Schacht Brothers have taken a sub-

New Westminster has now 26 licensed bartenders, a local bylaw requiring all members of the white aproned fraterity to take out licenses, costing \$2 each, as from January 1.

Mount Pleasant, Vancouver, was form-ally dedicated on Sunday last, Rev. J. W. Woodside, the paster, preaching an appropriate special sermon.

The new Presbyterian church



uver has now a

new Carnegie library building J. P. Fink is a candidate for re-elec-on as mayor of Cranbrook.

North Vancouver is to have a new fire

business sections of Vancouve Grand Forks coal famine

The New Westminster council will adfor new tenders for the

Rossiand's water carnival is to be held this year from the 8th to the 12th February, inclusive.

Tenders are invited at Prince Rupert for the construction of the sewer-age system in that new northern rail-

All the mines of the Phoenix camp closed down for Christmas, the chief event of which was the annual ball of the Miners Union.

Rev. A. J. Petrie has arrived Greenwood to assume the pastoral charge of the Presbyterian church

Rev. Fr. Beck, of Moyle was given a well-filled purse by his flock at a Christmas present and token of their

Rev. G. A. Hackney, B. A., and Mrs. Hackney have arrived in Moyle from Pembroke, Ont., Mr. Hackney being the new pastor of the Presbyterian church in the coal town on the Crow.

Nanaimo is facing a prospective water famine. The South Fork water extension supplies 600,000 gallons daily, which is not sufficient to meet the

Two Christmas week weddings solemnized at Phoenix united for life the fortunes of Duncan A. Grant, principal of the Phoenix public school, and Miss Cora Graham; and Warren Mitchell and Miss Zilpha Oxley.

The provincial grant to the Prince Rupert general hospital that is to be will be increased in the preparation of the estimates for the forthcoming session of the legislature from \$5.000 to \$7.500.

The annual general meeting of the Mountain Lumber Manufacturers association is to be held at Cranbrook on the 14th inst.

The Lakeview hotel at Nelson changed proprietors with the coming of 1910, Albert L. Griffiths becoming lessee and manager.

In New York recently 200 shares of Hedley Gold Mining Co. stock were sold on the curb at \$20 a share. It was the first transaction in this stock at New

Insurance to the extent of \$1,200 was carried on the house and contents owned by Arhur Dickson, destroyed by fire at Grand Forks on Tuesday last.

Elko is experiencing a boom, with logging operations and trappers busy on every creek, and engineers spying out routes for new railways in half a dozens directions from the camp.

As the Fernie Construction Co. were found to be not adhering to the provisions of their contract, the school board of Cranbrook has taken over the building of the new school at that point and will complete construction by day labor.

George H. Cowan, M. P., of Vancoular the corresponding to the contract the school at that point a stock concern to improve the False Creek flats and rent out sites and privalleges to railways. He has already disactive the Kootenay Ce acres of good ag type the contraction of the contraction o

The municipalities of Summerland, Peachland, and Penticton, last Wednesday endorse almost unanimously the bylaw granting the Lake Shore Telephone Co. the privilege of installing and operating a telephone system in the three municipalities. The company is already operating and giving a satisfactory service, the presentation and adoption of the by-law being largely a formality.

HAPPENINGS

Kemicops reports 1909 as a year of unprecedented civic prosperity. F. M. Gillesple and Miss Alice Mc-Lean were married in Hedley last week.

Greenwood Conservatives held their Nelson has now an up-to-date vaude-

The gold output from West Creek, Kootenay, last season was approximately \$27,460.

The river, is still open at Quesnel, but for some time past there has been a good sound fee bridge at Alexandria.

Hedley has now an Orange lodge with membership of 25. John Jamieson is

The new St. George's church at Ross-and was formally dedicated on Sunday St. Andrew's church, Kamloops, cele-

The Greenwood-Phoenix Tramway.Co. has resumed construction work on the big tunnel through the mountain to inite the sister towns.

Residents of Clinton and the district territorially contiguous will hold their third annual ball on the 27th and 28th

The Fort George stage is now making the round trip twice a month, and it is expected that a weekly service will very shortly be inaugurated.

The abolition of all saloous in the city is the chief plank in the platform of J. A. Irving, one of the mayoralty candidates in Nelson.

