Looking to A Settlement

United States Minister in Venezuela Given Power by President Castro.

Germany Treats the Whole Question as of Small Consequence.

London, Dec. 18.—It is not supposed that anything definite has resulted from today's Cabinet meeting with regard to the transmission by the Government of the United States of Venezuela's request for arbitration. All negotiations are being conducted with extraordinary secrecy. The Associated Press is in a position to say that Great Britain is making efforts to induce the United States to guarantee Venezuela's compliance with the findings of arbitration. Inquiries made at the Foreign office subsequent to the Cabinet meeting brought no response. The announcement that President Castro has entrusted United States Minister Bowen with full powers to arrange a settlement was received at the Foreign office with much interest. The despatch which contained this announcement was immediately taken to the foreign secretary, Lord Lansdowne. It apparently conveyed to the Foreign office officials the first definite news that such action had beenn taken.

Berlin, Dec. 18.—A fact which impresses the foreign observer here is the quiet indifference of the newspapers and people toward the Venezuelan affairs. Not a Berlin newspaper has a leading article on the Venezuelan affair. Today the news published is largely an abstract of what the London and New York papers are saying. The Germans appear to be astonished at the commotion in Great Britain and the United States over what is regarded here as a mere episode. Few of the German newspapers have correspondents in New York, but those who are there telegraph that Germany is seemingly without one friend in the country, and trace the cause to Germany's attitude towards the United States during the Spanish-American war. The popular feeling in Great Britain against co-operation with Germany is attributed here to the German people's bearing towards Great Britain during the South African war, but if public opinion has little concern as yet over Venezuela, the Foreign office here is extremely sensitive over the developments of public feeling abroad, and especially in the United States. The reason for delay in doing anything that will change the situation, either by replying to Venezuela's proposition made through Minister Bowen, issuing blockade regulations, or taking any forward step is because it is thought better to remain passive for a few days and see how far public feeling in the United States will go. Indications are not wanting that the German government is seeking an expedient to arrive at a solution of the difficulty without anything further happening to vex the people of the United States, whose good will is considered to be more important than the humiliation of Venezuela. Still Germany must have her claims satisfied, and the hopes of the hour among the Emperor's advisers are that President Castro will yield voluntarily in a few days, if not pushed any further that the commercial classes in Venezuela will compel a settlement or that the United States will offer a guarantee that Venezuela pay up if she loses by arbitration. The German commander in Venezuelan waters has been instructioned to use extreme caution and avoid force until he receives further orders.

Washington, Dec. 18.—President Castro has clothed Minister Bowen with full powers to effect a settlement with Great Britain, Germany and Italy. Mr. Bowen simply awaits the consent of the State department to assume the task, assuming that the nations named are willing that he should undertake the work. It is believed the critical phase of the Venezuelan difficulty has been passed.

A second call by Minister de Margerie, the French charge at the State department at a late hour in the day, a very unusual happening, is understood to be connected with the effort of his Government to safeguard its own interests in Venezuela. This morning it was understood that the other powers had conceded France's right of priority in the collection of debts due her by Venezuela, but it now appears that they are disposed to look more closely into the position, and the Italian Government at least is disposed to make a strong protest against any differentiation among the creditors. The Italian position is that if there is to be any reference in the settlement of claims against Venezuela, this should be based upon the date of the claim, and from that point of view the Italian claims being older would take precedence. The French claim is that France should be privileged to come into the combination and divide Venezuelan customs receipts, or whatever other means of revenue might be selected on terms with other nations.

NEW STAMPS TO BE ISSUED

Seven Cent One Will Bear Queen Victoria's Head—False Reports.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Dec. 18.—A seven cent stamp, yellow in color, appears in a few days. This new stamp will bear the Queen's head, the department not having yet decided a design for the King's head issue. A four-cent stamp will also make its appearance in the near future.

Mr. John Costigan says his home rule resolutions of next session will have special reference to the land question.

The government threatens to take steps to stop the sending out of false and malicious reports regarding alleged foot and mouth disease in Canada.

Commissioner Hutchison and staff left for Vancouver today en route to Osaka.

QUEEN BUMPS.

Runs Aground in Narrows But Floats Again.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The steamer Queen, of the Pacific Steamship company, ran aground in the Narrows today owing to fog. She was floated undamaged at high tide.

DOMINION STEEL.

Montreal, Dec. 18.—The Dominion Iron & Steel Company will not continue construction of its steel rail mills at Sydney for the present, but will devote the structure to the manufacture of structural steel, for which there is a much larger demand throughout Canada. This decision was arrived at by the executive of the company at a meeting held today. It is announced that the company had not yet decided to issue any more common stock at present, as has been reported.

PHILIPPINE PRODUCTS.

Move to Reduce United States Duties on Them.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The House today passed the bill to reduce the duties on the products of the Philippine Islands coming into the United States, from 75 per cent. of the Dingley rates (the present duties) to [illegible] per cent. of those rates.

