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STATE OF IMPROVEMENTS.

NOTICE.

French, Little Bobs, Baden  
 White, Sirdar Mineral  
 in the Victoria Mining  
 Central District.  
 sed, Bugaboo Creek, Port San

that I. H. E. Newton, F. M.  
 C. No. 37069, intend  
 on the date hereof, to apply to  
 recorder for a certificate of  
 for the purpose of obtaining  
 of the above claims.  
 take notice that action, un-  
 must be commenced before  
 of such certificate of im-  
 twelfth day of November,

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TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION

VICTORIA, B. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1903.

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NO. 74.

### THE QUEEN HAD NARROW ESCAPE

### ALARMING OUTBREAK OF FIRE AT SANDRINGHAM

Floor of Her Majesty's Bedroom Col-  
 lapsed Shortly After She Left  
 the Apartment.

London, Dec. 10.—A fire occurred at Sandringham, and Queen Alexandra and her secretary, Miss Knollys, had a narrow escape.

It broke out at 5 o'clock this morning in Miss Knollys's room in the chimney flue, where a beam is supposed to have been smouldering for some days, and spread to the bedroom of the Queen, who was asleep at the time. She was awakened by Miss Knollys, who raised an alarm, but the fire obtained a good hold of both rooms and considerable damage was done before it was extinguished. The outbreak caused a great deal of excitement at Sandringham, where a number of guests are staying at present.

The reticence customary at Sandringham was observed in connection with the fire. From later information, however, it appears that Queen Alexandra had a narrower escape than the first accounts of the fire indicate. Miss Knollys was fortunately awakened by the smoke in her bedroom, which is immediately below the Queen's apartment. Miss Knollys rushed upstairs to the Queen, who was clad only in a dressing gown, and escaped from the burning room not a moment too soon, as the floor of the Queen's apartment collapsed almost immediately, carrying with it Her Majesty's bed.

The alarm raised by Miss Knollys soon brought the household fire brigade, which began the work of extinguishing the fire. Sir Dighton MacDonagh, the keeper of the petty purse and extra equerry to the King, also arrived, and took charge of the operations. Queen Alexandra, who displayed the utmost composure, remained with Miss Knollys near the scene, until she was assured that there was no further danger of the fire spreading.

An examination of the apartments showed that more damage was done by water than by fire. A large number of the Queen's knick-knacks and some of her charming furniture were spoiled. The fire was confined to the two bedrooms. It is not stated that the trouble originated in imperfect electric light wires, which set fire to a beam between the ceiling of Miss Knollys's bedroom and the floor of Her Majesty's apartments.

King Edward, who immediately notified of the occurrence, and later in the day a special messenger was sent to Suffolk with reassuring news from Queen Alexandra.

G. E. POSTER RETURNS.  
 Says Canada Will Soon Supply England  
 With Wheat Now Sent From  
 United States.

New York, Dec. 11.—George E. Poster, formerly finance minister of Canada, who has just returned from England, where he has been making speeches in favor of preferential tariff and assisting in the campaign of the United States against wheat, Joseph Chamberlain, declared that within five years the Dominion will be able to supply England with the wheat now sent from the United States.

"Last year," said Poster, "I raised six million bushels of wheat, and more than one hundred million bushels of grain. We have now under cultivation 3,000,000 acres of wheat land, and still have one hundred million acres just as good, which will be grain producing land in the near future. No country in the world will take the place of Canada as a food producing country. This is due to the richness of her soil, and the climate."

"We Canadians think the United States in all its relations with us has been a very insistent nation. Your people are the best in the world, but we do not look upon your government as the broadest minded in the world."

"We import from the United States a large number of agricultural products, but from us the United States imports very little. In manufactures our tariff runs about 28 per cent, while that of the United States is about 49 per cent. The disparity seems too great. If you would let us in on a fair tariff, we will have to raise the tariff against you."

"We think our country is just as good as the United States. There was a feeling of disappointment among us concerning the Alaskan award, but that is passing away. You see the United States stretches its carcass across our front door. We have got to step over your people when we want to get out to the sea, that is if you will let us."

TO SURVEY STEAMER.  
 Nanaimo, Dec. 12.—Capt. Gibson, Lloyd's surveyor, is here, under instructions from San Francisco underwriters, to survey the steamer Pennsylvania, which had her bunkers on fire on Thursday, before allowing her to proceed.

### EXECUTION AT NANAIMO.

Jap Paid Penalty For Murder—Said Good-Bye to Spectators When on Scaffold.

Nanaimo, Dec. 11.—Kangu Maida, the Japanese murderer, who last August killed two fellow countrymen with an axe, suffered the extreme penalty of the law this morning.

Yesterday, for the first time since taken into custody, Maida showed some little perturbation, probably owing to the sounds of the erection of the scaffold reaching him, and the visits of Japanese Vice-Consul Yoshie and Rev. Goro Kaburagi.

He spent last evening from 7 to 11 writing out a confession in which, while acknowledging his guilt, which he said was proved by the testimony of his dearest friend, Hagasaki, he maintained that he had no recollection of the actual tragedy, but attributed his downfall to drink.

Maida slept well last night, ate his usual breakfast this morning and submitted calmly to the poisoning. Accompanied by Mr. Yoshie, Rev. K. Kaburagi and Rev. Mr. Sanford, Maida mounted the scaffold with remarkable fortitude, and as the cap was being adjusted, turned to the spectators assembled below, and with a smile said, cheerily, "Good-bye, gentlemen."

The execution was carried out by Radcliffe most expeditiously, and without a hitch. Death was practically instantaneous. At the formal inquest the usual verdict was returned by the jury.

### ESTABLISHED POLICE POST.

Supt. Constantine Tells of His Journey  
 to the Mackenzie.

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—The government has received from Supt. Constantine, of the Northwest Mounted Police, a report of the journey he made to Mackenzie river, where he established a post for the preservation of law and order, and the collection of customs duties from American whalers or local traders who bring supplies. The journey from Athabasca to Fort Macpherson, distance 1,854 miles, was accomplished partly by canoe and partly by steamer. The party left Athabasca on June 1st, and arrived at Macpherson on July 14th. Supt. Constantine does not consider Macpherson a suitable place for a post, as whalers have a grand opportunity to trade at Buffalo Island and go to Buffalo Island, three hundred miles east. Supt. Constantine says that the only way that the revenue can be protected in these waters is by armed revenue cutter with a strong crew.

### MURDERER GAINS LIBERTY.

Locked Guards in Cell and Made His  
 Escape—Burglar Set Fire to Store.

Montreal, Dec. 10.—Burglars broke into the fish and game store of Henry Gatehouse last night, and, after wrecking the cash register and finding only a few cents set fire to the building. A big storm was raging at the time and delayed the arrival of the fire brigade, and before the blaze had been extinguished considerable damage had been done. Loss, \$7,000.

### Change of Officials.

W. L. Wanklyn to-day resigned the vice-presidency and general management of the street railway company to accept the vice-presidency of the Dominion Coal Company with a managerial position. He was succeeded as vice-president of the street railway company by K. W. Brachwell, while W. G. Ross becomes the managing director. Duncan McDonald is manager and Patrick Dube, secretary.

### Bank Clearings.

Winnipeg, Dec. 10.—The Winnipeg bank clearings for the week ending 10th December, 1903, were \$6,919,676; same week last year, \$5,428,833; same week 1901, \$4,820,380.

### Daring Escape.

A Calgary dispatch says: Ernest Cashel, the murderer of Rufus Peck, made a most daring and successful attempt at escape from the mounted police barracks last night. When his cell was searched shortly after 6 o'clock, Cashel pulled two revolvers on the three guards, ordered them from the corridor into his cell, just vacated, locked the door, demanded the keys for his shackles, which he unlocked, and then made his escape from the building. He has not yet been recaptured. John Cashel, brother of the murderer, visited the barracks today, and has been arrested on suspicion of having furnished Ernest with the revolvers. Cashel was to have been hanged on Tuesday next, and news was only received from Ottawa to-day that a new trial had been refused. He was 21 years old to-day.

### To Test Welsh Coal.

Toronto, Dec. 10.—The executive of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to-day considered the possibility of using Welsh coal for manufacturing purposes. Welsh coals are being sent and samples of 200 pounds for the purpose of enabling manufacturers to experiment. The C. P. R. will carry these free.

### Mining Institute.

The executive committee of the Canadian Mining Institute held a meeting here last night and decided to fix the meeting place of the annual gathering to be held in the first week of March in Toronto. The usual meeting place is Montreal.

### THREE YEARS FOR PUGILIST.

Vancouver, Dec. 12.—"Terrible" Regan, the prize fighter, was to-day sentenced to three years' imprisonment for holding up H. Slater.

### PROTESTS COMING IN FROM COUNTRY

### COMMERCIAL BODIES RAISE OBJECTIONS

Government Seeking to Rush Obnoxious  
 Measures Through Before Business  
 People Can Be Heard.

The government is attempting every possible move to get their measures through the House as early as possible in order to avoid the opportunity for those directly affected being heard. It is now plainly evident that the opposition were correct when they described these measures intended to increase the revenue as a bolt up on the part of the banks. An inexperienced and timid government allowed itself to be stampeded, and now in turn wish to stampede the country.

Business men, however, look upon it differently. The boards of trade have taken the subject up, and are protesting in a most vigorous way at the unfairness of the proposed measure.

### The Council of the Victoria Board of Trade Had It Under Consideration,

and by taking specific businesses into consideration it has been found that taxes are increased in some instances as much as ten times the original amount paid.

But Victoria city is not alone in this. A special from Kaslo says: "The Kaslo board of trade has sent the following message to Hon. R. F. Green: 'This board emphatically protests that time for consideration of the proposed Assessment Act be given in order that the interest affected may be heard.'"

From Nelson to his representative has been sent the following message: "The board of trade requests you to urge on the government the necessity for affording business interests of the country time for full consideration of the new Assessment Act before passing the same."

Other cities have joined in the protest, and it may safely be said that the government is taking the course it is attempting, is going in the face of the whole country.

On the amendment to the Land Act, which affects the timber industry, a similar protest is coming. Members of the government have had to give way in a bill through which the proposed bill is a plain case of no practical knowledge of how it would work. The Chief Commissioner announces that perhaps next year he will introduce a new bill, which has still further unsettled matters, and timbermen are talking already of getting out of the country.

Before the bill was allowed to be brought up in the House yesterday some stormy catinings were held, and only when an incompetent and impracticable government consented to give way on some important points to the demands made by their supporters in the House, who understand the situation, was the bill allowed to come up for second reading yesterday.

The government by its manifest weakness and the helplessness which its members show in dealing with the bills which have been introduced by them is making itself discredited in the eyes of the Conservative members in the House.

The Socialist members, on the other hand, are delighted with the conditions. They are getting what they ask for, and are satisfied to allow the government, by its bungling, to throttle the industries of the province and bring along confusion, in which the Socialists will shine. Business men on the Conservative side are fearful of the consequences. They are not prepared to see the country ruined, and are also not ready to see the party to which they owe allegiance completely discredited in the country. In the hope of saving the party prestige they are doing all in their power to evoke order out of the jumble into which the Premier and his ministry have thrown them. The party supporters urge should have been consulted before any such radical measures were introduced into the House.

### THERE IS NO HITCH.

Negotiations Regarding Grand Trunk  
 Pacific Deposits Are About  
 Completed.

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—It is expected that the negotiations about the Grand Trunk Pacific deposit will be finally closed to-day or to-morrow at latest. It is more a matter of arrangement as to the character of the security, there being no hitch.

The condor keeps its young longer in the nest than any other bird. Fully twelve months elapse before the young condors can fly.

### SITUATION CRITICAL.

Address in Reply to Japanese Emperor's  
 Speech Condemns Cabinet.

Tokio, Dec. 10.—The Emperor opened the Diet this morning. With reference to Russia, the Emperor said his ministers are now conducting, with prudence and circumspection, important international negotiations for the preservation of peace in the Far East and of Japan's rights and interests.

The brevity of the address by the Emperor to the crisis in the Far East caused much disappointment. Soon after the speech from the throne was delivered in the Upper House, the House of Representatives met for the purpose of considering a reply. The reply was most immediately formulated and was rushed through the House with unusual expedition. It was as follows:

"Your Majesty has been gracious enough to personally open the Diet and to deliver a cordial message, which the House has received with great gratitude. The Empire of Japan is now at its zenith. Its position is one unparalleled in the last thousand years. The magnificent House of Representatives profoundly regret that, at a juncture so critical, involving the fate of the nation, the course pursued by the cabinet is ill adapted to the needs of the situation and inconsistent with the enhancement of our national influence. The policy of the ministry has been shown to be incompatible with the progress of the empire and to be purely domestic and temporizing. The diplomacy of the cabinet is a failure, and we humbly appeal to Your Majesty to review the situation. Our solicitude for the progress of the empire dictates this reply, which represents the aspirations and expectations of the nation."

It is understood that this reply was adopted at the instance of the president of the Lower House, and was a complete surprise to the government and its supporters, who had not time to oppose the adoption of the reply, which was followed amid a scene of great enthusiasm.

The members of the government party in the House have vainly tried to persuade the president to reconsider the reply to the Emperor's address. After the adoption of the reply, an interpellation was introduced in the House of Representatives regarding the delay in the settlement of the negotiations with Russia concerning the Far East was a source of regret to the nation and an element of danger to its peace, and desiring that steps be taken for the progress of the negotiations.

### May Dissolve.

London, Dec. 11.—The correspondent of the Times at Tokio cables as follows: "It is practically certain that the House of Representatives will be dissolved to-morrow."

