## **Provincial** Legislature

Premier Replies to Criticisms Against Dyking Assessment

Public Question Entitled to Unprejudiced Consideration of Legislature.

The Coal Mines Regulation Act and Supreme Court Bill In Committee.

Thursday, March 23. THE House assembled at 2 o'clock, and after the customary exer-cises, the following was the order of business: Petitions.

A number of petitions presented on the previous day asking for amendments to the Placer Act were received In Committee.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite's reconstructed bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act was taken up in committee of the whole, Mr. Evans in the chair. The measure is designed to render effective the legislation of last session limiting the employment of persons underground to eight hours a day. The bill, as first introduced by the member for Nanaimo, provided certain specific penalties for infraction of the eighthour law by workmen or employer. The reconstructed bill simply provides, or seeks to provide, that the penalties Mr. Hawthornthwaite's reconstructe or seeks to provide, that the penalties attached to the general act shall apply, as to which, according to the preamble of the act, "doubts have been ex-

The bill was reported complete with amendments calculated to make its purpose less susceptible to misconstruction, following discussion by Mr. J. A. Macdonald, Mr. McInnes and

The bill to amend the Supreme Court Act, providing that security for costs on appeal shall not exceed \$200, was again committed, Mr. Hall in the chair. At present the question of such se-curity is in the discretion of the judge,

Mr. Brown argued that it was bet-er that the amount which litigants nust pay, as initial costs of appeal, hould be fixed in the law, so that they would know just what security they must give in order to have their cases heard in the higher court.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald supported the ill on the ground that it was in the nterests of justice. In Ontario, he aid, a first appeal was provided for

Mr. Bowser's motion was put, and lost on a show of hands, 13 to 15. Mr. McInnes proposed to increase the deposit to \$500. He contended that this was the amount required on appeal to the Supreme court of Canada and that the expense of an appeal to the Supreme court of British Columbia was just as high.

Mr. Macdonald disputed this and opposed the amendment

posed the amendment.

The motion was put and carried on show of hands, but a new vote being taken on the ground that the bell had not been rung, it was defeated.

The bill was reported complete with

certain expenses connected with the functions of that organization

The Workmen's Compensation Act passed second reading; also an act to amend the British Columbia Railway

Act.
The bill to amend the Coal Tax Act

Dyking Act.

the Dyking Act. He resented the insinuation of critics that in framing the Dyking Act the government was in league with land speculators. Such was not the case. He made reference to opinions formally recorded by the people of Surrey and Ladners, which were capable of interpretation as an argument that districts benefited should pay for the dyking works. Inhe argued, was manifest in the stand taken with respect to the bill by the members for Chilliwack and Delta. In one breath these gentlemen protested against the expenditures on dyking works. In the next breath they nded the wisdom of these under takings. Mr. Munro, in fact, had expressed appreciation of what the Turner government had done in this regard. The true intent of their position gard. The true intent of their position was discovered between the two opinions, namely, the desire to subject an important public question to the political baton in order to score advantage from a party point of view. The suggestion that discrimination should gestion that discrimination should have been made in the bill in favor of certain settlers of the poorer class was impracticable. To devise any measure which would meet all the diversity of claims, in this respect which would naturally arise, would be an impossible task, and this was well known to mens-bers opposite who sought, on such an hypothesis, to attach the government In the Fraser valley during the past seven years about six million dollars had been expended in public works, and this was a matter properly entitled to consideration in the discussion of its obligations to the Close scrutiny of the assertion that

