THE CLALLAM INVESTIGATION.

Chief Engineer DeLaunay of the steamer Clallam may not have been a fit and proper person to place in charge of an engine room, his personal equipment may have been perfectly in harmony with the appointments of the ship in which he sailed, and in which precious human lives were daily risked, but he was well enough endowed to perceive the drift of the "inquiry" instituted by the United States Inspectors and to divine what their judgment would be. DeLaunay has been made a scapegoat. He is deprived of the privilege of earning a livelihood at his business. He devoted years of his life to the acquirement of the knowledge and experience he made such indifferent use of in the supreme crisis of his career, according to the judgment of the inspectors. His superior officer, the man who was in supreme control, the one who, next to the inspectors, should have seen to it that the vessel was in condition to make a trip without difficulty in such conditions as are frequently encountered in our sheltered waters, gets off with suspension for a period of one year. It must indeed strike the obtuse mind of a mere landsman that there has been an injustice inflicted as well as a failure of justice in this case. DeLaunay may have displayed indifferent judgment in his management of his department. He may have proved his incompetence by his failure not only to get the work out of his pumps that they were held by experts, after the event, to be capable of doing, but to get them to perform at all. He may have given further proof of his incapacity by neglect to insist upon repairs being made to the damaged deadlight at the proper time, and by the bungling manner in which he mended that fatal light when the consequences of his carelessness were being experienced. He may even have left the seacocks open as was insinuated in the effort to justify the contemplated sacrifice. All the allegations made by the creatures of the court which was palpably bound to clear itself completely, and shield the captain, its protege, as far as possible from responsibility for a tragedy which would not have occurred if the rules and regulations governing navigation had been strictly observed, and which would have been shorn of its most appalling features if ordinary seamanship had been displayed and strict regard for human life had been the first and supreme consideration when the serious condition in the engine room was discovered—all the facts in regard to the mismanagement of DeLaunay may have been established, and yet the independent public will be apt to hold that an injustice has been done. No one who has read of the manner in which the Clallam was handled after she lost steerage way, of the precipitation with which helpless women and children, overcome by the horror of the situation in which they found themselves, were bundled over the side of the laboring ship into ill-found and worse manned boats, of the manner in which they were practically pitched into the seething waters and left there to their doom—no one who has dwelt upon this subject and speculated upon the fact that the helpless hulk kept afloat for hours after the first act in the tragedy, and upon the further fact that Captain Roberts seemed determined to save his ship regardless of the consequences; we say no one who has considered these facts will agree with the decision of the Seattle Court of Inquiry nor commend the division of responsibility and punishment.

At the same time it is but fair to point out that the practical exoneration of Captain Roberts by the judgment of the court will be immensely popular with seagoing men. The captain is an old-timer on this coast. Every seafarer who has been associated with him in any capacity will swear that the man is incapable of doing a mean thing, not to say of wilfully endangering the lives of scores of his fellow-creatures. All granted. But the best intentioned, the kindest-hearted, the noblest of characters, sometimes falls short of the ideal in a crisis. There are the facts in black and white. And not all the facts. The full truth has not been told. For their own sakes the inspectors endeavored to prevent a complete revelation. There were dozens of ships doing business within the official jurisdiction of the same men which were not equipped in accordance with the provisions of a not too stringent law. The case of the Clallam caused inquiries and the imposition of heavy fines, as our dispatches of yesterday set forth.

The truth of the matter is that the official inquiry into the loss of the Clallam was a farce. It was not held for the purpose of laying bare, but for the purpose of covering up. The judgment is not a surprise to the public. It would have been a surprise if it had been other than it is.

The Sound newspapers are not pleased with the decision of the court which inquired into the causes of the Clallam disaster. They demand that the matter shall be taken up by the grand jury. They might as well conserve their agitating energies. The powers arrayed against them are stronger than those with them. The real criminals will never be punished by the courts of the United States.

POLICE COMMISSIONERS.

Have readers of the Times ever given consideration to the essential difference in disposition between a Grit and a Tory? The Grit loves power and office. We might as well be frank and admit that, it is so obvious. And he clings to it when he gets it. That is apparent, and it will become more apparent as the years go by, although for purely local reasons we may lose a seat occasionally, as we did St. John yesterday. But the essential difference we are alluding to lies in the fact that the Grit wants to be paid for what he does, whereas the Tory rather than be out of office will give his services free.

