

TWICE-A-WEEK TIMES

Published Tuesdays and Fridays by THE TIMES PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED, JOHN NELSON, Managing Director.

Offices 26 Broad Street

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
 Timber notices, land and legal, display advertisements, \$2.50 per inch per month.
 Daily, by mail, per annum \$3.00
 Daily, by mail, when not delivered on day of publication \$2.00
 Twice-a-Week Times, per annum \$2.00
 TO UNITED STATES.
 Daily \$3.00
 Twice-a-Week \$2.00
ADVERTISING RATES FOR TWICE-A-WEEK TIMES.
 Condensed advertisements, 1c. a word; minimum charge, 50c.
 Special rates for advertisements carried in both Daily and Twice-a-Week editions.

THE ANNUITIES BILL.

Beyond question the Dominion government is anxious to turn all the resources of the country to the most profitable account for the people of the country. But there is no ground whatever for the assumption that in propounding an old age pension or annuity scheme the administration will be animated by any such desire. There is an inherent disposition in every normally constituted person to make a suitable provision for the day when he can no longer compete with his fellows whose faculties are still fresh and vigorous. To take advantage of this human trait would not be defensible. It would constitute a proper subject for the most effective kind of criticism and we can easily imagine the nature of the attack which would be directed by a vigilant opposition upon any such proposition. We believe we can say with authority it is not the fact that the old age annuities scheme of Sir Richard Cartwright contemplates confiscation of the money paid into the federal treasury by an individual who dies before he is old enough to be entitled to the pension he had in view when he became a contributor to the annuity funds. Our dispatch from Ottawa with reference to the subject introduces this session in regard to old age annuities is about the same as that which Sir Richard Cartwright laid before the Senate last session. The bill in question provides as follows (section 8): "In case of the death of any annuitant before the time at which a government annuity becomes payable to him, all moneys paid by him in consideration of such annuity shall be paid to his heirs or legal representatives, with interest thereon at three per cent. per annum. In such case the provisions of section 7 of this act shall apply to such moneys." Section 7 provides that the property and interest in any annuitant shall be exempt from the operation of any law relating to bankruptcy or insolvency, and shall not be seized or levied upon by or under the process of any court whatever. So that the measure is intended as an extension of the principle and advantages of government savings banks, and if adopted ought to add greatly to the popularity of that most popular of Canadian institutions.

THE PHANTOMS WE PURSUE.

We are again approaching the time of retrospection and introspection—the days are short and the nights long, with Christmas and New Year's drawing near. The short days are not by any means melancholy days in this portion of the world, because the cheerful warmth of a bright fire and the company of the great ones of old who were tempted to commit their thoughts and experiences to paper constitute sufficient compensation for whatever inclemency there may be in the weather. Still we, as a somewhat morbid correspondent reminds us, cannot shut our eyes to the fact that Time is passing, and increasing his pace with every passing year. The ceaseless procession in the direction of a certain quarter of the city constitutes a reminder to every individual in whom the seeds of mortality have been planted and must finally germinate that his time shall come. Still it is peculiar, and possibly a very natural, trait of the human mind, we may remind our melancholy mentor, that it is endowed with the admirable faculty of dismissing, despite periodical reminders, all thoughts of mortality. The thought of the inevitable sits lightly upon the minds of most of us. Possibly there exists a lingering idea, at the root of much which otherwise cannot be logically accounted for, that the firm visitor may never knock at our door at all. Certain philosophers, scientists and investigators have periodically set up theories which have nourished this hope and given it something to feed upon temporarily. But the procession in the direction we have indicated never stops. Thus Professor Charles S. Minot, not the first of his class by any means, writes in the Popular Science Monthly: "In regard to growing old, the matter is very different. There we should, indeed, like to have some principle given to us which would delay the rate of senescence and leave us for a longer period the enjoyment of our mature faculties. I can, as you have readily surmised by what I have said to you, present to you no new rule by which this can be accomplished, but I can venture to suggest to you that in the future deeper insight into these mysterious problems awaits us, and that there may indeed come a time when we can somewhat regulate these matters. If

it be true that the growing old depends upon the increase of the protoplasm, and the proportional diminution of the nucleus, we can perhaps in the future find some means by which the activity of the nucleus can be increased and the younger system of organization thereby prolonged. That is only a dream of the possible future. It would not be safe even to call it a prophecy. But stranger things and more unexpected have happened, and perhaps this will also."

EVIDENCE OF THE WORLD'S PROGRESS.