land speculators were specially favored by the bill, was not favorable to that contention. The land owners assumably contemplated in this statement were far from being speculators in the sense conveyed. They were men who in days gone by had manifested their faith in the country by investing largely in the lands of the Fraser valley, and who, through long, profitless years, had maintained their holdings and paid the taxes thereon. Some of them had lost thousands of dollars through their investments and others had expended ably contemplated in this statemen investments, and others had ext heavily for very little return. In this connection he mentioned the name of Mr. Callagher, of Matsqui, who had made considerable tosses, and whose lands, subsequently subdivided and sold, had attracted many settlers to make homes in the country. He also made considerable losses, and whose lands, subsequently subdivided and sold, had attracted many settlers to make homes in the country. He also mentioned Mr. C. B. Sword, who expended \$75,000 in dyke construction in that district in order to make the lands susceptible to cultivation; Mr. Carey, mayor of New Westminster, who invested all his savings, and was forced to mortgage his holdings and finally sell them out; Mr. Donald McLean, a settler of 45 years' residence in the country, and others. Were these men net entitled to consideration? If the

list of land owners in the valley were submitted to an impartial tribunal, it would be found that the term "land peculator" would not convey the sense implied in critcisms passed in reference

cost the country \$1,030,000 to settle the dyking belt, and under the measure the province would assume \$360,000 of this province would assume \$360,000 of this amount. In other words, other classes in the country, including farmers in districts less favored by nature, must contribute the deficiency. The premier remarked that the member for Chilliwack had questioned expenditures in connection with the dyking works, and yet had supported an extra vote of \$100,000 in 1902 to complete the dyke in the Chilliwack district.

Mr. Munro said he had directed no complaint against this appropriation. His point was that in adjusting the assessments a proper equilibrium was not maintained.

The premier argued that, in view of

yet had supported an extra vote of \$100,000 in 1902 to complete the dyke in the Chilliwack district.

Mr. Munro said he had directed no complaint against this appropriation. His point was that in adjusting the assessments a proper equilibrium was not maintained.

The premier argued that, in view of the benefits which had accrued from the construction of the dykes, the complaints of the people of Chilliwack should be tempered with moderation. He recalled the conditions which obtained in 1903, owing to prevailing high waters, in the Fraser valley, and attributed a statement to Mr. Munro that the dykes had saved a large section of the country. He asked the member for Chilliwack if this was the case.

Mr. Munro said he was not record.

Mr. Munro said he was not prepared

Mr. Munro said he was not prepared to make off-hand statements.

The premier recounted his own observations in the valley in 1894, and the losses which had been occasioned through the inundation of large tracts of land, and the destruction of property consequent thereon. A great deal of expenditure in connection with dyking in Coquitlam, Pit Meadows and Maple Ridge was occasioned by this experience, and there was surely some reason in the losses sustained by the settlers there at that time, for extending special consideration to them in the readjustment of taxation. The government was only giving them some compensation for expenditures render-

government was only giving them some compensation for expenditures rendersed useless through the floods of 1894.

In this connection he discussed the adjustment as it bore upon the various districts, showing that in the case of Matsqui the assessment of the dyke was only \$10,000 more than the value placed upon it by the people themselves, and that this involved a reduction of \$75,000 as compared with doubtions obtaining under the old act. In Maple Ridge there was a reduction of \$94,585. The sum charged against the district after deducting the cost of maintenance and operation, was \$127.

396. A great deal of the land in this district was unfit for cultivation, pendang the installation of a drainage system. At present the question of such security is in the discretion of the judge, and the attorney-general recorded an opinion that it should so remain.

Mr. Bowser took a similar view, observing that in Ontario the amount required for security on appeal was \$500, or rather \$400, as he took from a correction of the leader of the opposition. Generally he disapproved of the proposal to limit the security as provided in the bill. He moved that the committee rise, in other words, asked for an expression of opinion from the House on the proposition that the measure should be thrown out.

Mr. Brown argued that it was bet-

The present legislature, he pointed out, was not responsible for the obligations attaching to these dyking works. The expenditures were spread over a long period of years, and has been managed or mismanaged as the case might be, by past governments. As to extravagances in connection with dyke inspection referred to by Mr. Munro, he took the ground that the member for Chilliwack should have reported his observations to the governmember for Chiliwack should have re-ported his observations to the govern-ment. Before the bill passed its final stage it was the government's inten-tion to submit some further sugges-tions to the House, which, he hoped, would make some of its conditions easier than they might appear at first blush.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite moved the ad The bill relating to unclaimed moneys deposited in the treasury of the province passed second reading.

