISALLOWED.

The minute of the Privy Council disallowing the act of the provincial legislature to incorporate the Lake Bennett railway company, is published. The Minister of Justice gives these reasons for disallowing the act:

"The minister further observes that the territory between the ocean and that region which is proposed to be traversed by the line of railway thus chartered is now in dispute between the United States and the Dominion of Canada, and it is considered inexpedient, pending the settlement of that dispute, to permit the construction of railways which may complicate and increase the difficulty already existing. The authority of a provincial legislature over railways is limited to such as are local in their character, and which do not connect the province with any other or others of the provinces, or extend beyond the limits of the province. The minister is of opinion that it is, therefore, very doubtful whether it is competent to the Legislature of British Columbia to authorize the construction of this railway from the Dyea river to the Northern boundary of the province, and the attempt to keep the traffic of such a railway under the control of the local government, notwithstanding any legislation of parliament upon the subject, is also objectionable. The minister considers that these two provisions, construed together, may furnish reasons for disallowance of this act, but in addition to these reasons, he does not consider it in the public interest, or consistent with the policy of the government of Canada, that the act should remain in operation."

NEW COMPANIES.

The Sidney & Nanaimo Transportation company has been incorporated with a capital of $100,000, to take over the steamers Strathcona and Iroquois, which they propose to operate from Sidney along the East Coast of Vancouver Island and to the islands of the Gulf.

The Quondoga Mining company has been registered as an extra-provincial company. The head office of the company is Breckinridge, Calo., and the capital is $600,000. The head office of the company in the province is Rossland, and Charles Hamilton, barrister of that city, is the company's attorney.

APPOINTMENTS.

The following appointments are Gazetted:

Albert Francis Griffiths, Victoria, to be a justice of the peace in and for the province.

Constable Henry Berryman, of Port Essington, to be a deputy mining recorder for the lower portion of the Skeena mining division, with sub-recording office at Port Essington, vice M.

[illegible] be a [illegible] prov-in

[illegible] D., C. M., to be assistant medical superintendent of the Hospital for the Insane, at New Westminster.

Henry Deniel, of Rossland, to be a member of the boards of licensing commissioners and of commissioners of police for the said city, vice Mr. F. J. Walker, resigned.

William Hatrick Dempster, of Skidegate, to be a deputy mining recorder for that portion of the Skeena mining division, known as Queen Charlotte islands, with sub-recording office at Skidegate.

James A. Fraser, of Atlin, to be stipendiary magistrate for the County of Vancouver; government agent, gold commissioner and assistant commissioner of lands and works for the Atlin lake, Bennett lake and Chilkat Mining divisions; assessor and collector under the Assessment Act and collector under the Revenue Tax Act for the Atlin assessment district; and collector of votes for that portion of the Cassiar electoral district contained within the boundaries of the Atlin lake, Bennett lake and Chilkat Mining divisions, vice Mr. J. D. Graham, resigned; such appointment and resignation to take effect on the 1st of July, 1902.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Francis Hofercamp, hotelkeeper of Quesnelle, has assigned.

The new regulations for the disposal of Dominion coal lands in Manitoba, the Northwest Territories and British Columbia are given.

W. J. Taylor, of this city, has been appointed attorney for the Alberni Copper company, and Nahmint Mining company, vice G. H. Hayes.

REV. HENRY LATHAM DEAD.

He Was Head of Trinity Hall and Writer on Mathematical Subjects.

London, June 5.—The Rev. Henry Latham, Master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, is dead, he was born in 1821.

FRENCH CABINET.

Senator Combes Has Accepted the Task of Forming One.

Paris, June 5.—Senator Combes, Progressive Republican, and former vice-president of the Senate, has accepted the task of forming a cabinet. He expects