D. E. Gellatly, a specialist in tomato growing, has bought 600 additional acres in the Okanagan, which he will plant to fomatoes.

Thomas Astle, a young C. P. R. engineer engaged on the Alberni extension, has been left \$50,000 by the death of an aunt in England.

With the exception of Nelson, Kamloops has now the largest and best ap-pointed lighting plant in the interior of British Columbia.

In Phoenix, recently, Charles Nelson slept sixty hours, his symptoms being identical with those of the African sleeping sickness. Nelson is a promi-nent member of the Liberal party. The marriage has just been solem-nized at Lilloet by Ven. Archdeacon Pugh of Will Haylmere and Miss Maude Manson.

Miss Edna Lewis, for some time past assistant postmistress at Rossland, has left that city for Vancouver, to take a position with A. F. McMillan, the tew-eler.

Robert Emma Rahiey and Miss Annie anderson were married at Greenwood on Monday evening last, by Rev. F. V. Yenables. During 1909 the St. Elmo hotel in Trail changed proprietors eight times. John Fluhrer has just bought the house, During 1909 the St. Elmo hotel in Tail clanged proprietors eight times. John Fluhrer has just bought the house, employee shall hereafter be a canterests in the place.

Mayor Robinson, of Kamloops has promulgated an order that no civic together with James Dawson's other includes the place.

At Tail a few days before Christmas, Rev. E. A. StG. Smythe performed the marriage ceremony for William Stables and Miss Anna There are three strong candidates in the field for the reeveship of Chilli-wack: Reeve Kickbush, who seeks re-election; H. P. Wilson, and J. A. Mc-Leod.

Fire Chief Carlisle of Vancouver in his annual report asks for \$100,000 for new apparatus, including a fire boat for the protection of shipping in harbor and waterfront property.

on every creek, and engineers spying out routes for new railways in half a dozens directions from the camp.

William Allan Stubbs and Miss Erminie Veronica White, and Daniel Arthur McKerricher were the principals in weddings celebrated a few down.

istry reached the highest figures of the year in December, \$2,440.50. The total revenue of the office for the lust

The business interests of Gilley Broad Ltd., of New Westminster, has developed so substantially of late that that concern is increasing its capitalization to \$200,000.

Game Warden J. Russell has returned to Lillooet, after prosecuting several game law violations successfully. In one case a rancher named Costerling was fined \$250 for killing over the limit of rams. A workman named McDonald, employed by the B. C. E. R. Co., at Coquittem, was drowned in a tunnel at that place Tuesday. An inquest has been ordered.

Mrs. Denis Murphy-takes farewell of her host of Ashcroft friends at an "At Home" this afternoon. Tomorrow Mr. Justice Murphy and his family remove to Vancouver, where they are taking up their residence.

Work that had been begun by the B. C. E. R. Co. on the new sub-station at Sardis has been abandoned, a change of plans having been made under which this sub-station will be built at the new terminal yards in New Westminster.

Petitions are being of reulated containing a request that an official of the postoffice department visit tirand forks and consult the people of the town in respect to the location of the new postoffice.

Ileges to railways. He has already discussed the proposal with the chiefs of both the G. T. R. and C. N. R.

A relic of the Ohio disaster of August last has reached North Vancouver in the form of a water-weight trunk belonging to Dr. J. B. Gibson, of the location of the ill-starred isteamer, and came through the wreck without injury.

Extreme apathy characterizes the municipal campaign in Greenwood. No

of Chilliwack.

The Prince Rupert Optimist has just celebrated the completion of its first six months of existence, during which it has grown from a nameless one-page handbill to a 16-page, well printed newspaper, with an illustrated supplement.

The mutation of the special control of the most useless pieces of legislation yet enacted by the city.

Charles Physical Control of the special control of the most useless pieces of legislation yet enacted by the city.

Powell and Bridge streets, Vancou-er, are to be widehed in the near uture. Logging is in full swing in the Sal

Alberni has now a restaurant, which Joseph Drinkwater is propried it is naturally a temperance house. Vernon's exhibit at the Spokan apple show cost \$1,814.03. New Westminster's new mayor and aldermen were duly sworn in on Monday. lce packing is now the order our on the Okanagan lakes.