EARTHQUAKE.

San Jose, Costa Rica, Dec. 18.—Two violent earthquake shocks were experienced this morning. There were no casualties.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Presbyterian Committee Has Prepared Estimates.

Toronto, Dec. 18.—The Presbyterian Foreign Mission committee has prepared estimates for 1903, totalling $150,000. Reports from various missions showed encouraging conditions.

JAPS RELEASED.

Orders Sent to Westminster from Victoria.

Vancouver, Dec. 18.—(Special)—The Japanese arrested near Blaine and held at Westminster were released today under orders from Victoria.

DON CARLOS

Will Resign His Claims in His Son's Favor.

Madrid, Dec. 18.—The Herald of today says that Don Carlos purposes to renounce his claim to the throne in favor of his son, Don Jaimie.

BANK CLERK ARRESTED.

Charged With Defrauding by False Checks.

Toronto, Dec. 18.—Robert Haley, ledger keeper in a local branch of the Bank of Commerce, was arrested tonight charged with defrauding the Dominion Express Co. by means of forged checks drawn on the bank for $200.

FOULED BY WARSHIP.

Medoc in Collision With French Cruiser.

Toulon, Dec. 18.—The steamer Medoc collided with the French cruiser La Touche Treville as she was leaving port this evening. She grounded on the rocks at the Mourillon arsenal, and now lies in a dangerous position. Heavy seas are now breaking over the Medoc, which has on board 233 passengers for the East Indies.

FIVE YEARS.

Maple Creek, N. W. T., Dec. 18.—Harry R. Forsythe, who yesterday was found guilty of having money on his person stolen from Dixon Bros.' vault on August 6 last, was arraigned before Chief Justice Prendergast and received a sentence of five years penal servitude in Stoney Mountain penitentiary.

Complain About Reign of Terror

Evidence of Non-Union Men Given Before the Strike Commission.

Witnesses Give Stories of What Happened Then During the Strike.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 18—The coal strike committee listened today to further testimony tending to show that a reign of terror existed in the anthracite coal fields during the five and half months of the mine workers strike. About a score of witnesses were called during the two sessions by the attorneys for the non-union men. They told of serious boycotts, brutal attacks by crowds of men, women and boys, and an attempt to burn the house of a non-union man. In most instances the witnesses testified that the alleged offenders were members of the miners union. The lawyers for the miners objected frequently to the admissions of testimony on hearsay, and sometimes objected because of irrelevancy of certain other statements. Chairman Gray said the commission was not bound by any strict rules of evidence but asked counsel to confine themselves in examining witnesses as far as possible to direct evidence. The commission, he said, wanted to know whether a reign of terror existed in the anthracite region and it could not get that information if the strict rules of evidence were applied. "The coward who will go to the storekeepers," he said, "and tell them not to sell the necessaries of life to a poor woman, usually seeks the obscurity that the law of evidence throws around him. If a girl is discharged from her position in a store because she rode in a street car in inclement weather while a strike was on, the coward who discharged her is coward enough to refuse to testify." He recognized, he said, why some merchants will not come forward and tell who forced him to refuse to sell necessaries of life to certain boycotted persons, but if he (Chairman Gray) were a storekeeper he thought he would risk this all in order to assist in breaking up the cowardly business.

August Scheuck, of Hazelton, who worked for the Lehigh Valley company through the suspension, testified that he was attacked by a mob while he and his son were going to work, and that he was severely injured by being hit by rocks, that he was stabbed three times and had five ribs broken. He was acting as a coal and iron policeman at the time, but did not use his revolver because he was afraid of hitting his son, who was being beaten by the crowd at the same time. Many of these men, he said, were strikers. The son of witness corroborated the testimony of the father. Henry Vermilyea, of Dorrancetown, said he was forced to join the union by the superintendent of the John C. Haddock Coal company, in order to keep peace at the colliery. This was before the strike began. Later he left the company because he thought the union was running the place and went to work for another company while the strike was on. He was hung in effigy, stones were thrown at him while going to and from this work, and a store-keeper was compelled to refrain from selling his relative the necessaries of life.

John Doran, manager of the Wilkesbarre lace mills, testified that because he would not discharge two girls who had relatives working in the mines the 1,100 employees went on strike and stayed out eight weeks until the matter was fixed up. Another witness said he was a member of the union, and while under a physician's care during the street car strike here last year he was compelled to ride on a car. His discharge was asked for by the union, but the mine superintendent refused. The union made his occupation so unpleasant for him in the mines that he had to quit. He left the union and when the strike came on he refused to leave his work. He moved from one place to another and finally located at Pittston. At that place the man who owned the house was a union miner, and ordered him out, and he had to leave. These witnesses and others that were called testified that their wives were insulted on the streets, children were beaten by other children and could not be safely sent to schools, that local unions requested store-keepers to refrain from selling goods to any one related to a man working in the mines, that their houses were stoned; that they were stoned, shot at, and hung in effigy, and that life generally was made miserable for them and their families. Most of the witnesses connected strikers with the offences alleged. The lawyers for the non-union men said tonight they would continue calling witnesses to prove that a reign of terror existed during the strike, the commission will adjourn about noon on Saturday and will reconvene in Philadelphia on January 5.

