Report on Porcupine

Mr. Justice Martin Gives a Description of the Results of the Inquiry.

United States Miners Slow to Take Advantage of Benefits of Commission.

The report of Hon. Archer Martin, special commissioner appointed under the "Porcupine District Commission Act," was submitted to the House yesterday afternoon by Hon. J. D. Prentice.

After outlining the difficulties entailed in reaching the district, the commissioner proceeds:

"The commission was formally opened at 5 p.m. on Monday, the 17th; the secretary reading the following documents: (1.) Canada-Alaskan Boundary Agreement of October 20th, 1899. (Modus vivendi.) (2.) Porcupine District Commission Act, 1900. (3.) Commission. Which being done, I made this statement:

"'Seeing that the three documents which have just been read set out the scope and object of this commission, it is only necessary that I should add a few words for the further guidance of those concerned. It is suggested that all those who have staked claims within the territory which has by the modus vivendi, been temporarily placed under the jurisdiction of Canada, should apply without delay to have their titles to such claims confirmed by this commission and also recorded under the British Columbia mining laws, in order to prevent the possibility of such titles being questioned hereafter, and to preserve to the fullest extent all the rights and privileges which the holders of valid locations are entitled to under the laws of the United States. In said cases the locators are, in the first instance, referred to the British Columbia government agent, who is prepared to receive applications, and will, later, and as soon as may be, bring them before the commission. In the case of any dispute between locators under the laws of either nation which it is desired should be adjudicated upon and finally determined by the commission, application should be promptly made by way of petition; and would-be petitioners are referred to the secretary for further information and guidance. I hereby declare the commission opened for the transaction of business, and call upon those who have anything to bring before it to come forward and they shall be heard.'

"Copies of this statement were posted on the camp notice board, and at Dalton's trading store in Porcupine City, the central point for that neighborhood.

"The act under which the commission issued recites that 'on account of the uncertainty as to the boundary line between Canada and the United States of America, disputes have arisen and are likely to arise as to the location, ownership and size of quartz and placer mining claims in the Porcupine district,' etc. On inquiring into the matter I found that, so far as could be ascertained, 164 mining locations had been made, and seven water rights taken up under the United States laws in that part of the disputed territory provisionally placed under the jurisdiction of Canada by the modus vivendi (October 20th, 1899), a clause whereof provides that 'the citizens or subjects of either power found by this arrangement within the temporary jurisdiction of the other, shall suffer no diminution of the rights and privileges which they now enjoy.'

"Of the said locations 92 (84 placer and 8 lode) were made before the date of the modus vivendi; and 72 (71 placer and 1 lode) afterwards; and three water rights were taken up before, and four afterwards.

"Considerable publicity was designedly given in Alaskan and other newspapers to the movements of the commission (as may be seen by reference to the extracts in the accompanying file book), in order that all concerned could come before it if they felt so disposed, and on the arrival of the commission at Porcupine many inquiries were made by the miners and prospectors there as to the scope and objects, and the intention expressed of availing themselves of its privileges. Shortly after my arrival I received an intimation that representatives of the claim owners wished to interview me in order to discuss matters which would come before the commission, but I replied that it would be better to discuss all matters publicly after the commission began its sittings. I was asked to state if the claims which were staked in British Columbia under United States laws after the modus vivendi would be confirmed by the commission; but I answered that it would not be proper to give any indication of what course would be followed in such case, and consideration of the matter would be reserved till the question formally came before the commission for adjudication.

"After the commission opened, for some days no one appeared to make application; accordingly on the 20th I caused notices to be posted at the camp, along the trails, and in Porcupine City, at Dalton's and elsewhere, that the commission would be closed on Wednesday, the 26th of September, at 5 p.m., therefore applications should be made without further loss of time. On that day two aplications were made and partially considered, and directions given for the proper proceedings to be taken, but the parties not following up the matter no final decision was arrived at.