Take the case of the police commissioners of the city of Victoria. They serve without emoluments, the office is "purely" an honorary one. Yet there are so many aspiring Tory politicians after the job that the McBride government does not know what to do to appease those who will be disappointed if any appointment be made. The strain has become so great upon the members of the government that even the genial Premier is beginning to look worried. He jollied half the members of the legislature into a state of political quiescence by telling them that they would be given an extra sessional indemnity, with travelling expenses added, this year, but the Tories out of a job in Victoria are not so easily handled. It is not a matter in which oratory cuts any figure; the brigade cannot be put off with high-sounding speeches. Consequently Mr. McPhillips, the dispenser of patronage, is helpless. We cannot make any suggestion that will relieve the situation. All we can do is to point out that if the men who are pining for a job be not set to work they may get into mischief. Besides the interests of Victoria, although we are almost unanimous in opposition to the government here, should be worthy of some consideration. The city council is considering the estimates for the year. It may be necessary to do something for the police after the various annual reports are considered. We think the government should defy the lightning and make the appointments. Let it fulfil the letter of the law; its spirit will be violated in any event by its un-salaried emissaries.

THE BYE-ELECTIONS.

At last the Conservative party has reason to rejoice. That is to say, it thinks it has reason to be glad. It has won a constituency from the Dominion government. St. John, which Mr. Blair as a cabinet minister won from Mr. Foster at the general elections in 1900, has gone over to the opposition. It apparently does not occur to the Conservative party that the strength of the opposition in St. John may be its weakness in other places. The constituency is a notoriously fickle one. In the present case the personnel of the candidates may have had something to do with the result. Personality is usually an important factor in political contests. But there can be no doubt that the Grand Trunk Pacific matter was the real factor in the fight. The terminus of the new transcontinental railway has been fixed at Moncton, N. B. The people of St. John think it should be at St. John, N. B. They are displeased with the proposal to fix it at Moncton, as they have a perfect right to be. They think Nova Scotia cities will be given an advantage under this arrangement. No doubt they are mistaken. The construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific will give a stronger and a fuller life to all sections of the country. But a government which fearlessly performs its duty is bound to stir up such trifling local resentments. And ground lost in one place by reason of such narrow views is gained, with interest, in other sections.

The results of the bye-elections on the whole indicate that the government has lost none of its strength. Its majority of between fifty-five and sixty in the House of Commons is fairly representative of the feeling of the country. Quebec, which the new lieutenant of the Conservative leader, Mr. Tarte, boasted he would wrest from Laurier, is as staunchly Liberal as ever. So popular is Liberalism in that province that the problem before the Liberal party is to restrict candidates to the number of members to be elected. In spite of the alleged strength of Tarte, multiplicity of aspirants for political honors did not cost the government a seat in Quebec.

THE GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC.

Newspapers which oppose the Laurier government appear rather pleased at being able to announce that the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme has failed because the terms imposed upon the company were too stringent or severe. The Colonist says the money subsidy counts for a good deal, but the project cannot be carried through without a land grant. This is quite a different story from that told by the Conservative press when the measure was before Parliament. Then the proposal was referred to as a gigantic steal. The government was to collect a tremendous boodle fund with which to carry the country at the next general election. Cox was hungry and could not wait. It was not the convenience of the farmers of the Northwest nor the welfare of British Columbia that was being considered at all, but the future of the Liberal party and the bank book of Senator Cox.

It would have been useless to suggest then what the bye-elections being held to-day will prove, that the future of the Liberal party is rosy; that the government is strong and could carry the country without the assistance of Cox, who has never been a prominent political figure; that it would have been quite safe for Sir Wilfrid Laurier to have appealed to the people without such a string to his strong bow as the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway; and therefore that the work was projected for the simple reason that the time had arrived for a great step forward in the development of the country, that it was necessary to commence the exploitation of another great belt in the East and in the West, for the opening up of a new Canada, and at the same time to assist the settlers who had already taken up land in the fertile prairies in the marketing of their ever-increasing crops of wheat and other products. Now we are told that instead of the government filling the pockets of Cox and the treasury of the party that it has made such a hard bargain on behalf of the country that the Grand Trunk Pacific people find themselves unable to raise funds to carry out their contract. If the Grand Trunk fails to live up to the agreement, the work will be undertaken just the same. We have the assurance of all the ministers that, having put their hands to the plough, they are determined not to turn back. Opinion in Canada is strongly in favor of the construction of the road, and whether as a public undertaking or as a private work the northern parts of Canada from East to West will soon be pierced by a great colonization or development road.