Blockade Tomorrow

Notice to Be Formally Given to Venezuela by the Powers.

A German Cruiser Seizes a Schooner at Entrance to Lake Maracaibo.

Caracas, Dec. 18.—It has been learned from an official source that the allies today will notify the Venezuelan authorities at La Guayra of the blockade to become effective Saturday, December 20, at 3 p. m., of the ports of La Guayra, Puerto Cabello, Core, Maracaibo, Carupano and Barcelona.

Lopez Baralt, Venezuelan Minister of Foreign affairs, has transmitted to the United States Minister a document signed by President Castro as constitutional president of the republic and countersigned by himself as Minister of Foreign Affairs, in which Mr. Bowen is recognized as the only representative of Venezuela in the matter of effecting a settlement of the present difficulty. According to the terms of this document Mr. Bowen may act without restriction, and he is to use all means possible to protect the interests of Venezuela.

La Guayra, Dec. 18.—The German cruiser Falke, which has been anchored for the past two days at the entrance of Lake Maracaibo, today captured the Ventzuelan schooner Victoria. After cutting down her mainmast, thus disabling her, the Germans abandoned the vessel. This action has caused great indignation among the Venezuelans, and excitement runs high at Maraicabo, where the people have been parading the streets uttering cries against Great Britain and Germany.

The British cruiser Tribune arrived here this morning. The British cruiser Indefatigable left here at noon today and steamed in the direction of Trinidad.

The Hague, Dec. 18—The Dutch cruiser Runiter, which it was proposed to send to the West Indies, has been ordered to proceed to Venezuela to protect the Dutch interests there.

Washington, Dec. 18.—It was learned tonight that France has addressed a note to her charge d'affaires at Caracas for submission to the Venezuela Government, stating the position she will maintain with reference to claims of her citizens against Venezuela. France makes a distinction between claims arising before Castro's assumption of power and those arising since. The claims of France prior to Castro's administration, it is agreed, are already to be settled by arbitration. The claims arising since Castro became president are to be adjusted by the French minister at Caracas, and proper ministerial officers of Venezuela as to the claims prior to 1899.

Rome, Dec. 18.—King Victoria Emmanuel granted an audience today to Commander de Novellis of the Italian cruiser Agordat, which has received orders to proceed to Venezuela. His Majesty said he hoped for a speedy ending without complications with other powers of the Venezuelan affair. The Agordat will leave for the Carribean in a few days.

London, Dec. 18.—W. M. Long, president of the local Government board, speaking at Westminster tonight, said that at no previous period had Great Britain's relations with foreign countries been more satisfactory than they were today. Mr. Long expressed himself as quite certain that there existed no danger of war or any straining of the present friendly relations between Great Britain and the United States. He said he believed the British Government was determined to avoid any rupture with Washington.

OVER A CENTURY.

Montreal, Dec. 18.—Esther Dunn Jones died tonight, aged 105 years and 6 months. She was a native of Kildare, Ireland, and came to Canada 54 years ago.

STEAD AGAIN.

Doing What He Can Against His Own Country.

London, Dec. 18.—The executive committee of the British branch of the International Union passed a resolution this evening which was addressed by W. S. Stead, expressing regret that Britain had entered into war with Venezuela without attempting to secure arbitration, and urging the people of the United States to protest against war being made upon any American state prior to the submission and refusal of an offer to arbitrate. Copies of the resolution will be sent to Lord Lansdowne and Secretary Hay.

UPSETS VERDICT.

Mr. Justice Martin Gives Judgment For Le Roi No. 2.

Nelson, B. C., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Judge Martin today upset the verdict given by the jury in the Hoskins-Le Roi case. The jury found in answer to one question asked by the judge that the omission which caused the accident was the faulty plan of the surveyor. The jury also found in answer to another question that the company was responsible for negligence. The judge claimed that the fault of the surveyor was the fault of a fellow-servant of deceased, and under the common law that the company was not responsible. He gave judgment with costs against plaintiff. The case is to be appealed to come up at Vancouver before the Full court.

LICENSING BOARD.

Results of Meeting For Richmond and Chilliwack.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The result of the meeting of the Richmond and Chilliwack licensing board is as follows: The renewal of the Huntington hotel licence is granted. The licence for the Abbotsford hotel was refused. The renewal of the Junction Inn and Sechelt hotel licences in Richmond were granted, also the Hastings hotel. The application for a new licence for Gibson's Landing was refused.

Jas. Cameron Barton, of the customs staff and Miss Helen Fordie Johnstone were united in marriage yesterday, Rev. J. M. McLeod officiating.

