Seven Seamen Were Drowned

Derelict Bark Pinmore Towed In After Being Abandoned Off Coast.

Sailors Perished on the Way to Shore—Ernest Reyer Breaking Up.

The tale of disaster to shipping as a result of the recent gales has evidently not been fully told, for still distressed craft are coming in. Yesterday another derelict, which was almost a wreck, was towed in from the Washington coast, where she was picked up abandoned and lying with a list that it seemed that another blow would have caused her to turn turtle. She was the British bark Pinmore, 2,286 tons, Capt. Jamieson, which left Santa Rosalia on October 29 for Portland, in ballast, to load wheat for Europe. She was the four-master sighted by the steamer Maria near where the Ernest Reyer went ashore at the mouth of the Quinault river, and became a total wreck. The Pinmore, which is owned by Clink & Co., of Glasgow beat from November 26 to December 4, eight days, off the Columbia river bar, but could not get a tug. On December 4 she tried to make Gray's harbor, but adverse winds and current carried her by.

After becoming waterlogged, two anchors were thrown out and the bark abandoned, the crew starting ashore in two boats. The first boat gained the shore in safety, losing one man, who was sick at the start and died during the 16 hours of exposure in the open boat. The second boat overturned in the surf and lost six men.

The names of the men who were lost were: Henry White, Joseph White, Richard Draak, Patrick Prior and Harry Deven, who shipped from Cardiff; Carl Nilsonn, who shipped from Antwerp, and Stanley Shearer, an apprentice.

The surviving 23 members of the crew made their way to shore, going by land to Oyehut, and from there the tug Ranger conveyed them to Hoquiam.

The bark sprung a leak on November 26, and after beating about for a number of days trying to make an entrance into the Columbia, was finally driven north. Her ballast shifted, and that, with the water in her, gave her a list of 45 degrees. After flying signals of distress day and night, the condition of the vessel constantly becoming worse, the crew abandoned her on Wednesday night as she was nearing the surf at the mouth of Raft river, north of Grays harbor.

On Monday night the whistle of tugs was heard off Hoquiam, and two of these secured the derelict, which they yesterday towed to port. The operator at Otter Point sighted the disabled vessel yesterday morning in tow of one steamer, and with the other tug standing by, and about noon she was seen passing up to the other side of the Straits en route to Port Townsend. She was almost on her starboard beam, having such a heavy list that it seems a wonder she did not turn turtle durisg the late she did not turn turtle during the late and seemed to be in a generally crippled condition.

The French bark Ernest Reyer, which last week went ashore north of Grays harbor, is breaking up and will become a total wreck. Her crew is expected to reach Hoquiam on Thursday.

The C. F. Sargent, the first of the distressed vessels to return, is to be towed to sea today, having been repaired and made seaworthy at Esquimalt. She has a cargo of 2,400 tons of coal, loaded at Tacoma for San Francisco. The Sargent is owned by the same firm as the lost Highland Light, which foundered off the West Coast during the storm. What with the loss of the Highland Light, heavy damage to the ship Nelson, stranding of the Ernest Reyer off Point Granville, 20 miles above Gray's harbor, and other marine casualties, the underwriters are suffering this winter as bad as they did last, and again, the heaviest losses are on ships bound to the Columbia river for seemingly some strange fatality seems to hoodoo craft bound there.

Last year the underwriters were hard hit by disasters to the grain fleet. It will be remembered that they were subjected to very heavy losses last November and December, through the disappearance of the British ships Andrada, Rathdown and Cape Wrath, and the German bark Bertha. Heavy losses were also suffered through the damages sustained by the Edmund, Otto Gildemeister and Willy Rickmers, all of which were compelled to undergo very expensive repairs. The outward-bound fleet in November and December also piled up some expensive insurance bills, two ships from the Columbia and two from Puget Sound putting into way ports in distress after leaving the port from which they cleared. If the Ernest Reyer is wrecked and if the Baroda is not floated, it will make a total of five ships chartered for Portland wheat loading which have been lost prior to arrival, and the Nelson and Pinmore have been badly damaged.

The Nymphe, whose loss was reported yesterday, was to have gone to Portland. The French bark Feraal, while en route from Antwerp to Portland under charter for wheat loading, was lost off Cape Horn a few months ago, several of the crew perishing in the wreck. The third of these total losses in addition to the Baroda and the Ernest Reyer, was the British ship County of Haddington, which sailed from New York for Yokohama last February, and was never heard from afterward. The Baroda, which was erroneously reported afloat a few days ago, is still on the beach near Bandon, and has not improved her position or condition by the hammering she must have received during the recent gales.

Arrangements are under way to have the Baroda come to Victoria for repairs when floated, as did the ship Poltalloch, which was repaired here some months ago after being rescued from a similar position as that of the Baroda. Two other ships, the Glenmorag and Portimpus, which went ashore in the same manner, proved total losses.