GOVERNMENT AND GAME PROTECTION.

We are pleased to note that the Colonist is at last awake to the necessity and importance of the preservation of the wild game of British Columbia. It is unfortunate our contemporary did not speak out when spoken words would have had some effect. Its most eloquent pleadings must have been without result as far as moving the government was concerned, because Mr. McBride's bargain with the leader of the Socialists did not include within its terms support for other measures than the two financial bills which, it is presumed, will impose extra burdens upon all classes of the community save the Socialists. But as Mr. Hawthornthwaite as the master of the administration and the dictator of the House was so magnanimous as to become sponsor for a bill for the protection of game which was in no urgent need of special guardianship at the time, he might have been induced, upon the same terms, to let the light of his approval shine upon a measure drawn up for the preservation of the various varieties of grouse. However, it is useless to lament neglected opportunities. We hope the government will be guided by the advice of the Colonist, which speaks as a friend, and will come down next session with a comprehensive measure for the protection of game. Hon. Charles Wilson did enough tinkering during the late session, we feel sure, to create all the confusion his legal heart could desire. Perhaps it will be possible to persuade this grandmotherly politician and his bumptious man Friday, commonly called Bowser, to stand aside and permit business which really matters to be transacted.

The Times has repeatedly drawn attention to the necessity for the protection of game animals, game birds and game fishes, because we are convinced that if the matter were not of importance the hundreds of thousands of dollars being spent in Eastern Canada and in Eastern American states for the restoration of that which was lost through such indifference as now officially prevails in British Columbia would be diverted to some other purpose. The men who are devoting their time and their energies to the task of rousing officialdom to a realization of its duty are not dominated by selfish motives. They are thinking of the future of the province and of those who in the course of nature shall succeed them in this paradise of the Nimrod. They will be pleased to observe that at last their pleadings have attracted the attention of the Colonist, which has promised its support to any measure that may be brought down in the future for the purpose of carrying out the objects they desire.

SENATOR HANNA, POLITICIAN, ETC.

President Roosevelt lost a strong ally, possibly a strong opponent, when Hon. Marcus A. Hanna departed this life. It has been whispered of late that Mr. Hanna felt disposed to take the field as a presidential candidate himself. We have our doubts about that. The great Republican boss, the man who handled the million dollar campaign fund which was at the disposal of the friends of the late President McKinley, was too shrewd to go up against what was evidently a "losing proposition." Mr. Hanna, had he lived, despite the rumors of his disagreements with President Roosevelt, would probably have been found in the forefront of the battle which will be fought this year, and which seems to be a sure thing for the Republican nominee, whoever he may be.

Mr. Hanna is generally credited with having a strong affection for the trusts. That may be a Hearst fable, circulated for the purpose of strengthening the cause of the candidate of the Hearst newspapers for the Democratic nomination and for the presidency. The dead Senator, like most of us, was a creature of circumstances. The circumstances worked together for the good of Mr. Hanna, which is not the habit of the average circumstances attending the life of the average man. But Mr. Hanna did exactly what each one of us would do had he the abilities and the opportunities of the late Senator from Ohio. He applied his talents so shrewdly and so successfully that in business and in politics he achieved a world-wide reputation. He died a millionaire, we suppose, because in these plutocratic days only millionaires can afford to become political bosses in the national sense of the word boss. In the municipality of New York it is different. There the politician first becomes a boss, afterwards a millionaire. But he always remains merely a municipal boss.

We do not know that the name of Mr. Hanna will endure for any great length of time in his own country. He was just an ordinary man in all respects except in his capacity for business and political organization. None of such a class ever achieves fame in the United States unless he attains to the presidency and is made immortal by an assassin's bullet.

BRITAIN-UNITED STATES-CANADA.

It is rather trying to the nerves to read reports of some of the speeches delivered in the Imperial House of Commons. We speak, let it be understood, from the point of view of a mere colonial, who cuts but a pitiful figure in the great horizon in which the sun of British Imperialism moves. Possibly we are a trifle over-sensitive in regard to the preference granted by Canada. Perhaps we attach too much importance to that slight evidence of a desire to promote the solidarity of the British Empire. It may be that the fact that all the other self-governing colonies of importance have followed Canada's example has led us to expect recognition in words, if not in acts, of the action of the colonies. It is somewhat exasperating to find that the course of the colonies is regarded in some quarters with irritation—that we are sneered at and practically told that we are causing embarrassment in threatening to upset arrangements which have been established for years, and the fitness of which, from the Imperial view point, had never been questioned until we burst in with our disturbing preference.