According to a report submitted to the Health committee the Chinese are more negligent than ever regarding the provisions in the Health Bylaw for proper ventilation of rooms. It is probable that the bylaw will be amended so as to require that every room be ventilated direct to the open air.

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURERS.

Complain That Not Enough Protection Is Given Industry.

Toronto, Dec. 18.—(Special)—W. F. Humphrey's woollen mills near Moncton, N. B., in an interview here today said that for several years 75 per cent. of the woollen manufacturers had been in very bad shape and conditions would not be improved until the government gave them the measure of protection that other industries enjoyed. Such relief had not been afforded, he declared, because most woollen manufacturers were Conservatives. If they were Liberals they would not be handicapped. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association have decided to appoint agents at Montreal, St. John and Halifax, whose duty it will be to see that goods from or to members of the association are shipped to their destinations with all possible despatch.

F. A. Macdonald, ex-mayor of Toronto, died tonight, aged 44 years.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Prorogued Yesterday—Speech From the Throne.

London, Dec. 18.—Parliament was prorogued this afternoon. Only a score of members of the House of Commons were present when Black Rod summoned the Lower House to the House of Lords to hear the King's speech, which was an unusually lengthy recapitulation of public events since January, including the action taken in connection with Venezuela, regarding which the speech said:

"I regret that the constant complaints which my Government have found necessary to address to the Government of Venezuela in regard to unjustifiable and arbitrary acts against British subjects and property during the last two years have been persistently disregarded, and that it has become necessary for my Government, acting in concert with that of His Imperial Majesty the German Emperor, which also has curious cause for complaint against the Republic, to insist on measures of redress."

The speech refers to the conclusion of the South African war, and adds: "There seems to be every reason to hope that material prosperity, greater than any the Transvaal and Orange River colonies have yet experienced, may visit these regions and that all sections of the population may live together in friendship for each other and loyalty to the Crown."

Paragraphs deal with the postponed coronation, the colonial conference and Colonial Secretary Chamberlain's tour, which, together, are expected to be of the "Utmost value, both in respect to their immediate effect and as precedents in the future."

Other topics touched upon were the expedition against the Mad Mullah and the co-operation of Italy therein, the acceptance by Chili and Argentina of the British boundary awards, the Brussels sugar convention and the alliance between Great Britain and Japan. "Which I believe will be of advantage to both countries and contribute to the maintenance of general peace in the extreme East."

The Anglo-Chinese treaty is referred to as promising to "secure, not only for this country, but for the commerce of the world, valuable facilities and advantages."

The speech closes with a reference to India, where the anxiety regarding another famine has been averted by a plentiful rainfall, and where the coronation durbar will be associated with a period of unusual commercial and financial prosperity. The speech entirely omits the usual references to foreign relations.

The parliament was prorogued until February 17.

Hurrah For The Holidays

Thousands of Happy School Children Will Abandon Work Today.

Closing Exercises In the Public Schools of the City.

Following are the hours for the closing exercises at the public schools:

10:30 a. m.—Hillside School.
10:30 a. m.—Spring Ridge.
10:30 a. m.—Rock Bay.
10:45 a. m.—Boys' Central.
11 a. m.—Victoria West.
1 p. m.—Kingston Street.
1 p. m.—High School.
2:00 p. m.—North Ward.
2:30 p. m.—Girls' Central.

Joyous anticipation of the delights of Christmas will fill the minds of thousands of happy children this morning when they tumble out of their cosy cots, hurry into their clothes, snatch a hasty mouthful of breakfast and rush off to school to take part in the closing exercises. Teachers and scholars have worked in happy unison for the past week to make the Christmas breaking-up day a memorable event in school history, and in all the public schools, with the exception of the South Park, the pupils will give appropriate entertainments to their parents and friends. The South Park school is reserving its talents for the re-opening after New Year, when a musical and elocutionary programme will be presented. The prizes won at the summer swimming contests will be awarded, and the results of the High school entrance examinations will be announced.

At the High school a public examination will be held in accordance with clause 8 of the Public schools regulations.

The boys of the Central will hold their closing exercises in the Pemberton gymnasium in the morning, and the girls in the afternoon, when Rev. W. Baugh Allen will deliver a lecture on "How Christmas is Spent in Different Countries."

Kingston street school has been very prettily decorated by the pupils and teachers for the joyous ceremony of putting lesson books far out of sight to make way for Santa Claus and New Years. A nice musical programme has been prepared, and parents and friends will be very welcome.