"No further applications being made and a large number of the population of Porcupine City having 'stampeded' down the river to a new strike which had been made on tributaries of the Chilkat river (Bear, Clear and Buff creeks), in Canadian territory, about 20 miles above the Chilkat village of Klukwan, I considered it a useless expense to further prolong the sittings of the commission, so declared it closed on Wednesday, the 26th, pursuant to said notice.

"It is desirable to give the main reasons—as reported to me—why the claim owners did not appear before the commission, except as stated.

"The provisions of the modus vivendi appear to have been distasteful to a number of the residents of Porcupine district, as well as others, and the presidential election coming on, considerable political attention was given to the matter. In July, 1900, a petition was addressed to the President of the United States by certain residents of Porcupine, protesting against the provisional boundary, and at the request of the petitioners the Seattle Chamber of Commerce took up the matter and memorialized the executive, through the Honorable Secretary of State, in support of the petition. The Secretary of State replied by letter of August 3rd, 1900, to the said petition, the concluding paragraph of his reply being as follows: '* * * The rights of the United States in the matter of the treaty boundary are absolutely intact, and their assertion in due time will be earnest and thorough. In the meantime, this government foregoes no part of its rights and power to protect its citizens in the Porcupine Creek region, whether they be temporarily within American or British jurisdiction, in the full enjoyment of all rights and privileges which they had before the modus was concluded, and to see that their freedom of access and exit, with their goods, is not reasonably impeded.'

"In order to understand the situation it should be borne in mind that the claims located under United States laws and local rules and regulations generally contained 20.66 acres in area, while under B. C. laws similar claims (placer) are only 100 feet in length, an area which is as inadequate for such mining purposes as that of the United States claims is extravagant. The owners of many locations staked, after the modus vivendi, under U. S. laws, in territory then within Canadian jurisdiction, wished to avoid bringing the question of the validity of their titles before the commission, and aided by other interested persons, who were animated by motives no more praiseworthy, they succeeded in inducing other locators whose locations were duly made before the modus vivendi, and who were at first desirous of having them confirmed by the commission, to join hands with them in 'boycotting' it. I am credibly informed that the argument which had most weight in bringing about this arrangement was that if the U. S. locators resorted to the commission they would thereby prejudice their titles in case they should later be brought before United States courts, when the provisional boundary line should be moved back, and the district placed once more under United States jurisdiction, an event which was represented as about to take place in the near future, presumably shortly after the elections. Other arguments were advanced, mainly founded on the paragraph above quoted from the reply of the Secretary of State, placing a construction thereupon which I have no doubt was never contemplated by the minister. But, however that may be, it is unnecessary to further consider them, for whatever were the reasons which influenced the miners of Porcupine, the result has been seen.

"I may say that even before I left Porcupine it was made known to me that some of the claim owners already doubted the wisdom of the course they had been led to adopt.

"It should be stated that the matter of expense did not deter the miners, because all international questions under the modus vivendi were referred to me by the government agent, and there were no fees in such matters.

"I need only add that it seems regrettable that the owners of United States locations did not avail themselves of the opportunity, so handsomely accorded them by our government, of having their claims confirmed by the commission and recorded under the laws of this province, because, from the information I gained as to the manner of making United States locations prevailing in the Porcupine district, it was specially desirable that the claim owners should have seized the opportunity of forestalling possible litigation and preserving the peace of the district, particularly in view of the fact that they had before them the object lesson of one murder already committed in Porcupine, arising out of a dispute over a mining claim."

The report concludes with a description of the return journey.

OFFICIAL POINTERS.

Batch of Appointments in This Week's Gazette—Companies Incorporated and Other Notices.

The official Gazette, published yesterday, contains the following appointments:

Douglas D. Dove, of Sunbury, to be a justice of the peace for the counties of Victoria, Nanaimo, Vancouver, Westminster, Yale, Cariboo and Kootenay.

Robert James Woods, of Rivers Inlet, to be a stipendiary magistrate for the county of Vancouver.

John D. Moore, of the city of Kaslo, to be a license commissioner for the Ainsworth license district, vice Ernest King.