### DEVONSHIRE'S ADVICE.

London, Dec. 11.—Sir William Vernon Harcourt, speaking to his constituents at Tregear to-night, drew a parallel between a speech delivered in Birmingham in 1885 by Joseph Chamberlain and the present policy of the former colonial secretary. "In 1885," said Sir William, "Mr. Chamberlain spoke as follows: 'It is impossible that the working classes of this country will ever again submit to the sufferings inflicted by the current laws. It is the policy of the Tories to have a policy to recall the history of the time when protection starved the poor and the country was brought to the brink of revolution.'"

Sir William said he would leave Mr. Chamberlain with his present and his "topical conscience," and deal with that gentleman's immediate policy.

He did not think it was worth while to quarrel with Mr. Balfour's plan. The government this time was working that could really be called a government. "It was," said Sir William, "only a derelict wreck of fortuitous atoms, which lost its best officers and was being washed about by waves, over which it had no control."

The Duke of Devonshire, late lord president of the council, has now taken a decided attitude in the fiscal controversy. In the eve of several important bye-elections for seats in parliament, the Duke counsels the Unionist electors to decline to support any Unionist candidate who expressed sympathy with Mr. Chamberlain's policy.

### DIRECTORS ELECTED.

Toronto, Dec. 11.—The shareholders of the Nicola, Kamloops & Similkameen Coal & Railway Company met yesterday when a permanent board of directors were elected and the organization of the company perfected. The projected road is from a point on the main line of the Canadian Pacific at Spences Bridge to Nicola, and thence to the American boundary, about 190 miles. At yesterday's meeting the following were appointed directors: E. A. Jukes, Toronto, president; Geo. A. Breyer, St. Catharines, vice-president; Weland D. W. Druff, St. Catharines; W. A. Sherlock, Canton, Ohio; C. H. Keefer, C. E., Ottawa; W. Dorset-Birchall, Montreal; Geo. Dawson, St. Catharines; W. S. McManus, St. Catharines, secretary and treasurer; H. H. Collier, St. Catharines, solicitor, and Geo. H. Cowan, Vancouver, solicitor for the company in British Columbia.

### POLICE REMOVED.

Those Formerly at Wells on the Dalton  
 Trail, Are Now at Pleasant  
 Camp.

Seattle, Dec. 11.—A dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer from Dawson says: "Major Wood, who has returned to Dawson, announces the first change of Canadian outposts in conformity with the findings of the international commission, which arbitrated the boundary between Canada and the United States."

"Major Wood, who is the commander of the Northwest Mounted Police, moved the police post at Wells on the Dalton trail to the Pleasant Camp. It is possible that the latter may be changed also, but this will depend upon the international survey which will be made next spring."

### MANITOBA'S CROPS.

Over Eight-Two Million Bushels of Grain  
 Produced During the Year.

Winnipeg, Dec. 12.—During the year 1903, Manitoba produced a total crop of all grains of 82,576,519 bushels. Such is the official estimate just issued by the provincial department of agriculture. This season's crop shows a falling off in the total production of 17,455,824 bushels, by far the larger portion of which is made up by wheat and flax. The total in each cereal is as follows: Wheat, 40,116,878 bushels; barley, 8,707,232; rye, 49,900; oats, 33,035,774; flax, 564,440; peas, 34,154; total, 82,576,519.

### COMMENDS WORK.

The Pope Satisfied With Progress of  
 Restoring St. John's Church.

Rome, Dec. 12.—The Pope has expressed his satisfaction to Cardinal Stoll at the work now in progress of restoring the basilica of St. John Laterano, and especially the roof, which is expected to fall in. The late Pope Leo XIII. had already given a sum of money for the church's restoration, but it being insufficient he interested the Franciscans in the matter, and they made a quest throughout the world. Pope Leo requested the Franciscans to engage in this work because of the legend, painted by Giotto, of which St. Francis, in one of his visions, saw the Laterano church falling, and the saint, by order of Christ, hastening to uphold the walls.

### TO OPEN COAL MINES.

Company Being Formed to Develop  
 Deposits in Crow's Nest  
 District.

Montreal, Dec. 11.—Montreal capitalists are organizing the Imperial Coal & Coke Company, with a capital of \$4,500,000, to operate deposits in the Crow's Nest district of British Columbia, situated close to those now being worked by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company on Fording river. A large number of ooking veins will be erected.

### WILL SUPPORT EMPEROR.

Japs Will Stand by the Mikado's Decision  
 Whether for Peace or War.

Ottawa, Dec. 12.—S. Tamura, of Sun Bay, Japan, is here seeking the minister of agriculture. He says that Japan has been expecting trouble from Russia for some time and has been preparing for it all along. The people of Japan are very enthusiastic concerning the future of the nation, and will stand by the decision of the Emperor whether it be for war or peace. The Japanese people feel rather inclined to fight, larger powers and they feel that they are in a position to look after themselves. The people of Japan are thoroughly prepared to go to war, while the Russian government are not.

The purposes of S. Tamura's visit to Ottawa is to confer with Hon. S. Fisher and W. Hutchison, regarding the shipping of wheat, as he says some measure must be taken to prevent Canadian shipping stock to flow as some of them are proposing to do.

### Replies Received.

Tokio, Dec. 12.—Russia's reply has been received. The Russian minister informed President Katsura that Russia entertains Japan's proposals, probably with modifications.

### The general election has been fixed for March 1st.

### Sufferings of Soldiers.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 12.—According to the Novokrot of Port Arthur, the Russian troops in the Far East are suffering greatly from extreme cold. Although ten degrees of frost were registered at Ta Lien Wan, the soldiers are still in tents, and the hospital facilities are inadequate.

### THE FLORA

Will Sail This Afternoon for Esquimaux  
 Where She Enters Dry Dock.

Nanaimo, Dec. 12.—H. M. S. Flora leaves Union Bay this afternoon for Esquimaux, having taken on all guns and stores. The men and officers have gone back to their quarters. She will be conveyed to Esquimaux by the Grafton and a torpedo boat.

The dry dock at Esquimaux will be vacated for the Flora to-day, the Moana being floated for the purpose. The blocks will be elevated a foot, and possibly by Monday the cruiser will be in shape for a survey of injuries. Until the vessel is in dock it is impossible to give any definite information as to the extent of these. They will, however, take several months to make good, as they will cost possibly four or five times as much as those on the Moana.

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## GOVERNMENT CONNIVES AT EVADING THE LAW

### Revelation of Manner in Which the So-Called Japanese "Exclusion" Act is Nullified in Administration.

The efficiency of the so-called Natal Act, which was passed to protect this province against the incursions of hordes of ignorant Japs, has been seriously called in question by an examination of the manner in which the act works out in practice, and the good faith of the government has been directly challenged by Messrs. McNeven and Oliver in the House in connection therewith. As told in another column, a select committee of the legislature has been appointed with power to summon witnesses and examine them under oath for the purpose of ascertaining the methods which have been pursued in enforcing the statute.

Mr. Oliver personally investigated the methods employed by visiting the ocean wharves and observing the procedure adopted by the officers charged with the enforcement of the act. His charges are practically to the effect that these officials instead of carrying out the spirit of the law which aims at the exclusion of Japanese, connive at their admission to this province and facilitate their entrance thereto. He stated in the House that he heard an officer instruct a Jap ticketed for Victoria not to make a pass the educational test, how to evade the law by representing his ultimate destination as Seattle. The simple signing of a declaration to that effect and the payment of a fee of \$2 to the notary public in attendance, enabled this man to land unmolested at a British Columbia port.

It will be remembered that the act under consideration has been passed by several British Columbia governments, usually meeting a summary fate through disapproval by the Ottawa authorities, who held that it was discriminatory in its effect against an ally of the British Empire. However it has been repeatedly made law in this province, and in the intervals between disapproval, and while in active operation, is popularly supposed to afford an efficient barrier against undesirable immigrants from the land of the Crissanthemum.

The present being one of the "operative" intervals in question, it is generally believed that while Japanese immigration is not prohibited, those who do secure an entrance to British territory are the government who are very enthusiastic concerning the future of the nation, and will stand by the decision of the Emperor whether it be for war or peace. The Japanese people feel rather inclined to fight, larger powers and they feel that they are in a position to look after themselves. The people of Japan are thoroughly prepared to go to war, while the Russian government are not.

When a trans-Pacific liner docks at Victoria with her steerage quarters full of Orientals, the immigration officers pass on board and proceed to enforce the provisions of the law. In the case of intelligent Japanese ticketed for British Columbia, complete with the necessary "in" intervals of the act entitles them to walk ashore. But there are as well on the same ship, perhaps, two or three score of Japs, to whom this test is not applied, but who are packed on the gang plank after observing the trifling

### LORD ABINER DEAD.

Succumbed to Injuries Sustained in Fall  
 Down Stairs.

Paris, Dec. 12.—Lord Abiner died in a hospital here to-day as the result of injuries sustained in falling down the stairs of a restaurant. He was born in 1871. His mother is a daughter of the late Commander Magruder, of the United States.

### BOUNDARY OUTPUT.

Phoenix, Dec. 12.—The shipments of ore from the Boundary mines run over sixteen thousand tons for the current week, most of the mines sending out a trifle less than usual, with the exception of the Granby group, which are maintaining their output in good shape.

The several mines shipped the following amounts of ore: Granby mines, to Granby smelter, 16,064 tons; to Boundary Falls smelter, 1,500 tons; Mother Lode mine, to Greenwood smelter, 2,688 tons; Sunset, to Boundary Falls smelter, 90 tons; Diana, to Greenwood and Nelson smelters, 207 tons; Oro Desoro, to Boundary Falls smelter, 328 tons; Senator, to Granby smelter, 33 tons; Athelstan Jack Pot, to Boundary Falls smelter, 210 tons. Total for the week, 16,064 tons; total for the year to date, 628,264 tons.

This week the Granby smelter made a record run, reducing 12,443 tons of ore, making a total of 335,885 tons this year.

THE GOVERNOR'S WIFE A PRISONER.—Mrs. Z. A. Van Loven is the wife of the governor of the county of Lunenburg, Ont., and was a great sufferer from rheumatism. When the best doctors in the community and "specialists" failed to help her, she buried her scepticism of proprietary remedies and purchased South American Rheumatic Cure. 4 bottles cured her. Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—42.

PLAINTIFF'S CASE ALMOST COMPLETE

FURTHER EVIDENCE GIVEN BY RELATIVES

Mrs. Joan Dunsuir Owing to Ill Health Will Give Testimony at Home.

(From Friday's Daily.) The interest at the Hopper vs. Dunsuir trial yesterday afternoon was increased by the fact that Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper had intimated that he would call some of the Dunsuir family as witnesses.

Before this, however, the defence had one witness called, who was anxious to get away to San Francisco. Harry D. W. Norton, of San Francisco, contractor and builder, had been the carpenter contractor for building the house at San Leandro. He was there in June, 1899, and for nearly a year afterwards. He saw Alexander Dunsuir there nearly daily for some time. Alexander seemed very nervous, physically, but he appeared a keen, shrewd man, who knew what he wanted. Alexander took a great deal of interest in the building. The stables were built without reference to an architect. His total cost \$9,000, and witness took his instructions from Mr. Dunsuir. They discussed the question of cost, and Mr. Dunsuir showed he knew what he wanted. Witness had no trouble to understand Dunsuir, and detailed other conversations with him on business subjects. Alexander was very decided when he had made up his mind. His remarks at all times in dealing with witnesses were those of an intelligent, observing man. On the 8th or 9th of December, 1899, a few days before Alexander Dunsuir went east for the last time, witness had a business transaction with him. He did not find it true that Dunsuir was disconnected or muddled in his talk.

In cross-examination witness said he saw Alexander the worst for liquor about once a week.

Also, in answer to questions by Mr. Duff, said Alexander Dunsuir was somewhat abrupt in his ways, and his business conversations were short.

Mrs. Snowden, daughter of Mrs. Joan Dunsuir, and sister of the late Alexander Dunsuir, stated that in 1893 she went to San Francisco because her brother was in a dangerous condition there from drink. From this she knew he did not discontinue drinking. In September, 1898, Alexander was at his mother's house in this city. He had become very bent and shaky, physically, and not improved in his habits. She described one instance in particular. It was very difficult to carry on a conversation with him at that period, whether he was sober or intoxicated. He had become worse and worse from year to year. It was impossible almost to speak with him. She had spoken to her brother James about it, and suggested that it was dangerous having Alexander Dunsuir after the business in San Francisco.

Cross-examined by Mr. Davis, witness repeated her statements regarding Alexander's condition.

In answer to a question, witness said she and James Dunsuir were not on speaking terms.

Sir C. H. Tupper wanted the witness to state why she and James Dunsuir did not speak, but as the court thought it perhaps needless to go into this subject, Sir Hibbert did not press for an answer.

Mrs. Chaplin, another sister, said that in 1890 she observed Alexander's peculiar habits, and noted this through different years. In 1898 she noticed a great change in him from the last time she saw him. James Dunsuir and the rest of the family knew of the trouble. She found it impossible to carry on a conversation with Alexander at that time. She had never noticed him so bad before as in 1898.

Mr. Davis put the same question to her regarding the relations with Dunsuir that he had put to the previous witness. The witness remained silent, and Mr. Davis did not press the question.

Sir Hibbert Tupper, however, insisted then on asking the reason why James Dunsuir and his sisters were not on speaking terms, and recalled Mrs. Snowden, who stated that James Dunsuir had coerced his mother into giving him the property, and then led her such a life that the sisters would not speak to him.

The court then adjourned till this morning. This Morning's Proceedings. The evidence for the plaintiff was completed this morning with the exception of one or two witnesses, who may possibly yet be examined. It was also decided to have Mrs. Joan Dunsuir examined at her home, owing to her ill-health.