If Sir Michael Hicks-Beach can be accepted as expressing the sentiments of the majority of the British people, as we know he voices the opinions of the leaders of the Liberal party, it may be necessary for Canada and for all the colonies which have followed the example of the Dominion, to reconsider the preference with the view of removing it and its embarrassments from the path of broad-minded Britons. The late Chancellor of the Exchequer explained to the House of Commons that the colonial preference was embarrassing because it put "grave imitations upon our bargaining powers. For example, if a two shilling duty were imposed upon American corn we would be obliged to refuse an offer of the Americans to reduce the duties on our goods if the two shilling duty were removed, because we were pledged to Canada. American trade might be infinitely more valuable than anything Canada could give, and bitter feelings would be aroused which would not tend to the unity of the Empire." It would be a great pity if Canada were to stand in the way of Great Britain securing preferential treatment in the markets of the United States. Such a possibility is so extremely remote, such a departure from the established policy of the United States would be so extraordinary, that we feel assured Canadians would never forgive themselves if any ill-considered action of theirs should stand in the way of improved trade relations between the two most important branches of the great "Anglo-Saxon" race. We need have no misgivings upon the point of abolishing the preference, because we are assured by the same authority that "Canada's preference of 33 1-3 per cent. had not benefited Britain. Since that preference was established Canada's trade with the United States and Germany had increased faster than her trade with Britain." Why not take the advice of the Saturday Review and get rid of a colony which persists in thrusting its unwelcome attentions upon a deprecatory Mother Country? Perhaps Mr. Hicks-Beach has been sent forth as the prophet of the whole coterie of Little Englanders, as represented by Campbell-Bannerman and the "Liberal" organs, to tell us again that the international boundary line is an anomaly and absurdity, and that we would give the first evidence that we possessed common sense if we were to peacefully annex ourselves to the great republic which is pining to secure more liberal trade relations with Great Britain. Nevertheless Canadians flatter themselves that they understand their neighbors, and we know, and every statesman outside of the narrow British realm knows, that the United States will never relax her present economic laws as they affect Great Britain while there is a free market over there for such a surplus as she can produce.

We are pleased to see that the City Council by its action on Monday has established the principle that water used for the purpose of beautifying and adding to the attractions of the city is not wasted. This principle, we hold, applies equally to private gardens and to public squares. It is an accepted axiom in all cities whose residents pride themselves upon the floral beauties of their possessions. The homes of Toronto are noted in all parts of this continent for the attractiveness of their surroundings. The care lavished upon them by residents has converted a city whose surroundings are comparatively commonplace into one of the most delightful resorts in America. At the present time the water supply of Toronto is inadequate. The city has grown beyond the capacity of the water works. The water has all to be pumped from Lake Ontario. On account of the severity of the winter there has been imminent danger of a water famine. The residents persist in permitting the water to run to prevent the pipes from bursting. Yet there has been no suggestion of the installation of meters to prevent waste in summer or in winter. It is conceded that the attractions of the city have been created by an abundant use of water, and it has been suggested that three million dollars shall be spent to supply the residents with water more abundantly. There is no doubt that the suggestion will be adopted.

* * *

The preliminary round in the great mill between Japan and Russia has been fought. On the whole it was in favor of the aggressive heathen. He landed on his holy antagonist with the abandon and vim of a barbarian filled to the brim with vigorous animal life. They are preparing for the second go now. It will be fiercer and bloodier than the first. The bear realizes that the affair is going to be more serious than he anticipated, and he will take no unnecessary chances. He is an old hand at the game and understands all the moves. The heathen does not under-estimate the magnitude of the undertaking to which he has set his hand. But he has been rendered confident by the results of the first go. He has felt the strength of his opponent and he is sure that he has a counter up his sleeve for every movement Russian generals may develop.

* * *

The Canadian Gazette, published in London (Eng.), says: A vote of censure was solemnly passed recently by a Canadian ecclesiastical assembly on Lord Minto for using the railway on Sunday. Such a course would probably not be paralleled now even in Sabbatarian Scotland, though Lord Minto may perhaps find some consolation in Queen Victoria's experience of the sensitiveness of her Scotch subjects. As the Daily Chronicle points out, her Majesty wished, one Sunday afternoon, to be rowed across to the other side of the loch, but was flatly informed by the hotelkeeper that the key of the boathouse was in his pocket, and would remain there until Monday morning. The Queen smiled and submitted. Doubtless Lord Minto smiled also.