MATTEAWAN OVERDUE.

Well Known Collier Nine Days Out From Nanaimo.

The collier Matteawan is long overdue at San Francisco from Nanaimo. A despatch from San Francisco under Tuesday's date says: "Up to tonight no word of the steamer Matteawan had been received at the Merchants' Exchange or by her managing owner, James Jerome. The Matteawan has been nine days out from Nanaimo for this port with a cargo of 4,800 tons of coal. Heretofore the vessel has usually made the trip in four days. Naturally great apprehension is felt for the safety of the steamer, though Jerome expressed the belief today that the vessel would arrive tomorrow, when it would be ascertained that she had either suffered a mishap to her machinery or had been delayed by towing some distressed vessel to port. Capt. Croscup, of Oakland, is master of the Matteawan."

PRINCE ALBERT SAFE.

Reported Off the English Coast—Reinsured at 75 Per Cent.

The Norwegian bark Prince Albert, which was so long overdue on her voyage from this port to Queenstown with a lumber cargo, loaded at Vancouver, is safe, and there is joy among reinsurance gamblers for she was reinsured at 75 per cent. She was reported off the English coast. She was out 211 days when the news that she was sighted was cabled from London to Victoria shipping firms. She had been reinsured at 50 per cent. for two weeks past, and a few hours before she was reported the reinsurance had jumped to 75 per cent.

The Norwegian ship Anglia, 158 days out from Newcastle, Australia, for Panama, has been advanced 10 per cent., now being quoted at 80 per cent.

Two more overdues were added to the list on Tuesday. They are the German ship Glenericht, 10 days from San Francisco for Portland, 20 per cent. and the Alstrufer, 150 days out from Hamburg for Seattle, 10 per cent. Other overdues are the Renfield, 70 days out from Pisagua for Portland, quoted at 15 per cent., and the William Mitchell, 142 days out from Table Bay for Portland, 15 per cent.

THE JAPANESE LINE.

Earnings Amounted to Over Five and a Half Million Dollars in Six Months.

The semi-annual meeting of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha was held at Yokohama on November 27, and the report showed that the earnings of the company during that time amounted to 11,791, 285 yen, including subsidies of about two and a half million yen. The profits were 3,271,597 yen. The report stated in regard to the line running to Victoria and Seattle that "the liners on this line were increased to six steamers. The previous arrangement was changed and it was made a fortnightly service. On both outward and homeward voyages, the steamers on this line were appointed to call at Shanghai. The result of the change was satisfactory. On outward voyages, shipments from Kyoto, Nagoya and other places greatly increased, and so also did the cargoes carried between Hongkong, Shanghai and Japan. On homeward voyages, cargoes of flour from America decreased. But the cargoes carried by each liner both on the outward and homeward voyages considerably increased as compared with the previous business half year, but in consequence of the reduction in the freight rate, the receipts showed a falling-off as compared with the previous business half year."

THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

Proposal by Australia for an Imperial Court of Appeal Shelved.

The London Daily Mail has the following from its Sydney correspondent: Mr. Chamberlain has informed Mr. Barton that the London conference upon the Appellate Court has resolved that appeals shall continue from the colonies to the Privy Council. The colonies will periodically make appointments to the judicial committee at ample salaries; if the appointed members are judges—and this condition is not necessary, they will be obliged to quit the judiciary. This arrangement will be necessary to ensure large attendances in the House of Lords on appeals. The colonies suggest with a view to the avoidance of delays, certain amendments in the regulations relating to appeals to the Privy Council. Mr. Justice Hodges, as representing Australia, has dissented therefrom, and proposed an entirely new court. Mr. Chamberlain concludes by saying that, on the whole, the existing system is satisfactory, and invites colonial suggestions as to details tending towards the simplicity of procedure. Mr. Justice Hodges, in his dissension, has followed the instructions of the federal government.

This decision, which is the result of the recent conference in London, clearly indicates two things: (1) That the attitude of Canada in this matter has carried the day; and (2) that the proposal for an Imperial Court of Appeal (to which Australia was well disposed) is for the time being shelved.

Arrested for Theft.—Thomas Spain was arrested last evening by Detectives Palmer, Perdue and Macdonald and booked at the city lockup on the charge of stealing $81 from the proprietress of the International hotel on Johnson street. Spain resisted arrest, and it was with a great deal of difficulty that the detectives placed him behind the bars. It is alleged that he took the money from the safe in the hotel.

Business and Pleasure.—Columbia lodge, I. O. O. F., had a very interesting and well attended meeting last evening, the proposed alteration to the by-laws bringing out a number of old members who seldom attend lodge. The first business of importance was the initiation of a candidate, the team performing the ceremony in first-class style, much to the edification of the old-timers. The proposed change to the by-laws, which contemplated a return to the old system of paying cashing benefits only, elicited a warm discussion, and was defeated by only one vote, a two-thirds majority being necessary to its adoption. After adjournment, the members partook of an excellent oyster supper, prepared by the entertainment committee, which was followed by an exhibition of mind-reading by a brother gifted that way, and which proved a source of much amusement to the audience.