The House rose.

Notes.

In the proceedings of the House ref-rence is made to a bill relating to un-laimed money deposits in the treasury

ot been rung, it was defeated.

The bill was reported complete with nendment.

Second Readings.

The bill to amend the Dentistry nesolidation Act passed second read, on motion of Mr. Bowser. It horizes the Dental Society to collect annual fee of five dollars to meet an expenses compacts. claimed. These sums are of varying size, ranging from very small amounts up to several hundred dollars. The idea is to convert to the use of the province such monies which have lain unclaimed for ten years from the date of deposit thereof, the sum thus affected amounting to about \$20,000. In case of claimants subsequently turning up and proving their title, provision is made for repayment out of the public funds.

NO DIVORCE FOR BUFFALO BILL Mr. McBride continued the debate on Trial Judge Roundly Scores the Pic turesque William.

New Yerk, March 23.—If the persons who have chartered the Mount Desert to use her as a floating gambling resort outside the state's jurisdiction as has been reported, they will meet with no opposition from the authorities. This statement was made today by Capt. Seeley of the federal steamboat inspection service. He said that the Mount Desert dia d'ulfilled the requirements of the law in every way and that was no affair of theirs as to what purpose she was used for under the circumstances.

It is said to be the intention of those who have chartered the Mount Desert to take on board persons desirous of wagering money on horse races, run outside the three-mile limit to which the courts' jurisdiction extends and sell pools on the races at Washington, New Orleans and other tracks. It is said to the fraces always in every lurisdiction extends and sell pools on the races at Washington, New Orleans and other tracks. It is said to the steamer by wireless telegraphy. The Mount Desert is owned by the Eastern Steamship Co. of Portland, Maine.

Tickets for today's cruise were put on sale at the Battery during the forenoun. The sale was public and the ticket agent frequently announced to the crowd which stood around that no gambling will be permitted, as the boat will be run as a straight pool room. He said that all sexteroom doors will be kept open, and that no gambling will be permitted, as the boat will be run as a straight pool room. He said that all sexteroom doors will be kept open, and that no gambling will be permitted, as the boat will be run as a straight pool room. He said that all sexteroom doors will be kept open, and that no gambling will be permitted, as the boat will be run as a straight pool room. The said that no gambling will be permitted, as the boat will be run as a straight pool room. The said that no gambling will be permitted, as the boat will be run as a straight pool room. The said that no gambling will be permitted, as the boat will be run as a straight pool room. The said that no gambling will be Sheridan, Wyo., March 23.—Colonel William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) today lost his suit for divorce, from Louisa Cody, Judge Scott, of the District court, deciding that the charges of attempts on the part of Mrs. Cody to poisom her husband, and other allegations, had not been proven. Judge Scott asserted that the testimony showed that Mrs. Cody had always been a good mother and a fond and indulgent wife. In his opinion Judge Scott said: "The first cause of action in this case is the charge of poisoning on December 16. The evidence wholly fails to support this issue, but shows the defendant was trying to rescue the plaintiff from a state of intoxication and administered, not poison, but remedies which she deemed beneficial to him. His inability to speak on this occasion did not come from these remedies, but came from his extensive use of intoxicants at the banquet board."

Judge Scott also found there was no evidence that she had even threatened her husband's life, and that when attending the funeral of her daughter, Arta, at Rochester, N. Y., in February, 1904, she offered a permanent reconciliation and no answer ever came to this.

Love's Labor Lost.

this. Love's Labor Lost "She was an over-indulgent mothe and wife who always took pride in his success and always looked forward to his home-coming and made great pre-parations to receive him," said Judge

stantinople announcing that the German ambassador has presented a note to the Porte, which is said to be a veto upon Turkey placing eventual orders for arms in France, with menaces of serious consequences if the note is districted. The Ottoman cabinet, it is added, is seriously embarrassed and indignant at the dictatorial conditions of Germany. The French ambassador continues the negotiations for the purpose of securing a large arms order "She entertained his guests with cordiality. She did not use profane language. The poisoning of his dogs was purely accidental. She never spoke for France.

