

CLAIMS AGAINST VENEZUELA.

The public is not very well informed as to the cause of the rumpus with Venezuela. It is known in a general way that British subjects have been ill-treated since the time of the famous boundary dispute, into which Grover Cleveland butted for reasons which are said to have been private rather than in the spirit of a great-hearted philanthropist. It has also been informed that remonstrance after remonstrance was sent to the head of the time being of the illustrious nation whose integrity the United States has undertaken to maintain. Those remonstrances were never so much as acknowledged. Therefore it becomes incumbent upon Great Britain to convince Venezuela that a country which posed as a nation should evince some regard for the responsibilities and amenities which usually accompany nationality.

The London Daily Mail has searched the records and furnished its readers with some of the details of the account against the South American republic. According to that statement the chief item in the account seems to be a loan of \$10,000,000 negotiated in 1896, and bearing interest at 5 per cent. This is, apparently, a strictly public and government obligation, with no question about "guarantee," and the inference is fair that a large proportion of it is in the possession of Castro or of his authorized and confidential depository. Two-thirds of this loan is due to Germans. The interest is four years in arrears. There is a German railway built at a cost of \$15,000,000, or at least that is what the Germans charged, and the Venezuelans agreed to pay, of which our London contemporary says that the railway built with it has received "much the same treatment with the English ones." The treatment of the British roads, it appears from the same authority, is not only that the guaranteed interest has not been paid, but that on three British roads, as inducements to secure the concession, the concessionaires agreed to carry troops and munitions of war at half price, that is, at no profit. They have not received any pay whatever on this account, which now amounts to about \$2,000,000.

There are many other claims of which an adjustment is demanded. There appears to be no particular reason why American newspapers should get so terribly "worked up" over the matter. But if they are as anxious as they pretend to be that the weak shall not be permitted to suffer because of the arrogance and ruthlessness of the strong, we do not know that either Great Britain or Germany would oppose the suggestion that the United States take possession of Venezuela, settle the unsettled claims there, as it did in the Philippines, and meet the obligations of the defeated nation. The discussion of this Venezuela matter indicates the rate at which the spirit of expansion is spreading. Once in possession of Venezuela, our neighbors would set venomous eyes upon the whole of South America. If they have any regard for their future they will keep out of that continent.

GREATEST SWINDLERS OF THIS OR ANY AGE.

The gay population of Paris is never happy unless it is in the midst of a sensation, either of a sanguinary, a social, a political, or a criminal character. The Humberts have provided the Parisians with such a cause of animation that it was necessary to call out troops to prevent an outbreak of the excited populace which might have ended in either violence to or the release of the prisoners. Who are the Humberts, and what is the nature of the crime of which they are accused? We are a long distance from the scene of the operations of the criminals, and it is extremely likely but few people have followed the details of the case. Interest has been aroused by the arrest of the fugitives in Madrid and the elation of their entry into Paris, and a synopsis of the principal chapters of the story of the crime may be considered worthy of perusal.

Some 25 years ago, in the town of Toulouse, France, a family known as the d'Aurignacs kept an antiquity shop, a French edition of the old curiosity shop. One day, the story goes, an American millionaire, Robert Henry Crawford, was passing along the street when a plate glass window fell from a store near by, injuring the man of wealth. Fortunately for the d'Aurignacs, he was carried into their shop. His wounds were attended to by a blooming daughter of the house, Mlle. Therese, but in spite of her care and attention, he died. Before he expired, however, he made a will, leaving, as a proof of his gratitude, his enormous fortune to the sweet Therese. This was the beginning of the fraud. There was no accident, no millionaire, and no fortune, but that did not signify.

The late Robert Henry Crawford had conveniently left his immense fortune in the possession of his lucky heiress in the shape of a bundle of bonds and securities, worth, it was declared, no less than \$20,000,000. She was about to cut the string and enter into possession when two nephews of the deceased put in an appearance, and claimed the estate for themselves and for a younger sister of Mlle. Therese, Mlle. Marie d'Aurignac. The nephews contended that they had a subsequent will, which

changed the disposition of the property. Thereupon the precious bundle of bonds was, according to the French law, locked up in a safe, sealed and secured against all interference, while a long and involved process of law was begun to decide who were the rightful heirs. As there was no Robert Henry Crawford, so he had no nephews, and the suit was entered in the name of persons who had no existence.