Regular train service to Princeto was inaugurated New Year's Day. Vancouver's famous Park Drive is to be resurveyed and special measures adopted for the suppression of fast-goers—automobile and otherwise. A series of dog races for the specia at Nelson on New Year's Day.

Extra precautions against an anti-cipated cold weather period of excep-tional severity, are being adopted at New Westminster. Excellent skating has been enjoyed by Vancouverites for more than a week past. Three new hotel licenses will be issued at Vancouver as a result of the assessor's report on population increase. Fire did several thousand dollars

damage last Saturday to the new Miners' Hall at Fernie. Quesnel's Conservative association vill hold its annual banquet on the vening of the 6th inst.

Fernie is to have an

Fire in the Dominion Hotel, Chilliwack, last Friday, caused damage to the extent of \$1,600.

T. Shopland has been elected president of the Courtenay Formers' insti-

Armstrong reports that building perations, general improvements, rops, and produce shipments in 1909 ere double those of 1998.

Kaleden has a large advortisement in the Western Home Monthly, sup-plemented with photographs of Kel-

Steamer Kelowna is hauled out at Okanagan landing, being made ready for what promises to be an exception-ally busy season.

A Vancouver Chinaman stepped off a street car Sunday evening in the characteristic Chinese fashion. He had not yet recovered consciousness yes-. The marriage was solempize

The general hospital at Vernon has

lost a most efficient and much esteem-ed worker in the death of Nnrse

Vernon, Christmas morning, of A. C. Pettman, of the Bank of Montreal staff, and Miss G. Winslow. The B. C. Renovatory at Vancouver, escaped destruction by a miracle Monday, when fire circled the big gasoline tanks but missed exploding them. The total damage is estimated at \$2,500. Annen and Kenneth Lucas and Miss

L. Kaiser had a narrow escape from death, and all received minor injuries in a sleigh runaway last week, near A stamp mill has just been received at the McLennan-Gordon mine, near Skidegate, Q. C. F., and will be installed forthwith. Miss Agnes Blanche Ruth, of Saln

W. Butler has secured the contract for supplying the Moresby Island Lum-ber Co.'s mill at Queen Charlotte with logs during the ensuing three years. Arm, has been claimed as a bride by Patrick B. Rose, principal of the Ed-monton Business College. Cranbrook reports a year of unpre-cedented prosperity. During 1909 the population of this live Kootenay town increased 25 per cent.

employees of the Bluebell mine near Kaslo, made a christinas present-ation to Charles Sherwin, their super-intendent, of a handsome gold watch

Alex. Carlson, a miner engaged at the Gold Drop mine, near Phoenix, fell down the chute 70 feet on Monday morning, and was instantly killed. His relatives reside at Phoenix, of which town he had been a resident for several years. Chief of Police Dow, of Cranbrook has been fully exonerated by the civic committee investigating the serious charges preferred by Rev. Mr. Hughes. which town he had been a resident to several years.

The building of the Vernon steam laundry was badly charred by fire recently, but the machinery is found to be not materially damaged. The fire was caused by gasoline igniting. The C. P. R. was the heaviest loser among patrons of the establishment.

Rev. A. K. W. Herdman performed the ceremony at Hedley last Saturday which united in mairimony Byron Mc-Donald, manager of the Kelowna Farmers Exchange, and Miss Jennie Hardie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Hardie.

Fire last week destroyed the rache house at the Hume-Lawson ranche on Willamson's Lake, east of the illecillewaet. The origin of the fire is a mystery. Much of the contents of the house, barns and outbuildings were saved. The house was partially insured with Kootenay agencies.

A farewell reception and dance was Lachlan McDonaid, a pioneer of the Summerland district, and one of the most active members of the local Development Association, died in hospital last week, at the age of 67 years.

A larewell reception and dance what tendered Justice and Mrs. Denis Murphy at Ashcroft a few evenings ago, at which general regret was expressed at their removal from Ashcroft. During the evening the presentation was made of a handsome cuttation was made of a handsome cuttation.

thur McKerricher were the principals in weddings celebrated a few days ago in Nelson.

The Chinese cook of the steamer Neckaco, who had his feet badly frozen white on the way out from the upper bonds asked for by the Couteau Power Co., in connection with its important Okanagan electrification project.