London, March 23.—The correspondent at Constantinople of the Daily Telegraph says: "The council of ministers is deliberating on the German note verticing with these them. disrespectfully of him to his friends or

guests. In her home she has a large statute of him in the hall, in her bedroom she has his portrait done by a famous painter.

"In return for this wifely devotion the plaintiff has been cruel to her and heaped indignities upon her."

Colonel Cody's attorneys moved for a new trial.

CHAMBERLAIN AND BALFOUR. Fiscal Question Causes Open Declaration of Hostilities.

Chicago, March 23.—R. C. Howe, general manager of the Armour packing plant at Omaha, was a witness today before the federal grand jury investigating the alleged beef trust. Three hundred witnesses have been called, but not more than fifty it is said will be asked to testify.

TURBINE STEAMER VICTORIAN. Allan Line's New Packet Gets Great Send-off at Liverpool.

Liverpool, March 23.—The Alian line turbine steamer Victorian was bidden an enthusiastic farewell when she started on her maiden voyage to Montreal today. Great numbers of people cheered her. The Victorian carries about 1500 passengers, including a number of engineering experts. eering experts.

PRIMARY EDUCATION. Elaborate Plans Maturing in Russia for a New Departure.

Marseilles, March 23.—The Messagerits Maritimes steamer Yangtsze, which arrived here today, reports that when she touched at Candia, Island of Crete, recently a serious outbreak occurred between 15 French soldiers and twenty Greek marines, the fight lasting an hour and six Greeks and two Frenchmen being killed. An investigation is in progress, but no political significance is attached to the affair.

**NEW YORK POOL** 

New Yerk, March 23.

SELLER'S HAPPY IDEA

Hire Steamboat and Carry on

**Business Outside Three Mile** Limit.

BULLYING THE TURK.

Germany Adopts Strenuous Business
Methods at Constantinople.

Paris, March 23.—The Temps this afternoon printed a despatch from Constantinople announcing that the Ger-

AFTER THE BEEF TRUST.

## Linevitch **Meets Staff**

New Russian Commander Chief Received His Subordinates.

Persistent Reports of a Japan ese Turning Movement Still Continue.

Two Hundred Thousand Reinforcements Needed to Meet Japanese.

UNSHU PASS, March 23.—Gen.
Linevitch, the new commanderin-chief of the army, today received the members of his staff.
Reports persist of Japanese turning
movements on both flanks of the Russian army. Chinese state that the Japanese have recruited many Chinese bandits, and probably they are new able to
count a superiority in cavalry as well as
in infantry.

The branch of the Russo-Chinese bank
has removed to Harbin, after an attack

"Roosevelt" Designed to Stand Strenuous Life in the Arctic.

Bucksport, Maine, March 23.—Commander Robert E. Peary's Arctic exploration ship was launched here today.
She was christened the Roosevelt by
Mrs. Peary. The Peary Arctic Club of
New York furnished the funds for her
construction. She was designed by Naval
Architect Wm. E. Wineaut of New York
and is considered the most powerful and
best equipped craft for combating the
Arctic ice ever built.

CATE OF TIE-LING.

TENEMENT HOUSE HOLOCAUST.

Commission Censures Owners and Les see of New York Structure.

New York, March 23 .- The tenement

New York, March 23.—The tenement house commission is censured, Mrs. Celia C. Leiner, the lessee of the house, is declared guilty of gross negligence, and the tenement house law is found to have been violated, is the verdict of a coroner's jury today which completed an investigation of the Alleu street tenement fire, in which twenty lives were lost about a week ago.

mediately after the verdict was reached, the coroner ordered the arrest of Mrs. Leiner, and also caused the detention of Mrs. Belzinsky. the janitress of the house, as a witness. The charge of negligence against Mrs. Leiner was based upon the allegation that the trap door leading to the roof of the building was kept locked. The tenement house commission is censured for not properly inspecting the conditions of the premises and for permitting the door to the roof to remain fastened.