Reginald Chaplin, son-in-law of Mrs. Joan Dunsuir, saw Alex. Dunsuir at Mrs. Joan Dunsuir's residence in 1898, when introduced to him by his mother-in-law, thinking it very odd his brother-in-law did not speak to him. He met Alexander once a little later on the street, and said good-bye to him, but could get no answer. He believed Alexander was sober on both occasions.

In cross-examination witness said the Dunsuir family have strong aversions, and at present are quarrelling. "Our side of the family are not quarrelling," he said, but he considered James Dunsuir's family in "the other camp."

Mrs. Henry Cote, the next witness, in 1892 saw Alexander Dunsuir in San Francisco for a fortnight, at least once a day. She thought him very peculiar then. She next saw him some time between then and 1895 several times, but not long at a time. She considered on those occasions that his brain was not as clear as it used to be.

This last question Mr. Davis objected. She had conversations that made her

turn Alexander was not in his right mind. Here there were more objections by Mr. Davis, and Mr. Duff, on the other hand, maintained that they were the same line of questions as Mr. Davis put yesterday.

In 1895 witness saw Alexander for about a week. On one occasion Alexander said "Jim is trying to kill me." His temper was very violent, and it was difficult to carry on conversation with him. He had said something cracked in his head and talked about it for some time. In 1898 witness saw Alexander again in Victoria. He was not connected in his talk, and had hallucinations. He thought once that a drink she was giving him was poisoned, and asked her to taste it, and as a secret told her that he had hundreds of thousands of dollars in boxes unknown to James, who would try and take it from him. He was not delirious when he made these remarks. His condition was worse in 1898 than in 1895. He would talk quite intelligently, and then would say something very stupid or silly. James had told her mother that Alexander was not in a condition to manage the San Francisco business, as liquor was affecting his brain. This was the way that she asked to be taken home. So far as her opinion went she found in 1898 that he could not carry on an intelligent conversation, as after a few minutes the hallucinations in his brain would seize themselves. James Dunsuir had told her several times that Alexander was unfit to look after the business in San Francisco.

Capt. Edward Palmer, formerly secretary of the Union Club, saw Alex. Dunsuir at the club several years ago. He drank very freely. Alexander's muddled condition witness did not know whether to attribute to liquor or not. Henry R. Burroughes met Alexander Dunsuir once in the summer of 1893 at the Union Club. Witness then was a agent for champagne. His object in meeting Alexander was to ask him to assist in starting this brand of champagne in California. Alexander apparently did not pay any attention to the subject which would impair her reputation. The entire estate of Alexander Dunsuir was left to his brother, James.

Witness interviewed Mrs. Dunsuir in February, 1900, and advised her in the event of her going north to sign nothing which would impair her reputation. Dunsuir called on the firm in March, 1900, to see about the probate of the will.

In the following June Mrs. Dunsuir and Mrs. Hopper came to witness's office several times. In the discussion witness suggested that it was important to have the will in proper custody, but Mrs. Dunsuir would not consent to any litigation out of respect for her husband's memory, and for the sake of her reputation. It was considered at this interview that if the insanity of Alexander Dunsuir would invalidate the will it would invalidate the marriage.

In that interview witness told Mrs. Dunsuir that Jas. Dunsuir was a powerful man in this country, and wills could not be set aside as easily as in California. The subject was thoroughly discussed, and Mrs. Hopper instructed witness to make the best settlement he could. Mrs. Dunsuir was receiving \$2,000 a month. They this firm induced James Dunsuir to increase this amount to \$25,000 a year. They also attempted to get him to give her a lump sum of \$40,000 or \$50,000, but Mr. Dunsuir refused. They also sought to obtain for their client the profits of the California business, and James Dunsuir said he would give her this after two or three years, when the debt would be paid. Mrs. Dunsuir was anxious to have the agreement in writing. It was ultimately signed by Mr. Dunsuir. Mrs. Dunsuir understood that she was to receive none of the principal of Alexander Dunsuir's estate.

Witness read the agreement over, and not hurriedly. James Dunsuir would never consent to be permitted to sign the document that way as he never saw it until then. Mrs. Dunsuir, however, had had a copy and thoroughly understood it.

Cross-examined by Mr. Bodwell, witness stated that James Dunsuir had permitted him to read the agreement hurriedly because he wanted to understand it—it was an important document. Witness was glad to get Jas. Dunsuir to sign the agreement as he was the only one that would sign the will or change his mind—as an impulsive man might do. He acted for James Dunsuir in the latter's official capacity as executor.

Mr. Bodwell closely pressed the witness as to why he had permitted James Dunsuir to sign the document, and several little bits between witness and counsel ensued. Witness insisted that he had been dealing with Mr. Dunsuir in a considerable time, and had much difficulty in getting him to sign the agreement. He did not insist that Mr. Dunsuir was dishonest in any way.

Witness could see no reason for postponing the signing of the document. Mrs. Dunsuir considered witness and his brother as firm personal friends, but would not necessarily follow any suggestion made by them. He never attempted to influence her.

Q.—Was she as hard to deal with as James Dunsuir? A.—Mr. Dunsuir was a hard man to deal with—the hardest I believe I ever did business with. Mrs. Dunsuir was always willing to sign the agreement.

In response to the question whether or not he advised Mrs. Dunsuir to accept this agreement, the witness said he could not answer in that way.

Mr. Bodwell insisted, and Mr. Davis objected, claiming that the witness had stated under oath that he would not answer the question as it was propounded.

Asked if he advised Mrs. Dunsuir to accept the best that he could get for her, witness said she instructed him to bring about a settlement. He did not advise Mrs. Dunsuir not to accept \$24,000 a year, or to accept \$25,000. Mrs. Dunsuir accepted it herself. Witness gave her the fullest possible information as to her status.

Mr. Bodwell subjected the witness to a very stiff gantlet of cross-examination as to whether he advised Mrs. Dunsuir to sign that agreement. The witness, however, continued to insist that he had not done so. He denied that he told Mrs. Dunsuir that James Dunsuir was the King's representative in this province, that he controlled the legisla-

ture, and that she wouldn't be able to beat him. He did not remember definitely whether he had told her he could possibly or probably upset the will. He probably did when the subject first came up for discussion between him and Mrs. Dunsuir.

The witness was cross-examined at length during this hour by Mr. Bodwell, after which an adjournment was taken until Monday.

(From Monday's Daily.) The cross-examination of Montford Wilson, the California attorney, by E. V. Bodwell, K. C., was resumed when the Hopper-Dunsuir will case was called in the Supreme court this morning. The room was crowded with spectators.

In his cross-examination witness said that during the negotiations with Mrs. Dunsuir after the death of her husband, he believed she would live four or five years. Mrs. Hopper didn't believe that the doctors had said that she wouldn't live for more than two years. James Dunsuir voluntarily gave Mrs. Dunsuir \$24,000 a year, of which she was assured for four or five years in his own name, and some \$40,000 or \$50,000, which they sought was in addition to this allowance. James Dunsuir increased the allowance to \$25,000 per year, but would give nothing else except the assurance that after the death, half the profits of the California business. If Mr. Dunsuir thought Mrs. Dunsuir would only live two years this class would be less.

Witness advised Mrs. Dunsuir not to sign anything when she came north, in probating the will he acted for James Dunsuir in the latter's capacity as executor. Had the will been contested witness would have appeared in the case for Mrs. Dunsuir, because he had represented Mr. Dunsuir in having the will probated.

Counsel wanted to know if witness's discussion with Mrs. Dunsuir, when he considered the advisability of attacking the will, was not calculated to dissuade her from contesting it. Witness replied that they were generally discussing the various phases of the matter. The wife was asked if his firm for probate by James Dunsuir at Mrs. Dunsuir's request, James Dunsuir knew that witness's firm would give their best services for Mrs. Dunsuir, whose rights they were protecting.

"Yes, but you accepted a retained fee from Mrs. Dunsuir," pursued counsel. "We only acted for him in his official capacity," replied the witness. Counsel: "And yet you advised Mrs. Dunsuir as to her rights in regard to that your idea of professional conduct?"

Continuing, the witness said that he was satisfied from conversations with Mrs. Dunsuir that Alexander Dunsuir was perfectly sane. Counsel asked the witness closely in regard to his conversation with Mrs. Dunsuir, laying particular stress on Wilson's statement that James Dunsuir was sane, and a powerful man in the British Columbia world. Counsel asked why the name of Mr. Dunsuir as Premier was introduced into this conversation.

"I don't know," witness replied, "but I think it was done so because Mr. Dunsuir, appeared to be Premier and being on his own ground would be harder to beat. Counsel: "Didn't you suggest that Jas. Dunsuir had been in a bad way, and could get more consideration in a British Columbia court than the humblest citizen?"

Witness disclaimed making a suggestion of this kind. He stated negotiations with his firm did nothing which could be considered unprofessional. They were only acting for Mr. Dunsuir in his official capacity as executor of the will.

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Mr. Bodwell was not slow to take advantage of this and call attention to the fact that witness was anxious to say anything being which would be derogatory to Mrs. Hopper.

Being cross-examined as to the relations between the Robert Dunsuir & Sons Company, in which Mrs. Dunsuir was interested, and the Victoria firm, the witness said he could not remember the 1899-1900 was sued by the Victoria firm to the California business. He was given to understand that this would be wiped out in about two years. He did not insert a clause to that effect in the will. Mrs. Dunsuir considered know the business relations well. He had understood that the business would yield about \$1,000 a month.

In December, 1900, when the agreement was entered into, Mrs. Dunsuir, he thought, told him that she was going back to New York to undergo a further operation. He did not get an idea from anyone that Mrs. Dunsuir's life was destined to be a short one. Mrs. Hopper never at any time told him that her mother's life was despaired of. He had never got an impression that she would not live for five or six years.

He was surprised that she died so soon—about six months after the agreement was signed. James Dunsuir was a hard man to get to sign the document. He agreed to do so, and did it in December without any legal adviser. He did not know that Mr. Dunsuir's principal business in San Francisco was to sign this document. James Dunsuir had repeatedly refused to sign the document. Witness drew up the document and was sure Mrs. Dunsuir understood it.

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ADVENT RECITAL. Artistically Rendered Programme at St. John's Church Sunday Night. At St. John's church Sunday night on the conclusion of the service, at which Ven. Archdeacon Scriven (in the absence of the bishop) was the preacher, the third of the series of Advent recitals was given. The organist played Guilmant's chorus in D for the opening number and a Hymn or Adoration for his second, and taking part in an organ duet with his son as the concluding number, being the first organ duet that has ever been played in this church. In the hands of two such capable organists it is needless to say that the effect was grand, although it appeared to tax the wind supply of the organ to the utmost.

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MARRIED IN TORONTO. Two Well Known Victorians United in the Bonds of Matrimony. The marriage of Mr. F. C. Davidge and Miss Anida Powell took place in Toronto on December 2nd. Both bride and groom are well known in this city. The latter having been closely connected with the business life of Victoria for a number of years. The following from the "Toronto Star" describes the wedding: "At 2 o'clock this afternoon at St. George's church the marriage of Mr. F. C. Davidge, of Victoria, B. C., and Miss Anida E. daughter of the late Mr. Charles Sidney Powell, and Mrs. Powell, of Victoria, B. C., was solemnized by the Rev. Marmaduke Elare, curate. Only a very few intimate friends of the bride were present, including Mr. James Santer, who gave her away; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Pratt, Miss Porteous, Mrs. Hellwell, Miss Elsie Hellwell, who acted as bridesmaid, and Mr. Edward Jarvis, the groomsmen.

The bride wore her travelling suit of navy blue broadcloth, with an elaborate tone-colored and black corded applique on pale blue panne velvet. She also wore a pale blue stiched taffeta hat trimmed with foliage and fur, and a handsome deep cape with long stole ends to the hem of the skirt of Hudson's Bay sable. She carried no bouquet, and wore a very pale blue collar, fringed with a pink topper, stole and muff.

After the ceremony the wedding party drove to the late residence of Lady Howland in Bedford road, which Mr. Davidge has rented for a year, and here dejeuner was served.

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MINISTERS WITHDRAW. Decline to Remain at Belgrade and Meet Murderers of King and Queen. Berlin, Dec. 12.—The reason Germany decided to break off diplomatic relations with the Serbian government, for the present at least, is that the social scene is about to begin at Belgrade, and King Peter has issued invitations to the heads of the diplomatic corps and other dignitaries, as usual at all capitals. It is known that the ministers accredited to Belgrade have never ceased earnestly to advise King Peter to disassociate himself from the murderers of his predecessor and the king's wife, and to demand their punishment. The Serbian King disregarded this advice, and even did not answer the notes. Matters

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game which provides sport for those in question, as well as for others. The license has other uses. It affords identification, as the holder has always to produce it to officers, or to occupiers of land, etc.

No licensee-holder can plead ignorance as the close seasons appear on his license. Game officers, or abuse, or breach to produce license entails forfeiture. There are other uses, and it must not trespass too far on your space.

I would now ask those to whom this appeal is made, is it too much to ask them to pay a license fee of \$2 towards a fund to be used for the owners, and providing and maintaining a sport which they love so well? There are many abuses to be put down with regard to slaughter for sale, export, etc., but there is one which applies most heavily to those to whom I write. There are some among them who appear to be void of either sense or shame or common sense. They enter on men's lands without any excuse, often do damage to crops and fences, and by their dogs close gates; they use their guns with little care as to injure live stock in their fields, and when they are challenged they are angry, and they are charged every sort of abuse, and even give every sort of threats. Our committee is aware of two cases, at least, in which owners were on their own land, and were threatened with a gun license.

