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A. T. BEASLEY, A.A.Sc., (McGill),
Public Analyst
for Province of Quebec.

of the Vancouver series which a break in the continuity of the eous coal measures for a short ce, and divide the Wellington and elds south of it from the Comox elds, to the northwest. In another the writer will describe these which are of vast importance urnish the bulk of coal used by in the Alaska trade and a portion by the British North Pacific ron, stationed at Esquimalt har- ear Victoria.

ll, it wouldn't have made any differ- en if the Middle-of-the-Road Popu- adn't already become one. "Why? Why, by this time they would all een run over by automobiles."—*Life.*

greatest race across the Atlantic ever heard tell of," began the old skipper.

he Irish of course," interrupted Hoo- —Catholic Standard and Times.

INLEY" AND "LAURIER" MIN- ERAL CLAIMS.

near Kitsalas Canyon, on Skeena , in the Skeena Mining Division of ur District.

notice that I, Patrick Hickey, Free Certificate No. B56544, for myself agent for Helen Flewin, Free Min- ertificate No. B56515; Donald Rob- Free Miner's Certificate No. B56531; Rudge, Free Miner's Certificate No. and Edward Donehue, Free Min- ertificate No. B56542, intend, sixty rom the date hereof, to apply to the Recorder for a Certificate of Im- ents for the purpose of obtaining Grant of the above claims.

further take notice that action un- tion 37, must be commenced before uance of such Certificates of Im- ents.

20th day of March, 1902.

P. HICKEY.

'S WANTED—For the only author- Life of the Great Talmage, by his guished son, Rev. Dr. Frank De Talmage, and the Associate Editors e Christian Herald. Big Book. 500 profusely illustrated. Low retail. st discounts. Books on credit. Out- fee. Be first in the field. Write or for outfit today. Bradley-Garret- o., Limited, Brantford. a23

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NOTICE.

n of Reserve on Foreshore and Tidal Land.

hereby given that the reserva- reshore and tidal land, notice s published in the British Col- te and dated 15th March, 1890, Any person desirous of ac- ease of any foreshore or tidal take steps to acquire the same er provided by section 41 of the " after the expiration of three from the date of this notice.

W. C. WELLS,
missioner of Lands and Works.
Works Department, Victoria.
April, 1902.

by Mr. Houston, who pointed out that over $9,000, which Mr. Curtis included in the revenue from Rossland, was actually paid as taxes on Nelson mines. Mr. Houston vigorously resented Mr. Curtis' attempt to misrepresent the facts.

Mr. Curtis continuing, accused the government of bribing certain members to support them by unduly large appropriations to their constituencies. He would vigorously oppose the increases in salaries when those votes came up in committee.

In several instances in which Mr. Curtis scored the government for neglecting to provide for necessary public works in his constituency, he was answered by the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, that the items were provided for in the supplementary estimates.

Mr. Curtis' devoted considerable time to a criticism of Mr. McInnes, Mr. Gilmour, and Mr. Martin, and concluded by condemning the government railway policy.

Mr. Houston moved the adjournment of the debate, and the question being put was carried on the following division:

Yeas—Messrs. E. C. Smith, Oliver, Hawthornthwaite, Neill, Gifford, Garden, Tatlow, Fulton, Curtis, Munro, Green, McBride, McPhillips, Taylor, Helmcken, Kidd and Houston—17.

Nays—Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, Hayward, Prentice, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Clifford, Wells, Prior, Hall, Hunter, Dickie and Mounce—15.

Mr. McBride claimed the result of the vote as a defeat of the government and suggested that they should take an adjournment to consider the situation.

THE JUDGMENTS' ACT.

The report on the bill to amend the Judgments' Act was the next item of business. Mr. McPhillips moved the following amendment:

3. All judgments registered and re-registered under the provisions of said chapter 33 and amending acts after the coming into force of this Act shall rank, pari passu, as to the proceeds of any lands sold under any judgment so registered or re-registered, but this section shall not in any way affect judgments registered or re-registered under said chapter 33 or amending acts, nor in any way affect judgments registered or renewed under the provisions of the "Land Registry Act" and amending acts prior to the coming into force of this Act.

The debate was adjourned.

RETURNS.

Hon. Mr. Wells presented returns relating to the applications of the Vancouver Power Company, Limited, the Stave Lake Power Company, Limited, and the city of New Westminster and various municipalities for water records from Coquitlam lake and Trout lake.

Also a return dealing with the rate of wages of the men on government roads and trails in the Revelstoke riding of West Kootenay.

CREDITORS' TRUST DEEDS.

The report of the bill to amend the Creditor's Trust Deeds Act was next considered. An amendment offered by Mr. McPhillips was defeated and the report was adopted.