After the fire was extingpished, a heap

o remain fastened.

After the fire was extinguished, a heap

of bodies was found on the floor beneath the firmly fastened skylight, where they had fallen and died after vainly attempt-ing to escape to the roof.

THE SEARCH THAT FAILED. Sale of Earl Fitzwilliam's Cocos Island Treasure-hunting Ship.

Lima, Peru, March 23.—The Peravian transport Chalaco proceeded to Panama yesterday taking the officers and crew of the British yacht Veronique, which was engaged in the treasure seeking expedition to Cocos Island, headed by Earl Fitzwilliam, which resulted in disappointment. The Veronique has been purchased by Peru for \$150,000, and will be used as a coastguard vessel.

A NEW NIAGARA BRIDGE. Incorporated for Structure Across the Falls.

Albany, N. Y., March 23.—The Nia-gara Frontier Bridge Co. is incorporat-ed by a bill introduced in the assembly today to construct a bridge across the Niagara river between Niagara Falls and Lawiston for electric and steam cars, vehicles and pedestrians.

TRIBUTE TO JOURNALISM.

Russian Finance Minister Seek "Thunderer's" Good Opinion.

London, March 23.—Referring to statements that have appeared in the London Times reflecting on Russia's fin-ancial position, M. Kokovsoff, the Rusancial position, M. Ackovsoff, the Russian finance minister, yesterday telegraphed to the editor of the Times suggesting that he come to St. Petersburg with experts and they could personally inspect and verify the gold reserves in the Russian state bank.

PEARY'S NEW SHIP LAUNCHED. "Roosevelt" Designed to Stand Stre ous Life in the Arctic.

shooting down unarmed peasants is

ward Warsaw to lay complaints before

The trouble began a week ago, when

the mobilization of horses was ordered.

PLAGUE RAVAGES INDIA.

London, March 23 .- Replying to ques

expedition will start

Scientific Investigation to Be Made Fearful Loss of Life.

the governor-general.

THE NEW JAPANESE LOAN.

London, March 23.—According to newspaper statements here, the new Japanese loan will be issued at 90 and will run 20 years, with the option to Japan of redemption at par at the end of five years. f five years.

FRENCH CHURCH AND STATE. Deputies Continue Debate on Repeal of

Paris, March 23.—The Chamber of Deputies today continued the debate on the bill providing for the separation of church and state. M. Deschanel (Republican, former president of the house), declared the debate was the most important since the revolutions. most important since the revolution, as it concerned the abolition of a religious regime which had existed for five centuries. The interference of religion with politics had become intolerable, while the interference of the state with questions of conscience was equally odious. Therefore, the time had come to place each upon a square and independent basis.

UNEASY SAN DOMINGO. Prospects That Another Struggle Will Take Place Shortly.

San Domingo, Republic of San Dom-San Domingo, Republic of San Domingo, March 23.—It is rumored that at a meeting of the Jiminez party it was resolved to telegraph to the followers of the former aspirant to the presidency at Monte Christo to prepare for a struggle. The government is taking precautions to meet coming events. The situation, although at present quiet, is very critical. The Belgian minister here has filed a strong protest against delay in the settlement of his government's financial claims and a demand for prompt action by San Domingo in the matter. The minister will leave here tomorrow for nister will leave here tomorrow for

ROJESTVENSKY'S SQUADRON. Movements of Second Pacific Fleet Are Unknown.

London, March 24.—No farther news has been received here throwing light on the movements of the Russian second Pacific squadron. The report from Port Louis that during the night of March Louis that during the night of March 16 a Russian torpedo boat preceding a squadron of warships had been sighted by a vessel arriving there from Colombo, Ceylon, is too vague to afford basis for juagment, but if the fleet seen was Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky's they must be already within some 500 miles of Colombo and hence must have left Nossi Be much earlier than has been supposed. The Daily Mail's correspondent at Adan reports that two German steamers left Jibutil at midnight of March 22 with provisions for the Russian squadrog.

disposed of a number to recent arrivals from Manitoba and the Territories, who will engage in fruit raising. The property is situated about a mile and a half from town, is well watered and has an extremely facility for the contract of the on the bank offices in which two of the guards were wounded with cobble stones.