But the litigation was a gold mine to the d'Aurignacs. They became immediately social stars of the first magnitude. Both sides of the great lawsuit, represented by the sisters Therese and Marie, were instantly in command of almost unlimited financial resources. Suits were being lacking. Therese married Frederic Humbert, son of the Minister of Justice in the French Cabinet. The groom had at one time been a member of the Chamber of Deputies from the Department of the Seine. The Humberts lived on the strength of the bride's prospective wealth in the style of multi-millionaires.

On the Avenue de la Grand Arce, the most charming thoroughfare in Paris, the Humberts acquired an imposing residence, placing in its strong vault the safe containing the precious funds. For greater security the funds were guarded by heavy iron bars, so that the house resembled a safety deposit institution. Everything that could give outward reality to the concealed fraud was done. The safe was watched and guarded as though it were a diamond mine. The happy possessors of this concealed treasure had no difficulty in securing credit until the courts had decided who were the legal proprietors. Even if the case went against the Humberts they were still to be wealthy, because the will set up by the alleged nephews conceded them an annuity of \$200,000 a year for life. The scheme was evolved whereby the sum of \$15,000,000 was borrowed during a long course of years from money-lending Europe.

At last it occurred to some of the creditors, who were becoming tired of waiting for their money, that it would be an excellent idea to open the safe and reassure themselves as to its contents. There had been rumors that all was not right, but the public had put them aside with incredulity. The bankers, however, obtained the permission of the court for an inspection of the bonds and other valuables pledged to them. The scrutiny took place on May 9th of this year. The safe was solemnly opened in the presence of the judicial tribunal. The Humberts and the d'Aurignacs absented themselves.

The safe was found to contain absolutely nothing of value. There were no bonds or securities. A large diamond brooch proved to be of paste, and worth about \$2. There were a few worthless shares in gold mines which have passed out of existence. The whole remarkable swindle was, to the astonishment of the world, laid bare. The participants had vanished completely, and for months no traces could be found of them. Finally a few days ago the entire family was arrested in Madrid.

THE RIGHT TO VOTE.

The Colonist is mistaken. The Times is not afraid of the people of Victoria. But we do distrust Mayor Hayward. We know his tricks and his manners; we know he feels that if the properly qualified electors of Victoria have their way he will be defeated at the coming elections; and we also know in order to secure the Mayor's chair for another year, and all the honors and emoluments which go therewith, he is not above resorting to just such an artifice as caused the Colonist to be given precedence over all other creditors of the exhibition association. Therefore it is that we protest against his stuffing of the voters' list by His Worship, and we shall continue to protest despite the disinterested remarks of the subsidized organ of Mayor Hayward.

If it were thoroughly understood that practically every British subject, male or female, over twenty-one years of age, is qualified under the latest revised version of the Municipal Clauses Act to vote for Mayor and Aldermen, the Times would have no objection to the enlargement of the lists in accordance with that interpretation. Were such a latitudinarian view to prevail, and the name of every British subject over twenty-one years of age resident in the city to be placed on the list, the defeat of the Mayor would be more complete even than it promises to be. But the Legislature never contemplated such a liberal interpretation of the law. The advisers of the majority of Victoria households are endowed with consciences and they feel they cannot recommend the inmates of their establishments to break even the spirit of the law. That is where Mayor Hayward had the advantage under the present rather ambiguous statute. He has no scruples. He would reign, legally or illegally. But a way will be found of testing the claims to votes of those who are suspected of having no right to the insertion of their names in the lists.