Archibald B. C. Docksteader, of Cody, to be a license commissioner for the Slocan license district, vice E. R. Atherton, resigned.

Robert E. Lemon, of the city of Nelson, to be warden of the provincial gaol at Nelson, vice N. Fitzstubbs, resigned.

John H. Nolan, of the city of Nelson, to be chief clerk in the land registry office at Nelson.

The appointments are also noted of Messrs. Henry Harris, A. R. S. M., F. C. S., and Alexander McKillop, both of the city of Nelson, and J. Cuthbert Welch, of Trail, to be special examiners at an examination of candidates for efficiency in the practice of assaying, to be held at Nelson on the 15th day of April, 1901, and succeeding days.

The dates for the spring assizes are:

City of Nanaimo, on the 23rd day of April.

City of New Westminster, on the 23rd day of April.

City of Nelson on the 7th day of May.

City of Revelstoke, on the 7th day of May.

City of Vernon, on the 15th day of May.

City of Kamloops, on the 23rd day of May.

City of Vancouver, on the 21st day of May.

City of Victoria, on the 28th day of May.

Town of Clinton, on the 28th day of May.

James Hargreaves, of Fernie, and Robert Drinnan, of Nanaimo, have been granted certificates of competency to act as mine managers, having passed the necessary examination.

The Thistle Gold Mining & Milling Company, Ltd., has been incorporated with a capital of $100,000.

The Canada Cycle & Motor Company, Ltd., is registered as an extra provincial company, capital $6,000,000; head office at Toronto; provincial head office at Vancouver.

George Spencer Timms, printer, and Mark A. Binns, grocer, both of Vancouver, have assigned.

The Grand Forks Stationery and News Company, has been dissolved, W. H. Itter and Mrs. Jeanett L. Manly retiring, and R. F. Petrie continuing the business.

The partnership subsisting between R. M. McEntire, Thomas McDonnell and James Kerr, carrying on a real estate and mining business at Greenwood, has been dissolved.

What You Get

When you buy Steele, Briggs' Seeds from your dealer you get the best seeds obtainable. They are not shop-worn seeds of uncertain age and vitality, but of reliable growth and rare quality. Ask for Steele, Briggs' Seeds, avoid substitutes. Direct orders promptly sent, safe arrival by mail guaranteed. Our instructive seed book mailed free. Send your name.

THE STEELE, BRIGGS SEED CO., Lim'td
TORONTO, Canada's Greatest Seed House.

Eastern Lecturers

Agriculturists Who Will Address Meetings in Interests of Farmers' Institute.

F. W. Hodson Speaks of Possibilities of Farming in the Province

F. W. Hodson, of Ottawa, Dominion live stock commissioner, after spending Wednesday in Victoria, left for the Mainland, where he will address some meetings of the Farmers' Institute. He will return to this city in a few days again and appear before the committee of the House on agriculture. He is an untiring worker in the interests of agriculture, being well known throughout the Dominion for his work in the interests of Farmers' Institutes in Ontario. That institution, when Mr. Hodson became superintendent, only had 2,000 members, and now numbers 20,000. The attendance at the meetings grew from 40,000 to 139,000. With only 160 meetings being held the year before he took charge, last year 3,600 meetings were held, every one of which was asked for and many besides were refused. In the office of the live stock commissionership he is throwing the same methodical vigor into the work.

Mr. Hudson has just come from the live stock sale at New Westminster. In connection with that sale he has the greatest praise for G. H. Hadwin, of Duncans, upon whom fell the work. The sale, in Mr. Hodson's opinion, excelled anything that has been held in the East. The bidding was exceptionally free.