VICTORIA VS. GARRISON.

Number of New Players in the Soldiers' Association Team.

The Garrison Football club and the Victorias will meet for the second time this season, at the Caledonia grounds on Saturday. Since the last match between them, which resulted in a draw, a number of the Garrison team have left for China including Foley their outside left forward, but among the reinforcements which have recently arrived are included several players who it is stated will make the soldiers the strongest Garrison team which has played here.

The Victorias have an unbroken record this season, and with their strongest team they expect to give the Garrison a game which will be well worth witnessing.

WOULD COME HERE.

Proposition to Bring the Kamloops Hounds to This City During Winter.

Mr. E. Brocklehurst, of the Kamloops Hunt club, is in the city for the purpose of meeting the members of the Victoria Hunt club and discussing with them a proposition he made by letter. Kamloops has a small pack of fox hounds and a litter of puppies, which are used by the followers of the chase in the Inland Capital. The season closes in the interior very early, in fact there is already too much frost and snow to allow of the sport being indulged in. Mr. Brocklehurst proposes that after the season has closed in the interior the hounds should be brought to Victoria and be used to follow a "drag." This would greatly increase the interest in the sport. In the Interior the dogs follow the coyote. A meeting of the Victoria Hunt club has been called for this evening to discuss Mr. Brocklehurst's proposition.

GRAND TRUNK.

Two of the Subordinate Lines Amalgamated.

Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 11.—Articles of incorporation have been filed in the office of the Secretary of State for the Grand Trunk Western railway company. The principal place of business is given as Detroit, Mich. The directors are C. M. Hays, E. W. Meddaugh, C. Percy, F. H. McGugan, J. H. Muir and F. W. Cotter. The capital stock is $6,000,000. The articles show that the Port Huron & Indiana railway and the Indiana & Illinois railway have decided to consolidate under the above title.

There has been talk of the Grand Trunk striking for a Pacific Coast terminus, and railroad men think this may be a step towards that end.

HORSES FOR SOLDIERS.

Fine Lot Shipped to Halifax For Mounted Infantry.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 12.—(Special.)—Eleven cars of horses were shipped from here tonight to Halifax for the use of the Mounted Rifles and are declared to be an extra fine lot.

Would Purchase Yukon And Atlin

Wild Scheme Advanced by a Jingo Attorney of Skagway.

Reasons Why He Believes Canada Would Be Prepared to Sell.

Some of the good citizens of Skagway are suggesting that the United States government should purchase a large portion of Canadian territory in the North, including the Atlin and Yukon districts. Their proposition is put forth in the following letter to the Seattle Chamber of Commerce by George Melvin Miller, an attorney, who "distinguished" himself some months ago by tearing down a British flag over the Canadian customs office at Skagway:

Let the United States purchase outright all that part of the British dependencies lying west of the 130th meridian of west longitude, fixing the boundary line between Great Britain and Alaska as follows: Beginning at the present boundary at the head of deep water navigation on Portland canal, thence to and following the 130th meridian of west longitude due north to the left bank of the MacKenzie river, then down the left bank of the MacKenzie river to the Arctic ocean, thence following the southern shore of the Arctic ocean westerly to the present boundary of Alaska.

This would place the boundary line out of the way of travel to and from the great Yukon valley and the Atlin country. It would settle the boundary question quietly and peaceably and at the same time make the line shorter by 25 per cent. The country included in this proposed purchase was explored and developed by citizens of the United States, and fully 75 per cent. of its white inhabitants are citizens of this country. We owe it as a duty to these brave pioneers to make an effort to place them under the protection of the Stars and Stripes.

The boundary line as it now stands is a barrier to the development of the country on both sides of the line. So long as it remains where it is it will be a continual nuisance, requiring an increasing force and expense to maintain. There is no doubt that the Canadians would favorably consider this proposition, since they have about given up all hope of securing a seaport on Lynn canal. They are sensible and realize that they cannot utilize or develop this country without such seaport.

They realize also what the great growth and development of the United States, as compared with Canada, means to them. They also know that England is becoming absorbed in her South African enterprises to such an extent that her American dependencies are going to be neglected. They do not feel the same affection for the old country since the death of their queen, hence the British subjects living within the proposed purchase will not make any vigorous protest against coming under our flag; in fact, many of them, seeing the attendant advantages, will welcome the change. They will make excellent citizens as well.

How shall we accomplish the change? There is a growing surplus in the United States treasury. Citizens of Skagway are in a position to show congress the advantage of investing a portion of this surplus in the above purchase. We can take the matter up openly and frankly and discuss every phase of it honestly. Every member of congress and the cabinet should be presented with a map and a memorial setting forth where we want the line placed and why we want it there.