The declaration published in these columns last night was not the very latest required to be taken by householders who aspire to the franchise. It is as follows:

I do solemnly declare that I am a British subject and of the full age of twenty-one years, that I was residing within the limits of the municipality of the city of Victoria on the 1st day of January last, and have continuously resided in said municipality since said day, and that the premises used by me as a licensed holder, or the dwelling occupied by me as a householder, is situated in the ... ward in the said municipality, and that I have paid all municipal rates, taxes, rentals, assessments and license-fees, payable by (which are not chargeable on land); and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and

effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the "Canada Evidence Act, 1893."

We say that under the interpretation given the law by the acts of Mayor Hayward every inmate of a household over twenty-one years of age is eligible to have his or her name placed upon the voters' lists. That this is a distorted interpretation there cannot be the slightest doubt.

GREAT IS THE CIVIL SERVANT.

Ye genial civil servant, whether in London, Washington or New York, is a perennial source of wonder, delight and perplexity to the miserable cynics who supply the press with the news of the various capitals. Perhaps the same remark applies to the class who control the destinies of the other nations of the world. The conditions were the same in the days when Charles Dickens delighted man and woman with his portrayals of the grotesque in human nature. But there were Barnacles in those days who refused to be removed from the strong rocks on which they had affixed themselves by the pertinacity of men of energy who thought "something should be done." There are no servants of the people at Ottawa who remind strenuous folk that they "must not, you know, be there in three in Victoria."

Our servants here (will they please excuse us for applying the term "servant" to them; it is merely an unfortunate custom) labor from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof, except in the holiday-season, of course. We have no need of a minister like Mr. Tarte here to appear in his department at the altogether unseemly hour of 9 o'clock in the morning, expecting the head of the establishment to be there to receive him.

The minions of the press who note what is doing at the Dominion capital will have it that Ministers are merely tolerated as persons who have no permanent standing in the community. They are here to-day; they may be retired to their original obscurity to-morrow. The civil servant is always in the full bloom of power and authority, official and social. He penetrates circles and clubs where cabinet ministers, if they had the effrontery to present themselves, would be received with a stony glare. The "wisest man the world ever saw" has not yet ventured to express an opinion as to what would happen should a Minister arise who thought he had the power to discharge one of those "servants of the people."

The civil servants at Washington appear also to have a proper regard for the dignity of their profession, but that is a democratic dash about that regard which would excite nothing but scorn at Ottawa, where the monarchical idea of the "broad" distinction between the classes and the masses largely prevails. No civil servant on the pay roll of the Dominion would think of permitting his wife also wear the badge of servitude. It is different at Washington. The custom seems to be general there, so general that the Postmaster-General has issued a decree to the effect that the practice shall cease. The consequences, an exchange says, are likely to be melancholy. A married woman in Washington, whose husband also is in the office, has announced her intention of procuring a divorce. He has a salary of \$1,800 a year; she one of \$1,400. She explains: "He has always spent his salary, and I have spent mine. We usually got along very well in this way. But if we are to lose either salary, it will be mine, and he would not want to spend any more of his on the spending, and I would have nothing except what I could beg from him. Therefore, we think it is wise to separate."

It is perhaps just as well the custom at Ottawa and Washington is different. If a crisis such as is now on at the American capital should ever arise "in our midst" we have no handy divorce court to appeal to for assistance.

The Colonist, discussing the latest phase of the municipal campaign as revealed by the plans of the Mayor to manufacture voters, says "a newspaper shows that the wives and children of the men voters is not likely to gain much sympathy for its candidate." It is not a question of fear at all. It is a matter of right and wrong. If a man's wife and children are entitled to the municipal franchise, although living in the same establishment as the head of the house and dependent upon his income for subsistence, the claim has never before been advanced. It has remained for a great interpreter of the law like Mayor Hayward to discover that important fact. But if it develops that a deliberate attempt is to be made to smother the will of the electors of Victoria by stuffing the voters' lists with bogus names, we believe it will not be necessary to resort to law to prevent the unscrupulous from profiting by the fraud. The people will resent the wrong it is proposed to inflict upon them.

THE PASTOR'S PITY.—A prominent pastor of a Durham, Ont., church writes: "I suffered intensely from indigestion. I suffered most one bottle of South American Rheumatism Cure healed me. I feel like proclaiming it from the housetops." Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—132.