In connection with the visit to the province of the eastern lecturers, who will attend the meetings of the Farmers' Institutes, the commissioner says they were carefully choosen to represent the various sides of farming. Duncan Anderson is a Scotch farmer who has been very successful as a grain grower. He makes a specialty of general farming, preparing and feeding steers for the best city and British market. He also produces dairy shorthorn cows and hogs for the English bacon trade. For the past five years he has been on the institute staff of lecturers for three months in the year. At the close of the institute season he has been choosen by the Ontario agricultural department and Crown lands department as an expert inspector of farming lands, Ontario's present policy being to have all agricultural lands carefully inspected by a practical expert before being thrown open for settlement.

Andrew Elliot has been on the Ontario institute staff for ten years. He is a member of the board of the winter show, the most successful from an agricultural standpoint in America, if not in the world. It excels in many respects the famous Smithsfield show in England. His specialty is dairy farming. He is the owner and operator of one of the nicest little creameries in the province of Ontario. Butter made in his creamery has won prizes at the Toronto industrial and other large eastern exhibitions for many years past. His dairy herd is a very large and good one. He is also an extensive pig breeder and feeder, carrying off prizes for bacon hogs at all the great fairs, including that at Chicago.

Dan Drummond, late of Petite Cote, Quebec, is a Scotch-Canadian farmer, speaking both French and English. He is a dairy expert, and a very advanced farmer. He thoroughly understands and practises soil cultivation, and was himself for several years a prize plowman. For twenty years he has supplied the city of Montreal with first class products. At present he supplies a fancy cream trade in Toronto. His herd of Ayrshires has for the last decade been one of the chief prize winners at the large eastern exhibitions, including the Chicago world's fair, when, with Bettie Osborn, he won the sweepstakes against all comers.

T. G. Raynor, B. S. A., gold medallist of the Ontario Agricultural College, is a practical farmer, making a specialty of dairy and fruit farming. For ten years he has been on the institute staff in Ontario. He spent one or two years as lecturer in Wisconsin and Minnesota. He is probably the best all-round man in Ontario institute service, and has recently been employed by Mr. Hodson as a special lecturer in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island in dairying, stock growing and field cultivation.

Mr. Hodson speaks very encouragingly of the future of farming in British Columbia, and believes that the rich lands and mild climate will, when more advanced styles of farming are adopted, make this one of the best agricultural provinces in the Dominion. Next year he wishes to have some agriculturists from British Columbia visit the winter fair at Guelph, and take advantage of the educational facilities afforded by it; where, in addition to judging the animals, the points of excellence are shown to the visitors. Visitors at that show are also enabled to see the various defects and excellence in specimens which are slaughtered and the carcases placed on exhibition.

SUICIDE AT COBBLE HILL.

Reuben Cousins Hanged Himself on Wednesday Night—Was Well Known Here.

According to intelligence received here, Reuben Cousins, a prominent farmer, of Cobble Hill, committed suicide by hanging on Wednesday night. The information was received by his brother-in-law, George Bagshawe, who left immediately for the scene. No further particulars are given, but it is probable the rash act was carried out while Cousins was suffering from unsound mind.

He was about fifty years of age and a native of England, coming here a long while ago. His farm is situated toward Hill Bay, about three miles from Cobble Hill. He was in the city until a few weeks ago, having come down in the spring suffering from some mental disorder. It was thought that he had completely recovered when he returned to his farm, but it is believed that his self-destruction was the outcome of a recurrence of the affliction. He attempted suicide by drowning about a year ago. He was well known, both here and at Cobble Hill, and highly respected.

Exhibition Board

The Management of the Agricultural Association Meet—Transact General Business.

F. W. Hodson, Dominion Live Stock Commissioner, Offers Assistance in Judges.

The board of management of the Agricultural Association met last night. In the absence of the president, Mayor Hayward, H. D. Helmcken, M.P.P., presided over the meeting.

A communication from J. B. Anderson, deputy minister of agriculture, acknowledged the receipt of the letter from the secretary and expressed his pleasure at doing anything that would help the society. The communication was filed.

H. Dallas Helmcken wrote saying that Thomas Cunningham, one of the members of the board of horticulture, had expressed the willingness of the board to revise the premium list of fruits and to look after the display of the same at the Victoria exhibition. New Westminster had accepted a similar offer. The matter was referred to the prize committee.