Every citizen who knows a congressman or senator, or who has a friend who knows one, should take a personal interest in urging the necessity of thus settling the vexed boundary question. It is our duty. Shall we do it?

CANADIAN LEAD.

Outlook of Business for Refineries and Smelters.

From Nelson Miner.

The production of lead for the month of September shows a slight increase over August, being, in round numbers, 3,100,000 pounds. The importations were considerably higher than in August, reaching the total of more than 2,600,000 pounds. All lead imports cost the Canadian people a few dollars more than $100,000. Had they paid three cents a pound for the lead they used they would have paid $78,000 for it. This leaves a possible manufacturing business of $22,000 a month to be done without costing the consumers any more than at present, and not taking into account the cost of the material used. A line of industry which has a turnover of that sum a month, or $250,000 a year is quite an important one.

The lead in ore sold last September averaged the mine owner only about 1.45 cents per pound, or the whole output of 3,100,000 pounds, $45,000. Three cents a pound for the 2,600,000 pounds imported would have brought $78,000 so that there is a possible business for the smelters and refiners of $33,000 a month, or $400,000 a year. An equitable division of this sum among the mine owners and refiners would give an imense impetus to mining in the Slocan and East Kootenay. There would still remain 600,000 pounds to be disposed of at present prices, which would bring the total receipts from lead for the month up to $84,700, or $1,016,400 for the year.

The refining of lead in Canada and the retaining of the home market for home mines possibly can be done only with a small margin of profit, smaller than in most lines of business, but the question now is whether with the establishment of the refining industry the present conditions could be bettered. It looks as if conditions were as favorable now as they are likely to be, while the growth of Canada alone and the new markets that are opening up gives promise of better prices for what has to be exported. It is plain that unless the price of lead in the United States to the miners falls very much below what it is now, the U. S. can never with their own lead compete in the foreign market. The smelters of that country now export only the lead they have imported in bond from Canada and Mexico; in other words, Canada and Mexico supply the raw ore on which several large smelters and refineries are kept going, and there seems no good reason why those industries cannot be carried on as well in Canada as in the United States. Canada could also import from Mexico if needs be. A fall in the price of lead, such as would enable United States lead to reach the world's market, would close down many of the mines there and thus prevent a surplus in the world's supply.

With the improved machinery, large supply of coal, electric and water power available, and as well-skilled labor as can be obtained anywhere, the way appears open for Canada to eventually cut a figure as a lead producing country, particularly as the lead is here always associated with silver, sometimes in quite large quantities.

A MAKER OF NAVIES.

Man Who For 20 Years Has Shaped the Empire's Warships.

From the London Leader.

Sir William White, who, it is said, is about to retire from his commanding position in the British naval service, describes himself as the product of the competitive examination system. If we accept the designation as correct, then the competitive system is responsible for a great deal of the evolution that has had place in the naval world. Sir William's personal history, too, is so interesting a story of development as to be quite romantic.

Did not aage declare that the great romance of the future would be seen in the realising of genius in the most practical ways and spheres? Sir William's career points the way very forcibly. At the opening of the sixties a quiet Devonport lad was serving his term as apprentice to the master shipwright of the Royal Dockyard in his native town. In 1864, when the Royal School of Naval architecture was established in London, and a number of scholarships were thrown open to competition, the Devonport youth in question—he was 19—took first place. He next obtained a post on the constructive staff at the Admiralty, and rose through grade after grade in the service, including those of Assistant Controller and Director of Naval Construction. The youth's name was William White.

Early in the seventies he was one of those who did exhaustive work in connection with the inquiry into designs for ships of war. His calculations in regard to matters of strength and stability were vast and complex, and more than that, a series of new processes, many of them at once highly scientific and practical, came to be considered and devised. His sphere of influence, so to say, widened with his next appointment, that of secretary to the council of Construction at the Admiralty. For many years he was busy in connection with various naval types being built at the time; Devastation, Dreadnought, Inflexible and so on.

The post of Chief Constructor fell to his lot in 1881. At this period he and Sir Nathaniel Barnaby designed sundry battleships and cruisers, like the Colossus and the Lelander. At the same time Sir William was able to discharge the onerous duties of Professor of Naval Architecture. At this stage, too, he was moved to prepare the well-known and standard "Manual of Naval Architecture," a scientific and exhaustive treatise (though in popular language) of over 700 pages, which reached its fifth English edition last year, and has long since been translated into most of the principal European languages. Indeed, it is employed as a text-book by several foreign Admiralties.

For a few years in the eighties Sir William had charge of the war-ship building department of Sir W. G. Armstrong's works at Elswick. Then he returned to the Admiralty, this time as Director of Naval Construction. The leaving of Elswick for Whitehall meant, by the way, a large financial loss to him. The extent of his new responsibilities is obvious; the days of huge naval expenditure and ever-widening programs of naval construction had come. Upwards of 250 vessels of the British navy have been designed by Sir William White, and over 100 torpedoboat destroyers have been built under his supervision.