The British consul at Hankow says the movements of Tung Fuh Siang give reason to expect trouble. Tung Fuh Siang is supposed to have 10,000 warriors under his command in Kan-sen province.

The London Times, which strenuously opposes the British alliance with Germany in the Venezuelan trouble, prints a poem by Rudyard Kipling crystallizing the popular anti-German sentiment. The poem contains the following: "Last night ye swore our voyage was done, But seaward still we go, And ye tell us now of a secret vow, Ye have made with an open foe."

"That we must lie off a lightless coast, And haul, and back, and veer, At the will of the waves, have wrangled us a most, For a year, and a year, and a year."

"The dead they mocked are scarcely cold, Our wounds are bleeding yet, And ye tell us now that our strength is left To help them press for a debt."

"Nearth all the flags of all mankind, That use upon the seas, Was there no other best to do, Than ye strike hands with these?"

"Of evil times that men could choose On evil fate to fall, What brooding judgment left ye loose To pick the time of all?"

"In sight of peace from the narrow seas, O'er half the world to run, With a cheated crew to lag upon, With the gods and the business men."

The prince lately born is the fifth child of the Prince and Princess of Wales. All are living, and they are considered to be among the healthiest children in European royalty. Prince George of Wales, the father of the infant prince, was married to Princess Victoria, daughter of the late Queen Victoria, in May of Teck in the chapel of St. James's Palace, July 6th, 1893. He was born at Marlborough House, June 3rd, 1865, and is his wife's senior by about two years. Their four elder children are: Prince Edward Albert, born at White Lodge, June 23rd, 1894; Prince Albert Frederick George, born at Sandringham, December 14th, 1895; Princess Victoria Alexandra, born at Sandringham, April 25th, 1897, and Prince Henry William Frederick Albert, born at Sandringham, March 31st, 1900.

There are now four daily newspapers in Vancouver. The Ledger was added to the list on Monday last. It is issued at midday. The Terminal City people may now have their news at all hours of the day. How the four papers will earn a livelihood is one of the mysteries into which we are not permitted to inquire. The Ledger is rather antiquated in form, but the first number is well filled up with news. In Dominion politics the new journal says it will be Conservative. On provincial questions it is rather non-committal, but seems inclined to side with the present government. We wish the stranger every success, but it will take energy and something else to achieve it in a field that is so limited and is apparently already so well filled.

Mr. F. C. Wade, formerly Crown prosecutor for the Yukon, contributes to the Empire Review a good tempered article on the Alaska-Yukon boundary disputes. He presents the Canadian side of the controversy with ability and fairness, laying stress upon the fact that the United States trade with the Yukon is declining and that the tidewater towns of Skagway and Dyea are not being benefited but ruined by existing arrangements.

DEVELOPING COAL FIELDS.

The New Company Are Opening Another Shaft at Nanaimo on Newcastle Island.

The Western Fuel Company, of San Francisco, which has only recently acquired the Nanaimo coal fields, are apparently intending to institute a vigorous policy at that city. A new shaft is to be sunk on Newcastle Island for the purpose of developing that portion of the property. The tenders for the sinking of it are all to be in by January 6th. It is expected that a depth of about 300 feet will be required.

At present there is a shaft on Newcastle Island near the outer shore at Kanaka Bay. It has been used for ventilation purposes, being connected with the workings of Protection Island. Within the past year the connection between the Protection-Island workings and those of No. 1 shaft in the city of Nanaimo has been developed so as to allow of the coal being taken out from the island workings by means of the latter. This practically did away with using the bunkers on Protection Island.

The new shaft on Newcastle will be situated on the inner side of the island, opposite Newcastle district. It will connect with the other Newcastle shaft at Kanaka Bay, and from these two shafts the whole field of about 500 acres of Newcastle coal will worked. The coal will be hoisted at the new shaft and shipped from a wharf to be constructed in the little bay opposite the Pink In, which will avoid the necessity of extending the wharves into the channel and thereby permit the largest vessels calling at Nanaimo to enter by Departure Bay, turn in the channel after loading, and leave by the same way without passing through the harbor.