At the North Ward school the following programme will be given by the pupils, assisted by Prof. Haynes' orchestra:

Song—The Maple Leaf ..... School
Recitation—Father Xmas ..... Four Boys
Recitation—My Thanksgiving Visit.... ..... Edith Yeo
Song—The Oarphan Newsboy..... ..... Hazel Morrison
Song—Jolly Old Winter ..... School
Recitation—The Doll's Show..... 7 Girls
Song—My Kitty ..... Div. IX.
Trio—Misses Haynes, King, Lawrence.
Recitation—Visitors From Storyland.. ..... 6 Pupils
Selection—Concordia ..... Orchestra
Song—Carol, Sweetly Carol ..... School
Recitation—Her Hands ..... Ella Gill
Song—Mr. Frog ..... 2 Girls
Selection—Gathering of the Clans.. ..... Orchestra
Quartette—Down in the Deep ..... 4 Girls
Recitation—Xmas Gifts ..... 4 Girls
Duet—Violin and Piano..... Juanita and Edward Sears
Recitation—The Bad Little Boys..... ..... Jennie Duncan
Dialogue—The Rehearsal ..... 7 Pupils
Selection—National Overture ..... Orchestra
Presentation of Medals, Speeches.....
Song—Happy New Year ..... School
National Anthem

At the Hillside school an exhibition of the work of the children during the past term will be held after the regular programme.

Teachers and pupils of all the schools extend a cordial invitation to parents, friends and well-wishers to honor their efforts by attending the closing exercises.

COMING TO CANADA.

The Kind of Immigrants Who Are Welcome.

Toronto, Dec. 18.—A Toronto Telegram cable says: "A number of reservists who were out of employment by reason of their serving in the South African war, sailed yesterday from Liverpool by the Elder-Dempster steamer Lake Ontario to settle in Canada.

TO SETTLE TROUBLE.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Representative Shaftioth, Colorado, appeared before the committee on foreign affairs to urge action on a joint resolution which he introduced authorizing the President to propose to Great Britain and Germany to submit their claims against Venezuela to arbitration, and to guarantee the payment of the awards. Mr. Shaftioth said that war in Venezuela would make a violation of the Monroe doctrine possible. He expressed the opinion that the trouble in Venezuela would not end until the United States guaranteed payments of whatever demands may be made.

The High School Magazine Issued

A Novel and Wonderfully Bright Entertainment by the Pupils.

Living Representation On The Stage of a Clever Periodical.

The High School Magazine was published last night at the High school building—the editorial offices being in the Assembly room, which was crowded to the doors with an expectant audience to watch this, the gala edition, in fact the edition de luxe of the High School Magazine, published by those who collaborated with the editors in making the magazine such a success.

The magazine did not come from the press, but was a new and highly original effort, and from the cover page tableaux vivants to the advertisements in the back pages—like those of the other magazines—it gave a splendid entertainment.

Many took part in the work of getting out the magazine, and each one did his or her part well. The programme commenced with an address by the principal, Mr. E. B. Paul, after which the Lieutenant-Governor presented the medal given by Hon. Mr. Prentice, to Lawrence P. Macrae, the winner, who secured it with his paper on "Resuscitation," and a prize given by Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere, for history was awarded to Fred. Wood.

Following the presentation the curtain was raised on the cover page of the magazine. Minerva was seen in the centre of the stage with four streamers leading to the Classics, Mathematics, Literature and Science, represented by four kneeling figures in Greek costumes, and at either side was Atlanta and Mercury. Then came the frontispiece—a colored reproduction of the historical painting representing Lady Jane Grey shrinking from the acceptance of the Crown, while two courtiers kneeled suppliant before her. The picture was well posed by pupils of the school in costume, and with all the impedimenta demanded by the picture.

The first page article was a recitation on "School Recreation Grounds," which, like the other matter of this unique and clever literary work of the High school pupils—was original. This was composed by W. Johnson and recited by L. Cooke. A piano duet specially composed for the number by the players, was rendered in fine style by G. Carlyon and E. Ohlson. Then came an article descriptive of the old German legend of the mysterious village of "Auf Wiedersehn." This clever fantasy was composed by G. Carlyon and rendered by G. Stephen. The story was based on the traveler who arrived, during its short life, at the mythical village, which existed for but twenty-four hours, and discovered its weird nature when it disappeared to leave him in a swamp, where it had stood.

The next few pages of the magazine were devoted to the joke-makers, the Rogers brothers, who, clad in the true clown regalia, and with floured and painted faces, recited their monologues, jokes and stories, after the manner of veteran end-men of a wandering burnt cork aggregations. A recitation "Hiawatha," after Longfellow, by Miss Lillian Mowat, was well given by E. Hume, and then came the pages devoted to the drama.

The drama dealt with in the edition was Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice," eight girls taking the roles in this great work of Britain's great playwright. Miss Beaulands was the Portia, with Miss Scott as Shylock; Miss Bell, Antonio; Miss Hilldige, Bassanio; Miss Gabriel, Gratiano; Miss Roberts, the Judge; Miss Eberts, the Clerk, and Miss Few, Nerissa. All were well costumed, and the more striking act of the play was admirably presented—the girls rendering their lines well.