A communication was read from Hitt Bros., offering to provide fireworks for the exhibition. The communication was referred to the sports committee.

The communication already published from R. M. Palmer, fruit inspector, stating that His Honor the Lieut.-Governor had suggested that the date of the exhibition be changed so that advantage may be taken of the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, to have them open the exhibition. The letter from Mr. Palmer also contained the information that His Honor would be pleased to do anything in his power to make the exhibition a success.

The letter, having been duly acknowledged by the president, the matter was allowed to stand over for the present.

A letter was read from W. H. Ladner, a member of the board of directors, in which he thanked the society for having done him the honor of electing him to the board, and suggesting that in future the notices of the meetings be sent earlier. The secretary was instructed to explain matters to Mr. Ladner.

The finance committee reported that they thought it advisable to appoint a canvassing committee for canvassing for special subscriptions and special prizes, and suggesting that the following be appointed a committee for the purpose: R. Seabrook, Joseph Peirson, Herbert Cuthbert, M. Baker, A. J. Morley, C. C. Rivers and D. S. Tolmie. The report was adopted.

It was resolved to give committees power to add to their number.

Mr. Dalby introduced the subject of securing the use of the Jockey Club grounds during the time of the exhibition. It was decided to request the Jockey Club to make this grant.

Victor Austin asked whether members elected to the standing committees should be members of the board of management, or whether it was only necessary that they should be members of the association.

It was thought that the constitution provided that any member of the association might be elected to a committee, upon the approval of the board of management.

Joseph Peirson introduced the point that regular meetings of the board of managers should be called monthly at stated times. It was decided that the regular meetings of the board be held on the second Wednesday of each month.

The secretary called attention to the name of the association. He said that the name, British Columbia Agricultural Association, was the name on the seal and in the old records of the society. At the last exhibition it was advertised as the British Columbia Agricultural and Industrial Association. It was suggested that the name of the society should not be made to conflict with the advertising of the exhibition. The matter was left in the hands of the printing and advertising committee to solve.

Mr. Morley called attention to the matter of giving publicity to the exhibition. He would like to see the papers give greater prominence to it. Other members spoke of the courtesy which the press had at all times shown in drawing attention to matters connected with it.

F. W. Hodson, commissioner of live stock for the Dominion, being present, was called upon to address the board. He said that the Dominion agricultural authorities wished to see the judging as well done in British Columbia as elsewhere in the Dominion. They were therefore prepared to spend sufficient to guarantee this. They would be pleased to send two or three judges from the East who would act at some of the principal shows held in this province. These judges would be prepared not only to award prizes but would be competent to explain to the audience the reasons for reaching their conclusions. In the East they had been accustomed to get judges from England and elsewhere who at the annual Fat Stock Show held in Guelph pursued this course. The animals were afterwards slaughtered and the carcases judged in the same way. This acted as a training school for others.

On motion of W. Dalby and Watson Clay a vote of thanks was accorded the Dominion live stock commissioner.

The board then adjourned and the prize committee held a meeting.

DROWNING ACCIDENT.

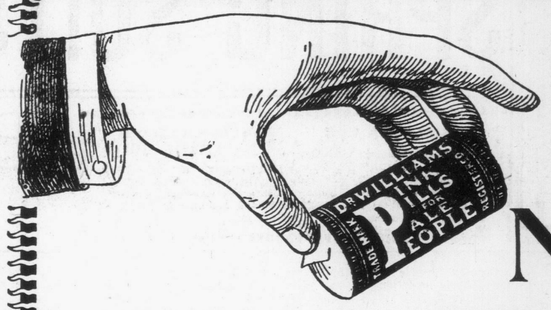
The Body of John Churchill, a Longshoreman, Found in James Bay This Morning.

The body of a man was found in James Bay this morning by expressman Lewis and a longshoreman. It was found near Capt. Dan. McIntosh's boat house and was soon identified as John Churchill, a longshoreman, who has been known around the wharves for many years. The body was taken to the city morgue.