Captured Japanese report that a terrible affray took place in the streets of Mukden, March 10, when a big detachment of Russians, the last to leave the city, were entrapped by Chinese bandits and a few Japanese soldiers, who clessed the city gates and blocked the narrow streets. According to a report, which is not confirmed, not a Russan escaped. Field Marshal Oyama has communicated to Gen. Linevitch the news that the entire Russian medical staff which remained in Mukden after the evacuation, is uninjured and well.

Warsaw, March 23.—The shooting

a half from town, is well watered and has an extremely fertile soil.

Adjoining the Schubert homestead is the farm of H. Swanson, consisting of 320 acres. Mr. Swanson is another pioneer, having lived in the valley for the past quarter of a century, and like his neighbor, has sold out at a big figure. The purchaser was F. C. Wolfenden, manager of the Okanagan flour mill, and he is now having the land surveyed into 10 and 20-acre plots and placed on the market.

Warsaw, March 23.—The shooting of peasants at Lamenta has aroused intense excitement in the whole district. The action of the shooting in scores looking over the country with a view to settling. Most of the new arrivals are men of means and experitrict. The action of the authorities in ence in farming, looking for a more equitable climate than they have here angrily criticized, and a deputation of residents of Kutnow is proceeding toheir wants are speedily satisfied in

> RUSSIA'S REVERSES REVIEWED. Correspondent of St. Petersburg Paper Criticizes Military Authorities.

The peasants refused to comply and on March 21 about 150 peasants gathered on the road near Lamenta, when the chief of police of Kutnow arrived on the scene with a company of inon March 21 about 150 peasants gathered on the road near Lamenta, when the chief of police of Kutnow arrived on the scene with a company of infantry and ordered the crowd to disperse. The people refused to obey and the chief of police ordered the soldiers to fire. The peasants, not understanding Russian, remained in the road until the soldiers aimed; they then broke and ran. The

Troops Fired Three Volleys at the fleeing crowd and fifty peasants fell, two of them dead. All the wounded were shot in the back. It is said that the chief of police refused to allow the wounded to be removed, and that he finally ordered them to be taken to Kutnow, six hours' journey, in peasants' carts, with the result that, owing to lack of medical attendance, eight of the wounded died on the way and the doctors report that nine others are in a hopeless condition.

Fearing a demonstration at the funeral of the victims, the chief of police ordered the priests to bury them during, the night. This the priests refused to do, and the funerals occurred today in the cemetery at Kutnow. The services were attended by an immense concourse of people, and the coffins

today in the cemetery at Kutnow. The services were attended by an immense concourse of people, and the coffins were hidden beneath masses of wreaths Main Causes for Misfortune. First—Failure to establish before the war an adequate intelligence department in Manchuria, or to make other preparations, contrasted with Japanese activity in that discourse

Third—The deficiency of many officers

tions in the House of Commons tonight, Mr. Brodrick, secretary of state for India, said the latest figures on the plague in India showed that for the four weeks ending Feb. 18 in the Bombay Presidency there were 13,475 deaths and for the Third—The deficiency of many officers whose mistakes of execution brings to naught the most carefully thought out plans of the commander, or whose technical education has not kent pace with the artillery they are required to handle. Fourth—That victory rests not with the army, but with the nation.

The correspondent pictures the patriotism, devotion and love for victory of the Japanese, and continuing says: "On the other side is a nation where part of the people misunderstand the meaning of this war or are even inclined to taking advantage of distressing times to attain more liberty.

The Need of Greater Liberty. four weeks ending March 11 in the rest of India there were 123,550 deaths. The total number of deaths from the plague in the Bombay Presidency from Jan. 1 to Feb. 28 were 28,271, and in the rest of India from Jan. 1 to March 11, 318,or India from Jan. 1 to March 11, 510,-178.

