ELK HERD AT **COWICHAN LAKE**

LOCAL SPORTSMAN SHOOTS ONE OF THEM

News of the Gun and the Rod in This Dis-

trict.

That a few elk still remain on Van-couver island is well known, but there is a difference of opinion as to how is a difference of opinion as to how many may still be here. The invasion of the country by timber cruisers with-in the last year or two has brought in the last year or two has brought these magnificent animals into notice more than formerly, and in all prob-ability has been responsible for their moving out of their regular haunts and coming very near to civilization. Some time ago a bull elk was shot near Goldstream lakes, and now crimes word of one being fulled in the number of birds due the prairies have come here, who are living retired, and spend a good deal of the time during the autumn in chasing deer and grouse. The grouse season has not been so successful. There is a very noticeable diminuition in the number of birds due and coming very hear to civilization. Some time ago a bull elk was shot near Goldstream lakes, and now or mes word of one being killed in the neigh-borhood of Cowichan lake, and of the will being its avery noticeable diminution in the number of birds dur-ing recent years. The grouse is grad-

wapiti and to bring down one of the wapiti and to bring down one of the bulls. He went to Cowichan lake on the invitation of some friends in that the must very soon undergo a the invitation of some friends in that locality. Arriving at the lake by way of Duncans, the party of four were taken up the lake in Kenneth Gilles-ple's fine little launch as far as Cot-tonwood. There they made their headquarters, and using it as a base, made a day's journey up the Cofton-wood creek, going about seven or eight miles from the lake and taking a tent and supplies,

Bothwick killed his bag limit, and is now having the heads prepared for the RADICAL CHANGES decoration of his house. Needless to ay, he is proud of his achievem nt, for he had not been in the woods for number of years. When he left the lake, Kenneth Gillesple was going in to try his luck after the elk.

The deer hunting season, which closed Tuesday, has been a very successful one. It is very difficult to give an estimate of the number of deer hilled in the immediate vicinity of Victoria, but it is pretty safe to put the number at from 250 to 300. Many a Sunday night the E. & N. train has Review of Legislation Passed brought down twenty deer, and those are over and above the ones brought in on private conveyances and also during the week. The season lasted about fourteen weeks, so that an averyears ago in spite of the large number

sighting of a herd of about fifteen of these splen d animals. George Bothwick, of this city, was vasion of dog and gunner has made

miles from the lake and taking a tent capercalizie, black game and Hungarian partridges. A few days ago a man The following morning they we're off at daybreak. They had seen elk tracks so they moved cautiously and kept a sharp lookout. All morning they tramped through the valleys without seeing anything with antlers. They



ANOTHER GRAVE QUESTION

Last Session-Parliament Prorogues.

London. Dec. 21,-The first session of parliament under the premiership of years ago in spite of the large number of people who go out now in comparison with the number who hurt-on Saturday. The two Houses will measures foreshadowed in the King's speech, only five find a place in the statute books. These are the Old Age Pension Bill, the Irish Universities Bill, to which assent was given before adjournment for the summer vacation, and measures fixing eight hours as the time miners shall work under ground, providing for the purchase of the London docks at \$115,000,000, and placin them under a central authority, and a

were withdrawn because of the failure of the church party and the non comformists to report a compromise rmists to report a compromise The bills that aimed at the better sing of the working classes were put off until the next session, while the promised measure for Irish land valuation never saw light, and the Irish land purchase bill was dropped. Among those considered of lesser importance, the government passed an

act empowering the judges to give habitual criminals indeterminate sen-tences for the two-fold purpose of reforming their habits and protecting society, and a bill imposing penalties for attempts to break up public meetings. The latter is the result of the suffragette agitation, one of the political features of the year. So active have the women been that members of the abinet were unable to secure a hearing at public meetings, and for part of the session the galleries of the House of Commons had to be closed to the public because of a recent organized listurbance.

The session widened the breach between the Liberals and the House of Lords. The rejection of the licensing bill, for which the Liberals claimed they had received a mandate at the election of 1906, augmented the bad feeling resulting last year from the re-jection or mutilation by the Lords of the education, plural voting and Scot-tish land valueties but tish land valuation bills. "Mr. Balfour and Lord Lansdowne,' says the Westminster Gazette, the chief government organ, "appear have registered a vow that the Liberals should make no further progress with reforms in the church and schools, land and licensing, hence the House of Lords question is for the Liberal party a question of its own existence, and the obstacles the House of Lords ere, and are holding then out and the obstacles the House of Lords ifficulty with all the game birls ac-cording to those who profess to know, but in the way of Liberal legislation must be removed."







a small scale, either in laboratory or un-



ground. The suggestion was not re-ceived with much favor, but he per-



TROPHIES OF THE HUNT. Deer heads with large elk on top form ing part of those shot by Geo. Borth wick at Cowichan Lake recently,

followed him, and soon they emerged ernment about a year ago intirunted these glades just about 2 o'clock in the atternoon they emerged to see a hird of something like fifteen elk. The ani-of something like fifteen elk. The animais at once got wind of them and beat a hasty retreat. There was one fine bull in the lead, and this animal Mr. Bothwick singled out for his give. British Columbia, however, they have British Columbia, however, they have Mr. Bothwick singled out for his grad. He opened fire and wounded the ani-mal severely, and then shouted to bis companions to head him off. This they failed to do, but they also opened fire. and soon the bull fell dead. His head and hide were removed, and as much of the flesh as they could carry was taken back to camp taken back to camp.

The majority of the elk herd seemed to be cows, although the hunters say in the salt water. There has no: been in the salt water. There has no: been wood, where on the banks of Cowichan lake they hunted for deer and bagged a dozen among them. Of these Mr.



The California quail, both valley and two younger members of the party difficulty with all the game birls ac-

> the hunters are driving their own rigs, but they camp in the hills, and feed on the tenderest of game. It is probable that there has been less poaching dur-ing the past year than ever before. Two competent wardens have been at work in the persons of Messrs. Heald and Gillesnie and while they have done Gillespie, and while they have done classes, little in the way of convictions they believe y have put the fear of the law in;) the masses, hearts of the poachers.

that are already here.

But little has been said of late on the natter of a game reserve for wild animals on Vancouver island. The govopen country. In one of that they intended to do something, take action.

that there were one or two young in the sait water. Including the as much trout fishing done during the The party then returned to Cotton-wood, where on the banks of Cowichan guilelessness which characterized their actions in past days, but, even yet, there are plenty of fine trout for these who understand the lure. Good catches were obtained on many occasions and many old anglers tell of having obtained large baskets on nearly every occasion that they were out. Perhaps the best sport of the season has been obtained trolling salmon in the straits. These fish come every year, and when the run is on the be of sport can be obtained. During the past summer big catches were made, and ardent fishermen still may be seen trolling in the outside waters. The

bass fishing has also been gool at , and that quite recently. Even times yet the wharf on Dallas road is (iten lined with anglers, who enjoy the givet and take home a dozen or more fine

Somerville, Mass., Dec. 19 .- In order Somerville, Mass. Dec. 19.—In order to satisfy, as he said, an element of suspicion regarding the six deaths in the family of Mrs. Mary Kelleher, now under observation as to her san-ity, District Attorney Higgins au-thorized to-day the exhuming of the body of Catherine Kelleher, aged 13 years, whose death last July was said years, whose death last July was said have resulted from ptomaine poisoning.