Now, sir, I am quite certain that the people who commit these abuses are only a very small minority of the class, rich or poor, to whom I write, and that the great majority would condemn their acts as heathly as I do. But these are absolute facts, and if they are allowed to continue will cause the farmers to consider the game a curse instead of an advantage.

Our object in framing the proposed bill has been to stop abuses and afford protection, without hardship to the legitimate sportsman of the class, and I appeal to those to whom I write not to oppose but to support the gun license and as many of the provisions of the proposed act as they can, consistently with the principles of the private opinions, to hold which I admit their right as freely as I would defend my own.

EDWARD MUGGRAVE. Victoria, Dec. 12th, 1903.

THE GOVERNMENT BILL. To the Editor.—There is no difference of opinion as to the necessity of some legislation being provided so as to increase the revenue of the province. The object of those who have controlled affairs in the province during the last decade or so to sow the wind, and it logically follows that we must reap the whirlwind.

which provides sport for those in... as well as for others. The il- has other uses. It affords identifi- as the holder has always to pro- it to officers, or to occupiers of... Householder can plead ignorance, e close seasons appear on his il- Gross offence, or abuse, or re- produce license entails forfeiture, are other reasons, but I must not ss too far on your space. I could now ask those to whom this is his handle, is it too much to ask to pay a license fee of \$2 towards to be raised for the purpose of ding and maintaining the sport they love so well? There are abuses to be put down with regard nter for sale, export, etc., but is one which applies more nearly se to whom I write. There are among them who appear to be either sense of shame or common y. They enter on their lands rsk asking lease, often with traps and fences, and by neglecting e gates; they use live guns with the care as to injure their stock in e of fire, and when they are chal- e for these acts by the owners, they ery sort of abuse, and even in- enses use threats. Our committee e of two cases at least, in which rders were, on their own land, ned and a gun pointed at them. r, sir, I am quite certain that the who commit these abuses are y very small minority of the class, e poor, to whom I write, and that e majority will condemn their e heartily as I do. But these are e facts, and if they are allowed to e will cause the farmers to lose the game a curse instead of an ad- vantage.

THE GOVERNMENT BILL. The Editor:—There is no difference of opinion as to the necessity of some legisla- tion provided so as to increase the revenue. It suited the aims of the people and have controlled affairs in this province during the last decade or so, and during the last decade or so, and it logically follows that we reap the whirlwind. Unsound prin- ciples have prevailed, and there is to be danger that we are to have to go back to the conditions then created and system of taxation. The singular about the new assessment bill is that it appears to be responsible for it, no one accepts it, and in fact it is attempts to explain and justify its- self. The public understand that the bill introduced was drawn up by one of the department officials. The official is to be blamed upon his industry, but the thing feature of the case is that a committee of this far-reaching importance to such an official to determine, apply as to its phraseology and its meaning, but upon the principle upon which it is based, and was brought down by the ministers really knowing what the consequences were, how they would affect the revenue, and even what amount of money would be raised under it. The difficulties of the law are many and great. The ingenious draughtsmen could not hope to be one to which no objection could be made. But the bill introduced, and amended, is so exceedingly faulty that it can only suppose that the ministers did not know what they were doing. I think these things will be to the government ought not to have done a measure until they had thoroughly acquainted themselves with its provisions. Ascertained the nature and extent burdens which it would impose upon different classes of the community. Estimated the amount of revenue it would yield. It ought to have been in the demands sufficiently long to enable them to estimate the business community ought to have been an opportunity to examine its merits and suggest changes. If any of these things were done, the measure would have been brought down hastily and without the House, although the measure was accepted, and in some points was amended. The effect of which could not possibly be ascertained in the hasty discussion under the circumstances. The fact is that the new law will be an extremely burdensome one to the business community, and no one pretends to know how it will accomplish in the way of producing a revenue.

A COMPARISON. Editor:—I noticed only a few days ago that the C. P. R. and the sale of its shares in London, from which I quote the following:—The C. P. R. efforts in London, as announced by the issue of a 40-cent cent. debenture, which is the last annual meeting, would be a letter at 100 within the next few days. The C. P. R. is a great and profitable corporation, and it is wisely managed on a basis of 4 per cent. debenture at 100. It is in a position of commanding to see that we have, since with its vast territory and resources, to submit to passing legislation that we shall pay 5 per cent. on our bonds, and possibly obtain a par on the same.

A DISTINGUISHED SOLDIER ARRIVES EARL OF DUNDONALD VISITING VICTORIA

Has Been Inspecting the Strategic Features of Different Points Up the Coast.

Major-General Lord Dundonald, commander-in-chief of the Canadian militia forces, accompanied by his staff, reached Victoria on Sunday morning on the Quadra. His Lordship is the guest of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor at Government House.

Lord Dundonald reached the coast a little over ten days ago, and boarding the steamer at Vancouver, he proceeded to inspect the strategic features of Port Simpson and Kitimat. After he had familiarized himself with the characteristics and advantages of these points the Quadra came down the coast to Victoria, where the general officer commanding will doubtless put in a couple of busy days.

On Tuesday evening he will inspect the Fifth Regiment, and in this connection Lieutenant-Col. Hall has issued the following regimental order: Victoria, B. C., Dec. 12th, 1903. The regiment will parade at the drill hall on Tuesday evening, the 15th inst., at 7.30, for the purpose of being inspected by the general officer commanding the Canadian militia. Dress, review order.

LORD DUNDONALD.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 12th, 1903. The regiment will parade at the drill hall on Tuesday evening, the 15th inst., at 7.30, for the purpose of being inspected by the general officer commanding the Canadian militia. Dress, review order. (Signed) D. B. MCCONNAN, Capt. Adjutant.

MINING IN SIMILKAMEEN.

Company Operating at Aspen Grove Will Increase Force if Railway is Built. Mr. Bates, managing director of the Portland Mining Company, of Terre Haute, Indiana, which is operating on an extensive scale at Aspen Grove, in the Similkameen country, is visiting Vancouver. The news-dispatcher says "Mr. Bates has unlimited faith in the possibilities of that district, and that this faith is shared by his countrymen is proved by the fact that on December 3rd last, they put 100,000 shares on the market at 50 cents each, and by the 15th of that month all were subscribed for by people in the vicinity of Terre Haute. The company owns altogether eight groups of claims in the district of Aspen Grove. In one of these it has sunk a shaft 115 feet, with 106 feet cross-cut, and a lead 200 feet wide; and it expects to have the machinery in very shortly. Besides the shaft already referred to, the company has in what is called the Cincinnati group, a tunnel 378 feet long with a depth of 337 feet. Lying on the dump at its different claims are 7,000 tons of ore in all, which should average from \$80 to \$60 per ton, the copper values of these ores running very high.

mission as lieutenant in the following year. In April, 1878, he was promoted to captain, and he served with the Nile expedition in 1884-85 in command of the 2nd Life Guards detachment of the Camel Corps. He carried dispatches to Korti announcing the capture of the Gashal wells, and commanded the transport and baggage of the desert column under Sir Herbert Stewart, in the advance to Metemneh. He was present at the action of Abu Klea and in the dispatches announcing the fall of Khartoum. He was mentioned in dispatches, received the brevet of lieutenant-colonel, the Egyptian medal with two clasps and the Khedive's Star for these services. His commission as major bears date January 12th, 1885, that of lieutenant-colonel June 15th, 1885, and that of colonel June 15th, 1889.

Lord Dundonald's services during the South African war are fresh in the memory of the public. From November, 1899, he organized and commanded the mounted brigade of the Natal army, which included Retbun's, Thorneycroft's, Natal Volunteers, South African Light Horse, Gough's Regiment of Mounted Infantry, and, for a large part of the time, Lord Strathcona's. Lord Dundonald's services during the South African war are fresh in the memory of the public. From November, 1899, he organized and commanded the mounted brigade of the Natal army, which included Retbun's, Thorneycroft's, Natal Volunteers, South African Light Horse, Gough's Regiment of Mounted Infantry, and, for a large part of the time, Lord Strathcona's.

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SUDDEN DEATH AT NANAIMO.

W. Bates, Son of Ex-Mayor Bates, Passed Away Yesterday Morning. Nanaimo, Dec. 14.—Wm. Bates, son of ex-Mayor Bates and brother-in-law of J. H. Hawthorthwaite, M. P., died suddenly of heart failure as he was arising from bed yesterday morning. Deceased was in his usual good health the night before he attended a meeting of the Nanaimo Poultry Association. He was 33 years of age, and leaves a widow and six children. The following are brothers and sisters of Mr. Bates: Mark Bates, Jr., Thomas Bates, Cumberland; A. G. Bates, Seattle; Mrs. S. Davis, Mrs. W. J. Goppel, Mrs. Bruce Heathcote, Nelson, B. C.; Mrs. Albert, South Fork, and Mrs. J. H. Hawthorthwaite, Nanaimo. Deceased was born in Nanaimo, and was a prominent member of the Native Sons. The event throws a large pioneer family of Nanaimo into mourning.

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MISSING SEALERS.

Japanese Schooner, Commanded by Victorian, Has Disappeared—News Received by Letter. A letter has just been received from Japan referring to what is considered to be another fatality of the sea. One of the Japanese fleet, which cruised in Northern Pacific waters this year, has disappeared, as did the Hatzie a few years ago. She was commanded by Wm. Farley, who a number of years ago made Victoria his home, then as a seal hunter. By strange coincidence he seems to have met the same fate on his brother Pat, who had shipped as mate on the H-conned voyage of the Hatzie. Two or three more Victorians are known to have been on the Jap sealer, among them being a man named Gilley. The schooner has not been seen since March, and it is thought that she has either capsized or that her powder exploded.

CRUISER FLORA IS NOW IN DOCK SOME COMPARTMENTS NOW FULL OF WATER

The Officers Are Seriously Inconvenienced—Arrival of the New Commandant, Commodore Goodrich.

Anxiety concerning the Flora is now at an end. The cruiser arrived from Union yesterday afternoon, and entered dry dock at 9 o'clock this morning. All points of vantage outside the grounds were crowded. Each goal play on the part of players on either side was greeted with cheers, and thus encouraged they set an unusually fast pace from the start and continued until the finish. The result was a draw, each team securing one goal.

It is seldom indeed that Victorians evince much enthusiasm over an Association football game. Such, however, was the case in the game between the Garrison and Victoria teams on Saturday at Beacon Hill. All points of vantage outside the grounds were crowded. Each goal play on the part of players on either side was greeted with cheers, and thus encouraged they set an unusually fast pace from the start and continued until the finish. The result was a draw, each team securing one goal.

BIG ASSOCIATION GAME WAS A TIE

Resulted in Score of One to One—Nanaimo Hornets Won Rugby Match.

The J. B. A. A. team vanquished the Perawoods in the drill hall on Saturday night in a splendid game which aroused the greatest enthusiasm. It was the second of the series of championship matches, and the first in Victoria of the provincial championships. From the start struggle was a warm one, each side waging a battle royal. At one time the score was even—eight to eight—and the excitement was at fever heat. The score at the finish was 13 to 8.

THE OAR.

London, Dec. 12.—At the annual meeting of the stewards of the Henley Regatta Association held to-day, the dates for holding next year's races were fixed for July 5th, 6th and 7th. The year's accounts, as submitted to the stewards, showed a decrease of \$1,000. In an amendment to rules, as applicable to Canadian crews, was adopted according to which the date for entry of such crews will be June 1st instead of March 31st.

ROSSLAND CAMP.

Rossland, Dec. 12.—Concentrates produced at Le Roi No. 2 oil concentrator were shipped from the camp this week for the first time. Sixty tons in all went to Northport smelter for experimental purposes, and the outcome will show an interesting metallurgical point in connection with the treatment of this class of product. In connection with the establishment of the White Bear concentrator, for which an order was placed some weeks ago, an interesting point has arisen. The mill will use water from Le Roi No. 2's plant, which is already charged with oil lost in the first mill. The effect may be to cut down the White Bear's oil loss to a minimum.

THE RING.

On Christmas Eve the Victoria theatre will be the scene of a very novel contest with Caesar Attell and H. Krantz. It will be remembered, fought a similar battle at the Savoy some months ago. The decision in this event was won by Attell. The latter started training to-day.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

NANAIMO, B. C.; VICTORIA, O. There was a fair attendance at the game between Victoria and Nanaimo at the California grounds on Saturday. The kick-off took place shortly after 3 o'clock and the game was stubbornly contested, resulting in a win for Nanaimo by the narrow margin of 3 points to nil. From the start the local forwards played remarkably well together. In the scrimmages they reversed the usual order of things, and the result was that play for the most part was in Nanaimo territory. Although undoubtedly having the best of the game, the local team was unable to score. Time after time, having the ball near Nanaimo's goal line, they endeavored to score, but without success. On several occasions the Nanaimo forwards dribbled towards the Victoria goal, but these onslaughts were always without result, the people believing so.

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forwards started out on one of their rushes, dribbling the ball from the half way line. Gillespie, at full back, made an effort to save, but slipped at the critical minute, and Patton, who also attempted to prevent a score, met a similar misfortune. The result was that a very important team secured a touch. It was not converted. The standing of the league is appended: Played. Won. Lost. Vancouver ..... 1 1 0 Nanaimo ..... 1 1 0 Victoria ..... 2 0 2

BASKETBALL.

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BLOOD IS WORTHLESS

UNLESS CIRCULATED. HEALTH IS ASSURED BY THE NEW PROCESS OF CURING DISEASE. RELIEF IN 30 MINUTES. Sick headache, indigestion, loss of vigor, falling memory, nervousness are all infallible signs of a weak and inactive circulation that settles on a man or woman whose nerves are shattered by disease can best be pictured in contrast with a patient who has been in the "dopah" and has been dragged from them by South American Nerve. George Webster, of Forest, Ont. says: "I owe my life to it. Everything else failed to cure." Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—44.