The drowned man worked on the steam freighter Katie. He was seen on Thursday evening by companions, and was believed to have gone to the Lyceum theatre. The supposition is that, after leaving the theatre, he returned to the wharf to go aboard the Katie. The freighter lay at Drake's wharf, and in attempting to board her he probably slipped. The left ear was cut, which bore out the supposition that his head had struck on the side of the wharf or boat in falling. His watch had stopped at twenty-seven minutes to one, which indicates that the accident had occurred about that time.

The deceased has been known in Victoria for about twelve years. He has a wife and family living in England. There is nothing to prompt the suspicion that his drowning was other than an accident.

An inquest into the circumstances will be held on Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock.



For Use Now

The necessity for a Spring Medicine is recognized by most people. The reason is easily explainable. Close confinement in badly ventilated houses, shops and school rooms during the winter months makes people feel languid, depressed, easily tired and generally "out of sorts." Nature must be assisted in throwing off the poison that has accumulated in the system during the winter months, else people fall an easy prey to disease.

Purgatives are of no use—they only leave people still weaker. **It is a tonic that is needed.**

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills

FOR PALE PEOPLE

Surpasses all other medicines in their tonic, strengthening qualities. These Pills have a larger sale than any other medicine in the world, which is solid proof of their merit. Wherever they are used they make dull, listless men, women and children feel bright, active and strong.

GREATLY RUN DOWN.

Mr. E. Hutchings, a printer in the office of the News, St. Johns, Nfld., writes: "I am greatly indebted to you for the benefit I have derived from the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I was in a greatly run down condition, and suffered from pains in the back and stomach. My appetite was very fickle and often I had a loathing for food. I was subject to severe headaches, and the least exertion would leave me tired and breathless. I tried several medicines, but with no benefit—rather I was growing worse. Then I consulted a doctor, and was under his treatment for three months, but did not get any better. Having read much concerning Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, I finally decided to try them, and bought two boxes. Before these were all used I could see a marked improvement, and I purchased four boxes more. These completely restored my health, and I can now go about my work without an ache or pain of any kind. My recovery leaves no doubt as to the remarkable curative properties of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I may say their value has been further proved in the case of a friend to whom I recommended them."

Pink colored pills in glass jars, or in any loose form, or in boxes that do not bear the full name "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People," are **not** Dr. Williams'. The genuine are put up in packages, with wrapper printed in red. Sold by all dealers or direct from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., at 50 cents a box or six boxes for $2.50.

To Build Big Ships

New Industry to Be Established In Victoria on a Large Scale.

Oliver Richards Leaves This Evening for Old Country to Secure Plant.

Several times during the past few months the report has become current of the intention of a local company to establish an extensive marine slip and shipbuilding industry at this port. The project is now assuming tangible proportions, and it is quite safe to predict that by this time next year the proposed enterprise will be running full blast.

This evening Oliver Richards, the well-known ship contractor, will leave en route for the great shipbuilding centres of Britain, Newcastle, Glasgow and other points, to arrange for the purchase of a plant suitable for installation in a modern and extensive concern.

That the promoters intend to be entirely up-to-date is evident from the fact that Mr. Richards will inspect the great hydraulic lift now in operation at Newcastle, with a view of securing another of the same character should the arrangements prove satisfactory. This new contrivance is virtually a recent product of mechanical genius, having been in operation only about two years. Its function is to raise a ship from the marine railway slip, place it on sidetrack, to allow for the handling of others. The cost of such a plant would be in the neighborhood of $60,000 or $70,000. This outlay alone, if made, will afford some idea of the extensive nature of the enterprise to be established here.

When seen to-day Mr. Richards was very reticent as to the personnel of the company promoting the industry, but he dropped the rather interesting hint that they are all local people. Several sites are contemplated, but so far it cannot be learned whether anything definite in this particular has been decided upon.