Mr. Brodrick said he had communicated with the Viceroy of India looking to a remedy for this deplorable loss of life and that it had been decided to send out a scientific expedition to investigate

The Need of Greater Liberty.

CONNAUGHT'S VISIT TO MADRID.

His Royal Highness Reaches Capital as Guest of King Alfonso.

Madrid, March 23.—Field Marshal the Duke of Connaught arrived here to Gay to visit King Alfonso. The King with all his ministers, the civil and military authorities and the diplomatic coross welcomed the duke on his arrival ct. 'e railroad statioa.

Its attention to the army only occasion and then only to pour a flood of operation. Its attention to the army only occasion and then only to pour a flood of discouragement or abuse or to send as a palliative to the retreating forces a heap of revolutionary proclamations."

In concluding the correspondent pleads for a few words of encouragement and acknowledgment that the 90,000 who fell around Mukden are a not unappreciated sacrifice, so that others in dying welcomed the duke on his arrival ct. 'e may bless the Fatherland for which railroad statioa.

Condemns **Autonomy Act** 

Mr. Sproule Reads Opinion of Christopher Robinson on Bills.

Contention of Celebrated Lawyer Causes Surprise in the House.

Shipbuilders Ask Government For Bounty of Six Dollars Per Ton.

From Our Own Correspondent.

TTAWA, March 23.—In the House today Mr. Sloan was in-formed by Hon. Mr. Emmerson formed by Hon. Mr. Emmerson that the government had no record of any information that the G. T. P. had completed any surveys for its line in British Columbia. It was the government's intertion. P. had completed any surveys for its line in British Columbia. It was the government's intention to urge the early construction of the line in this section.

Mr. Sproule delivered a powerful speech this afternoon on the autonomy bill. He was strongly opposed to the educational clause. He read an opinion by Christopher Robinson, K. C., which he specially procured, in which the learned counsel laid it down that "The right of the Dominion parliament to impose restrictions on the provinces about to be formed in dealing with the subject of education and separate schools, is not beyond question. I am of opinion that section 93, B. N. A. act, does not apply to the provinces now about to be established. Its provisions would appear to be intended for, and confined to, the then provinces and to the union formed in 1867. There is not in any part of the Northwest Territories as a province right or privilege with respect to denominational school possessed by any class of person, created by the province, or existing at such union and a right subsequently established by the Dominion in the part now about to be made a province, does not appear to me to come within the enactment." vince, does not appear to me to conwithin the enactment." An Eye-opener to House.

This clear-cut opinion against Premier aurier's contention astonished

The Daily Mail's correspondent at Aden reports that two German steamers left Jibutil at midnight of March 22 with provisions for the Russian squadrow.

INRUSH OF SETTLERS.

Scores Arriving Daily in Spuallumcheen to Engage in Orcharding.

Armstrong, B. C., March 23.—(Special.)—August Schubert, sr., a pioneer of the Okanagan valley, who 42 years ago was one of the members of the first Canadian overland contingent to seek a fortune in Golden Cariboo, has disposed of his 480-acre homestead to a syndicate of local capitalists. While the consideration is not given out, it is understood to be a large sum, sufficient at least to allow this sturdy Argonaut to spend the balance of his days free from worry and the cares essential to the management of a large farm. The new owners have divided the land up into 10-acre plots and have already disposed of a number to recent arrivals from Manitoba and the Territories, who will engage in fruit raising. The

It is stated tonight that Hon. Mr. Sif-ton has swallowed the government's amendment to the school clause and will speak in support thereof tomorrow.

OIL INSTEAD OF CHAMPAGNE. Crude Petroleum to Christen U. S. Battleship Kansas.

neighbor, has sold out at a big figure. The purchaser was F. C. Wolfenden, manager of the Okanagan flour mill, and he is now having the land surveyed into 10 and 20-acre plots and placed on the market.

The demand for small acreage property in the municipality of Spallumacheen has during the past few months been remarkable, over 300 settlers having come in, and daily the train brings. just Kansas oil—crude oil."