Significant motto of "Riosche Nanitch."

An agreement has been signed and executed between New Westminster City and the Municipality of Richmond by accidental drowning. Beekman regarding the sale of water to the later by accidental drowning. Beekman was 50 years of age, and became a resident of Kaslo when only one log Co., in connection with its important of the present of the present of the present of the present city.

The "Fruit Magazine," published by Maxwell Smith at Vancouver—and which, by the way, is the only exclusive fruit periodical in Canada—suggests that British Columbia should hold a national apple show of its own, similar to that held during the past two years at Spokane.

John Comlin, of Kelowna, during the

John Comiin, of Kelowna, during the past season sold \$500 worth of tomatoes from 1½ acres of land, the price obtained being % of a cent a pound. Mr. Julien by the C P. R. will be throw: 1/1-in ty

near testified that Devlin had voluntarily told him at the time that Malloy had given him his money to keep, and had a few days later been returned to the owner.

The Vancouver city council will enlarge their superannuation scheme to embrace all employees, in addition to the police originally mentioned ex-

Steamer Beaver made an attempt t ascend the Fraser from New West-minster Monday but could not get be-yond Haney on account of the ice, and was obliged to return to port. The transfer made her down-river trip with difficulty.

been given on the Sechart reservation, Alberni district, by Chief Watty Sewish and his father, in honor of Rev. Mr. Wimberley, for some time pastor of All Saints church, Alberni, has resigned his charge, and will take up his residence in Ottawa. contract from Jarse. McDonald & Timothy for two miles of rockwork on the C.P.R.'s Alberni extension, on the Alberni side of Four Mile creek.

no fewer than six being solemnized on Monday alone. Miss Sarah Houseley became the bridge of William Walmsley, Rev. John Simpson officiating; Rev. Dr. Fraser tied the nuptial knot for Frank M. Rough and Miss Agnes for Frank M. Rough and Miss Agnes
J. Robson; the marriage of Charles E.
Lynch and Miss Ollie Thorpe Smith
was celebrated by Rev. Dr. Fraser; the
same reverend gentleman officiated at
the marriage of Edward John Harris
and Miss Laura Alvinia Roberts, Allan. John Courson and Miss Caroline
Edna Wood, and Arthur R. Neeves and
Miss Bersy. Taylor Anderson Miss Betsy Taylor Anderson.

Nanaimo's Prosperous Year.

Nanaimo's Prosperous Year.

The inland revenue returns for Nanaimo for December were as follows:
Malt; \$1,514.15; spirits; \$880.05; raw
leaf, \$199192; cigars, \$90. The total collections for the year 1909 were \$28,310.32, divided as follows; January, \$2,562.60; February, \$1,961.22; March, \$3,475.29; April, \$1,528.47; May, \$2,7120.90; June, \$3,340.63; July, \$3,315.56; August, \$1,516:66; September, \$1,629.27; October, \$1,421.40; November, \$2,754.30; Pocember, \$2,684.12. The total customs returns for Nanaimo district for Nanaimo city alone \$31,257. The collections for Nanaimo city during each month in the year were as follows: January, \$8,857.18; February, \$4,440.44; March, \$9,106.34; April, \$8,221.95; May, \$6,011.86; June, \$6,891.03; July, \$9,700.73; August, \$5,370.90; September, \$6,946.48; October, \$3,863.62; November, \$4,560.28; December, \$5,786.19. \$6,946.48; October, \$8,806.02, 1998.11-ber, \$4,660.28; December, \$5,786.19 Grand total, \$81,257.

Those Grain Elevators. E. H. Heaps, of Vancouver, states that the plans of the Alberta-British Columbia Elevator & Wharf Company. Columbia Elevator & Wharf Company, covering the erection of a large grain elevator at New Westminster, are still under consideration, although the British Columbia government has refused to give financial aid toward the erection of elevators, either at Vancouver. Prince Rupert or New Westminster. The original request for aid in the building of elevators on the Pacific Coast came from Alberta interests and support from that end of the line is assured, there being a possibility that the government of that province will lend assistance to the project. A meeting of the directors of the company will be held during the present month, at which the possibility of proceeding with the construction of the proposed elevator during the coming season will be discussed.