The Rogers brothers then reeled off another bunch of storiettes and comicalities, and Miss D. Smith rendered a capital two-step, which she had composed for the magazine. F. Heal, attired in regulation Klondike parky of fur, and the miner's long boots, recited a storiette, entitled "The First Piano in White Horse." This capital piece of literature, which was from the pen of Miss L. Saunders, dealt with the excitement which followed the importation of the first piano to the Northern camp, and the pathetic reception of the instrument.

The next pages were given over to the cooking editors, Misses L. Saunders and Irene Ure. The cook was seated at the table with the dainties—and those who sampled them attested to the fact that they were dainties—set before her, and Miss Ure entered to secure recipes for the magazine, note-book and pencil in hand. One of the recipes is worthy of note. It was how to make a High school graduate. "To do this, take two books of Caesar, one of Virgil, fry well, and toss in a few original poems, diluted with the tears of bitterness. Add a judicious amount of geometry and algebra. Throw in a few bits of botany and physics, and a dash of physiology. Put in a little French for seasoning. Stir into the young brain and stew. Serve as soon as well done as a High school graduate."

More comicalities by the fun-makers, who had Joe Miller's joke book well in hand, were followed by the correspondence pages of the magazine, where the editor dealt out the right thing under all conceivable circumstances, advised the inquirers how to make a dress or trim a bonnet. The editor, who was seen sitting at his desk with the correspondence before him, was J. Russel, and the secretary, who had her typewriter before her, was Miss G. Atkinson.

After the correspondence, the publication of the magazine was stopped for a few moments to hear an address by City Superintendent Eaton, who congratulated both teachers and pupils on the success of their novel entertainment, and hoped that other entertainments would follow. He compared the attendance at the school with that five years ago, and said that then there were three teachers and sixty pupils, when the school dragged along miserably in the old building. Now there were twice as many teachers and pupils, and it was lucky that the plans of the school were amended to have ten rooms, to allow for expansion. There were three rooms vacant, but they would be filled next year. Another teacher would be needed next term, and two more by next December. He suggested that the floor of the Assembly room should be raised, as it was difficult for those at the back to either see or hear, and now that this entertainment had been so successful, he hoped that next term every Friday afternoon would be set apart for declamatory exercises.

The publication of the magazine was then resumed, and the pages devoted to athletics were printed, or rather, published. The first part of this section of the magazine was devoted to a drill by twelve girls in red blouses and black skirts, which was excellently carried out and received a well-merited encore. Then some football tableaux were shown, in which the High school boys were seen in the act of scrimmage, forcing the line, and other characteristic features of the game. Then the hockey girls were shown in a tableau, in which they told the history of their club, and the glories of past victories. The athletic pages were brought to an end by a barbell exercise by twelve boys, which was encored.

Then came the advertisements. The first showed a tableaux of books, one being the Sleeping Beauty, and the other, Cinderella, both being well posed. Then came the flour advertisement, in which a boy and girl appeared in "It's Hungarian," in which a bun played the lesser role, and good teeth also had a part. Then came the "Blackboard Cleaners," and after two young misses had posed for the towel advertisement and the dyes advertisement was shown, a number of misses posed for a wig advertisement in a striking manner. The curtain faced the audience, and dangling over its top were the wigs, all natural—in fact they could not be loosened from the heads of the girls who took part. This was a most effective tableau.

The performance—pardon! the publication of the magazine—was brought to a close by the massing of all who took part on the platform to lead the singing of the National Anthem. Thus the Christmas number of the High School Magazine was published, and included in the large audience, which taxed the capacity of the hall, were the various members of the school trustee board and others. The entertainment was a most successful one, and Miss Watson, who originated the idea, Miss Potts, Mr. Russell, and all those who assisted in making it such a success, are certainly deserving of much credit.

A DREAD RUMOR.

A despatch received last night from Winnipeg says that a report is in circulation there taat the C. P. R. liner Empress of China has gone down with all hands. Nothing regarding the Empress of China can be learned here, nor could it be learned if any report had been received of her arrival at Yokohama, at which port she was due from Victoria on Saturday last. The Empress of China left here on the morning of December 2, she having waited over until 1.30 a. m. of that day on account of the superstitions of the Crown Prince of Siam. Maha Chowfa Vadjiradvudh, who with his party were among the passengers bound to Yokohama. The Japanese Government cabled a request to the C. P. R. prior to the sailing of the Empress of China on December 2 asking that she fly the Siamese flag and the flag of the land of the Elephant was to have been made en route. A fleet of Japanese warships was to meet the Empress at Yokohama, at which port she was due long ere this. If she has arrived, no report has been received as is customary, but the rumor of disaster to her is not credited here.

UNITED STATES PACIFIC CABLE.

San Francisco, Dec. 18.—The Associated Press has received the following cablegram from its correspondent on board the cable ship Silvertown, dated at noon today: "Position at noon, lat. 30.14 N., long. 133.30 W. Since noon yesterday 207 knots of cable have been laid, making the total laid 662 knots. The weather is good, and the ship's speed eight knots."