The cynical editor of London Truth, fresh from victory in another suit for libel, has been indulging in some characteristic jibes at the conditions in modern society. As we all know, these are the days of anniversaries. Anniversaries of all kinds are duly and fittingly celebrated. A comparatively few years ago if any one kept a record of the various events in his or her life, such as the personally important events of birth and marriage days, little was ever said about it publicly. Now all these things are matters of accurate record and of celebrations and jubilees. The ladies, of course, especially of the classes which are not greatly concerned about the death of domestic labor, are quite diligent in marking the milestones in the journey of life and of having everything appertaining thereto duly chronicled in the society columns of the daily papers. Divorce is rapidly becoming the most popular of modern institutions. It is not confined exclusively to the newly-rich society of the United States, either, as we in Canada are altogether too prone to assume. A glance at any of the newspapers of Great Britain furnishes convincing evidence of that fact. The French say this indicates that the English are progressing in the arts of civilization. The divorce habit, however, is affecting to some extent the genius for celebrating anniversaries. Hence something must be done to compensate the "victims" of the habit. Mr. La-bouchere is the first to chronicle the fact that that something has been done. He says the silver separation is a cynical imitation of the silver wedding. A well-known woman recently celebrated her silver separation and her husband (that was) sent her a valuable present "in memory of the many happy days we have lived apart."

There is no question that the world is forging ahead. Unless there shall be a reaction, it will be a most interesting place to live in, say half a century hence. It has always been more or less of a mystery to us why normally constituted people should become patrons of "bookmakers" at race meetings. But it would be useless to close our eyes to the facts. Even in Toronto, staid, sober and ascetic, according to popular report, the "bookies" twice a year do a roaring trade. It may be that after all the chap who is always looking for a "long shot" (whatever that may be) is really the normally-constituted man. At any rate the book-maker flourishes wherever he sets up his stand in all parts of the world. The Toronto people tried lately to have his business declared illegal, and as the subject possesses some interest for us in view of recent discussions about forms of attractions at Victoria's annual fair, the decision of the court to which the matter was referred is important. Whether it is as comprehensive as indicated by the opinion of the Toronto Globe we do not know. That paper says: "You can bet at Woodbine now," says a Vancouver paper of the recent decision of the Court of Appeal. It does not seem to be generally understood that the law in this question is a Dominion statute, and covers Canada, not simply Toronto. Though the decision is one of an Ontario court, the effect is to define the law in all the Provinces.

St. John Sun:—So large a place in so long a span of Canadian history Sir Wilfrid Laurier has filled that the reminder his birthday brings of his comely youthfulness comes as an annual surprise. To-day this man, whom his political opponents are telling us is old, and must soon relinquish his invincible leadership of the Liberal party, is only 66. At that age his former predecessor, Sir John A. Macdonald, had not yet reached the height of his political strength. After he was 66, Sir John held the Premiership of Canada for ten years, and led his party successfully through three elections. He was still Premier when he died, full of honor, at the age of 78. The present Premier of Great Britain is 71 years old. Lord Salisbury held office till he was 72. Gladstone was Premier at 85, Disraeli at 76. To-day Sir Wilfrid is in better health than for many years, and mentally he is as keen and vigorous as at any time in the 38 years of public service, during which his patriotism and statesmanship and personal integrity have raised him step by step in the esteem and affection of the people to the unchallenged position of Canada's greatest son.

A matter of great international importance has arisen in Great Britain. It concerns the nationality of "Tommy Burns," who will shortly engage in a duel under many artful names with "Gunner Moir." Mr. Burns protests that, being a Canadian born, he is just as loyal a subject as any Canadian fighter. Mr. Burns of Canada fought Mr. Squires of Australia in San Francisco as an American. But probably

FRUIT GROWERS IN CONVENTION

MEETING IS BEING HELD HERE TO-DAY

Large Gathering of Horticulturists Are in Attendance Discussing Question of Co-operation

There was a large gathering of fruit growers out this afternoon to meet the officials of the B. C. Fruit and Produce Exchange. The meeting was held in the Maple committee room in the Parliament building, with A. E. Geis, president of the Victoria Fruit Growers' Association, in the chair.

Although the meeting was called for 1:30, it did not commence business till 2 o'clock. The gathering was representative of the district and there were also present J. A. Anderson, deputy minister of agriculture; W. J. Brundith and Mr. Johnson of Nelson.