Railway Builders Arrive

West that and News heach by the manufacture of the control of the

EDITED BY WILLIAM BLAKEMORE MIME INSTITUTE MAINING
INSTITUTE, GREENWELL
GOLD MEDALIST NORTH FING
LAND INSTITUTE MINING
ENGINEERS 1904

Coal Mine Safeguards. Apropos of the recent disaster at the St. Paul Mine, Cherry, Ill., it has frequently occurred to the writer that someone is very lax in providing safe-

Alberni district, by Chief Watty Sewish and his father, in honor of young Jacob Shewish, who has reached marriageable age and has his eye fixed with matrimonial intent upon a noble daughter of the Ohiaht tribe. The Ohiaht tribe, The Ohiahts were all invited, and came, to the number of seventy, from Sarita. Dodges Cove, and other places in the district.

Queen Charlotte's Prosperity.

Queen Charlotte's Prosperity.

1910 promises many changes and improvements in the Skidegate district. The survey of the new townsite at Skidegate will commence early in January. The present store will be enlarged and stocked with a full supply of general merchandise. A new wharf is to be built at once. A crew will start getting out the piling in a few days, and a large hotel will be built at an early date. The oil works will be overhauled and refitted so as to be ready for the coming season.

Vancouver's New Year Weddings.

The first week of the New Year has been a favortic period for the celebration of weddings in the Terminal City, no fewer than six being solemnized on Monday alone. Miss Sarah Houseley

in olden times, before the invention or common use of explosives the best method available for mining through the hardest kind of rock, such as resisted the use of hammer or wedge, was by means of fire. It is true that other methods were probably known; thus there is reason to believe that the Egyptians possessed tools capable of boring holes into the hardest rocks, and commonly split off huge blocks by driving wedges into such holes, just as granite is often split by plug-andigeteather at the present day. It is also possible that the northern nations were able to break rocks by allowing water to freeze in similarly tightly-plugged.

Fire-setting has also been employed by Railway Builders Arrive

The Nanaimo press announces the arrival there on Monday of a party of railway contractors interested in the Alberni extension works, who left for the scene of operations on Tuesday morning. J. B. Bright, who has the contract for ten miles of the rock work at Cameron lake, was of the party, at Cameron lake, as of the party, and the properation of the wagon road to be changed 15 to there side of the lake. A. M. McDonnell, of Jance, McDonnell, & Timother and tract for twenty-five miles of the contract for ten wage, was of the party as was also work, was of the party, as was also work, was of the party, as was also from the wagon road to be changed 15 to break rocks by allowing water that the tract for twenty-five miles of the contract for twenty-five miles of the most precising in the hardest kind of rock, such as restited the use of hammer or wedge, was the the about to believe that the fore-field of the vein, which such as resided the narror wedge, such as resided the use of hammer or wedge, was the acted of the lake the party of the party and to be classed to be seen thouse the contract for ten miles of the party as was also on the wagon road to be changed 15 to break rocks by allowing water the work, was of the party, as was also to freeze in similarly tightly-plugged holes, but each of these fire able to break rocks by allowing water to freeze in similarly tightly-plugged holes, but each of these methods would be work, was of the party, as was also made to the party as the present of the party, as was also made to the party as the party as well and the present of the application of fire wagon road to be calculated by maning the most peculiar cases that it (i. the application of fire wagon road to be more applicable to quarrying than to real mining underground. The ancients are the present of the party is the present of the party is the present of the party as well and the present of the party and the most peculiar cases that it (i. the present of the party and the most peculiar cases

guards to protect the lives of miners in various districts. The provisions should reduce the fatalities to the min-imum, if not wholly prevent the loss of life.

be able to give them their exact condi-tion, the condition of the mine, etc. the This would be some safeguard and guide for the rescuers, providing that the telephones were installed in such shape as to prevent the explosion from destroying the wires, but the ideal plan would be to sink bore-holes from the surface at extend words. the surface at stated intervals, running

have been tried in later times, although

water has often been used to sudden ly cool the heated rock. For many centuries after the breaking up of the Roman power mining seems to have fallen into a very low ebb throughout Europe; but already in the eleventh century it appears that mines of argentiferous galena were re-opened in Sardinia by the Pisans, and shafts sunk to a denth of 500 for the design of the century In Sandinia by the Pisans, and shafts sunk to a depth of 600 feet by fire setting; and as early as 1359 it was used in Germany on the Rammelsburg. Indeed it seems to have been the usual mining process for very hard rock throughout the middle ages. Agricola, writing in the 18th century gives a complete explanation of the method then

would compel mine operators to adopt such a precaution.