* * *

Conservative newspapers in the East showed the sincerity of their appeals for "adequate protection" by protesting because the price of printing paper was kept up to the highest figure possible with the duty added. In response to their demands the tariff was reduced. La Patrie, of Montreal, the personal organ of the latest recruit to the Tory party, Mr. Tarte, was the loudest in its demands for relief. They are all in favor of protection in the abstract. When it becomes a personal matter they are free traders.

* * *

Hon. Geo. E. Foster was never known to be in a very amiable humor. His temper is of the irascible character. We pity the poor Tory wight who approaches him to-day. Mr. Foster has a tongue. He might have been elected in St. John if he had had the courage to stand up to it. And he does pine so for a seat in Parliament!

* * *

The Ottawa correspondent of the Colonist telegraphs: "The government has instructed Consul Nosse to come to Ottawa to ascertain what reason the Dominion government has to give for its inactivity regarding the anti-Japanese legislation of British Columbia." If the correspondent were more of a news gatherer and less of a Conservative partizan the readers of the Colonist could place more dependence upon his dispatches. The Ottawa government cannot "instruct" Consul Nesse to do anything, nor is it necessary that it should explain to that able representative of Japan why the absurd anti-Japanese legislation of British Columbia has not yet been disallowed.

CONVENTION NEWS.

Preparations Progressing For the Meeting of the Provincial Mining Association in This City.

The convention of the Provincial Mining Association, which will open on Monday next, promises to be well attended. Last year's convention was a surprise to every one, exceeding anything expected. Many of those connected with the organization state that this year's convention will excel the first one.

Various bodies in the city of Victoria, including the city council, the Tourist Association and the board of trade, will co-operate in arranging for a hearty welcome to the city of the delegates to the meeting.

The executive of the Provincial Association is meeting in Vancouver at the present time. When the work is completed there President J. Keen and the other officers will come over to Victoria to make the final arrangements for the opening of the convention.

The local branch has met with signal success in its canvass for funds. The executive of the branch will meet this evening at 8.30 in J. Kingham's office to transact some business in connection with the meeting.

J. Kingham, the hon. treasurer, acknowledges the following subscriptions in addition to those previously mentioned:

J. R. Hobson	$50 00
Victoria Hotel, E. E. Leeson	10 00
Times Printing & Publishing Co.	5 00
Rowland Machin	5 00
J. A. Sayward	5 00
W. T. Oliver, Bank of B. N. A.	5 00
Joshua Kingham	5 00
Hotel Davles and Poodle Dog	5 00
H. E. Newton	5 00
Mowat & Wallace	2 50
R. Mowat	2 50
Hall & Co., druggists	2 50
W. J. Hanna	2 50
F. Carne, jr.	2 50
Watson & Hall	2 50
R. Williams & Co.	2 50
John Barnsley & Co.	2 50
Thos. Shotbolt	2 50
W. G. Cameron, M. P. P.	2 50
Geo. Snider	2 50
Tolmie & Stewart	2 00
Hardress Clarke	1 00
W. M. Dean	1 00
Clermont Livingston	1 00
J. S. Harvey	1 00
A. S. Emery	1 00
Hon. R. Dewdney	1 00

DEATH OF A. ROBINSON.

A Well Known Farmer of Somenos Died Suddenly Wednesday.

The death of Arthur Robinson, of Somenos, occurred yesterday. On Thursday Mr. Robinson cut his leg above the knee. The wound was not considered dangerous and it was anticipated that he would be about again in a few days. His death was the result of heart trouble.

The deceased was highly respected and honored in the community, where he had lived for many years. He had for a long time given a great deal of attention to strawberry culture. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias.

A widow and a number of sons and daughters survive him. One of his daughters lives in Victoria.

The funeral will take place to-morrow from the Church of England, Somenos, at 2 p.m.

TONSILITIS IS GOING AROUND

And everybody is wondering what to do. Here is a simple cure. Use a gargle of Nerviline and water as recommended in the directions, and rub your throat and chest vigorously with Nerviline. This has been tested and proved successful a thousand times. Nerviline is a specific for tonsilitis, and in fact we know of nothing half so good for breaking up colds, curing tight chest and all muscular pains. Try a bottle of Nerviline; price 25c.