> JAPANESE NEED MORE MONEY. Negotiations for \$150,000,000 Proceeding in London.

London, March 23.—Negotiations for a new Japanese loan are proceeding, but are still unconcluded. The principals concerned decline to furnish details until the full terms are settled upon. The amount of the loan is variously estimated up to \$150,000,000. As a special security, the revenue of the tobacco meaopoly, amounting to \$15,000,000, is suggested. It is understood that the loan is largely Anglo-American, with minor participation on the part of continental participation on the part of continental

FLOODS AT EASTERN CITIES.

Pomeroy, Ohio. March 23.—The high water has caused a practical suspension of railroad and street car service here. The water has entered buildings along the river front and some merchants will be forced to move out. The river is rising two inches an hour.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 23.—The rivers are falling rapidly and thousands of men employed in the mills and factories, which which were partially submerged and forced to shut down, returned to work today. The telegraph and telephone today. The telegraph and telephone service is rapidly improving and rail-road traffic has been resumed to all

PEACE IS NOW PROBABLE. Advocates of Pacific Overtures in Russia Gain Confidence.

St. Petersburg, March 23.-The ministers and supporters of the court who advocate the submission of pacific pro-posals to Japan, as previously set forth tious, contrasted with Japanese activity in that direction.

Second—Russia is dependent upon a single railway, while the Japanese have many bases, with the possbility of establishing new ones at any point on the coast.

Third The deficience for the coast.

Washington, D. C., March 23 .- The Washington, D. C., March 23.—The sudden growth of the sentiment in Russian official circles in favor of peace is not at all surprising to the officials here, because it is in line with the predictions of the American embassy at St. Petersburg when last heard from on this subject.

In fact it was gathered that the real obstacle in the way of the beginning of negotiations to this end was to be found rather in the jealousies of Euro-

found rather in the jealousies of European powers outside of Russia than in the Czar's own court. It is believed now, however, that the great financial interests of London, Berlin and Paris, is undoubted, but is it not possible to press the campaign after the war?"

"The country is entirely occupied with internal affairs and disorders, turning internal affairs and disorders, turning the attention to the army only occasion. looking to their own salvation and the

Situation I

St. Petersburg Str pect of Amur **Being Abar** 

**Progress of Pacific** Emperor's N on Affa

St. Petersburg, Mar m.)-The possibility th army should be unable line of the Sungari riv it may be compelled to Harbin, but also along the railroad, a Japanese northern Ma Russian maritime An well, is the latest statche from the front.

The strategic weakn vitch's position, as he ward, is made clear spatch to the Associat it is pointed out that usu and the Sungari li dred miles below Harb will be difficult to ma farther back than Har the front of the arm railroad, the practicab movement to completel cation and isolate the cation and isolate the from home, is too set consideration. In view ity, the despatch allude advisability of imme Vladuvostok with war supplies for a two year respondent estimates th forcements needed to vitch the requisite su at 200,000. That such have been permitted t at the present is signif Linevitch has commun. Linevitch has commu estimate of the situa Nicholas, it may accou ty's increased dispos peace councils and ope fore the Japanese est on Russian soil. Wit fore the Japanese es on Russian soil. Wi tirely abandoned to only Vladivostok left, Russia will be

Practically at Ja in the matter of peace It can now be defi the decision to app Nicholas Nicholaevit command in the Far ered because the ou does not warrant the ing the prestige of a perial family.

Military authorities unless General Linevit ability to hold the lowe will risk his whole ar and concentrates there be defeated, his line two sides of an angle, which is open to the which is open to the
At the general staff
that Gen. Linevitch ma
abandon Harbin and re
Baikal, leaving Vladiv
is regarded as almost
anything that is official
being pointed out tha
Oyama will have a lo
task to bring up an ar
400,000 men.
Meanwhile Russian
are arriving at Harbi
1200 men per day. I
significant that there
marked peace party at

Not having a not envied his has one, the pos

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