Official Gazette Announcements

Disallowance of Provincial Acts—Railway New Westminster to Ladners.

Holidays For Government Employees—Appointments and Incorporations.

Yesterday's British Columbia Gazette contains the following:

Ladysmith, of the district registrar government agent, to be a deputy, at Ladysmith, of the the district registrar of births, deaths and marriages at Nanaimo.

Frank Ireson Moore, of Elko, to be a justice of the peace in and for the province of British Columbia.

The Governor-General-in-Council has disallowed the following acts of the provincial legislature:

An Act to Regulate Immigration Into British Columbia.

An Act Relating to the Employment on Works carried on under Franchises Granted by Private Acts."

An Act to further amend the Coal Mines Regulations Act.

The Secretary of State of Canada gives notice that henceforth permits to enter the Transvaal or Orange River Colony will be issued only at South African ports. Persons wishing to proceed to those colonies should, therefore, apply for permits to the Permit Office at the port at which they propose to land. Such permits may be refused, and in order to avoid disappointment and delay it is suggested that persons about to proceed thither should ascertain, before sailing for South Africa, from the Permit Office at the port of landing whether permits will be granted to them. Under the peace preservation order now in force in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, persons entering those colonies without permits may be ordered to leave, and if such order is not obeyed within a certain time, they are liable to fine and imprisonment.

Notice is given that the provincial government offices will be closed on Friday the 26th and Saturday the 27th days of December, instant, and Friday the 2nd day of January, 1903.

Tenders are invited for the erection of a one room frame school house at Matsqui, New Westminster district.

A certificate of incorporation has been issued to the Metropolitan Estate Company, Limited; capital $20,000, in $10 shares. The object of the company is to acquire by purchase or otherwise from the trustees of the Pandora street Victoria congregation of the Methodist church all and singular those certain pieces or parcels of land and premises, situate, lying and being in the city of Victoria, in the province of British Columbia, and being composed of lots 658, 659 and 660, Victoria city, and to purchase or otherwise acquire, hold, sell, lease, mortgage, exchange, turn to account, dispose of, and deal in real and personal property of all kinds whatsoever.

The following have been registered as extra-provincial companies:

The Yale Mining Company; capital $250,000, in $100 shares; head office at Anaconda, Washington; provincial head office at Hedley, with M. K. Rodgers, M. E., as attorney.

The Discovery Gold Mining Company of British Columbia; capital $300,000, in $5 shares; head office in the city of New York; provincial head office at Barkerville, with Leicester A. Bonner, M. E., as attorney.

Corbould & Grant, solicitors for the applicants, give notice of application for an act to incorporate a company to construct a railway for the carrying of freight and passengers from a point in or near the city of New Westminster; thence Southerly across the Fraser river; thence in a Southwesterly direction by the most feasible route through the municipalities of Surrey and Delta to a point at or near Ladner or Port Guichon, with power to construct, equip, maintain and operate branch lines.

Paul Sidney Couldrey, M. E., Rossland, is appointed attorney for Le Roi mine, No. 2, in place of Bernard Macdonald.

TO RAISE RATES.

London, Dec. 18.—At a conference of steamshippers trading with India held this week at Liverpool, it was decided that the freight rates were not remunerative, and that it was necessary to increase them by five per cent. to ten per cent. in 1903.

Closed For The Holidays

Collegiate School Entertains a Large Assemblage of Friends and Parents.

Headmaster's Report Shows Highly Gratifying Progress Made During Term.

A large gathering assembled at the Collegiate school last evening, in response to Mr. and Mrs. Laing's invitation, to witness the closing exercises of the pupils of the school. A programme of music and recitations, well interpreted by the boys, preceded the distribution of prizes by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, who occupied the platform with the Lord Bishop of Columbia, and the staff of the school.

The head master, Mr. J. W. Laing, M. A., Oxford, submitted his report as follows:

To the Patron and Visitor, the Lord Bishop of Columbia:

My Lord: I have the honor to submit to you the report of the school during the past year.

I am again pleased to announce a sound, moral tone and thoroughness of line throughout the school; this is owing in a great measure to the excellent example of some of the older boys among the boarders. We aim at thoroughness in our work, and insist upon a boy having a clear understanding of the work in his form before being promoted to a higher one. As a result of this, I have the pleasure to record three distinct honors gained by the school last spring.

Jerrald Potts gained an open scholarship, open to the province of British Columbia, at Trinity University, Toronto, and I have lately heard from the provost that he is doing well in his work and likely to prove a credit to his school. Hibbert Dart passed high up into the Royal Navy at his first attempt, and Harold Jukes passed twelfth out of 43 candidates into the Royal Military College at Kingston. Of these successes we have reason to feel proud.

We have heard good accounts of the two Haningtons at McGill University, and of Hamersley, now at Kingston, the commandant, Lt.-Col. Reade, wrote to me: "I wish you could send us another boy like Harold Hamersley. George Dart is in Edinburgh studying medicine, and the two Costobadies have taken high places in all their examinations at Guy's Hospital, London.