There are two seams of coal in the Newcastle field. During this next week two shifts of men will be put to work in the present Newcastle shaft to open up levels.

WHOLESALE MARKET.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including Potatoes, Carrots, Parsnips, Cabbage, Butter, Eggs, Hay, Barley, Wheat, Mutton, Pork, and Veal.

SOCIETY WOMEN As Well as the Housewife and Professional Women Endorse Pe-ru-na as a Specific for Winter Diseases.



MISS BLANCHE MYERS.

A SOCIETY LADY'S LETTER. Miss Blanche Myers, 3120 Penn street, Kansas City, Mo., a prominent young society woman of that place, has the following to say of Peruna: "During each of the past four seasons I have caught a severe cold, when suddenly chilled after an evening party, and catarrh for several weeks would be the result. One bottle of Peruna cured me, and I shall not dread colds any more as I did."—BLANCHE MYERS.

HOME TREATMENT FREE. Catarrh Cures by Thousands Under Dr. Hartman's Free Treatment. Catarrh of the nose and head produces discharge from the nose, sneezing, and pain in the eyes and forehead, weak, and sometimes watery eyes, and occasional loss of memory. Unless something is done to prevent the catarrh will follow the mucous mem-

The Growth of Canada's Capital

The visitors coming to Ottawa at the present day can hardly realize that but a few years ago the flourishing capital, connected in a dozen ways with the outlying portions not only of the broad Dominion but with the whole continent of North America, was but a backwoods village built of lumber and dependent upon its own resources in a great measure for its entertainment and livelihood. Yet so it is, as many of those resident here and who are by no means the oldest inhabitants can testify of their own knowledge and experience.

Up to 30 years ago the only means of communication between the village of By-Town and the outside world was either by the Ottawa route or by going from Ottawa to Prescott over the old St. Lawrence & Ottawa railway, and then taking the Grand Trunk either east or west, according as the traveller wanted to go.

In those days Montreal was only reached by means of the old steamboat, which took all day to get from the one town to the other, or the traveller had to go to Prescott and thence by train to the G. T. R. It required a vast amount of resolution then to go even as far as the metropolis, as one day had to be spent in going and another in coming, besides the time taken in doing business the days when merchants were more leisurely than they are at present in their ways of doing business. To-day, by any of three lines, the excursionist can leave after breakfast in the morning, do a day's work in Montreal and be at home in time to go to the theatre in the evening, or the lover of sport can attend to his morning business, have lunch, catch a train, attend a hockey match in Montreal or enjoy an evening at a theatre, where there is something worth seeing or hearing, and return to Ottawa in time for a good night's rest.

About 30 years ago the old North Shore line was built and a direct means of railway communication established. Even then it was a matter needing some consideration for the merchant to go to Montreal, as there was but one train a day each way, and the rate of progression was slow, and in winter uncertain, but there was an end to that when the Canada Atlantic line, started largely with local capital, came to the rescue, and by providing competition under enterprising management forced the old company to try and keep some of the business that it might have had, and that was going to the new company.

Even with this condition of things the improvement which had been effected as far as Montreal was concerned availed but little for those who wanted to go

west, and they, in order to reach Toronto, had to go either to Montreal or Prescott and take trains at these places in order to reach their desired haul. The building of the Canadian Pacific railway in a great measure remedied this matter by providing free access to and from the capital and all parts of Ontario and Quebec, as well as the maritime provinces. The great western districts of the Dominion were still cut off from the capital by means of the distance, time and expense necessary in order to pass between them.

As late as the session of 1885 the members from British Columbia in order to attend the opening of parliament had to travel by way of San Francisco, and start about 15 days before the date fixed for the ceremony if they wished to be on time, whilst the representatives from the great Northwest had to travel by way of St. Paul and Minneapolis. There

Still Exists a Relic of these old days in the custom of giving a month's notice of the meeting of parliament. All that is legally required is that the member shall be notified in time to attend, and as the British Columbia members can now reach Ottawa in about five days, a week's notice would amply fill every legal necessity; but the old fashion remains. It is only of recent date that the mileage allowed to members has been completely revised so as to cut down the expenses to present requirements instead of the sums which it was obligatory to expend in olden days.