The shipbuilding yard will have as an ordinary compliment of workmen between sixty and seventy. Of course when the pressure of work makes it necessary additional artisans will be engaged. The yards will have a capacity for building ships from 100 to 2,000 tons.

The equipment will be of the very latest description, and a leaf will be taken, as it were, out of the books of the great centres of Britain, along the lines of which the proposed enterprise will be operated.

Mr. Richards will be managing director, and it would be difficult to secure one more capable of undertaking the duties. He is originally from the Devenport dockyard, and was superintendant for the Puget Sound Drydock Company, of Tacoma, for a couple of years.

He has undertaken successfully a considerable number of contracts for naval work at Esquimalt, having had charge of the repairing of the Phaeton and Egeria. The former contract was one of the largest undertaken here for many years. He will remain a few days at New York and will then take passage on the American liner St. Louis for Southampton. He expects to return by July or August, and the work of establishment will commence immediately upon his arrival.

The importance of an industry of this sort must commend itself to all interested in the welfare of Victoria, which will be directly benefitted through its institution. There are already a number of shipbuilding yards here already, among them the two ways owned by Messrs. Bullen & Co., one at Esquimalt and another in the upper harbor, Turpel's shipyards, and a large number of smaller concerns.

The significance of the project is also not to be underestimated. The men who are behind it certainly do not intend embarking on an enterprise so extensive unless they are certain that they are justified by favorable prospects. If their experienced eyes can discern on the commercial horizon prospects so roseate, the future of Victoria in one particular at least no longer becomes a matter of conjecture.

APIOL & STEEL PILLS
for Ladies.
REMEDY FOR IRREGULARITIES.
SUPERSEDING BITTER APPLE, PIL COCHIA, PENNYROYAL, ETC.
Order of all chemists, or post free for $1.50 from EVANS & SONS, LTD., Victoria, or MARTIN, Pharmaceutical Chemist, Southampton, England.

GRAND MASTER'S VISIT.

Bro. W. E. Johnston, of Vancouver, Entertained by the I. O. O. F. at Their Lodge Room.

Last night Bro. W. E. Johnston, of Vancouver, Grand Master of the I. O. O. F. for British Columbia, was given a grand reception by the members of that order in this city. The grand master arrived by the Charmer last night, and was met by a number of the prominent representatives of the order. At the regular meeting of Peerless lodge, which was held last night, the work of the order was exemplified before the grand master by a team composed of members of Peerless and Columbia lodges, in the conferring of the first degree upon a member of Peerless lodge. The team was in charge of Bro. G. T. Fox, the team captain of Columbia lodge, who received the hearty commendation of the grand master for the manner in which the work was done.

After adjournment tables were spread in the hall and an oyster supper, prepared by Bro. J. H. Sabine, was partaken of. Bro. James Pottinger, D. D. G. M., presided, having on his right hand the guest of the evening, Grand Warden A. Graham, Grand Treasurer G. T. Fox, Bro. Richard Hall, M.P.P., Bro. Thornton Foll, and Past Grand Master A. Henderson; and on the left Grand Representative P. Dempster, Past Grand Master J. E. Phillips, and other prominent members of the order. An excellent toast list followed the supper, interspersed with songs.

In responding to the toast of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, the grand master spoke of the difficulty which was experienced in attempting to visit all the lodges of the province. In the upper country, with scattered lodges, the work was a very heavy one. The lodges in the province now numbered 42. When the number reached 50 he hoped that it would be honored by a jubilee celebration of some kind. The membership now was 3,300. He hoped that a concerted effort would be put forth to bring the projected Odd Fellows' Home to a successful issue.

An orchestra, in charge of Bro. W. Jackson, contributed much to the evening's enjoyment.

Before leaving on the E. & N. railway for Duncan this afternoon, the grand master was driven around the city, accompanied by members of the order, and shown the points of interest in the capital city.

If sick headache is misery, what are Carter's Little Liver Pills if they will positively cure it? People who have used them speak frankly of their worth. They are small and easy to take.

$1.50 Per Annum. $1.5

VOL. 22.