Battleships, armored cruisers, protected cruisers, sloops, torpedo gunboats—of these is the long list. In fact, he has dealt with every type of war vessel. He designed many vessels for foreign governments also; and during the war between Japan and China vessels of his designing were on both sides. Several American vessels—not only of the States, but of South America—are the outcome also of his talents.

VERDICT FOR THE PLAINTIFFS

Special Jury in Lowenberg vs. Dunsmuir Find Plaintiffs Entitled to $9.667.62

The plaintiffs in Lowenberg et al. vs. Dunsmuir, secured a verdict in the Supreme court yesterday, the special jury finding that they were entitled to compensation in the sum of $9,667.62, their original claim being for $20,000. The claim was for damages and disbursements in connection with negotiations for the sale of the Wellington Colliery, which the plaintiffs alleged the defendant commissioned them to sell, but afterwards repudiated the agreement. The trial had lasted for several days, and was the third time the case had been before the court.

When court assembled yesterday morning Mr. Justice Walkem charged the jury and they retired to consider their verdict about noon. The learned judge submitted a series of questions, which they were to answer in giving their verdict, and when they returned into court about 3 o'clock, the foreman read the following:

THE VERDICT.

1. Did the defendant, Mrs. Dunsmuir, verbally authorize the plaintiff, say in the middle of 1890, "to do his best" to sell her mine and if so was any correspondence mentioned at the time?

Answer—(A) In view of the concessions made subsequently, we believe there was. (B) A promise of fair treatment in case of no sale.

2.—When the documents which were dated later, viz., on the 18th September, 1890, and 18th January, 1892, which provided that the plaintiff was to be paid a commission of 5 per cent., which was to "include all expenses," in the event of his effecting a sale, intended to represent all the terms agreed upon between the parties with respect to a sale and to compensation to the plaintiff?

Answer—Yes, had sale been effected.

3.—If you should be of opinion that the above documents were not intended to represent the whole agreement between the parties, what agreement was come to?

Answer—Answer to question number one expresses our views on this point.

4.—Is the plaintiff entitled to any damages, and, if so, how much? Stating amount of disbursements including sums for which he was liable, and also amount of compensation separately.

Answer—The plaintiff is entitled to compensation. We have no means of proving the accuracy of his statement of disbursements, but accept it as correct, with exception of one item of £525, which we have deducted.

J. B. H. RICKABY,
Foreman.

We find the plaintiff is entitled to compensation for expenses to the amount of $9,667.62.

J. B. H. RICKABY,
Foreman.

E. V. Bodwell, K. C., counsel for the plaintiffs, moved for judgment, a certificate of costs for the special jury, and the costs of this and former trials, including costs of the appeal ordered by the full court.

His motion was granted, the learned judge remarking that the verdict was the outcome of careful consideration of the facts by business men, and therefore of more weight than his individual opinion, which had leaned strongly towards the defendant.

Fred. Peters, K. C., moved for judgment for defendant on the verdict on the following grounds:

1.—The answer to the first question showed that the jury had not found on the actual facts presented, but on the question as to whether there was or not an agreement between the parties.

2.—He made the same objection to the answer to question number 2.

3.—That the answer to the fourth question was practically an admission that they had found their verdict without evidence.

4.—Generally; as a matter of law no evidence could be legally considered to justify a departure from the written documents.

Mr. Peters motion will be argued at 10:30 this morning.

IN CHAMBERS.

Mr. Justice Martin presided in Chambers yesterday and disposed of the following:

Dunsmuir vs. Noble Five Mining Co.—Order granted for leave to amend registrar's certificate. Pooley for plaintiff.

Fairfull et al. vs. Prior.—An order was granted for payment out of court of the $2,000 deposit made by the petitioners in the Victoria election petition. The order to issue on Fairfull filing an affidavit explaining the absence of the other petitioners and their consent to the proceeding. Hunter for plaintiff; Cassidy for defendant.

Re Tom Kains, deceased—Probate of will granted. Jay for applicant.

Re John David, deceased—Probate of will granted. Aikman for applicant.

An order was granted in Williams vs. Davie, to make the executor defendant in lieu of deceased. Belyea for applicant.

COUNTY COURT.

Mr. Justice Martin presided at the sitting of the County court, which opened yesterday. The case of Prior vs. Burt et al., a dispute about the quality of a gasoline engine, occupied the whole afternoon. Several cases are fixed for trial today.

SHAMROCK SCORCHED.

Narrowly Escapes Being Destroyed by Fire.

New York, Dec. 12.—Sir Thomas Lipton's cup challenger Shamrock II., narrowly escaped being destroyed by fire tonight. Only the strenuous efforts of the firemen saved her. As it was she was scorched on one side. The fire started in the boiler shop of J. M. Robinson & Co., at Erie Basin, Brooklyn, where the Shamrock is laid up for the winter.