$3,000,000 LOAN.

A message was received from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting a bill to authorize a loan of $3,000,000, which was committed to committee, reported and read a first time.

THE RAILWAY BILL.

A second message from His Honor transmitted a bill respecting certain railway agreements, which was committed to committee of the whole, with Mr. Hunter in the chair. On the motion that the report be adopted, Mr. McBride made a virulent attack upon the government, accusing them of having deceived the House with regard to the Coast-Kootenay road in shutting out the Olalla Copper Mining & Smelting Co., Ltd., from tendering for its construction.

Mr. Oliver called attention to the different forms in which the Canadian Northern contract had been presented to the House, and wanted to know if the government knew what they were doing. He demanded why the favorable offer of the Olalla Copper Mining & Smelting Co. for the building of the Coast-Kootenay railway had not been considered.

Mr. Houston pointed out that Mr. Oliver was agent for the Olalla Co., and therefore not eligible to discuss the question or vote upon it.

Mr. Oliver declared he had a right to speak and vote. It was no business of Mr. Houston what his position was with regard to the Olalla company.

Mr. Houston insisted that Mr. Oliver was the agent and acting as such of the Olalla company and had therefore no right to discuss the affairs of that company in the House.

A scene of great confusion followed, both Mr. Oliver and Mr. Houston speaking at once, while the Speaker Mr. Smith Curtis kept rattling the lid of his desk and several members of the opposition added to the din by shouting "order."

Mr. Oliver finally got a hearing, after an appeal to Mr. Speaker, and he continued to impress upon the House the injustice done to his principals (the Olalla company) by the government.

Mr. McInnes moved that the committee rise and report progress.

Mr. McPhillips objected strongly to the bill before the House. He accused the government of recklessness in their dealings with railway promotors. He moved that the committee rise.

The amendment was lost on a vote of 19 to 16.

The House adjourned at 12.15 a. m.

Legislative Chamber, May 6, 1902.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2:15 p. m.

Rev. B. H. Balderston offered prayer.

Mr. McBride, rising to a question of privilege, asked the Hon. the Premier the intention of the government in face of what he claimed was a defeat on the motion of Mr. Houston to adjourn the debate on the estimates. He claimed the vote was a proof that the government had lost control of the House, and that it was their duty to resign. Continuing, Mr. McBride was denouncing the Railway bill, when Mr. Houston interrupted to explain that he had moved the adjournment of the debate in good faith, for the purpose of expediting business, and not for the purpose of embarrassing the government. He objected to the opposition attempting to make capital from the result of his action. He resented the insinuation that his vote could be influenced by the government or by the leader of the opposition, he was in the House representing his constituency, and held himself free to vote as his duty impelled.

Mr. McBride went on to argue that the votes and proceedings of Monday showed that the government had suffered defeat. He declared the opposition would lengthen the session for 12 months in order to defeat the Railway bill, they would obstruct business at every point until they compassed the defeat of the government.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir said the government had the control and confidence of a majority of the House. The vote of the previous sitting could not be held as a defeat of the government.

Mr. Rogers rose to a point of order. A motion to adjourn by a private member could not be regarded as a test vote

Mr. McBride continued to argue that the government had suffered defeat, wandering far from the subject and criticizing the records of the Hon. the Finance Minister, and the Hon. the Attorney-General, being several times called to order by Mr. Speaker. He read long extracts, from Hansard, of the British House of Commons of 1895, reporting a defeat of the government of the day, which he claimed was a parallel case to Monday's vote to adjourn the debate.

Hon. Mr. Prentice pointed out that Mr. McBride's remarks were out of order.

Mr. Speaker decided that Mr. McBride was out of order unless it was his intention to move a resolution.

Mr. McBride moved, seconded by Mr. McPhillips:

That in view of the defeat of the ministry on motion, "That the Speaker do leave the chair," to go into supply on the question of the adjournment of the debate, this House do express its view that the ministry should resign forthwith.

Mr. Speaker said the motion was not a matter of privilege but one of want of confidence, it was for the House to decide whether or not Mr. McBride could proceed to speak to his motion without notice.

Mr. McBride declared that there was an attempt being made to "gag" him.

Mr. Speaker replied that he was only acting upon precedent, and enforcing the rules of the House.

Mr. Hunter pointed out that the motion contained the assumption that the government had been defeated, which was contrary to fact, and rendered the motion irregular, and that in consequence it could not be considered by the House.

After further discussion the House divided on the question, was the subject of sufficient public importance to warrant the House considering it as a question of privilege.