TAX ON PROSPECTORS.

Increasing the license for prospectors for coal and oil from \$50 to \$100 is a typical example of Socialist-Conservative legislation. In a country like British Columbia, whose wealth is for the most part hundreds of feet underground and requires an immense outlay of labor before it can even be demonstrated to exist, it would seem to be only the dictates of common sense that men who desire to take the risk of searching for it and bringing it to the light of day should at the very least not be hampered in their work. In fact if a proposal should be made to bonus such individuals for the advantage they are to the community it would be a very fair and sensible proposal. All prosperity in a country like British Columbia depends on the prospector. He unfolds and develops hidden wealth gives employment to thousands and is in every sense a benefactor to the community. To charge such a person \$100 for a license to do such work is an incongruity in legislation that is remarkable only for its amazing foolishness, and one equires with considerable interest on what grounds sensible men can justify themselves in resorting to it.

PREMIER McBRIDE'S DEFENCE.

Premier McBride defended himself because before a prospector decides to bore for coal or oil he must be sure that he has a good thing, millions in fact, and it is his excuse himself to the people of this country for selling such a princely heritage for a paltry \$200? Mr. McBride it seems is on the horns of a dilemma. If he fails it is too much to expect if he succeeds \$200 is too little; he goes to show that a tax on prospectors is both unreasonable and unfair.

MR. HAWTHORTHWAITE'S POSITION.

From Mr. McBride we turn with even more interest to Mr. Hawthorthwaite's position supporting the increased tax. Mr. Hawthorthwaite is peculiarly supposed to be representing the workers and the workers only. He boasted before election that the would make their intention alone he would ask in relation to any bill: "Is it in the interest of the workers? If it is I will support it; if it is not I will oppose it." Now in his opinion the prospector as a prospector is the hardest worked and poorest paid worker in any country. As a prospector he deals with the law—spends both labor and capital and gets absolutely no return. Therefore if any person should get favorable consideration from the friend of the working man it should be the prospector. But it seems Mr. Hawthorthwaite will vote and speak in favor of charging him \$100 for a license to work. How does he defend his action?

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NARROW ESCAPE OF A KITKATLAH BRAVE

Fellow Tribesmen Nearly Killed Him Because They Suspected Him of Practising Sorcery.

There has been some trouble among the Indians at Kitkatlah, a village about 80 miles from Port Essington, during the past few weeks. It was known by the persecution of an Indian, named Daniel Watoboo, by his fellow tribesmen, who suspected him of practising sorcery. The story was circulated through the village, and the feeling against Watoboo grew to such an extent that members of the Indian council decided to take the law into their own hands. The supposed sorcerer was, therefore, arrested and placed in a cell, where he lived for about five days on nothing but a stray biscuit and an occasional glass of water. Every day members of the council came to him to make a full confession. His continued refusals angered them, and they began to use threats. As Watoboo still persisted that he had nothing to confess, his death was decided upon, but the method was disputed. Some were in favor of hanging and others of drowning. While this question was under discussion news of the occurrence had been carried to the authorities at Eslington. Steps were immediately taken to rescue the unfortunate Indian by the Indian agent, Mr. Mara. A party of specialists set off for the village, which was reached in time to save Watoboo. Members of the Indian council and several others implicated were arrested and taken to Eslington for trial. The case came up before W. R. Lord, stipendiary magistrate, and the Indians were fined in all about \$850, and bound over to keep the peace. They have been allowed to return to their village, but a new council is being selected.

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A DUTY PERFORMED.

The government is urged by its journalistic supporters to stand to its position and refuse to modify its taxation proposals. But it has given way and made modifications in the Assessment Bill. Possibly the changes will give the smallest modicum of satisfaction. The railways are to be given a measure of relief and the taxes upon the output of timber are to be made lighter. The agriculturist will have to struggle along under increased burdens and comfort himself with the reduction, on the suggestion of a minister of wide experience in the industry, but probably more deeply learned in the law, that he has hitherto contributed less than his share towards the treasury of the province.

And what of the merchant? According to a statement prepared by the Victoria Board of Trade, his taxes will go up literally by "leaps and bounds" under the new Assessment Bill. A number of suppositious cases have been prepared for the purpose of illustrating the workings of the measure if it becomes law in its present form. We suppose a great deal depends upon the manner in which the law is administered, but as the condition of the province is held to be desperate, and as the financiers who hold the purse strings also appear to have impressed the government with the extreme gravity of the situation, we suppose every cent possible will be exacted. We doubt not that the figures prepared by the Board of Trade have been submitted to the keenest scrutiny by experts, and that they truly represent the conditions which will follow the passing into law of the Assessment Bill. We have not space to give the matter in full. Those interested should examine the data for themselves. If it be a fact that the increase will range between 100 and 500 per cent., it will be readily perceived that the effect upon the business of the province is likely to be very serious indeed. If the burdens are made too heavy for the people to carry, if the merchants are obliged to impose such prices as will recoup them for the extraordinary exactions of the government, the effect will simply be, as we pointed out last night, to increase the volume of such purchases as can be made outside the province. That is not the way to build up British Columbia. The evil will be two-fold. People will be warned against coming to a country in which the taxation is beyond the power of the people to pay, and there will be an exodus of the unemployed. That is likely to be the effect if the proposed law is enforced as laws upon the statute books should be.

The opposition has done its full duty in the matter. The consequences of the passage of such a law have been pointed out. As many amendments as the Socialists who keep the government in power would consent to have been secured. There is nothing further to do but await events and the arousing of the electors to such a condition of mind as will ensure the execution of justice upon those who are responsible, upon the party which calls itself Conservative, and loves power with an ardor beyond understanding, and upon ministers who would rather ally themselves with the Prince of Darkness himself and draw their salaries and travelling expenses, than confess that they are unable to govern in accordance with the conditions which make for stability and progress, and give way to men who could secure the necessary majority in the legislature.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE FINANCES.

Putting all partisanship aside, viewing the question of the hour in British Columbia from an entirely independent standpoint, would not the government have displayed reasonable discretion if it had accepted the suggestion of Mr. Macdonald, made in the Legislature yesterday?

Victoria is not the only place that is protesting against the Assessment Bill. Every section of the province is agitated, not because the people are to be called upon to raise more money for purposes of government, but because no one knows with any degree of certainty what the effect of the measures proposed will be.

The Finance Minister has no idea what the effect of the additional burdens upon the business of the province will be. He does not know how much more revenue will be derived into the treasury under the new forms of taxation insisted upon by the money lenders into whose hands we have been delivered. Government, we admit, is not an exact science. The financier cannot tell a dollar the amount he will realize under a given scheme of taxation. But he usually furnishes a fairly accurate forecast. The present government either will not or cannot open its mind to the representatives of the people on this matter of transcendent importance. The reasonable conclusion is that it has not studied the question as a question of such importance ought to be studied. It is groping around in the dark. It has exposed its incompetence, and rather than confess its lack of capacity it will subject the province to an experience which may prove ruinous to her trade, will promote emigration and straggle immigration.

Under the circumstances the motion proposed by the leader of the opposition should have been accepted. The taxpayers of the province understand that their

obligations must be met. But they naturally object to the carriage of greater burdens than are necessary. They also desire that the weight shall be equitably distributed. It is claimed that under the scheme of assessment proposed the provisions of the law will overlap in various directions—that property may be taxed from once to three times according to the degree of conscientiousness with which the assessor carries out his duties. In order to avoid the possibility of wronging any business house or any individual and at the same time to permit the raising of the revenue required for the increases of taxation should be applied under the old Assessment Act for the present. If the suggestion had been adopted he claimed that about eight hundred thousand dollars would have been added to our revenue. In the meantime the government could have considered its ways and found out just where it stood. However, this first clear, businesslike and definite proposal was rejected. The government prefers to precipitate chaos for the sake of preserving what it no doubt calls its credit. It will discover in due time that Victoria is not the only place that is raising objections to the Assessment Bill.

In a moment of frankness the Premier enlightened the House upon the cause of his unexpected display of backbone in the matter of the Assessment Bill. He is under orders, and must obey. The bank has not only fixed the rate of taxation; it has also decreed the manner in which property of all kinds shall be assessed. As a guardian of the sacred rights of financial institutions it is going to put the bar upon borrowing. A house threatened with an assessment of its debts will be careful about plunging into any business enterprise. Thus the financial institutions which have waxed fat upon the prodigality of governments of the province, and the Socialists who seem at present to be imbued with deep resentment against the persons they call "the middlemen," are uniting to compel the government, which is at their mercy, to crush enterprise. The situation is one which ought to compel the attention of the people. Placed between the positive force of capital and the negative force which professes to abhor capital, the result cannot but be paralysis. Providing the patriotism of all the members of the Conservative party is weaker than their partyism.

RECIPROCITY.

John Charlton, M. P., has made a good many speeches in the hope of convincing Americans that reciprocity with Canada would be a desirable thing for all concerned. No doubt it would—a fair measure of reciprocity. But the question has ceased to interest Canadians, who have been convinced by experience that a fair measure cannot be secured. The moment our cousins are in a mood to reciprocate with Canada they will give evidence of their change of mind and attitude by throwing a few bricks off the existing tariff wall. That would be regarded in this country as an indication of a disposition to treat with us upon broad lines. When the height of the fence is reduced we shall probably be inclined to lend our ear to the voice of the suppliant, provided we have not made other arrangements which the suggestions of our cousins would jeopardize. The movement in the direction of Imperial unity has commenced. It will not cease until something is done. The colonies are one by one following the example of Canada. The new federation of Australia still stands aloof, but after the pending general election something will assuredly be done there, and if the thing done be the thing expected, we shall have to wait until Great Britain makes up her somewhat inflexible mind. Then there will be a truly magnificent Imperial procession, with Canada at its head. All these things will surely come to pass within the lifetime of men who are now meeting the allied press.

But there is no reason why Mr. Charlton should not devote the interval between sessions to the cultivation of his favoritefad. He can secure audiences on the other side now who will listen to him with patience.

AUSTRALIA AND THE MONEY MARKET.

The Commonwealth of Australia, we understand, is about to assume a sort of guardianship over the various states. It will practically guarantee their debts, taking over taxable assets as security for the same. British Columbia is sadly in need of a mentor, one who will insist that she shall not indulge in fits of extravagance nor plunge into depths of reckless prodigality. Possibly we, being the nearest British neighbors of Australia of any consequence, have been held up as a "horrible example." Whatever the reason, we learn from a British paper that the relations between Australian states and the British and foreign financiers and the holders of Australian securities are on the eve of revolution. The Commonwealth government, through its treasurer, Sir George Turner, has come forward with a scheme for the control of all future Australian borrowing, which will affect the entire position of the young federation in the London money market. Put in a sentence, the proposal resolves itself into this: The Commonwealth is to become the sole borrower for Australia, both for the six states and for the Federal government; assuming absolute control over public finance so far as loans are con-

cerned; and exacting from the six states additional security in the way of earmarked taxation, for every fresh loan which imperils the interest upon the existing debt. One of the chief blessings which Australia hoped to derive from federation was the improvement of her credit in the money market and the consolidation of her debts—followed by the gradual conversion of her debt on cheap terms. She, therefore, gave the Commonwealth parliament power to take over a large proportion of the debts of the states as they existed at the time of federation. As the first two years of federation (1901-2) were practically given up to the institution of Commonwealth official machinery and the tariff struggle, it was not till the end of 1902 that the Federal government was able to apply itself seriously to the great debt problem. The government then saw clearly that it could not take over the debts if the six states were to go on borrowing as before; the lenders would have no additional security and the net effect would be that there would merely be a seventh borrowing power whose loans would have no more consideration than those of the six other borrowing governments. Sir George Turner, the Federal treasurer, accordingly sought in December last year to bring the states into line so that they would accept control, and thus enable the Commonwealth to give financiers the guarantees necessary to secure favorable interest terms. But at the Premier's conference in Sydney a resolution was passed calling upon the federation to take over the debts, but making no concession towards the Commonwealth standpoint. There the matter stood until the dissolution of the Victorian loan aroused public opinion to such a pitch that there is at least a chance that the unreasonable position taken up by the states' parliaments and governments may be modified. Sir George Turner, the federal treasurer says:

"Our federal control must be sufficient to enable us to say to the states that, if they are determined to embark on this additional unproductive expenditure (construction of state railways), they must embark on our terms—either a tax or some other taxation. We should require all the revenue I have mentioned as a set-off to our indebtedness, so that, if the states desire to borrow more, they must give extra security."

The leaders of the reactionary parties in the Legislature are making themselves ridiculous by their childish plays. They hope to deceive the public into the belief that there is no understanding between them—that the members of the Conservative party have not bargained for power at the expense of the welfare of the province and that the Socialist leader has not sold himself to the Premier. There are indications already of what the price is to be. The information upon the point will be fuller later on.

The Colonist is to-day celebrating its forty-fifth birthday. For an old "our contemporary" is remarkably hale and hearty. It has not entered upon its senescent and yellow-stage of existence in company with the political party it so strongly supports, for which blessing both the country and the newspaper are to be congratulated. May the contrast in conditions long continue, and prosperity shower its richest blessings on the country and the paper.

The T. Eaton Co., of Toronto, owners of one of the big department stores of Canada, will at the beginning of the year close up all departments of the establishment at 5 o'clock five days in the week, besides giving employees a half holiday on Saturdays in the summer time. When British Columbia's new assessment law goes into force it may be necessary to modify the terms of this order.