A FAVOR.

Toronto Star.

If Japan wants to confer a favor on its ally it will keep Russia busily occupied in the Far East until Great Britain has had a chance to get a firm hold on Thibet.

MARRIAGE BY LOTTERY.

Strange Customs of Race of Troglodytes in Lake Chad District.

Interesting news has been received of the Chevalier expedition in the Lake Chad district, according to a Paris dispatch.

In the region to the south of Dikakire the expedition found a race of troglodytes, none of whom was over 4½ feet in height. They appeared fairly intelligent, and lived principally on the animals they caught on their hunting expeditions, bringing down their quarry with bows and arrows.

Their marriage ceremonies are simple, the males on reaching the age of sixteen drawing lots for the females of the same age.

BIG BLAZE AT BERLIN.

Damage Estimated at $175,000—Many People Thrown Out of Employment.

Berlin, Ont. Feb. 16.—One of the most disastrous conflagrations in Berlin's history occurred this evening, when a large four-story building of the Berlin Felt Boot Company, the largest of the kind in the Dominion, was burned to the ground. The fire was discovered in the spinning and carding room on the first floor about 6.45, and no time was lost in getting the fire brigade out, but owing to the severity of the weather and low pressure and a strong wind, very little could be done to save the structure. The fire raged for over two hours and a half, and is still burning. The Waterloo fire brigade arrived about 8 o'clock to render assistance. Pieces of the burning embers were carried for a mile. The fire was quite visible at the distance of six miles north. The origin of the fire is not yet known. The loss is estimated by George Rumpel, one of the proprietors, at $75,000; insurance between $40,000 and $50,000. The industry employed about 200 hands and was established thirty years ago, and was known from Victoria to Halifax.

Identified.

Brandon, Feb. 16.—The man found frozen to death on the prairie yesterday has been identified as William Allen, of Souris. It is supposed that he came from Souris with the hockey team last Friday, as there was a return ticket from Souris on his person. The body is awaiting the arrival of friends.

Farmer Killed.

Huntsville, Ont., Feb. 16—Jesse Dean, farmer, of the township of Chaffey, and a hired boy while going through the cattle shed when the roof fell in owing to the weight of snow on it, and both were buried. Dean was taken out dead, but the boy escaped unhurt.

Deporting Chinese.

Montreal, Feb. 16.—Eighty-one Chinamen who have passed the last three months in the immigration quarters of the C. P. R. station awaiting the decision of the courts regarding their destination, left here this morning for Vancouver, the courts having decided that, as the Chinamen were originally destined, according to the manifest, for the West Indies, the C. P. R. cannot land them on any other country. They will go back to China.

The Wheat Market.

Toronto, Feb. 16.—Dollar wheat was quoted in Toronto for the first time in several years, that figure being offered for No. 1 Manitoba hard.

Alleged Swindling.

Information was sworn out to-day by Detective Duncan against Jacob Singer, reputed to be the millionaire owner of 3,000 houses; Israel Singer, his son, S. E. Sheyck, a well known Syrian; Frank Stark and Frank Donovan. Summonses have been issued against the three first named. It is charged that they conspired and agreed to falsify certain pawn tickets. The laying of this information is the result of an investigation by the police into the manner in which Frank Star and Frank Donovan, arrested for highway robbery a few days ago, came into the possession of numerous pawn tickets found upon them. The plan was to issue pawn tickets bearing a high price for worthless articles and then sell the tickets to some unwary victim.

BERLIN'S WEALTH.

The income tax statistics for 1903 show that the highest Berlin income returned by a single individual amounted to over $740,000. The next highest was over $653,750. The taxes paid on these amounted, respectively, to $29,100 and $26,150. In Berlin the municipal taxes, which throughout Prussia are assessed in accordance with local necessities on income, amounted to exactly a hundred per cent. of the income tax. The two incomes mentioned are the only ones quoted at over $500,000 a year, but there are thirteen who pay taxes on incomes between $250,000 and $500,000. There were thirty-three incomes of between $125,000 and $250,000, and 621 between $25,000 and $125,000. The number of those taxed on incomes of above $750 was 53,899, while there were 378,484 who paid taxes on incomes below $750.

MAY MAKE COUNTER MOVE.

Russia Closely Watching Action of Britain Regarding Persia and Thibet.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 16.—Lieut.-General Ivanoff, governor-general and commander of the troops in Turkestan, has gone to Tashdemd with General Sekharoff, chief of the staff of the military district.