The motion was defeated on the following division:

Yeas—Messieurs. Smith, E. C., Oliver, Hawthornthwaite, Neill, Gifford, Garden, Fulton, Curtis, Munro, Tatlow, Green, McBride, Murphy, McPhillips, Taylor, Helmcken and Kidd—17.

Nays—Messieurs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, Hayward, Martin, Prentice, Dunsmuir, Eberts, Smith, A. W., Ellison, Clifford, Wells, Prior, Hall, Rogers, Hunter, Dickie and Mounce—18.

Mr. McBride moved the adjournment of the House in order to consider the position of the government after their defeat of yesterday.

Mr. Speaker decided the motion out of order as not of urgent public importance. The House had just decided in the negative.

Mr. McBride continued to argue the point, notwithstanding Mr. Speaker's decision, until called to order.

Hon. Mr. Prentice moved that the House proceed with the orders of the day.

Mr. Oliver rose and claimed priority to speak, but Mr. Speaker explained that he had noticed Mr. Prentice first, and that he (Mr. Oliver) was out of order.

Mr. Oliver appealed from Mr. Speaker's ruling.

Mr. Speaker's ruling was upheld on the following division.

Yeas—Messieurs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, Neill, Hayward, Martin, Prentice, Dunsmuir, Eberts, Smith, A. W., Ellison, Clifford, Kidd, Wells, Rogers, Dickie and Mounce—18.

Nays—Messieurs. Smith, E. C., Oliver, Hawthornthwaite, Gifford, Garden, Fulton, Curtis, Munro, Tatlow, Green, McBride, Murphy and Taylor—13.

Mr. McBride opposed the main motion in another obstructive speech.

He had spoken for half an hour when Mr. Houston raised a point of order, which Mr. Speaker held not to be well taken.

Mr. Speaker asked Mr. Houston to sit down, which he peremptorily refused to do, and after a painful scene, the member for Nelson left the chamber, no action having been taken against him.

Mr. McBride claimed that the incident was another proof that the government had lost control of the House, and were not even prepared to protect Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mr. Eberts indignantly resented the insinuation that the government had failed to protect Mr. Speaker. On the other hand, Mr. McBride had sat sneering in his seat while Mr. Speaker was being defied, had he wished to relieve a very painful situation he might have done so by adjourning the debate.

Mr. Murphy moved that the conduct of the government in not protecting the chair was deserving of the censure of the House.

Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of order, as Mr. McBride had the floor. When Mr. McBride concluded his remarks the motion would be in order.

Mr. McBride moved the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Eberts opposed the motion, Mr. McBride's only object was to impede the business of the House.

The motion was defeated on a vote of 18 to 16.

Mr. McBride concluded his remarks on the motion to proceed with the orders of the day in order to allow Mr. Murphy

Hon. Mr. Prentice held that the motion required two days' notice.

Mr. McPhillips supported the motion.

Mr. Clifford moved in amendment the previous question.

Mr. McBride said the motion was out of order, as the question before the House was one of privilege.

Mr. Clifford's amendment was carried on a vote of 19 to 15.

The main motion was defeated on a vote of 18 to 16.

TO CONFIRM OVERDRAFT.

Hon. Mr. Prentice presented a message from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting a bill to confirm the existing bank overdraft.

Mr. McBride objected that copies of the bill had not been distributed.

Mr. Oliver endorsed Mr. McBride's remarks.

Mr. Hunter said in his experience of 31 years, he had never seen a debate arise on the first reading of a bill until the night previous, when the opposition opposed the first reading of the Railway bill.

The bill was then committed to committee, Mr. Hunter in the chair.

Mr. McBride demanded that copies of the bill be distributed, he considered it his duty as leader of the opposition to insist upon upon this.

Mr. Oliver also insisted that members should have copies of the bill.

Mr. Curtis agreed with the previous speakers.

Hon. Mr. Prentice said the committee were only asked to recommend the bill to the consideration of the House. Printed copies of the bill would be distributed at the evening session.

Although it was past 6 o'clock Messrs. Curtis and Oliver continued the debate, declaring they had not desire to obstruct business, but were ardently desirous of preserving the rights and privileges of the House.

Hon. Mr. Prentice again pointed out the practice regarding first readings, and accused Mr. Oliver of persistently obstructing business.

Messrs. Neill, McPhillips, Hawthornthwaite, Hayward, Eberts and others, continued the debate until 6:30, when a vote was taken and the bill reported.

The House then adjourned till 8:30 p. m.

NIGHT SITTING.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 9 p.m.

Hon. Mr. Prentice moved that the House proceed with the orders of the day.

Mr. Oliver moved in amendment that an order of the House be granted for a copy of the agreement entered into between the government and McLean Bros. for the construction of the Coast-Kootenay railway.