Would it not be an outrageous thing for the Legislature which makes laws to guard the privileges and rights of voters to interfere with the villainies of a government which has violated the provisions of the statute? The majority so elected by the voters on the 2nd of September yesterday. The explanation of the independent members to their constituents will make interesting reading.

KITCHENER'S FRONTIER TOUR.

Lord Kitchener's adventurous frontier tour, which concluded on October 21st, was not without its moments of danger. He visited all the more important passes and mountainous passes, the gorges and gorges, and inspected all the garrisons. After entering the hills the Commander-in-Chief covered some 1,450 miles of road, in many places of exceptional difficulty, on horse and on foot.

Like every task Lord Kitchener undertakes, the tour was conducted with strict regard to its purpose, and invaluable information was obtained of the strength and position of many of the seldom visited frontier passes. The tunnel where Lord Kitchener has met with an accident is the only outlet from Simla into the interior of the Himalayas, and it is situated just beyond the village of Sanjowal, on the road that leads to Manbora and thence to Tibet. It is cut clean through the heart of the hill, and is but a few feet wide. It has long needed lightening, and probably the Simla municipality will wake up to its dangers now that it has been the cause of serious injury to the Commander-in-Chief.

A Woman Worrier of Macedonia

On returning from Radomir to Sofia by train the other day, says a London correspondent, I had occasion to talk to Katarina Arnautova, a Macedonian woman from Liblikovo (district of Nerokop), who has been connected with the Macedonian committees since 1895, and has frequently been out fighting with the bands. She was returning from the frontier to Sofia with a number of other komitjas, and was kind enough to give me an account of her experiences and adventures. She is about twenty-six years of age, of middle height, well set up and strong-looking. She has blue eyes and brown hair, which she wears long, but done up under her cap, a sun-brown complexion, and a keen, intelligent and sympathetic expression. She was wearing a black fur cap, a grey tunic of a military cut and metal buttons, a leather belt, grey trousers, and leggings of a dull, violet-colored wool. On her left arm she wore the Red Cross badge, as a token of her assistance to the wounded. She carried to her belt in Bulgaria a knife stuck in her left legging. A whistle for giving signals was attached to her watch-chain, and in her pocket she had the komitja brass badge—the Macedonian and Bulgarian flags, with the motto "Sloboda ili Smrto" (Liberty or Death)—and some poison wrapped up in paper in case she should fall into the hands of the Turks. Katarina Arnautova joined the bands because at an early age she was inspired with a wish to help in the liberation of her country, and because one of her brothers had been killed by the Turks, and another exiled to Asia Minor.

What a Woman Can Do.

I asked her whether she found the life very hard, and she replied: "At first it was done, but very difficult, and the rebels might travel all over Macedonia without being seen by the Turks, but since these last outbreaks things have been very different, and one has to be continually on the run."

In the early days of the movement she had taken part in the work of organization, and occasionally went about from village to village to deliver messages or explain the situation to the villagers. Lately she has seen much active service with the bands.

In reply to my question as to the number of fights in which she had taken part she said: "Six important engagements, and three less important ones, all in the Razlog and Melnik districts." She is the first woman who has entered Macedonia from Bulgaria, but several others have been with the bands in the country itself.

"Do you find any difficulty in keeping up with the men on these long marches?" I asked.

"On the contrary," she replied, "being lighter I can always walk or run as fast as they can, or even faster."

"Are you a good shot?"

"At this her face lighted up with pride as she explained the situation to the villagers. "Do you find any difficulty in keeping up with the men on these long marches?"

"Give, so far as I am aware, but I cannot tell how many I have killed in regular battles."

"Do you not find campaigning very difficult and uncomfortable for you as a woman?"

"Not at all. I have got so used to it that I prefer this sort of existence to a quiet life in a town. The men have always treated me with the greatest respect, and I have never been allowed to clean my rifle or mend my leggings and sandals when necessary. No, I have never been in love with any of the members of the band, nor, indeed, with anyone else, except my old father, who has been with me as long as I can think of such foolish things as love, but when Macedonia is free, perhaps I may settle down and marry; for the present I have no thoughts on that subject. I have been wounded only once, by a stone broken by a bullet."

I then proceeded to question her about the manner of life of the insurgents in Macedonia, on which she gave me the following details. "On joining a band each member has to take an oath of absolute fidelity and obedience to the vojvod, or leader, to swear to be honest and never steal from anyone, not to give himself or herself up to the Turks alive, and if ordered either to commit suicide or to provoke the enemy to kill him. The komitjas live almost exclusively on bread, and even this is often very difficult to obtain. The villagers bring it to them by night, and deposit it in some place agreed upon where it can be fetched, but they are very much afraid of feeding the bands, as if they are discovered the Turks punish them most severely. Each komitja carries its arms, its revolver, and two bombs one large and one small. The rifles are of various patterns; some are Mannlicher, some are Mausers taken from the Turks, and some are old muzzleloaders called "Krimki," because they were used during the Crimean war. The insurgents sometimes enter Macedonia separately as peasants; otherwise they cross the frontier in large parties, taking their arms from their hiding-places near the border. Katarina only once entered in the former way. When they are marching they always send scouts around and in front to avoid surprise. The vanguards, however, are rare, more than one hundred yards in advance of the main body, as otherwise it might get lost in the dark, and the bands are not allowed to march by night, and sometimes go for eighteen to twenty-four hours without food or rest. They suffer from lack of sleep, and in winter, and the snow is a great disadvantage to them, as it reveals their tracks to the enemy. This obliges them to walk up the beds of rivers when possible; on some occasions they have whistles to signal to each other, their cattle and sheep after the bands have passed to obliterate the footprints. The bands are not infrequently betrayed by spies, and if they can catch the culprits they execute summary justice. When the Turks are expected to be of being a spy or a traitor, the leaders

meet together, collect evidence and witnesses, and then proceed to examine the accused and confront him with his accusers. If he confesses he is usually put to death; but if he is young and inexperienced they inflict no further punishment than to cut off some of his fingers. Once it was in constant danger of being surrounded and annihilated. After much inquiry, the leader Stojanoff was informed that two Bulgarian peasants of a neighboring village were giving information to the bands. He had one of them arrested (the other had been killed) and examined him before witnesses. Finally he confessed his crime, and Stojanoff, having summoned the members of the band to the enemy, he had the man with his hands tied to a tree, and the man was hung.

Some Typical Skirmishes.

I asked the fair rebel whether the bands took many prisoners, and she replied that they did sometimes capture Turkish soldiers, but they usually put them to death, as they could not detain them in captivity. On some occasions, however, they simply disarmed them and set them free. Katarina then proceeded to tell me some incidents of the campaign in which she herself had taken part. She had been for a short time in Sofia as a washerwoman, until about four months ago she decided to join Atanasoff's band and enter Macedonia. This band first attempted to pass the frontier by the Kilkia mountain, but was forced to retire owing to the presence of a large Turkish force in that part of the country. They then made another attempt by way of Brij Palanka, which was more successful. But they had scarcely crossed the frontier in the dead of night when they were discovered by a party of Turkish soldiers, who signalled to other posts in the neighborhood by means of beacon fires. Shots began to be fired on the komitjas from all sides, but at long range, so that little damage was done. Katarina and her comrades, however, were fairly open, cavalry might be used, the vojvod gave the order to attack at once. He, with five or six trusted followers, including Katarina herself, followed, firing at the enemy as they ran down the hill. The Turks were not prepared for this sudden onslaught, and the whole band escaped from the cordons. They retired across the frontier once more and spent one day resting. Then they marched along it for some miles, reentered Macedonia near Kustendil, and remained in Macedonia until a few days ago. On another occasion, when she was with Stojanoff's band, that body, which had been in the mountains for some days, had to descend to Senokos, near Salonika, to get a supply of food. Here they fell in with a force of soldiers, but they were in a good position, and for a long time held out, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy; according to her account the Turks lost thirty-nine killed and about fifty wounded, whereas the komitjas had only two killed and three wounded. A party of them, however, were once or twice in such a fix that they got out their revolvers to kill themselves—there would have been no time for the poison to act. But they were rescued in time, and finally the Turks retired.

In reply to my question as to whether she had ever seen the Turks committing atrocities, she said that once from a height above a village she had seen some Turkish soldiers massacring the inhabitants. The party she was with at the time was too small to come to the rescue. I asked her if there had been any but Bulgarian rifles in the band to which she belonged, and she said that a certain number of Vlach had joined it, and several Bulgarian Patriarchists (all of whom are generally described as Greeks), but no real Greeks. These she and her companions regarded with as much hostility as they did the Turks.

There is a certain rugged simplicity and a ring of truth in this stalwart woman-insurgent's story. She makes one realize what a strong hold the revolutionary movement has among the Bulgarians of Macedonia. While such a spirit as hers is abroad, the Turks, with all their overwhelming numbers, will find it no easy task to subdue this hardy race of peasant fighters. It is wonderful that such stuff as this should still be found among the citizens of a country so roundly abused under the Turkish yoke for over five centuries.

A WINTER RESORT.

Tourist Association Preparing Circular to Attract Visitors to Victoria.

For the first time in the history of Victoria there is the chance of the city becoming the vacation resort in winter for Manitoba and the Northwest. Every year about seven thousand people leave the Northwest for Eastern Canada and the Old Country. The Tourist Association has for nearly two years urged the C. P. R. to give Victoria a chance at this winter business, and at last the company has been able to see its way clear to do this, and as a start in this direction has made a special rate of one fare for a round-trip ticket to Victoria, good for three months.

No sooner was this announcement made than the association set about taking the full advantage of it. The executive authorized Secretary, Cuthbert, to prepare a circular immediately, to distribute throughout Manitoba and the Northwest, from Winnipeg West, calling attention to these special rates, and within twenty-four hours of such a circular was written, printed, and is now on its way to every place of any note in that section of Canada. In addition to this one hundred individual letters have been written, and our merchants doing business throughout that country have been supplied with those circulars for their customers. The main idea of the circular is that the people should get away from the hard winters of Victoria to the Greening City of Canada, and as the secretary realizes that his trip through that country that notwithstanding the fact that over seven thousand picturesque Victorians have been mailed from time to time, they seen



THE ATTRACTIVE GIRL.

Her Sweet and Unaffected Ways.

"Much has been written about 'the American Girl' and her reasons for being pre-eminently the most attractive girl in the world. In bringing up girls mothers can't be too careful to let their daughters develop all their natural charms to the utmost. She is most attractive who is sweet, unaffected, cordial and unconscious of self. Such a girl will not have to run after men. The man will save her the trouble. She will be courted by many men if she holds herself with a sort of 'unconscious' delicacy and unaffectedness. It devolves upon a mother to talk to her daughter—to make her a confident—not only about these matters in early girlhood and when they are blossoming into womanhood, but she should advise her about her physical make-up and her special organs. From Maidenhood to Womanhood. The crucial epoch of a woman's life is the change from maidenhood to womanhood. It involves the whole body and manifests itself in the nervous disposition at this time. If womanhood lived close to nature, did not wear corsets, live in heated atmospheres, becoming subject to taking cold easily, she would drift into womanhood naturally and without suffering. Owing, however, to our modes of living and the forced condition of a young girl's brain, the pelvic organs and the brain take up too much of the blood and other organs are left without sufficient nourishment. In this way girls become delicate and the tissues are not sufficiently nourished. Many a mature woman traces back her troubles and her bad health to this early period. Often the strain is too great and for this reason proper precautions should be taken. Perhaps the mother or daughter have some delicacy about talking with their home physician on these matters. It is then best to consult by letter with a physician of recognized eminence, who has had a medical training, fitting him for the practice of medicine. It would be very foolish for one to consult some woman who had not a particle of medical training in preference to a physician who is bound on honor not to divulge the confidences reposed in him, and whose training has been through the study of anatomy and materia medica, coupled with a wide experience

during nearly half a century, which puts him at the top of the profession. Such an one is Dr. R. V. Pierce, who is at the head of that magnificent hospital in Buffalo, called the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute. You can write him without fear or favor for he keeps strictly confidential all letters sent to him and he charges nothing for his medical advice, answering in a straightforward and truthful manner. He will not advise anyone to take medicine unless it is positively indicated by the condition of the patient. Dr. Pierce says in his Common Sense Medical Adviser: "I believe that hygienic measures for the young girl are most important. Fresh air and sunshine are always in order. Exercise is especially indicated for the girl who is pale and anemic. Furthermore cleanliness of body, externally and internally is certain to do no harm. Make it a practice once a week to take some mild laxative." One of the first little liver pills on the market and also the best is Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets—still enjoying public favor to-day. They are found for sale almost everywhere, particularly advised by the honest druggist unless he has a pill of his own make to sell. These "Pellets" of Dr. Pierce are entirely vegetable and do not grip or injure the most delicate system.