Holidays For The Officials

Proclamation In Yesterday's Issue of the Provincial Gazette.

Change In the Positions of the Courts of Revision.

The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council has been pleased according to notice given in yesterday's issue of the Provincial Gazette, to cantel all appointments of courts of revision and appeal, under the Assessment act, and to appoint the under-mentioned persons to be courts of revision and appeal for the assessment districts set opposite their respective names, namely:

Eli Harrison, jr., S. M.—Victoria, Nanaimo, South Nanaimo, Cowichan, Alberni, Comox, Pender Island, Galiano Island, Mayne Island, Salt Spring Island; Charles G. Major—Vancouver, New Westminster; J. L. G. Abbott, Rossland; C. W. McAnn, K. C., Slocan; J. A. Turner, S. M., Nelson; Daniel Rabbitt, Kettle River, Vernon; Alex. D. Macintyre, Princeton, Nicola and Kamloops; W. J. Dickey, Revelstoke; John Lawrence, J. P., Ashcroft; Fred'k. Soues, Lillooet; John E. Griffith, S. M., Golden; J. F. Armstrong, S. M., Fort Steele; John Bowron, Quesnel Forks and Barkerville; E. M. N. Woods, S. M., Atlin. Such cancellations and appointments are to take effect on and from the 1st of December, 1901.

The officials of the Provincial government besides having Christmas and New Year days as holidays, are to have the day before and the day after Christmas, and the day after New Year, an order to that effect being published in the Gazette.

The list of successful candidates at the recent exomination for assayers, as published in the Colonist some days ago, is given in the Gazette this week.

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture has authorized the organization of a Farmers' institute for the district of Burrard and the first meeting will be held in the exhibition building, Central park, Vancouver, on January 12.

The school districts of Columbia, Cumberland, Grand Forks, Kamloops, Kaslo, Phoenix, Revelstoke, Sandon, Slocan, Trail and Vernon have been redefined.

Certificates of incorporation has been issued to the Boundary Bay Fishing company, limited, with a capital of $10,000 in $100 shares; to cure and deal in all kinds of fish; the Phoenix Water Supply company, with a capital of $35,000 in $1 shares, to construct and operate a water works system for the town of Phoenix; the Rock Creek Consolidated Placer Mining company, limited, with a capital of $7,500 in $25 shares, to acquire and work certain leases on Rock creek; and the Squamish Hop Ranch, limited, with a capital of $25,000 in $1 shares, to acquire and carry on the business of hop growers now carried on by Messrs. Byron Johnson, Bell-Irving and F. C. Thorne in the Squamish valley.

The Northwest Copper company, limited, has been registered as an extra-provincial company. The head office is in Seattle and the provincial office, Vancouver, W. E. Burns being the attorney. The capital is $100,000 in $1 shares. The objects are those of the usual mining company.

An extraordinary meeting of the Grand Forks Investment & Trust company, limited, is to be held in the office of the company at Grand Forks on January 4, to consider the question of changing the name of the company to the British American Trust company, limited.

William Hickey has withdrawn from the firm of Hickey, Toms, Morris & Fraser, salmon canners, and the business will be carried on by Messrs. Toms, Morris and Fraser.

Charles E. Hamilton of Golden has been appointed a clerk of the peace for the county of Kootenay.

MONUMENT TO BURNS.

Toronto Citizens Committee Have Ordered Bronze Statue Cast.

The committee of Toronto citizens who have for some time been collecting funds for the erection of a statue of Robert Burns in Toronto, have ordered that a bronze statue be cast for the model submitted by Mr. D. W. Stevenson, R.S.A., of Edinburgh. The poet is shown in the costume of a small moorland farmer of the time, with his plaid over his shoulder. The sculpture has given to Burns a thoughtful, almost sad, cast of countenance. That his habitual frame of mind was contemplative seems certain, despite his magnificent flights of lark-like melody. The statue will, it is expected, be unveiled some time next summer. The site has not yet been chosen, but the spot most favored by the members of the committee is one in the Horticultural Gardens, near the corner of Carlton and Sherbourne streets.

WEEKLY WEATHER SYNOPSIS.

Victoria Meteorological Office, 4th to 10th December, 1901.

With the exception of the last day the weather during the week has been remarkably overcast, and rain has fallen each day. There have been no gales in this vicinity, though along the Oregon and Washington coasts on Saturday the 7th, the wind reached the force of a moderate gale from the southward. There has been during this period a tendency for the ocean low areas to travel down the coast to California, where they have caused heavy and almost constant rains, while over Northern British Columbia the barometer has been comparatively high and the temperature low, reaching a minimum of zero on the 10th.

On Saturday the 7th these conditions were altered, when an ocean low barometer area moved quickly across Vancouver Island and the interior to the Territories. It caused a rainfall of over one inch on the lower Mainland, a half an inch at Victoria and light snow in Cariboo.