It is said in high military circles that General Ivanoff has been instructed to prepare for the contingency of military action in the direction of India in the event of Great Britain adopting an attitude openly hostile to Russia or attempting to prejudice Russian interests in Persia or Thibet.

THE KOREAN ARMY.

Soldiers Lack Courage and Discipline—There Is No Artillery.

"The army numbers a few thousand men, who, in the last few years, have been trained to the use of European weapons. They are armed with the Gras (obsolete pattern), Murata, Martini, and a variety of muzzle-loading, smooth-bore rifles. Their shooting powers are most indifferent, and they lack besides the qualities of courage and discipline. There is no artillery, and the cavalry arm is confined to a few hundred men with no knowledge of horsemastership, and with no idea of their weapons or their duties. At a moment of emergency the entire force of mounted and dismounted men would become utterly demoralized. There are numerous general officers, while, I believe, the navy is composed of twenty-three admirals and one iron-built coal-lighter, until quite lately the property of a Japanese steamship company.—"Korea," by Angus Hamilton.

Gained Ten Pounds

His Weight Increased Many Pounds—His Health and Strength Completely Restored By Ferrozone the Great Food Tonic.

Mr. A. L. Godfrey is well known to everyone in Victoria, where he has been engaged in business for many years. "Last winter I had la grippe," he writes, "and recovered very slowly. When well enough to leave the house I was many pounds lighter than my usual weight. My appetite was poor and my blood was thin. Ferrozone did me untold good. I recovered my weight in a short time and have felt like a different man ever since. I consider Ferrozone a wonderful tonic and a first-class remedy for people who are run down. My reasons for believing Ferrozone so good are due to its bringing me health after doctors and many other medicines failed. My weight has increased at least ten pounds, my blood is strong and my system is in a very vigorous condition. Ferrozone did it."

Ferrozone Produces New Tissue

From Nelson, B.C., comes the strongest possible proof that Ferrozone is a fresh-making, strengthening remedy. Mrs. G. C. Alger writes: "A few months ago I was run down, tired and nervous. I had once before been benefited by Ferrozone, when living in Boston, and started using it again. Ferrozone at once gave me a splendid appetite, toned up my nerves, and actually made me fat. I used Ferrozone regularly and increased my weight several pounds. My cheeks filled out and became rosy. My nervous trouble disappeared, and I haven't had a single day's illness since using Ferrozone."

Ferrozones supplies the system with nourishment in condensed form, and builds up weak constitutions to a state of permanent good health. It restores all weak organs, perfects digestion, enriches the blood and fortifies the nerves.

If it is better health you are seeking, you can find it with Ferrozone. Don't be misled into accepting a substitute or an article represented as "just as good." Ferrozone is unexcelled and it is in your interest to get it when you ask for it. Price 50c. per box, or six boxes for $2.50, at all reliable druggists or by mail, from N. C. Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont., and Hartford, Conn., U. S. A.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

The Florida limited on the Western & Atlantic railroad south bound has been wrecked near Atlanta, Ga. The cars were overturned and twelve persons were injured, two of whom may die.

The announcement is made at the United States navy department of the retirement at his own request of Rear-Admiral Cotton, commander-in-chief of the United States European station.

NOT A QUARTER—But 10 cents, and 40 doses in a vial of Dr. Agnew's Little Pills. No pain, pleasure in every dose—little, but awfully good. Cure Sick Headache, Constipation, Billousness, Nausea, Sallowness. Sold by Jackson & Co., and Hall & Co.—117.

"FAMOUS" FLOWER SEEDS

Many Thousands of Canadian People annually **Sow Our Seeds,** and year by year the sale increases. Why? Because People Get Value for their Money. Full sized packets at Popular Prices.

We Don't Handle so-called Cheap Seeds

Only the very best. Hence the yearly increase in our business.

Steele, Briggs' Famous Flower Seeds

can be found in nearly every garden from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Here are a few of our Specials:

Giant Comet Aster, Mixed Colors.
Giant Ruffled Morning Glory.
Petunia, Fancy Striped and Blotche
Nasturtium, Finest Mixed.
Marguerite Carnation. Verbena, Finest Mix
Pansy, Royal Prize, Mixed.
Mignonette, Golden Queen.
Stocks, 10 weeks, Finest Mixed. Zinnia, Double Mixed.