Sick women are afforded the opportunity of a lifetime, for the makers of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription now offer \$500 reward for women who cannot be cured. Backed up by over a third of a century of remarkable and uniform cures, a record such as no other remedy for the diseases and weaknesses peculiar to women ever attained, the proprietors of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription now feel fully warranted in offering to pay \$500 in legal money of the United States, for any case of Leucorrhoea, Female Weakness, Protrusion, or Falling of the Uterus, which they cannot cure. All they ask is a fair and reasonable trial of their means of cure. "Favorite Prescription" makes weak women strong, sick women well. Accept no substitute for the medicine which works wonders for weak women. Mothers and Daughters should have a medical book handy, for knowledge is power. A standard work is the People's Common Sense Medical Adviser, by R. V. Pierce, M. D. Send 31-cent stamps for the cloth-bound volume. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

CREATES A PRECEDENT. Lord Stanley is rapidly ingratiating himself at St. Martin's-le-Grand, and, following the example of his progressive predecessor, he is patronizing the luncheon club of the headquarters staff in the north building. Indeed, we learn that he has gone one better than the chancellor of the exchequer, since he has presented the club with a red deer, which is being partaken of to-day by his appreciative subordinates, gratis, with a small charge for red currant jelly to accompany it. Thus early in his career, Lord Stanley has done that which is the ambition of all P. M. G.'s—he has "erected a precedent." But it was the lot of Mr. Austen Chamberlain to endear himself to the staff by adopting the unusual habit of taking luncheon at the club among his colleagues as a matter of course, and not as an occasional concession, and there is an obvious gap at the long table where the earnest figure with the searching monocle would sit eagerly conversing between mouthfuls with the permanent officials. The story goes that on one occasion Mr. Austen Chamberlain sat down opposite a young Irishman, and immediately engaged him in conversation, and that the Irishman was so elated with the sensation of having been addressed by a cabinet minister that he went out and was not seen again for the rest of the afternoon! Be that as it may, P. M. G.'s may come and P. M. G.'s may go, but the memory of fifteen months of a C.'s will long remain green at St. Martin's-le-Grand—Pall Mall Gazette.

J. A. Humbird, of St. Paul, and R. Rosencoff, of San Francisco, Cal., are at the Drive. Farmers' Sons Wanted with knowledge of farm work in an office, one month with advancement, week employment, five to ten dollars weekly, branch offices of the association are being established in the West. THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, London, E.C.

John Houston asks following questions: 1. How long is the land in block 4590, time being from June 3, 1903 to June 3, 1907? 2. How long is the land in block 4590? 3. How long is the land in block 4590? 4. How long is the land in block 4590? 5. How long is the land in block 4590? 6. How long is the land in block 4590? 7. How long is the land in block 4590? 8. How long is the land in block 4590? 9. How long is the land in block 4590? 10. How long is the land in block 4590? 11. How long is the land in block 4590? 12. How long is the land in block 4590? 13. How long is the land in block 4590? 14. How long is the land in block 4590? 15. How long is the land in block 4590? 16. How long is the land in block 4590? 17. How long is the land in block 4590? 18. How long is the land in block 4590? 19. How long is the land in block 4590? 20. How long is the land in block 4590? 21. How long is the land in block 4590? 22. How long is the land in block 4590? 23. How long is the land in block 4590? 24. 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PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE CHANGES PROMISED IN TIMBER TAXATION

The Government Will Reduce It Eighty Per Cent. on Crown Granted Lands.

Victoria, Dec. 10th.

In the legislature this afternoon it became doubtful who undertook the greatest responsibility for the legislation, the Premier or J. H. Hawthorthwaite. It was a virtual love feast between the members of the government and the Socialist members. It became a mutual admiration society at stages. At one time what was doubtless intended to be a very effective dialogue between the Premier and the member for Nanaimo fell very flat, owing to the stilted style in which it was carried through.

Prayers were read by Rev. W. Leslie Clay.

Petition.

A. H. B. Macgowan presented a petition from E. P. Bremner praying that timber licenses be made transferrable under the Land Act.

Reports.

The Premier presented a report containing all correspondence, etc., in connection with the recent matter in the election.

First Readings.

The following bills were introduced, read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow:

By Hon. Mr. Taitow, a bill intituled "An Act to amend the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies Act." Also a bill intituled "An Act for the Protection of Insectivorous and other Birds."

Motions Carried.

On the motion of John Oliver, seconded by J. A. Macdonald, it was resolved, "That an order of the House be granted for a return showing the number of ballot papers actually issued to voters in each electoral district of the province at the general election held on the 3rd day of October, 1903. Also showing the number of votes cast for each candidate in the various electoral districts."

On the motion of Stuart Henderson, seconded by James Murphy, it was resolved, "That an order of the House be granted for a return of all the assessment rolls in British Columbia outside of municipalities for the year 1903."

On the motion of Stuart Henderson, seconded by James Murphy, it was resolved, "That an order of the House be granted for copies of all correspondence between the government, or any member thereof, and any other person or persons re the taxation of the Canadian Pacific railway, or any other railway or railways in the province, and any reports or commissions bearing on this subject, extending over the years 1885 to 1903."

Questions and Answers.

John Houston asked the Premier the following questions: 1. Was there a reserve on the land block 4393 and block 4394, East Kootenay, at any time between June 3rd, 1903, and October 3rd, 1903? 2. If so, for what purpose? 3. Has a reserve been placed on the land in block 4393 and 4394, East Kootenay, since October 3rd, 1903? 4. If so, for what purpose?

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "1. Yes, on block 4393, but not on block 4394. 2. The reserve was established by an order-in-council, approved on 11th August, 1890. The purpose is not mentioned therein, but a further order-in-council, approved 6th May, 1891, reserves and sets apart the same parcel of land as an initial block in the grant to be made to the British Columbia Southern Railway Company. 3. No. 4. Answered by the reply to No. 3."

James Murphy asked the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions: 1. What was the original estimate for the construction of the Chimney Creek bridge? 2. What amount has been expended on construction of same to date? 3. What amount has been expended up to date? 4. What is the estimated cost of the completion of the said bridge and approaches? 5. Did the government during the past summer conduct a sounding operation with the building of the said bridge? 6. Were provisions for such sounding house purchased from Indians? 7. At what rate were employees on said bridge charged for board and lodging? 8. What was the rate of wages and paid off at a lesser rate?

Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows: "1. \$40,000, approximately, in 1902. 2. \$55,057.75. 3. \$6,000. 4. \$5,859.49; 4 1/2 miles road approaches. 5. Yes. 6. One instance only 3,200 pounds potatoes. 7. \$5 per week. 8. No."

John Oliver asked the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions: 1. Has the Vancouver & Coast-Kootenay Railway Company

given the security required by section 4, sub-section (c), chapter 9, 1902? 2. If so, what is the nature of the security furnished? 3. Has the Vancouver & Coast-Kootenay Railway Company commenced work, as provided by section 4, sub-section (n)? 4. If so, when did the company commence work, and in what does the work of construction consist? 5. In what is the progress being made towards the satisfaction of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council?

Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows: "1. No. 2. Answered by No. 1. 3. 4 and 5. Answered by No. 3."

Mr. Oliver asked the Premier the following questions: 1. Why was the name of M. S. Wade, of Kamloops, omitted from the list of employees dismissed by the government? 2. Are there any other omissions? 3. Why were the services of A. L. Kendall, a physician, Surrey, dispensed with?

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "1. Unintentionally omitted. 2. Not to my knowledge. 3. With others, on the ground of economy."

Mr. Oliver asked the Premier the following questions: 1. Is Mr. Lane, of Mission City, a constable in the employ of the provincial government? 2. If so, what salary does Mr. Lane receive? 3. What are his duties? 4. Is Mission City included in an incorporated municipality? 5. Is it the custom of the government to employ constables in rural municipalities?

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "1. Yes. 2. \$60 per month. 3. The usual duties of a provincial constable. 4. No. 5. But the custom has been departed from in this instance, as Mission City is a railway junction, and is a convenient point at which to have a provincial constable, in order to intercept goods on the Fraser river during the present season. The Minister of Finance the following questions: 1. Did Mr. J. Gilbert act as stenographer for the government in the matter of the Columbia & Western investigation? 2. Was Mr. J. Gilbert a salaried employee in the service of the government at the same time? 3. What was the total amount paid for the services of stenographer in connection with the Columbia & Western investigation? 1. To whom was this amount paid?"

Hon. B. G. Taitow replied as follows: "1. No. J. Gilbert acted on behalf of A. M. Jones. 2. Yes. \$700 on account. 4. A. M. Jones."

Mr. Oliver asked the Premier the following questions: 1. What amount of money was paid out of the provincial treasury by way of aid to sufferers from the floods on the Fraser river during the present season? 2. How many individuals receiving aid? 3. What was the amount received by each individual?

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "1. \$112,500. 2. Transportation companies only received disbursements; 3. answered by No. 2."

Mr. Oliver asked the Provincial Secretary the following questions: 1. Was Mr. Armstrong sent to jail from the Old Men's Home, Kamloops, for what reason? 2. Was the said John Armstrong discharged from jail, and if so, is the said John Armstrong now in the employ of the government, or is the said John Armstrong living on the charity of the public?"

Hon. Mr. McBride read the following memorandum from the Deputy Provincial Secretary: "Memorandum in reference to the correspondence from Mr. McLean, the superintendent of the Provincial Home, relating to the dismissal of Armstrong from the said home, and the entry on the record of the correspondence do not afford sufficient information to furnish full replies to these questions. I therefore propose to ask Mr. McLean to furnish the same."

"Henry Tanner asked the Hon. the Provincial Secretary the following question: Is it the intention of the government to provide in the estimates this session for a new school-house at Saanichton?"

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "From information received in report from Inspector Wilson, dated August 10th, 1903, it would appear that there is no present necessity for the erection of a new school-house at South Saanich. The inspector further reports that with an expenditure of \$250 for repairs, to be carried out during the summer of 1904, the present building can be made to serve for 10 or 12 years longer."

Mr. Oliver asked the Premier the following questions: 1. For what purpose was this week-end party of the Attorney-General and Mr. McPhillips, visit Cassiar and Atlin? 2. Did the Premier and the Attorney-General (Hon. Mr. McPhillips) take part in the late election campaign in Cassiar and Atlin districts? 3. If so, what points were visited by the Premier and the Attorney-General? 4. At what points did the Premier and the Attorney-General receive election addresses, in Cassiar and Atlin districts? 5. Under what authority are the election expenses of ministers paid out of the provincial treasury?"

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "1. On public business; 2. we addressed meetings at Bella Coola, Eslington, Atlin and Discovery; 3. all points touched by steamer Tees; 4. answered by No. 2; 5. no authority."

Mr. Murphy asked the Minister of Finance the following questions: 1. What amount has been paid to A. M. Jones and Justin Gilbert, or to either of them, as stenographers in the Columbia Western inquiry? 2. What amount remains payable to the said A. M. Jones and Justin Gilbert, or either of them, as stenographers in the said inquiry? 3. Who employed the said A. M. Jones and Justin Gilbert as such stenographers on said inquiry? 4. Was the said Justin Gilbert, at the time of the said employment, the official stenographer of the Supreme court, at Victoria, in receipt of a regular monthly salary?"

Hon. Mr. Taitow replied as follows: "1. \$700 was paid to A. M. Jones on account; 2. the amount of M. Jones' claim is \$2,293, of which \$700 has been paid, leaving a balance of \$1,593, which is subject to consideration for final adjustment; 3. the amount of the claim of Justin Gilbert is \$3,000, and in receipt of a regular monthly salary."

Coal Mines' Regulations.

On the second reading of the bill to amend the Coal Mines' Regulation Act, providing that eight hours from pit

head to pit head shall constitute a day, J. H. Hawthorthwaite said that the question of an eight-hour day in coal mines was not new in the legislature. He proceeded to say that the party he represented was not intending to attempt to reform the present system. The Liberal party undertook to do that. The Conservative party made no great pretensions along that line, yet some of the greatest reforms had been carried out by that party, and therefore he looked to them for help. The Socialists favored peace. They always, on the platform, opposed strikes. To give short days would conduce to peace. He contended that the reform asked for was a reasonable one.

W. H. Ross supported the bill. It applied to a burning question in his constituency where a demand for a change in the law was made. He therefore supported it in order to carry out his promise. He pledged, in addition to this, the legislature had always admitted the reasonableness of the eight-hour law for employees in metalliferous mines.

The bill applied to the latter it should still be reasonable for coal miners. In England and various parts of the United States this eight-hour law was in force, and he believed, he believed, by which quietude and rest could be obtained in the province.

J. A. Macdonald said that the bill in itself had his entire sympathy. He would not see why, if they had an eight-hour day for metalliferous miners, it should also be applied to coal miners. Eight hours was long enough for miners to work underground. They had the custom in the Vancouver Island mines, he believed, and saw no reason why employers should not be called upon to make the day eight hours.

Premier McBride praised the stand taken by the member for Nanaimo. It would be well before new coal zones were opened, as the signs of the times indicated, that a uniform system should prevail. He called attention to the fact that an agreement existed between the employers and employees at Fernie which would not expire for about a year. He thought this would be safeguarded by inserting a clause making non-effective in the Fernie mines until a certain date.

J. H. Hawthorthwaite said that the bill in itself had his entire sympathy. He would not see why, if they had an eight-hour day for metalliferous miners, it should also be applied to coal miners. Eight hours was long enough for miners to work underground. They had the custom in the Vancouver Island mines, he believed, and saw no reason why employers should not be called upon to make the day eight hours.

On reporting the amendment to the act to amend railway companies, Hon. Mr. Fulton proposed the following amendment: To strike out section 5 and substitute in lieu thereof the following: "The land occupied and claimed as the right-of-way for railway by any railway company, and situate without the limits of municipal corporations incorporated before the 21st day of February, 1895, and other lands occupied by the company for station buildings, telegraph sheds, or other buildings connected with the actual operation of the railway, and situate without the limits of municipal corporations incorporated before the 21st day of February, 1895, shall be assessed and taxed as real estate, and the bill was reported."