Speaking to his amendment, Mr. Oliver said the House had been informed some days ago that an agreement had been made with McLean Bros., and on Monday a bill had been brought down to ratify an agreement between the government and the Vancouver and Coast-Kootenay Railway company. The House had a right to know why the first named had been abandoned and the second taken up.

Hon. Mr. Prentice said there was no legitimate reason for the amendment at this stage. When the Coast-Kootenay railway bill would be brought up for second reading, members would have ample opportunity for criticising the agreement.

Mr. McBride supported the amendment, complimenting Mr. Oliver on his able statement of the case of the Olalla Copper company on Friday last. He claimed that McLean Bros. had forced the government to enter into a contract with them by taking advantage of the government's weakness. Mr. Wells had announced that a contract had been made with McLean Bros. and now a bill was brought down to ratify an agreement with a company which had no corporate existence.

Departing from his subject, Mr. McBride charged Col. Prior with having secured a deputation composed of members of his election committee to come over to the House to try to induce members to vote for the Canadian Northern contract.

Hon. Col. Prior denied the charge most emphatically. It was untrue that he or any other member of the government had anything to do with bringing the deputation over. It was equally untrue that the deputation was composed of his election committee. There were several gentlemen in the deputation who were members of Mr. Bodwell's election committee, strong supporters of that gentlemen, who had regretted their stand during the last election, and were now supporting the government.

Mr. McBride was continuing to repeat his charges, when he was interrupted by Mr. Hall, whom he had declared could not be re-elected in Victoria, and that if he (McBride) ran against him he (Hall) would lose his deposit.

Mr. Hall challenged him to resign and contest the seat for Victoria.

Mr. McBride reiterated his charge that the government or Col. Prior had induced the deputation to come to the House to intimidate Mr. McPhillips.

Cries of "Order," "Shame."

Hon. Col. Prior again indignantly resented the untruthful charge. The deputation was headed by the Mayor, and was composed of reputable citizens. It was as scandalous as it was untrue to accuse those gentlemen of attempting to intimidate members of the House.

Mr. McBride reiterated his charges that the deputation came to the House for the purpose of intimidating Mr. McPhillips, continuing in the same strain until called to order by the chair.

He resumed his remarks, and drifting away from the question, began a criticism of the Canadian Northern contract, till again reminded by Mr. Speaker that he must confine himself to the amendment.

Despite this, Mr. McBride wandered far afield, and was called back to the question by Mr. Speaker.

He concluded by accusing the government of sectionalism, while he claimed the opposition were combined to advance the interests of the whole province.

Mr. McPhillips regarded the action of the delegation of his constituents which had called upon him in the afternoon to urge him to support the Canadian Northern contract, as an attempt to intimidate and coerce him into a course of action which was at variance with his convictions and his principles. He regarded himself as a representative of the people of British Columbia at large, as well as of his immediate constituents. He regarded it as his sacred duty to defend the interests of the province as well as those of Victoria, and no amount of argument, persuasion, or pressure could induce him to depart from the position which his conscience told him was the correct one.

He then took up the proposed contract with the Vancouver Coast-Kootenay railway company, and compared it with that submitted last year by Mr. Bodwell, to show that the latter was a much more favorable one to the province. He challenged the government to appeal to the people on their record, he was quite prepared, on his part, to stand by his principles, and he was convinced his constituents would endorse his course of action.

He had told the deputation in the afternoon that he would vote against the government on every occasion.

Mr. Curtis—"The Hon. the second member for Victoria can't be bought."

Hon. Mr. Prentice—"Worthy of the mind of the honorable member for Rossland."

Mr. Curtis said he couldn't say as much for members of the government.

Hon. Mr. Prentice said he would call Mr. Curtis' insinuation a lie if the expression were parliamentary.

Mr. McPhillips, continuing, said he would feel it his duty to oppose every measure the government brought forward, no matter what its nature, in order to defeat them.

Hon. Col. Prior—"Even when those measures are in the best interests of the country?"

Mr. McPhillips retorted that his first duty was to assist in the defeat of the government.

Hon. Mr. Eberts hoped he would be given the same latitude as had been accorded hon. members opposite, although he did not propose to proceed in the same abusive style.

Mr. McPhillips rose to a point of order. Mr. Eberts might bulldoze the electors, but they could not bulldoze him.

Hon. Mr. Eberts, continuing, said the hon. members opposite were continually referring to what they would do and what they had done, but how could they reconcile themselves with their utterances of last session? They had objected to the Loan Act of last session, yet they were now asking why similar clauses were not in the bills now before the House. On the hustings they had recommended the granting of 20,000 acres per mile to a road to Yellowhead Pass.

Mr. McBride denied having favored such a policy.