There was an article in one of the mining papers recently, where the editor advances the theory of installing telephones in mines, so that the entombed miners might get into communication with the outside world, and be able to give them their exact condition, the condition of the mine, etc. This would be some safeguard and the condition of the condition of the mine, etc. This would be some safeguard and the smoke upon them and suffocated them, they have lately had recourse to gunpowder. All the earliest workings in Cornwall seem to have been stream works, or open cuttings on the backs of the lodes, which are generally fairly soft and in their richest parts, so that there is the condition of the mine, etc. originally covered the country were almost entirely destroyed to supply the different tin-smelting works which were

lamented by Pryce in 1778.

the surface at stated intervals, running along the main entries and topping the main stations in the mine. These boreholes should be cased with iron pipe from top to bottom, and be of sufficient size so that in case of accident they could be used for supplying various sections of the mine with pure air supply, foo,d water, and communication for the entombed miners.

It would hardly be possible for an explosion to destroy a bore-hole, as these explosions do not usually occur in the main entries of the mine. They are usually in some part of the mine which has been abandoned and with no outlet for the gas which accumulates. This is largely responsible for the explosions which take place. If boreholes were sunk into the old workings, they would provide an outlet for the dangerous received and topics of the surface and the surface in the surface and the work much wood, and it is evident that they had recourse to fire as an agent, whether to soften to the work much wood, and it is evident that they had recourse to fire as an agent, whether to soften the rock or to heat it for the purpose of throwing water on it to crack it, I am not skilled to say, but that fire is used is certain." Again, on page 166, Hunt quotes a pager by Mr. John Taylor in "The Transactions of the Geological Society of Dublin," from which they would provide an outlet for the desides wooden and iron tools. plosions which take place. If boreholes were sunk into the old workings,
they would provide an outlet for the
dangerous gases and black-damp.
Had this provision been installed
in the Cherry Mine, as well as the others, and fresh air furnished to the
miners, a large number of lives could
have been saved. These disasters fall
on a class of people who are dependent
on their daily labor for the livelihood
of their families, and the loss of the
bread-winner under these circumstances produces deplorable conditions
which cannot be imagined by the class
of people in better circumstances financially.

Men who will advocate and push to a
conclusion a measure of this kind will
have done something which will cause
their names to be remembered for all
time. In mines where they could not
get a pure air supply to the face of
the entries which they are driving by
means of an ordinary fan, they drilled
holes ahead of the entry, and when
these holes were tapped, they caused
a great current of air to flow through
the entries, which carried out the
smoke, gas, etc., back up through the
hoisting shafts.

lit appears that when the Militown lead
mine in Clare was re-opened they found
besides wooden and iron tools, "the remains of fires which had evidently been
mains of fires which had evidently been
mains of ires which had evidently been
mains of ires which had evidently been
mains of torack and loosen the
makes wooden and iron tools, "the remains of ires which had evidently been
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mains of ires which had evidently been
mains of ires which had evidently been
males wood near their mines and to use it
for burning, disbursing and smelting.

Wood near their mines and to use it
for burning, disbursing and smelting.

Wood near their mines and to use it
for burning, disbursing and smelting.

Wood near their mines and to use it
for burning, disbursing and smelting.

Working in the Mendip (about 1480)
gives a rude attempt to represent firesetting with the ore
of working in the Mendip of the c

holes ahead of the entry, and when these holes were tapped, they caused a great current of air to flow through the entries, which carried out the smoke, gas, etc., back up through the hoisting shafts.

In olden times, before the invention or commen use of explosives the best. Fire-setting has also been employed by the Indians of New Mexico, from time

Decision of New York Justice Against Strikers Elicits Quip From Playwright.