Our numbers are well up to the average, the roll call this term being 52, including 18 boarders. The health of the boys has been excellent, a matter of great thankfulness.

Our examiner this term has been the Ven. Archdeacon Scriven, M. A., to whom we are much indebted for his valuable services.

Your Lordship has kindly given us an entrance scholarship for the seventh year, which will be competed for, all being well, on the first day of the Easter term, January 12, 1903. You have also given us two prizes for Divinity; His Honor Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere two moral conduct prizes; the Hon. Mr. Justice Martin an arithmetic prize for the upper school; Judge Harrison a Latin prize for the upper school; Messrs. T. N. Hibben and son a map prize; Miss Archbutt a music prize, and Mrs. Laing two prizes for spelling. We all heartily appreciate these tokens of the interest taken by our friends in the school.

I have just received a message from the examiner regretting his inability to send his report tonight, and to announce the winners of the school scholarship and the upper school form prizes, owing to the post office at Ladysmith having been burned down last week, and the packages containing some of the examination papers having been delayed. The results will be made known at the earliest opportunity. Your Lordship has conveyed to me a message this afternoon from Archdeacon Scriven saying that the result of the whole examination is excellent.

The result of the special prizes and of the lower school form prizes is as follows:

Upper school—Moral conduct, Dorrell; Latin, Lockwood, recitation, A. Pitts, arithmetic, Belyea; map, A. Pitts; music, Garnett; spelling, Redfern; spelling (July), Newcombe.

Lower school—Moral conduct, Stoddart, Davidson II.; recitation, Stoddart; spelling, Davidson II.; spelling (July), Spencer I.

Upper school form—Stoddart.
Lower school form—Allen I.
First form—Martin II.

In conclusion, I wish to heartily thank my friends and colleagues, the Rev. C. Ensor Sharp, M.A., Mr. H. J. S. Muskett and Mr. A. J. W. Dodds, B. A., for their loyal support and co-operation in enabling me to carry out the work of the school so successfully during the past year.

I have the honor to remain, My Lord,
Your obedient servant,
J. W. Laing, M.A.
Head Master.

The company were handsomely entertained with refreshments by Mr. and Mrs. Laing, after which an English play—"Poor Pillicoddy?"—was given by the boys, whose excellent acting was much appreciated by the audience. The school rooms were very prettily decorated with flags, kindly lent by the captain of H. M. S. Egeria.

MANY MARRIAGES.

December Rivals June With the Devotees of Eros.

On Wednesday evening Rev. W. Leslie Clay united in the bonds of matrimony Mr. Adin J. Mycock, of Saanich, and Miss Bernice Anna Peter, eldest daughter of Mr. Wm. H. Peter. The ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride's father, Herriot Road, in the presence of a large number of relatives and friends. The bride was given away by her father and attended by Miss Dora May Carmichael and Miss Mycock. The bridegroom was supported by Mr. John S. Carmichael. After the ceremony a reception was held, and all present made merry in honor of the felicitous occasion. Mr. and Mrs. Mycock will reside in Saanich.

A very happy ceremony was performed on Wednesday evening at No. 93 Herald street, when Rev. Dr. Campbell pronounced the nuptial benediction over J. Burely Martin, of Oxford, Ont., and Miss Jane Irving, of Hamilton, Ont. The newly wedded pair will establish their home in this city.

Mr. A. A. Warren, son of Col. Warren, of Vancouver, and Miss Downey, daughter of A. Downey, a well known resident of Saanich, were united in holy bonds of matrimony on Wednesday night. The event took place at the Church of Sn,land, Saan ch, Rev Winberley performing the ceremony. Downey and Miss Belle Downey, ther and sister of the bride, supporte young couple. After the ceremony newly married pair drove to the hor the bride's parents, and after parta of a wedding breakfast drove to city. They left for their home on Mainland on the Charmer this morn

Rev. Dr. Campbell, on the 1st inst., celebrated the marriage of Mr. James Henry Eastman and Clara Pauline Clemmance, both of Seattle, and on the 10th inst. that of Mr. Ingvald Olson and Mary Agnes Linger, both of Tacoma.

A quiet, but very pretty wedding was solemnized at St. Saviour's church at 5 p. m. on Wednesday, the 17th inst., when Miss Beatrice Cornelia Fraser,

Discovery of Native C

Rich Strike Made in Level of the Ve Mine.

Another Big Ore Chu tered in Le R No. 2.

An authenticated strike Velvet mine and an alle in the Josie mine of the group are the latest topics connection with the mnin the Rossland camp.

The strike at the Velve for by William J. Gray, th gineer, who took over the of the property a few m the retirement of S. Seve It is stated that upon loo ground Mr. Gray determi workings in an opposite that previously taken. At early days of his regime marked by a strike which ters the standing of the V No. 1 level an ore body wa