Boer Convoy Captur

Guns, Rifles, Ammunition, and Prisoners Taken By the British

Many Burghers Belonging t larey's Commando Wer Killed or Wounded.

London, March 26.—Lord Ki has sent the following dispatch war office:

"Pretoria, March 25. — Babi force, including Shelkelton's colu tacked Delarey, fifteen hundred southwest of Ventersdorp, and defeated him, followed him up with the result that the Boe guard was driven in and their including the guns, were captu Vaalbank.

"With great gallantry and das captured two fifteen pounder gu pom-pom, six Maxims, 320 rounds ammunition, and 15,000 rounds o ammunition, 160 rifles, 53 wago 24 carts, besides taking 140 prison

"Our losses were slight. Many were killed or wounded."

Desire to Address House.

London, March 26.—In the Ho Commons to-day, Mr. Chamberl reply to a question as to the repo tention of the government to s number of soliders in South Afr plied that the government had no tion of expropriating the owners o or of taking lands in any other wa it could be taken in England.

Mr. Balfour, reinforcing the C Secretary's statement, said the ment did not contemplate any suicidal folly as confiscating the of the Boers.

The official casualty list issue evening indicates a renewal of operations since the failure of the tiations between Lord Kitchene General Botha. At Hartebeest March 22nd and 23rd, two officer killed and three wounded and fo killed and twenty wounded. The seems to have been heavy fightin place near Grededact, on March and near Ventersburg on March Ventersdorp, the scene of the de Delarey, is about twenty-five north of Hartebeestfontein. It sible, therefore, that the advices fighting at these points really r the same engagements.

The Pretoria correspondent Standard says that it is obviou months must pass before Boer res can be crushed.

The Amsterdam correspondent Daily Express says he understan Mr. Kruger has advised acting P Schalkburgher to formulate peace

It is virtually certain that the ment will decline to hear Messrs. man and Sauer at the bar of the of Commons, on the ground tha ex-ministers, they have no locus

Near Queenstown.

Queenstown, Cape Colony, Ma —The town guard here has been out owing to a report that a f Boers is near the town. Busin been shut down in order to all employees to man the trenches a day and night. The Boers, said twenty miles off, are alleged t crossed the railroad near Drumm

Many Boers Shot.

Capetown, March 25.—It is st the Boers lost heavily attacking t rison at Lichtenburg last week wards of 70 burghers are repo have been shot at one spot amo wire entanglements.

Vryheid, March 25.—Gen. Fren Dartnal's and Pultener's colum rived here to-day, having kil wounded or captured 1,200 Boers

He has also taken seven canno rifles, 1,800 wagons, and 226,00 of horses, cattle and sheep.

Must Return to Original Pol

London, March 27.—The Vryh patch is regarded as giving the Gen. Ferreuch's captures througho perations. It indicates, therefo capture of additional Boers a material.

The Pretoria and Bloemfonte espondents of the Times se dispatches, admitting that Lo hener's policy and operation failed to achieve the results hop and pointing out that the British must be prepared to return to th nal policy of occupying towns an ing the country with military p the only means of effecting co dification. This process, the ondents say, will occupy muc and necessitate a constant sup fresh troops. The strain on bo ers and men has been and will pense, and arrangements must b to send absolutely fresh troops t ent in order to enable the other ent home.

"Until this aspect of the c grasped by the authorities," say tices to the Times, "there is a lity of the war lasting for years seless to renew peace negoti toting approaching 'terms,' as th generally understood, would be even possible with the Boers."

The Daily Express prints a at Sir Alfred Milner is dissatisfie s qualified authority, and has e government to give him either nd or no hand. Mr. Chamberl id to have replied that it would visable to dissociate the autho r Alfred Milner from that o itchener, and the rumor goes t lfred contemplates resigning.

The Daily Express says: "It pen secret that Sir Alfred Mil ng chafed at having Lord Ki his elbow to check or modify h posals."

The Amsterdam correspondent ily Mail wires the substance