Hon. Mr. Eberts continuing, charged that Messrs. McBride and McPhillips were strong supporters of Mr. Bodwell at last election, and that gentleman had advocated the granting of 20,000 acres and $6,000 a mile, and they acquiesced in his policy by their strong support. Perhaps they would back down from that position now, but they supported Bodwell, and therefore were equally responsible for his policy. The government were not proposing to give $6,000,000, but less than $2,000,000. It was not true that the government had a proposition for the Canadian Northern in 1901. The proposition made then was for a line to Kitimaat Arm, not to Bute Inlet.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

MEDICAL COUNCIL.

Annual Meeting Held at the Board of Health Office.

At 10:30 o'clock yesterday morning the British Columbia Medical council met in the Board of Health rooms in the Parliament buildings. A good deal of business was transacted, amongst which the examination required of all medical men desirous of taking out a license to practise in this province came up for a good deal of discussion, with the result that several changes have been made to the end that the curriculum will be much more practical in its effect.

The annual election of officers was also held, with the following results:

President, Dr. O. M. Jones, of Victoria; vice-president, Dr. R. Eden Walker, of New Westminster; registrar, Dr. Chas. J. Fagan, of Victoria; and treasurer, Dr. W. J. McGuigan, of Vancouver. Examiners were also selected as follows: In anatomy, Dr. J. M. Lefevre; materia medica and therapeutics, Dr. W. J. McGuigan; chemistry and public health, Dr. C. J. Fagan; physiology, Dr. A. P. Proctor, of Kamloops; practise of medicine and clinical medicine, Dr. R. E. Walker; surgery, Dr. J. C. Davie; diseases of women and children, Dr. O. M. Jones; clinical surgery, Drs. Davie and Lefevre.

The council then adjourned until Thursday evening next at 8 o'clock, when the examinations which began yesterday morning shall have been completed, and the examiners shall have prepared their reports.

Discuss Yukon Telegraph Lines

Government Hauled Over the Coals For Its Very Bad Management.

Seven Thousand Four Hundred Immigrants In Last Two Weeks.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 5.—In the House to-day a strong protest was made by Messrs. Charlton and Ross (Victoria, N.S.) against the parliamentary system of granting divorce.

Mr. Fielding's loan bill granting permission to raise fifteen million dollars to write off temporary loans was read a second time.

The House was in supply all day. There was a discussion regarding the construction of the Yukon telegraph line. The opposition strongly condemned the awarding of the pole contract to Mr. Rochester. Mr. Tarte admitted it was a mistake. Mr. Borden said the government could recover Rochester's profits if they cared to do so. The total length of the line was 2,135 miles and the cost $880,000.

Messrs. Clark and Boyd strongly urged a reduction in the telegraph tolls. Mr. Tarte replied that he was favorably impressed with these representations and would make a reduction, although his officers were opposed to it.

Mr. Earle strongly condemned the system under which supplies were purchased for Yukon buildings. Mr. Leonard charged that Judge Dugas had deducted a portion of their salaries from two of the jail officials in Dawson because they would not work in his house. Messrs. Tarte and Fitzpatrick scouted these statements. The latter said it probably was the deduction on account of living allowance. Hereafter no allowance will be made to judges beyond a fixed sum.

There were 7,392 immigrants arrived in Canada in the last two weeks. Over six thousand of these were destined for the Northwest.

The Exchequer court award to Mackenzie & Mann $327,678 as compensation for their expenditure on the Yukon-Teslin railway.

The Imperial government has granted permission to Col. Pellatt to take over to the Coronation the Queen's Own Rifles Bugle band. Col. Pellatt pays the expenses.

The House will not sit on Thursday, it being Ascension day, but will hold a Saturday session instead.

Attendance At School

That For Month of April Was Largest In History of the City.

The attendance at the public schools during the month of April reached a larger daily average than ever before within a regular percentage for the whole city of nearly 90. Several of the schools exceeded the 90 per cent. notch. These were the Boys' school, Girls' school, Spring Ridge, Rock Bay and Central annex. Out of a total of 57 divisions, 31, or more than half, made a regularity record of 90 per cent.

Following are the totals for all the schools and the regularity honor roll:

	No. At'ng.		Ave.	P.C.
High School	160		142.65	89.15
Boys' School	423		388.44	91.83
Girls' School	441		399.52	90.59
South Park	408		361.34	88.56
North Ward	439		388.39	88.46
Victoria West	289		253.62	87.79
Spring Ridge	196		180.40	92.04
Hillside	137		116.43	84.97
Kingston	132		115.73	87.72
Rock Bay	73		67.74	92.79
Central Annex	31		28	90.32
	2729		2442.29	89.49
Corresponding figures for April, 1901	2585		21.90	84.73

High School—Div. 1, 90.62; division 3, 91.41.