But the old order has changed, giving place to now, and to-day Ottawa stands immediately connected with all the other world. First, and foremost stands the Canadian Pacific railway, giving connection with every part of the known world. By its means not only can the most distant parts of the Dominion be reached, but even the most distant parts of the older world, including many places which 30 years ago were but realms of speculation and a source of almost fabulous stories to dwellers in much more accessible places than Ottawa was then. Although it has been claimed that the Canadian Pacific railway side-tracked the capital by not running its main line through it, yet its excellent service and numerous trains in every direction have built up Ottawa as no other agency could have done.

Next comes the Canada Atlantic line with its connection in the United States and its immense quantities of grain passing over Canada, sold to Canadian ports in order to reach the outer world that depends on the new for its means of sustenance. To a certain, though at present limited extent, the Gatineau Valley line gives

brance into the lungs where it will be followed by cough, night sweats, rapid loss of flesh, and the other dread symptoms of consumption.

To all such people Dr. Hartman's treatment comes as a great boon. It is only necessary to send name and address to Dr. Hartman, Columbus, O., and complete directions for the first month's treatment will be sent free.

Not only is it more successful in curing catarrh than the treatment of ear-nose specialists, but it is in the reach of every person in this land.

A medicine which is the principal part of Dr. Hartman's treatment, known as Peruna, can be bought at any drug store, and is a remedy without equal for catarrh in all forms, coughs, colds, bronchitis, consumption, and all climatic diseases of winter. Each bottle is accompanied with complete directions for use. Address The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, Ohio, for a copy of their latest catarrh book, instructively illustrating and containing 64 pages of the latest information on catarrhal diseases. Sent free to any address.

A Housewife Who Suffered 25 Years. Mrs. Alla Schwanitz, Sanborn, Minn., writes: "I have been troubled with catarrh for twenty-five years. Could not sleep day or night. After having used Peruna I can sleep and nothing bothers me now."—Mrs. Alla Schwanitz.

Mrs. Jennie Cable, Spokane, Wash., writes: "After suffering for twenty-one years with neuralgia, caused by catarrh of head, I tried all doctors and all kinds of medicine, receiving no benefit. I became discouraged and worn out at last. My mother wrote me to take Dr. Hartman's medicine, so I did, but my case was a chronic one, and I was also in need of change of life. Through the use of Peruna and Manalin I am now entirely well."

"When I began taking your medicine I only weighed 61 pounds; now I weigh 110. I have not taken a drop of medicine for seven months, and would advise all sufferers to consult Dr. Hartman. The neuralgia affected my head and eyes, and for the last year seemed to be in my breast and between my shoulder blades."—Mrs. Jennie Cable.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and you will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis. Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, Ohio.

access to rich and fertile country to the north, and now that it has come into the possession of the Canadian Pacific railway, it is probable that in a few years it will reach the hitherto unsettled, because unreachably, an immense tract of magnificent agricultural land that lie in the northern portion of the province of Quebec; whilst it may go on to James Bay and open up another port for the outlet of Canadian grain to the European market. Mr. Spencer says that the line will be pushed forward as fast as possible, an assurance full of comfort to the hunter and the fisherman.

Another line connecting and terminating in Ottawa is the Pontiac Pacific Junction railway, which also has recently come into the possession of the Canadian Pacific railway, and which runs on the west side of the Ottawa river through a district of the province of Quebec rich in minerals and of good agricultural character. This line will probably be the means of removing forever the complaint that the capital is not on the Canadian Pacific main line, as a charter exists giving the company powers to construct to Pembroke, bridge over the Ottawa river at Alimette Island. This, it is stated, the Canadian Pacific railway will proceed with as soon as possible, and then the main line from Montreal west will run over the Ottawa river at Alimette Island, and Rigaud, to Ottawa, thence over the Alexandra bridge and by the Pontiac Pacific line to Pembroke, effecting a saving of many miles.