BEAR HAD APPENDICIT

NEW YORK, N. Y.,—"Tessie trick bear from South America operated on for appendicitis Bostock Arena at Coney Island. Dr. Brown, who performed tion said that the first bear

move the bowels regularly. "Fru tives" acts directly on the Liver, of Biliousness, the bile flows freely, the Bowels move naturally. Fifty cents a box, 6 for \$2.50, or size, 25c-at dealers or from tives. Limited, Ottawa

FOUR ARE BURNED

Fire in Boarding House Spread Quickly and Cuts Off Escape

FORT WILLIAM, Ont., Jan. 4.-For

FORT WILLIAM, Ont., Jan. 4.—For people were burned to death in a fin which destroyed Babcock's boardin house this morning. The bodies ar supposed, to be in the ruins. Othe occupants escaped in their nigriclothes. So quickly did the buildin burn that the other occupants escape in the twenty below zero weather onlin their night clothes.

How the fire started is not known but it is supposed to have been from the hot air furnace. When those of the occupants who got out awakened they found the whole lower part of the house in flames, and escape by the stairways cut off, and most of their jumped from the second storey windows. ws. The missing are: Hopson, an oile

at the Ogilvie mills; Anders Sorenso formerly G. T. P. laborer; Miss Clys lis, kitchen girl, and a Chinese cook. lis, Ritchen girl, and a Chinese cook.

Five people were badly injured in jumping from the windows. There were twenty people in the house at the time, and the wonder is that more did not lose their lives.

Mr. Babcock states that he has not idea how the fire started. He was only partly insured, and the entire contents of the building were destroyed.

Ontario Succession Duties TORONTO, Jan. 4.—The province last year received \$759,000 in succession duties.

Famous Steamer Goes Aground SAULT STE MARIE, Ont., Jan. 4.—
During the high wind that prevailed early Sunday morning, the steamer Minnie M. broke her moorings and drifted down the river, and now lies aground in a dangerous position near the boat club wharf on Topsail island.

Bringing Nitrate The steamer Chatham under charter to W. R. Grace & Co. is at San Fran-cisco from Chilian ports with ore and nitrate, of which she has 3,000 tons to discharge at Seattle and British Columbia ports.

CHICAGO, Jan. 4.-Dr. B. F. Roller the Seattle wrestler, is in a serious condition at the Mercy hospital, threatened with blood poisoning. He underwent an operation today for boils which had become inflamed.

B. F. Roller Seriously III

Ice Ties Up Fraser Traffic. NEW WESTMINSTER, Jan. 4. All the river steamers are tied up at the wharves here today. No vessel can get past Port Haney owing to the ice on the river. Past Port Haney the river is almost completely frozen

and hundreds of skaters are taking advantage of the cold snap.

accidents have been reported. Montreal's Fire Rates MONTREAL, Jan. 4.—The Canadian Fire Underwriters' association has decided to remove the surcharge placed two years ago on Montreal risks, owing to the enlarged pumping capacity and the generally improved conditions. ing to the enlarged pumping capacity and the generally improved conditions. The opinion was expressed at the meeting that the men of the Montreal fire brigade were not in the physical trim required for their arduous duties, and did not give evidence of good and steady drill.

Damages to Passengers

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 4.—Steerage passengers who sued the Northwestern Steamship company for damages because they were compelled to make a voyage from Alaska to Seattle in the steamer Santa Clara amid conditions which they declared to be uncomfortable, were awarded \$300 each, making a total of \$9,900, by the United States circuit court of appeals today.

The voyage complained of occurred in the fall of 1907 when a large number of men were returning from construction work in Southwestern Alaska. The Northwestern Steamship Company has been amalgamated since that time with the Alaska Steamship Company, and the Santa Clara has been sold and its now running between Portland and San Francisco. The case was tried first in Seattle and the company appealed.

SASKATOON, Jan. 4.—Word has reached the city telling of the first death by freezing to take place in this district this winter. It comes from Zealandia, and states that a man named Thomas Russell, a homesteader, was haulnig coal from town in company with a friend. They had gone some distance when the horses gave out, so the men unhitched the wagon and got on the horses' backs. The animals could not make any headway, so Russell's partner went ahead to secure help for his friend. He also lost his way, and it was 3 o'clock in the morning before he reached a the morning before he reached a house, and by the time a rescue party found Russell, he was frozen to death.

It is also said that two other men are lost, but whether they have been located is not known. Travellers from the Goose Lake district state that Friday's storm was one of the worst to take place in that part of the coun-