F. Somers was appointed secretary in the absence of Capt. Elliston, secretary of the association. J. A. Anderson opened with an address on co-operation. He hoped this meeting would decide to do something toward forming a co-operative association. Only this morning he had a letter from Enderby saying that the association at Armstrong was not doing its work properly. Numbers of other complaints had been received with more or less truth in them. He then read a paper telling of the work done in packing and grading in the Colorado packing station by W. Padlock.

Mr. Anderson's paper was received with applause. Mr. Johnson then told of what he had seen when visiting different parts of the province.

BACK FROM SURVEY.

J. H. Gray Has Returned From the Northern Part of the Province.

(From Monday's Daily.)
 J. H. Gray, C. E., returned yesterday from an extended professional engagement in the North.

Mr. Gray has been employed all summer in the Bulkley valley and the territories in and about the upper reaches of the Skeena river. He was occupied chiefly in correcting maps made by the provincial government in past years, the prospective construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific having been a factor in that work. He has accurately delimited the Bulkley valley all last summer in connection with the same work.

BURNS IS STILL WORLD'S CHAMPION

London, Dec. 2.—Before the National Sporting Club to-day, Tommy Burns, Canada, knocked out Gunner Moir, England, in the tenth round of a twenty-round contest.

NOT DISCOURAGED.

Mikkelsen and Leffingwell Will Make Another Search for Land.

Writing from Flaxman Island, August 20th, Ernest Leffingwell, who accompanied Capt. E. Mikkelsen on his search for land in Beaufort Sea, says that the leader of the Anglo-American polar expedition has not given up all hope of accomplishing his object.

Referring to the trip made by Capt. Mikkelsen and himself in the spring, Leffingwell says that they followed the continental ledge for fifty miles out from the land, but there lost it, soundings showing nearly 300 fathoms. The writer, however, expresses the belief that the ledge runs more to eastward, and states that Capt. Mikkelsen will make another attempt next summer. Leffingwell says that he will spend the time surveying the coast line. Capt. Mikkelsen will probably go eastward, and in some work in Canadian territory to repay the government for the funds advanced to him.

Capt. Otto Buckholz was the recipient of the letter when the writer says that the captain will not be called upon to fit out a relief expedition as arranged for in case of necessity.

Speaking of the loss of the schooner Duchess of Bedford, Leffingwell says that the vessel was a comfortable one and very satisfactory in every way. The fact that she was not sheathed, however, was the cause of her loss, and the breaking up of the ice pulled the oakum out of her sides and made her hopelessly leaky. At the time when Leffingwell's letter was written he and Mikkelsen were in a comfortable hut on shore made from the wreckage of the schooner.

THE POLICE COURT.

The Dallas Case Adjourned—Another Case Settled Out of Court.

(From Monday's Daily.)
 In the police court this morning the case against the Dallas hotel for supplying liquor on a Sunday was adjourned until Wednesday morning, as the proprietor, J. Patterson, was unable to attend through ill-health.

A boy of 15, George Smith, came up for assaulting a smaller lad of about eight, named Stanley Featherstone. The case was adjourned until to-morrow morning.

The case of door breaking at the Royal Arm hotel was settled out of court.

EMPRESS FOG BOUND.

Montreal, Dec. 2.—R. M. S. Empress of Britain, which sailed from Liverpool at 7 p. m. on Friday, was detained in the Mersey thirty-three hours by fog, and left at 4 a. m. this day.

CIGARETTES IN CANADA.

Ottawa, Dec. 2.—Representatives of the Anti-Cigarette Association and W. C. T. U. will wait on Sir Wilfrid Laurier to-morrow to try and get an assurance that the sale of cigarettes will be stopped in Canada.

Gifts in Profusion For Everyone

BEGIN YOUR CHRISTMAS BUYING NOW— ONLY 19 MORE SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

THE SANDS OF TIME are quickly flying, and before you know where you are, the great day will be upon you. Therefore, we advise early buying. The advantage for early shoppers is unlimited at the Big Store. Stocks for the Holiday Season were never so complete as they are now, and early buyers will find that anything they wish suitable for Christmas Gifts can be had.

There Is Not a Moment to Lose

It matters not what Department you enter of this Store, you will find the right note has been struck for Christmas shopping, and every purchase you make from any one of our Departments will make you eager to purchase another.

Every Market of Importance

From whence suitable Christmas Gifts come has been searched with the greatest of care, with a view of procuring for our Customers the best obtainable at prices to suit all purses, which backs up our statement that

Not an Article in Our Store Should Be Overlooked

THE STATIONERY DEPARTMENT is a most interesting one these days. A Full Line of Beautiful Christmas Calendars will be found there.