From this day to the close of the week the barometer steadily rose over Northern British Columbia in advance of a pronounced high area and cold wave from the Northwest, which by Tuesday the 10th, covered the Dominion from the Pacific to the great lakes, and caused fine weather and northerly winds extending southward over the Pacific slope to California. In the Territories it has caused a light snowfall, followed by temperatures not much above zero.

Victoria—Amount of bright sunshine recorded was 17 hours and 18 minutes; rainfall, 1.14 inch; highest temperature, 49.2, on 7th, and lowest, 39.4, on 5th.

New Westminster—Rain, 1.74 inch; highest temperature, 48, on 4th, and lowest, 32, on 10th.

Kamloops—No precipitation; highest temperatures, 46 on 4th, and lowest, 26 on 9th and 10th.

Barkerville—Snow, one inch; highest temperature, 34, on 4th, lowest, zero, on 10th.

Summary of weather for November, 1901.

	Rainfall in Inches.
Victoria, V. I.	6.64
Beaver Lake, V. I.	8.53
Duncans, V. I.	11.05
French Creek, V. I.	6.58
Nanaimo, V. I.	7.06
Goldstream, V. I.	14.83
Alberni, V. I.	17.78
Kuper Island	9.76
Saturna Island	5.38
Vancouver	14.06
Point Atkinson	8.85
New Westminster	11.08
Garry Point	7.00
Coquitlam	12.80
Kamloops	1.25
Chilliwack	13.74

At Victoria 43 hours and 36 minutes of bright sunshine were recorded, the mean proportion for the month (0.15) being below the average. Highest temperature, 63.1 on 28th, and lowest, 40.0 on 9th and 10th. Mean temperature for month, 48.20.

The total number of miles recorded on the anemograph was 5,751, and the direction was as follows:

North, 880; northeast, 308; east, 1,016; southeast, 1,359; south, 434; southwest, 991; west, 693; northwest, 70.

Alberni—Mean temperature, 44.2; highest, 57, on 28th, 33.9 on 1st, 2nd and 18th.

Garry Point—Mean temperature, 45.0; highest, 55.0 on 14th and 27th.

Alberni, mean temperature, 44.2; highest, 571 on 28th; lowest, 33.9 on 1st, 2nd and 18th.

Garry Point, mean temperature, 45.0; highest, 55.0 on 14th and 27th; lowest, 33.0 on 2nd, 10th, 18th.

New Westminster, mean temperature, 44.8; highest, 55.5 on 27th; lowest 33.8 on 18th.

Vancouver, highest 56.9 on 15th, lowest, 31.0 on 17th.

Duncans, highest 57.0 on 8th, 9th, lowest, 25.0 on 25th.

French Creek, highest, 58.0 on 5th; lowest, 40.0 on 2nd,, 3rd, 4th.

Kamloops, mean temperature, 40.3; highest, 53.7 on 27th; lowest, 26.0 on 2nd.

Nanaimo, highest, 59.5 on 28th; lowest, 31.9 on 2nd.

Chilliwack, highest, 56.0 on 5th; lowest, 32.0 on 8th.

Number of hours bright sunshine at Nanaimo, 40 hours 18 minutes.

BIG MINING SUIT.

Trouble Growing Out of Old Mining Law.

Rossland, B. C., Dec. 11.—The first gun was fired here today in a legal fight involving the ownership of silver-lead ore valued at $300,000. The contestants are the Slocan Star company, plaintiffs and the Byron N. White company, defendants. The point at issue relates to the vexed question of following mineral veins from their apex into ground belonging to other parties as was permitted under the old mineral act. The suit will be bitterly contested. The plaintiffs have secured an order to examine the defendant's workings.

ANOTHER BRUSSELS STORY.

Report That Some of the Powers Are Willing to Intervene.

London, Dec. 12.—The Brussels correspondent of the Standard cables that Mr. Kruger has been informed of the willingness of some of the powers to intervene in South Africa, if the Boer leaders will accept autonomy under the supremacy of Great Britain.

Money Is Confiscated

Cash Seized In Gambling House Goes to the City Treasury.

Cases Heard Before Magistrate In the City Police Court Yesterday Morning.

Most of the cases set for hearing in the city police court yesterday had to be adjourned until this morning, as Chief Langley was busy at the meeting of the licensing commissioners. Besides, the argument as to whether the money seized in the raid on the Chinese gambling house on Sunday should be returned to the Chinamen occupied considerable time. Mr. A. C. Anderson appeared for the Chinamen and contended that the money must be returned. It was seized by Detective Perdue, who saw the sack containing it sticking out of the pocket of one of the Chinamen, who was fined $20. The magistrate held otherwise, and the money goes to the city. His authority for his decision is contained in sub-section 3 of section 575 of the criminal code, which reads as follows. "The justice before whom any person is taken by virtue of an order or warrant under this section may direct any cards, dice, balls, counter, tables, or other instruments of gaming, or used in playing any game or betting, or any such instruments or devices for carrying on a lottery or for the conducting or carrying on of any such scheme, contrivance or operation, or any such lottery tickets, so seized as aforesaid, to be forthwith destroyed, and any money or securities so seized shall be forfeited to the crown for the public uses of Canada."