Boys' School—Div. 1, 95.95, teacher, Mr. Gilles; division 3, 93.56, teacher, Mr. J. M. Campbell; division 5, 90.67, teacher, Miss McKenzie; division 6, 90.67, teacher, Mrs. Taylor; division 7, 94.35, teacher, Miss Barrow; division 8, 92.21, teacher, Miss Nason.

Girls' School—Div. 1, 91.72, teacher, Miss Williams; division 2, 90.65, teacher, Miss Barron; division, 3, 91.71, teacher, Miss Keast; division, 4, 90.14, teacher, Miss Robinson; division, 6, 92.07, teacher, Miss Shrapnel; division 8, 90.16, teacher, Miss Johnston.

South Park—Div. 1, 91.04, teacher, Miss Cameron; division 3, 91.40, teacher, Miss McGregor; division 8, 94.28, teacher, Miss Maclean.

North Ward—Div. 1, 92.63, teacher, Mr. Tait; division 3, 91.04, teacher, Miss Marchant; division 5, 92.27, teacher, Miss Pope; division 8, 92.67, teacher, Miss Noble.

Victoria West—Div. 1, 92, teacher Mr. Winsby; division 3, 90.69, teacher, Miss Johnson; division 6, 90.85, teacher, Miss Nisbet.

Spring Ridge—Div. 1, 95.79, teacher, Miss Russell; division 2, 92.71, teacher, Miss Blackbourne; division 3, 90.74, teacher, Miss Christie.

Kingston street—Div. 2, 94.42, teacher, Miss Jesse.

Rock Bay—Div. 1, 95.13, teacher, Miss Sprague; division 2, 90.57, teacher, Mrs. Wheeler.

Central Annex—Div. 1, 90.32, teacher, Miss E. L. Brown.

BROKERS FAIL.

Suspension of Three Firms in New York.

New York, May 5.—The developments of the latter half of last week in Wall street in connection with the stock of the Dominion Securities company, the Rutland railroad company and the Hackensack Meadows, resulted today in the announcement in rapid succession of the suspension of three stock exchange brokerages houses. The first firm to declare its inability to meet obligations was Offenback & Moore. Henry Bros. and Lockwood, Hurd & Co. followed in rapidly.

Offenback & Moore were known principally as traders, in what was known as "Webb-Meyer" securities, and the announcement was made Saturday that they had experienced some difficulty in securing loans to enable them to carry stocks for the interests they represented. On Saturday afternoon a statement was made on behalf of the firm to the effect that temporary arrangements had been made, and that it was hoped funds might be obtained today to pay off the obligations and continue business. To-day's situation shows, however, that these hopes were not realized. The offices of Offenback & Moore were not opened for business at all today. Mr. Gordon, of Henry Bros., whose suspension followed, was a director of the Dominion Securities Co.

Closing Dance.—The last of Mrs. Chudley's pleasant series of dances will take place at the A. O. U. W. hall on Wednesday evening next. The music will be a special feature of the entertainment, Mr. J. Longfield having been engaged for that purpose. A large attendance is expected.

A LARGE INCREASE.

Victoria Now Has More Voters on the List Than Ever Before.

The Court of Revision of the Provincial Voters List for this city, was held yesterday morning by Collector of Votes Harvey Combe, in the Registrar's office of the Supreme court, in the Court House. Some 100 names had been objected to, the persons undertaking this duty being Messrs. J. H. Lawson, C. H. Tite and G. A. Shade. The two latter, however, were not in attendance, although due notice had been sent out in each of the cases in which objections had been entered, and as a result only some 36 names were struck off, chiefly those of the dead and others who had ceased to reside in the constituency. Twelve more had been previously removed from the list at their own individual requests, thus making 48 in all to be taken off the list. The additions, however, were considerable, numbering in all about 747, so that the voting strength of Victoria has now been increased from 4,325 to 5,024.

There are a score of candidates for the vacant post of city clerk in London, which pays $10,000 a year.

Launch of The Venture

New Steamer Built By Victoria Machinery Depot Takes the Water.

(From Tuesday's Daily).

Steamer Venture, the new freight and live stock carrying steamer, built at the Victoria Machinery Depot for N. P. Shaw & Co., of this city, was launched yesterday. The 160 foot steamer slid gracefully down the greased ways and took the water very prettily, as the staff of workmen who have been working on her under the superintendence of W. J. McDonald since January 16th, gave three cheers for the new steamer. The wharves of the Victoria Machinery Depot and the nearby wharves and hillsides by the waterfront in the upper harbor were thronged with ladies and gentlemen, including many camera fiends, to watch the steamer slide from the ways. Promptly at three o'clock the blocks were knocked from under her, and with a quick lurch forward the nul with her flag flying aft, slipped away on the water with the champagne dripping from her bow. The vessel was returned alongside the Victoria Machinery Depot and her machinery will be installed and her furnishings completed, in readiness to make her first trip to Skagway about two weeks hence. The machinery, two compound engines—for the Venture is a twin screw steamer—has been completed by the Victoria Machinery Depot and will be installed at once.