Make it a point of watching our windows daily.

David Spencer LIMITED

And above all, read our daily announcements.



Gifts in Profusion For Everyone

BEGIN YOUR CHRISTMAS BUYING NOW— ONLY 19 MORE SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

THE SANDS OF TIME are quickly flying, and before you know where you are, the great day will be upon you. Therefore, we advise early buying. The advantage for early shoppers is unlimited at the Big Store. Stocks for the Holiday Season were never so complete as they are now, and early buyers will find that anything they wish suitable for Christmas Gifts can be had.

There Is Not a Moment to Lose

It matters not what Department you enter of this Store, you will find the right note has been struck for Christmas shopping, and every purchase you make from any one of our Departments will make you eager to purchase another.

Every Market of Importance

From whence suitable Christmas Gifts come has been searched with the greatest of care, with a view of procuring for our Customers the best obtainable at prices to suit all purses, which backs up our statement that

Not an Article in Our Store Should Be Overlooked

THE STATIONERY DEPARTMENT is a most interesting one these days. A Full Line of Beautiful Christmas Calendars will be found there.

Make it a point of watching our windows daily.

David Spencer LIMITED

And above all, read our daily announcements.

OPPOSITION BASED ON PREJUDICE

Baron Ishii Returns to Tokio After Investigating Immigration Question in Canada.

Tokio, Nov. 30.—Baron Ishii, chief of the bureau of commerce of the Japanese foreign office, who visited the United States and Canada for the purpose of investigating the immigration problem, arrived in Tokio to-day and conferred with the officials of the foreign office, with whom he engaged in a thorough canvass of the situation for the coming week.

"My visit to the United States and Canada convinced me that the opposition to Japanese is based partly on prejudice, though a considerable amount of it is due to labor troubles. While it is proper for the Japanese to conserve the interests of their countrymen now residing abroad, many of whom are prospering and living peacefully in America, in my opinion it will be necessary in order to keep absolute faith with the United States to prevent the emigration of laborers there altogether, because an exclusion act would be disagreeable. We should send laborers to Canada in great moderation."

"Thos. F. Nivn, secretary of the Otis Elevator Co. of Toronto, is registered at the Strand hotel. Mr. Nivn is making his annual inspection of the company's business in British Columbia.

MONASTERY BURNED TO GROUND

Priest Loses His Life in \$200,000 Fire Which Destroyed Three Structures.

Covington, La., Nov. 30.—One life is known to have been lost, and over \$200,000 worth of property was destroyed in a fire near here to-day, when St. Joseph's academy, St. Joseph's monastery and St. Joseph's Catholic church were burned. All of these institutions occupied a lot together near Covington.

When the ruins were searched this afternoon the charred body of the Rev. Joseph Buck, who was attached to the academy, was found. A fireman who was thought at first to have lost his life, has since been located.

The fire, which started in the dormitory of St. Joseph's academy, was caused by a radiator becoming too hot. There were 110 students in the academy when the alarm was sounded, and many of them had narrow escapes, but Rev. Father Buck is believed to have been the only one to lose his life. The buildings were all practically new. Father Buck's library, containing over 8,000 valuable works, and that of the students, with 1,000 volumes, were destroyed.

CIVIC NOMINATIONS.

Mayor Keary Re-elected by Acclamation in New Westminster.

New Westminster, B. C., Dec. 2.—Civic nominations to-day are as follows: For mayor, W. H. Keary was re-elected by acclamation; for school trustee, P. Peabie, T. J. Trapp and Thos. Turnbull.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RANGERS.

Reported That Scattered Companies Will Be Formed Into Battalion.

Considerable of a change will take place in the Rocky Mountain Rangers at the beginning of the coming year, says the Bossland Miner. There are now five scattered companies, but these are to be formed into a single company of six companies, two of which will be stationed at Nelson.

Capt. J. H. Holmes, of Kaslo, the present senior captain, will become lieutenant colonel, Capt. Lorne Stewart, of Nelson, next in order of seniority, will be major. The second Nelson company was organized at Nelson recently and is under command of Lieutenants Carrie and Partington, who will shortly receive their commissions.

MARRIED.

WALKER-MAYNARD.—In St. John's church, by the Rev. A. J. Stanley, on the 27th of Nov., 1907, Duncan Irvine Walker, eldest son of Rev. A. H. Walker, to Miss Katherine Adelaide Maynard, daughter of Mr. A. H. Maynard, all of Victoria, B. C.

DIED.