The hearing of the charge of assault against R. McPhadden was finally concluded and McPhadden was fined $10. The case of Thomas Spain, charged with stealing $81 from the proprietress of the International hotel on Johnson street, was remanded until Monday. An application was made for bail, which was allowed in the sum of $500. Spain was endeavoring yesterday to get some responsible party to go on his bond. Four Chinamen charged with an infraction of the wash house by-law by spouting water on clothes from their mouths, were remanded until today. A resident of Victoria West, W. Walker, was charged with refusing to support his wife. The case was adjourned until Tuesday. A charge against a small boy of a breach of the peace by swearing was dismissed.

CHARLES MAIR.

The Eventful Life of the Author of Tecumseh.

The author of "Tecumseh" is a native Canadian. He was born in the village of Lanark, in Upper Canada, in the year 1840. His father, who came from Scotland some 75 years ago, was one of the pioneers of the lumber business in the valleys of the Madawaska and other tributaries of the Ottawa. Much of our author's early life was spent in the forest, and to this source we may trace his sympathy with Nature in her varied forms and moods. His early education was obtained from the village school and the Grammar School of the adjoining town of Perth. For a time he studied medicine at Queen's Univer. Kingston, but left to enter upon business life before he had completed his course. He early evinced strong literary tastes, and was a frequent contributor to the press on general subjects. In 1868 he published a volume, entitled "Dreamland and Other Poems," which the late G. T. Lanigan pronounced "the first book in which a poet had used his own eyes and given his own sights and ideas, and this in language and in music of artistic beauty and of indubitable strength."

In the fall of 1868 Mr. Mair was sent by the Dominion government to the Red River Settlement, as paymaster to the men engaged in opening the snow road from Fort Garry to the Lake of the Woods. The outbreak of the first Riel rebellion consequently found him in Fort Garry. He was a prisoner in the hands of the insurrectionists for many weeks during the winter of 1869-70. After being sentenced to death by the provisional government, he escaped from prison, and subsequently joined the expedition from Portage la Prairie to Fort Garry, under Major Boulton. Shortly afterwards he set out for Ontario. With a companion he walked 400 miles on snowshoes to St. Paul. In due time he reached Ontario, and with Drs. Schultz and Lynch, was accorded a most enthusiastic reception. He was one of the founders of the "Canada First" party, in 1868, and remains of the same way of thinking to this day.

When order was restored in the Red River country, Mr. Mair returned, and took up his residence in Portage la Prairie, subsequently removing to Prince Albert, where he was engaged for some ten years in fur trading and general business. In 1884, foreseeing the outbreak of the half-breeds which occurred a year later, and wishing to remove his family to a place of safety, Mr. Mair returned with them to Ontario, and until 1886 made his home in Windsor. It was here he wrote his famous drama, "Tecumseh," of which W. D. LeSuer, the eminent Canadian litterateur, remarked that "whether the book be considered as poetry, as history, or as a contribution to the right understanding of the Indian character, it is the most important addition which has been made for some years to Canadian letters."

When the second Riel rebellion broke out, Mr. Mair came to Toronto and joined the Governor-General's Body Guard, and served throughout the whole campaign of 1885, as quartermaster of that corps. The year 1886 again saw Mr. Mair on his way to the West. He resided in Prince Albert until a few years ago, when he removed to Winnipeg, where he holds a responsible government position in the immigration department.

TORONTO GAS.

Toronto, Dec. 12.—(Special.)—The Toronto City council today by a vote of 12 to 10 accepted the proposed agreement settling the suit against the Gas company for infringing conditions of the charter. Under the settlement the price of gas will be reduced to 80 cents per thousand feet.

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ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

In the Supreme Court of British Columbia, in the matter of John Stephen, deceased, intestate, and in the matter of the official administrators' act.

Notice is hereby given that under an ordinance dated the 30th day of November, 1901, made by the Hon. Mr. Justice Drake, I, the undersigned, was appointed Administrator, of all and singular the goods, chattels and credits of above-named deceased. Parties having claims against the said estate are requested to forward particulars of same to me on or before the 30th day of December, 1901, and parties indebted to the said estate are required to pay such indebtedness to me forthwith.

WM. MONTEITH,
Official Administrator.
Dated 2nd day of Dec., 1901.

Mineral Act, (Form F.) Certificate of Improvements. Notice.

John Bull, Nawitka, Nawitka Fractional, Uncle Sam, of the Monitor group of mineral claims, situate in the Alberni Mining Division of Clayoquot District.

Where