The Venture, which is a vessel especially designed for the live stock and general freighting trade between Victoria, Vancouver and Skagway, is a vessel 160 feet long, 38 feet beam and 11 feet deep. Her model was made by her builder, A. C. McDonald, on January 16th and her keel was laid within the next few days. Yesterday, 110 days afterwards, the completed hull was launched. The Venture, which will make her home port here, will be commanded by Captain Otto Bucholz, the well known sealing and navigation, who took the steamer Alpha through the ice pack to nome and landed her there first of all the fleet. She will be able to carry three hundred head of cattle and about two thousand sheep to Skagway for the Yukon and Dawson twice a month, and with the steamer in the business, it is expected that British Columbia will be able to corrall the northern cattle trade. Troughs and tanks will be placed forward and arrangement made for the watering and feeding the cargoes of cattle, in fact the steamer has been especially designed for the trade.

A. C. McDonald, the builder of the Venture, has been building ships for 55 years. Since he took his residence in Victoria West he has built many vessels, but it was when he was building sailers in his Nova Scotian yards that he won his record as a builder of fast craft. The barkentine Argentina, built by him, a 750 ton vessel in the South Pacific trade from Pictou, can run fourteen knots. She sailed a race with a steamer from the Straits of Canso to Pictou and beat the thirteen knot steamer by an hour. He built the 1500 ton ship Calhoun, 100 ton bark James Martin, and 1000 ton bark John Gill, the barkentine Queen and many others on the eastern coast. At Hoquiam he built the bark Chehalis, and at Tacoma he made the three masted sealer Sophia Sutherland. He built the tug Renton at Blakeley and the steamer Oscar, now engaged in local freighting was built at Victoria by him. The sealing schooners Enterprise and Victoria were also built by him.

Both Builder McDonald and his staff are proud of their latest creation—the steam freighter Venture.

Mr. Shaw was seen by a Colonist reporter after the launching, and spoke freely as to his reason for building the Venture. He said:

"I have been engaged in shipping live stock and merchandize north for the past three or four years, and have seen with regret so much money going into the hands of American ship owners, whose vessels purchase all their supplies in Seattle, and who pay out all their money for wages and repairs there. I have also been impressed with the fact that the boats now in the service have very inadequate accommodation for live stock, which means not only discomfort for the animals, but loss to the shippers. I therefore determined to build a steamer that would meet both these objections, and I think any one, who knows the trade, will admit that I am likely to be successful. This ship can carry all the live stock that will be needed during the year by the Canadian Yukon, and there is no longer any necessity for permitting United States vessels to take this important branch of business. The Venture will not be in competition with the C. P. N. boats except incidentally. The steamers of the latter company are not designed as cattle carries, and if they are relieved of the necessity of providing for this business, they can carry all the merchandize that will offer. Thus all the freight business of the Canadian Yukon can be handled in Canadian bottoms.

"I have been asked why I built a steamer here, instead of buying or chartering one. My answer has always been that there is not the least reason why one should not be built here. It is satisfactory for me to know that every dollar spent in the construction of this ship either has been or will be expended here in Victoria, and that her disbursements will be made here. The Venture is a splendidly built ship. She is as strong as any vessel need be, and can carry a big cargo. I estimate that she can carry 400 head of cattle, and between 600 and 700 sheep each trip, and this number, with what the C. P. N. can carry, will meet all the demands of the Canadian Yukon.

"I feel that too much praise cannot be given to Mr. A. C. McDonald, who built the steamer, for the excellent work he has done, and I would like to make public acknowledgment of the manner in which all the men, when they knew time was important, rushed the work to completion. This speaks well for Victoria as a shipbuilding point.

"The Venture will be commanded by Capt. Otto Bucholz, and I will have her ready by the 15th inst. Her machinery is all ready to be installed, and the Victoria Machinery Depot will complete this part of the work with their usual promptness."

WIFE SALES.

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There is no myth relative to the manners and customs of the English that is more tenaciously held by the ordinary Frenchman than that the sale of a wife in the market place is an habitual and an accepted fact in English life.

It is—so far as my experience goes—quite useless to assure a Frenchman that such transfer of wives is not a matter of every-day occurrence and is not legal; he replies, with an expression of incredulity, that of course English people endeavor to make light or deny a fact that is "notorious."