LEADING MERCHANTS IN CANADA SELL THESE SEEDS

If you can't get what you want from your local dealer, send direct to us. Our Beautiful Illustrated 100-page Catalogue FREE to Seed Buyers. Send for one NOW.

The STEELE, BRIGGS SEED CO., Limited

"Canada's Greatest Seed House"

BRANCH IN WINNIPEG, Man. TORONTO, ONT.

MAYOR BARNARD
AGAIN PRE

BASTION SQUARE WIL
HAVE GARDE

City Council Decided to Accep
laston's Proposal—Routin
ness Disposed of.

Mayor Barnard presided a
night's meeting of the city cou
the returning officer's declarat
ing the election and the retur
Barnard was read early in t
the aldermen warmly appla
All the members were prese

Letters were read acknowled
ceipt by Hon. R. Prefontaine
nications respecting the matte
saving station at Victoria and
the extension of the harbor l
Helmcken. No objection wa
the latter by the department.

A communication from He
bert asked the city council to
such as that forwarded as
advertising Victoria. This w
to the finance committee.

A communication from F.
Sant, dealing with Victoria
matters was referred to the ci
for report.

Haggerty & Colston offere
filling in material at 40c. a
was laid on the table until
evening.

The city solicitor sent a le
with property in Spring Ridg
quired by the city. This was
table to be dealt with the
evening.

E. C. Johnston sent a
statement showing total
$144.05.

This was received and fil

Mr. Symonds offered to su
for the buttress of James Ba
wall and asking a portion of
The letter was filed and the
dered to be informed that the
being done by contract.

A petition for a sewer alo
way was presented. It was
the city engineer, who will re
streets, bridges and sewers c

A petition from residents
street asked for an electric
was referred to the electric
mittee.

A petition was received f
Lugrin asking for better ar
in connection with the drai
residence. Another letter fro
along the Gorge road also u
tion to the matter of sewera

The city engineer was au
have the work done if
provided it did not cost too
case the cost exceeded about
to be reported to the council.

A petition was presented
dents of Michigan street ask
cutting of currant bushes on
Toronto streets, as the bush
breeding ground for flies, wh
a nuisance.

The city engineer was au
expend up to $25 on the wor
was required it should be rep

The position of caretaker
tery was ballotted for, H
son being successful on the fi

The committee upon the
lots in Spring Ridge, prese
port.

On motion of Ald. Sw
was laid over until the foll
ing.

The finance committee p
following report:

1. Re communication from
of Victoria City Kennel Clu
council to devote the sum of
defraying the cost of holding
nual dog show of the club
April next; recommended tha
$50, being the same as last
propriated for this purpose.

2. Re communication from
laston, jr., submitting a prop
to the utilization of the two
tion Square for floral deco
committee had a meeting wit
ton and the city engineer an
that: (1) The sum of $125 be
for the purpose. (2) The cit
instructed to fill in these sp
tilizing material and black s
to be taken from Elliott stree
ed and required by Mr. W
The use of the city water fo
of keeping the flower beds b
of charge. (4) The erect
painting, laying out the plots
entirely in the hands of M
who has kindly offered to su
have the job completed, subje
faction of the city engineer.

This was adopted.

The streets, bridges and
mittee reported as follows:

Gentlemen:—Your streets,
sewers committee, having c
undermentioned subjects, beg
to the council the adoption
ing resolutions relating there

Re communication from
Gaudin, of the department o
fisheries, with reference to
tion of Craigflower road throu
reserve, to the foot bridge cro
and its further extension t
hospital, on the understand
latter extension would be pa
department. Resolved, That
gineer be requested to furnish
requested of the said extensi
from the foot bridge to the
pital, and carry out the wo
at the entire expense and r
the Dominion government, a
tain Gaudin be so informed.

Re communication of L. U.
ing that the city extend th
the north side of Yates stree
side in front of his propert
tion of Yates street and Cad
Resolved, That Mr. Conyers
that the city is unable to co
request.

Resolved, That the city eng
orized to continue obtaining
from J. Haggerty, upon th
and conditions as are set ou
ment for supplying gravel,
(J. Haggerty) and the corp
the 19th day of December, 18

Resolved, That the buildi
attention be called to the s
by-laws, named in the city s
to Alderman Fell, upon the
removal of nuisance, and
building inspector, be instruc
to remove the nuisance ex
lots on Yates street, opposite
hotel, upon which old lumbe
upon all other lots in the
situated.

Resolved, that the sewer
alley be extended for 100 fe

The report was adopted.

The finance committee f