KEITH.—In this city, on the 25th inst., at Jubilee hospital, Julia Keith, widow of the late Matthew Keith, aged 7 years and 6 months, a native of Victoria, B. C.

HOLMES.—At Homesdale, Duncan, B. C., on the 25th inst., Philip Holmes, youngest son of Rev. David and Susan A. Holmes, aged 23 years.

McDONNELL.—In this city, on the 24th, at St. Joseph's hospital, Ronald John McDonnell, second son of R. J. McDonnell, aged 2 years, a native of Victoria, B. C.

Tea Satisfies

TO GET ENJOYABLE

NEVER FAILS TO PLEASE

LEAD PACK

LOCAL NEWS

(From Saturday's Daily.)
 —The annual target practice at Work Point barracks on the 1st of the fort will probably be commenced about a week's time.

—The death occurred at Curran, C. on Wednesday of Vera, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Wilson, of this city.

—To-morrow being the birth of Queen Alexandra a royal salute will be fired at Work Point Monday morning, and the Royal Guard will be hoisted.

—The Shawigan Lyric Club, an interesting concert at Coburn Tuesday evening in aid of the purchase of furniture for the public hall. A farce, "A Real Life" was well received. Miss O'Neal sang very acceptably.

—Joe Kilpaw, was this brought before the police court smashing a door in the Royal hotel. He was remanded until day. There were also six drunk were given the usual fine. Late the city lock-up was full, the twenty-one men incarcerated. Six were in for lodging.

—The funeral of the late C. Cole, relict of George Cole, took place this morning from the parlour of R. C. Funeral Furnishing Co. Government street at 8:45 and minutes later at the Roman Catholic cathedral, where requiem high mass was said for the repose of the Interment took place at R.

—During the month of November Chinese have paid the \$500 in the total revenue from this amounting to \$33,500. In addition this \$335 was received for the revenue in connection with the sale of Chinese. The receipts for the month were as follows: Duties, \$3,815; Chinese revenue, \$32,815; other duties, \$475; total \$132,331.00.

—During the present month there has been considerable activity in the circles. A large number of have been commenced and are under construction. The total is 43, which for this time of simply phenomenal. The total value of the buildings is estimated somewhere about \$178,000, the will probably be more than the values are never over-when applications are made building inspectors.

—A delightful skating party given Friday evening from the Assembly roller rink by Mr. McRae, in honor of her Kathryn. Forty young people following private schools were women's academy, St. Ann's Collegiate, Corriar and University pleasant feature of the evening grand march, at the close of which refreshments were served and the ing of bon-bons afforded much merriment.

—The following programme given at the weekly secret of held at the Jubilee hospital row afternoon at 8:45 o'clock: solo, selected, Arthur Longfield; "Meditation," "Ground Greenhallow; vocal solo, "O Dear," Gounod, vocal solo, "Mrs. Moreby; cornet solo, "The Last Post," Mrs. D. D. solo, selected, Godfrey; solo, "My Redeemer and Lord," Mrs. Buck, Mrs. Gregson, Acco Arthur Longfield.

—Last evening the semi-annual of officers of Far West 1, Knights of Pythias, took place at the 25th inst. The following were elected: Commander, W. C. Pettigrew; chancery, A. W. Enouf; pro J. C. Coker; master of works, net; keeper of records and Webster; master of finance, Smith; master of exchequer, Redgrave; master at arms, H. der; inner guard, C. B. Sheppard; guard, J. W. Elliot.

—Work on the railroad, now construction, between Kitimat and Copper City, as has been reported, is progressing well. 100 men will be added to the engaged, in the near future. Completion of the wagon road, assist the railway construction between Kitimat and Kettle, a distance of 45 miles. I toward the spring the working will be further increased. Stewart, contractor, who is doing work, is registered at the Driad hotel.

—Statistics for the past month that during the month just following cases have come up police court: Drunk and disorderly, 1; driving without lights or using on the sidewalks, 8; stealing, 6; injury to property, 3; of the Liquor Traffic Regulation Act, 2; vagrancy, 2; possession by Indians, 1; infra Militia Regulation Act, 1; infra Provincial Revenue Tax Act, slides there were 75 locks safe keeping many who were in for a night's lodging and being destitute.

Fountain Pens
 An ideal Christmas present that will be appreciated by any one. You will find only the highest grades in our assortment in plain folder and mounted in Gold, Silver and Mother of Pearl. Prices from \$2.50 to \$15.
 Further gift hints on other pages.
THE J. M. WHITNEY CO. JEWELLERS
 1005 GOVERNMENT ST.