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These are briefly Ottawa's railway facilities. Their volume of business and the lessons which they point out must remain until another time.—Montreal Star.

GIFTS TO MISSION.

Children of St. Andrew's Sunday School Donate Presents For West Coast.

The Christmas entertainment given by St. Andrew's Sabbath school Monday evening was well attended, and was made very enjoyable by the pupils. The children rendered a choice programme of music and recitations. They were assisted in this by Miss Ethel Green and Mrs. Allison. The presentation of prizes to the pupils who had showed proficiency during the year in the work of the Sunday school also took place.

Instead of the pupils receiving the customary Christmas presents they were given a practical lesson in the blessing of giving. A large boat was placed on the platform and the children deposited in it their gifts to the mission children at Ahousmat. These were forwarded to that point by the management of the school.

J. L. G. Abbott, of Rossland; J. C. Coombs, of Seattle; and R. H. Brockett, of Tacoma, are guests at the Grand.

Canada's Growth

The Canadian National Rocky Mountain Park has fully presented a very rich prospect which has the promise of great things. It is an institution which Canadians may well be proud of.

In size it is in keeping with the temperate nature has worked upon it great expanses of prairie and mountain peaks, the grand park cover 100,000 acres, situated in his long office, territory of five thousand square miles. This is the extent of the park.

In its arid villages of considerable size such as Canmore, Anthracite, Banff, and the prospect of a very rich deposit of coal within its boundaries are fully opened up and developed towns will yet spring up within it, as a very strong company commencing operations on Cascade mountain this year we expect that its development will be speedy.

The government has inaugurated a system of real estate holding which might be effected in the park very early. No lands are sold without park limits. Twenty-year leases granted to the holders, at a stated annual rental. This rental, not by means of a tax, but a contract, rather takes the place of them, with exception of the school tax. It appears to be a system eminently satisfactory to all concerned.

The Scenery.

It would be impossible to describe the scenery of Banff within the space of a single article. The scenery is so varied. At no two points of view, though only a short half mile apart, the scenes presented anything alike. In fact, you stand in Banff village look around. There to the north is Cascade mountain, not much more than a mile high, and rising pyramid like sharp point. South is Sulphur mountain showing somewhat of an elongated ending in some four distinct rises of crest. Over eastward is the Rocky Mountains, and to the east, a sharp crest crowning a perpendicular cliff of perhaps three-fourths of a mile in height.

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Nor is this all. At no two points of view does the same scene appear. In the sunshine and shadow, the green and twilight park, such a variety of moon and quiet starlight, occur weird changes and delicate shading delight the eye even of a casual observer. Even in the darkness of midnight the darker moods of the rugged holds itself spectrally aloft, towering with silent menace above the observer and thrills him with reverence, akin to fear.

The Roads

Are excellent for miles around Banff. Surveilled to levels which give the maximum of climbing possible to the end view, and kept in better condition than many a city street. If there is an objection of view, it is that the road is driven. In fact, there the road is driven. In fact, there the road is driven. In fact, there the road is driven.

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GIFTS TO MISSION.

Children of St. Andrew's Sunday School Donate Presents For West Coast.

The Christmas entertainment given by St. Andrew's Sabbath school Monday evening was well attended, and was made very enjoyable by the pupils. The children rendered a choice programme of music and recitations. They were assisted in this by Miss Ethel Green and Mrs. Allison. The presentation of prizes to the pupils who had showed proficiency during the year in the work of the Sunday school also took place.

Instead of the pupils receiving the customary Christmas presents they were given a practical lesson in the blessing of giving. A large boat was placed on the platform and the children deposited in it their gifts to the mission children at Ahousmat. These were forwarded to that point by the management of the school.

J. L. G. Abbott, of Rossland; J. C. Coombs, of Seattle; and R. H. Brockett, of Tacoma, are guests at the Grand.