In a book by the antiquary Colin de Plancy, on Legends and Superstitions connected with the Sacraments, he gives up some pages to an account of the prevalent English custom. I heard a country cure once preach on marriage, and contrast its indissolubility in Catholic France with the laxity in Protestant England, where "anyone, when tired of his wife, puts a halter round her neck, takes her to the next market town, and sells her for what she will fetch." I ventured to call on this cure and remonstrate, but he answered me he had seen the fact stated in books of the highest authority, and that my disputing the statement did not prove that his authorities were wrong, but that my experience was limited, and he asked me point blank whether I had never known such cases. There, unhappily, he had me on the hip. And when I was obliged to confess that I did know of one such case, "Mais, voilà, mon Dieu," said he, and shrugged his shoulders with a triumphant smile.

Now it must be allowed that such sales have taken place, and that this is so is due to rooted conviction in the rustic mind that such a transaction is legal and morally permissible.

The case I knew was this:

There lived a tall, thin man in the parish when I was a boy, who was the village poet. Whenever an event of any consequence took place within the confines of the parish, such as the marriage of the squire's daughter, he came down to the manor house with a copy of verses he had composed on the occasion, and was then given his dinner and a crown. Now this man, had actually bought his wife for half a crown. Her husband had led her into Uckhampton fair and had sold her there in the market. The poet purchased her for half the sum he had received for one of his poems, and led her home with him, a distance of twelve miles, by the halter, he holding it in his hand, she placidly, contentedly, wearing the loop about her neck.

The report that Henry F—— was leading home his half-crown wife preceded the arrival of the couple, and when they entered the village all the inhabitants turned out to see the spectacle.

Now, this arrangement was not very satisfactory to either squire or rector and both intervened. Henry F—— maintained that Anne was his legitimate wife, for "he had not only bought her in the market, but had led her home, with the halter in his hand, and he'd take his Bible oath that he never took the halter off her, till she had crossed his doorstep and he had shut the door."

The parson took down the Bible, the squire "Burns' Justice of Peace," and strove to convince Harry that his conduct was warranted by neither Scripture nor the law of the land. "I don't care," said he, "what you say, as sure as I live we was spliced at the altar, for and because I paid half a crown, and I never took off the halter till her was in my house; lor' bless yer honors, you may ask anyone if that ain't marriage, good, sound and Christian, and everyone will tell you it is."

Mr. Henry F—— lived in a cottage that was on lives, so the squire was unable to bring compulsion to bear on him. But when Anne died, then a difficulty arose; in order whose name was she to be entered in the register? The parson insisted that he could not and he would not enter her as Anne F——, for that was not her legal name. Then an angry scene took place, her was to be buried in another parish, where the parson was unacquainted with the circumstances. I must say that Anne proved an excellent "wife." She was tidy, clean and managed a rough tempered and rough tongued man with great tact, and was generally respected. She died in or about 1843.

Much later than that there lived a publican some miles off, whom I knew very well—indeed, he was the namesake of my grandfather, and a cousin to a carpenter in my constant employ. He bought his wife for a stone two-gallon jar of Plymouth gin, if I was informed aright. She had belonged to a stone-cutter, but as he was dissatisfied with her, he put up a notice in several public places, to this effect.

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NOTICE.

This here be to inform the publick as how G—— C—— be dispozed to sell his wife by Auction. Her be a decent, clanely woman, and be of age twenty-five ears. The sale be to take place in the Inn, Thursday next at seven o'clock.

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In this case also I do not give the names, as the woman is, I believe, still alive. I believe—so I was told—that the foreman of the works remonstrated, and insisted that such a sale would be illegal. He was not, however, clear as to the points of law, and he believed that it would be illegal unless the husband held an auctioneer's license, and if money passed. This was rather a damper. However, the husband was very desirous to be freed from his wife, and he held the sale as he had advertised, making the woman stand on a table, and he armed himself with a little hammer. The biddings were to be in kind, and not in money. One man offered a coat, but as he was a small man and the seller was stout, when he found that the coat would not fit him, he refused it. Another offered a "phisgie," i.e., a pick, but this also was refused, as the husband possessed a "phisgie" of his own. Finally the landlord offered a two-gallon jar of gin, and down fell the hammer with "gone."

I knew the woman; she was not bad looking. The new husband drank, and treated her very roughly, and on one occasion she had a black eye when I was lunching at the inn. I asked her how she had hurt herself. She replied that she had knocked her face against the door, but I was told that this was a result of a domestic brawl. Now, the remarkable feature in these cases is that it is impossible to drive the idea out of the heads of those who thus deal in wives that such a