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W. W. B. McInnes said that he had on a severe occasion introduced legislation along the line of that proposed by the member for Nanaimo. It had been opposed by members who were now supporting it, because they hoped by that means to make political capital. The member for Nanaimo intimated that this measure was defeated last year by tactics which members adopted. He wished to say the cause of its defeat was due to the tactics of the member for Nanaimo. He (Mr. McInnes) had suggested to the member for Nanaimo on that occasion that he bring it along the same lines as that proposed by the member for Nanaimo had refused to do so, but had surrounded the proposed amendment with other amendments to the act which made it unrecognizable to members of the legislature. Had he introduced as innocent a measure as the present bill last year it would have carried. The business of the member for Nanaimo last year was to make it embarrassing for the government. This year he endeavors to make it as easy as possible for the government. (Government applause.) The member for Nanaimo did not care for the coal miners particularly. This system was now in force among the miners of Vancouver Island. That was brought about by the trades unions, which the member for Nanaimo so much despised.

But while he (Mr. McInnes) was going to support the bill, yet he wished to call the attention of the legislature to the fact that the bill was diametrically opposed to one another, now working together in the House. This was done by the member for Nanaimo going back on what he advocated before. He had thrown down the men who supported him in Nanaimo.

He could not go back and be elected by those whom he had duped. The members for Nanaimo could not go back and be elected on such a bill as that now introduced. The member for Nanaimo said he did not advocate a strike. But his reason was that he had advocated the greater one. He had represented that they were going to take over the coal mines and the lumber mills, and he was going to be one of the King Bees when this was done. He had represented that one of the men with all this wealth. After this bill was printed the speaker had in Nanaimo met Socialists who asked: "Was it possible their member had introduced the bill?"

Richard Hall said the bill was like most of these brought in by Socialists. It was not intended to help the miners, but to aim a blow at invested interests. The bill was intended to upset the system of work in mines. Some men would under it work five or six hours and take three or four hours to get to their work. He was not surprised to see the government supporting this, because they had to in order to hold power, as they were dependent upon the Socialists.

The Premier wanted to know what Mr. Hall would offer. "Never mind," replied Mr. Hall, "you are in the position of responsibility, and you will not remain long in power if you show you have not backbone."

Mr. Williams called attention to the fact that if a man crawled for a mile through a place not four feet high they would find it was just about as hard as any other work. He pointed out that this was simply getting for the Fernie miners what had been put in force voluntarily by the Vancouver Island companies. The distances to be covered in reaching the work were greater than those of the Vancouver Island mines at Fernie. The reduction of hours of labor had not resulted in less work being done. It had worked exactly opposite. It worked an improvement in the mental, moral and physical benefit of the men. Six hour days in Northern England, as compared with ten hours in South Wales, had resulted in producing the same amount of coal in mining coal at a reduced price.

W. Davidson favored the bill. He was opposed to attacks being made on the character of any one instead of debating the merits of the bill.

T. W. Paterson said that this bill was aimed admittedly at a single corporation. It was well known that the Fernie Coal Company was according to the contract with the Dominion government, to sell the coal at a certain price. Unless it could be shown that it was the intention of doing so in the future, or of ascertaining if relief was to be given to the Fernie company with regard to this contract, he would oppose the bill. He was opposed to class legislation of any kind. Unfair taxation and class legislation had been responsible in no small way for the bad times which prevailed in the country during the past four years.

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W. W. B. McInnes said that he had on a severe occasion introduced legislation along the line of that proposed by the member for Nanaimo. It had been opposed by members who were now supporting it, because they hoped by that means to make political capital. The member for Nanaimo intimated that this measure was defeated last year by tactics which members adopted. He wished to say the cause of its defeat was due to the tactics of the member for Nanaimo. He (Mr. McInnes) had suggested to the member for Nanaimo on that occasion that he bring it along the same lines as that proposed by the member for Nanaimo had refused to do so, but had surrounded the proposed amendment with other amendments to the act which made it unrecognizable to members of the legislature. Had he introduced as innocent a measure as the present bill last year it would have carried. The business of the member for Nanaimo last year was to make it embarrassing for the government. This year he endeavors to make it as easy as possible for the government. (Government applause.) The member for Nanaimo did not care for the coal miners particularly. This system was now in force among the miners of Vancouver Island. That was brought about by the trades unions, which the member for Nanaimo so much despised.

But while he (Mr. McInnes) was going to support the bill, yet he wished to call the attention of the legislature to the fact that the bill was diametrically opposed to one another, now working together in the House. This was done by the member for Nanaimo going back on what he advocated before. He had thrown down the men who supported him in Nanaimo.

He could not go back and be elected by those whom he had duped. The members for Nanaimo could not go back and be elected on such a bill as that now introduced. The member for Nanaimo said he did not advocate a strike. But his reason was that he had advocated the greater one. He had represented that they were going to take over the coal mines and the lumber mills, and he was going to be one of the King Bees when this was done. He had represented that one of the men with all this wealth. After this bill was printed the speaker had in Nanaimo met Socialists who asked: "Was it possible their member had introduced the bill?"

Richard Hall said the bill was like most of these brought in by Socialists. It was not intended to help the miners, but to aim a blow at invested interests. The bill was intended to upset the system of work in mines. Some men would under it work five or six hours and take three or four hours to get to their work. He was not surprised to see the government supporting this, because they had to in order to hold power, as they were dependent upon the Socialists.

The Premier wanted to know what Mr. Hall would offer. "Never mind," replied Mr. Hall, "you are in the position of responsibility, and you will not remain long in power if you show you have not backbone."

Mr. Williams called attention to the fact that if a man crawled for a mile through a place not four feet high they would find it was just about as hard as any other work. He pointed out that this was simply getting for the Fernie miners what had been put in force voluntarily by the Vancouver Island companies. The distances to be covered in reaching the work were greater than those of the Vancouver Island mines at Fernie. The reduction of hours of labor had not resulted in less work being done. It had worked exactly opposite. It worked an improvement in the mental, moral and physical benefit of the men. Six hour days in Northern England, as compared with ten hours in South Wales, had resulted in producing the same amount of coal in mining coal at a reduced price.

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the intention of the government to proceed with the prosecution in the case of cattle stealing for which A. P. McInnes was indicted for the assizes held at Clinton in May last? If so, when? 2. If it is not the intention of the government to proceed, is it the intention of the government to recoup the accused the expenses incurred by him attending for his defence with witness and counsel at said assizes? If not, why not? Hon. C. Wilson replied as follows: "1. No; 2. The government do not pay the costs of defendants in criminal cases. Moreover, the government had nothing to do with the institution of the prosecution of A. P. McInnes. An information was sworn to on the 15th November, 1902, by Robert McInnes, charging that A. P. McInnes, on or about the 1st of December, 1901, stole a yearling steer, the property of William Parker. Mr. McInnes was committed for trial, the whole case practically depending upon the testimony of Mr. McInnes. When it was attempted to subpoena Mr. McInnes to appear as a witness for the crown at the Clinton assizes, 1903, it was found that he had left Cariboo and had gone, as some persons asserted, to Atlin. Under these circumstances, Mr. MacIntyre, the counsel acting for the crown at the Clinton assizes, 1903, did not proceed further with the case." John Oliver asked the Attorney-General the following questions: 1. Has any and what tangible benefit to the province been secured as a result of the visit of the Hon. C. Wilson and the Hon. R. F. Green to Ottawa? 2. Did the Hon. C. Wilson and the Hon. R. F. Green visit Montreal on provincial business? 3. If so, what was the nature of the business transacted at Montreal? Hon. Mr. Wilson replied as follows: "1. It is undesirable to answer this question to finally answer this question at present; 2. visited Montreal as the guests of the harbor commissioners, and in the public interest." Henry Tanner asked the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions: 1. Is it the intention of the government to dispense with the services of a district road supervisor in the future in the Saanich district? 2. If not, why not? Hon. R. Green replied as follows: "1. If found necessary in the public interest, a district road superintendent will be appointed; 2. answered by No. 1." T. W. Paterson asked the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions: 1. What proportion of the moneys appropriated for the roads and streets in South Nanaimo was spent on Gabriola Island each year since 1900, inclusive? 2. What instructions were given the road superintendent of that district as to the commencing and closing of work and the amount to be expended in 1903? 3. Were instructions, written or verbal, given to any one other than the authorized superintendent regarding road work on Gabriola Island in the month of September, 1903? If so, by whom and to whom, and what was the nature of the instructions? Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows: "1. 1900-1, \$456.72; 1901-2, \$568.25; 1902-3, \$5, 1903-4, \$225.25. None. 2. Yes. 3. Government agents, by public works engineer, to set aside \$500 for roads on Gabriola Island, to be taken from district vote; arrangements to be made by department regarding foreman." John Houston asked the Minister of Finance the following questions: 1. What amount was received as commissions and fees on sales for taxes for the year ending 30th September, 1903? 2. None. 3. Yes. 4. Government agents, by public works engineer, to set aside \$500 for roads on Gabriola Island, to be taken from district vote; arrangements to be made by department regarding foreman." Stuart Henderson asked the Premier the following questions: 1. Did the Premier, or any member of his government, or any one who has been a member of his government while he was in office, write a letter of which the following is a copy, or of which the following is a copy of a portion thereof: "Dear Sir:—The policy of the present government with regard to the disposition of the lands is to secure to all present legal holders of any claims thereon their statutory rights. We deem it advisable not to take immediate action along these lines, as we wish to avoid any complications which might arise by alleged claims that may be made on behalf of the C. P. R. which we do not recognize. We do not anticipate that the Dominion government will attempt to disallow chapter 8 statutes 1903, but it is thought advisable to defer action until the disallowance period shall have elapsed, which will be about May 1st, 1904. Immediately after this last mentioned date we propose to deal with the lands in question as though the same had always been vacant crown lands, and will then recognize all valid legal locations according to their priority, including those now in existence. We will not, however, assume the responsibility of deciding conflicting claims." 2. If the answer to No. 1. is affirmative, who wrote it? 3. If the answer to No. 1. is affirmative, to whom was it written? 4. If the answer to No. 1. is affirmative, when was it written? 5. If the answer to No. 1. is affirmative, was it the original sent to any member of the legislature, and, if so, to whom? 6. If the answer to No. 1. is in the negative, did the Premier write such a letter to any person or persons to a similar purpose, and when? Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "1. The letter in question was a personal letter written by the Premier to the hon. member for Grand Forks on the 2nd of December, and is in line with what the policy of the government on the question of Southeast Kootenay lands. Questions 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are answered by the answer to question No. 1." Third Reading. The bill to assess, levy and collect taxes on railway property passed its third reading. Assessment Bill. Upon the report of the Assessment Bill, J. A. Macdonald moved that the bill be referred back to committee for the purpose of considering the following amendment: "That all the words after the word 'assesses,' in the enacting clause, be struck out, and the following inserted: "Short Title. "1. This act may be cited as the 'Assessment Act Amendment Act, 1903.' "2. Section 7 of the 'Assessment Act' is hereby amended by—(a) Striking out the words 'four-fifths of' in the tenth line; (b) Striking out the word 'three,' in the eighth line, and inserting in lieu thereof the word 'five'; (c) Striking out the words 'three-quarters of,' in the tenth line; (d) Inserting after the word 'two,' in the twentieth line, the words 'and each and inserting after the word 'three,' in the twenty-first line, the words 'and one-half'; (e) Striking out all the words in said section 6 after the word 'to,' in the thirtieth line, and substituting therefor the words 'allow to every taxpayer a discount at the rate of ten per centum upon the amount so paid by him for the current year's taxes only.'" Section 7 of the 'Assessment Act' is hereby amended by—(a) Striking out the words 'twenty-five cents,' in the fourth line, and substituting therefor the words 'one dollar'; (b) Inserting before the word 'five,' in the said fourth line, the words 'and one-half.'" Section 14 of the said act, as amended by chapter 38, is hereby amended by inserting at the end of said section the following: "(b) The amount expended in wages in the operation of the mine during the period covered by said statement." "And in arriving at the assessed value of the ores the assessor shall deduct the cost of transportation, treatment and wages, as set forth in the said statement or otherwise ascertained." In moving the amendments referred to Mr. Macdonald said that he did so because it had not been clearly thought out by the government, who were unable to say that the original intention of the act was to tax personal property without exemption. Now it was altered so as to exclude all upon which no income was derived this year but one could not be considered sections. It was also pointed out that the mineral taxation was shown to have been so little considered that it was necessary to withdraw it for further consideration. It was quite evident that the government had not given the attention to the act, which should attend such an important matter as this. The act made no provision in taxing the stock of a merchant for the workingman, who is bound due on that stock. Mr. Macdonald said that a wholesale merchant would find it impossible to carry a sufficient stock. Merchants had pointed out that it would increase their taxation to four or five times what it now was. Merchants were ready to pay a tax on their property, but not upon their debts. The government should have ascertained by commission just what the taxes should be. The government had had time to do this, but had not taken advantage of it. He, therefore, proposed to leave the act as it was before in a general way, and increase the rates somewhat on the present assessments. By this means persons would know just what the increases would be. He had calculated the increase in revenue from this, and found that it would equal just about what the Finance Minister desired for his changes in the bill. Taking these into account he had estimated them as follows: On real estate under the old act the taxes were \$128,772; under his proposed rate it would be \$108,151. On wild lands it was \$65,025; under his proposed rate it would be \$118,125. On personal property it was \$88,350, and under the rate he proposed it would be \$150,070. The increases would amount to \$187,611. With the gain of income, the gain from insurance companies and others and other increases the revenue would be brought up to what the Minister of Finance expected to get. On the mineral taxation a compromise had been arranged, which he thought would work out well, and would be agreeable to the mining men. By adopting these amendments the tax would be increased and the Minister of Finance would be given an opportunity to acquire himself within the conditions of which he was now aware. The Minister of Finance said the

amendments of the leader of the opposition really meant going back to the old bill. The intention of the bill was to tax property found in the province, and which was given protection. It was the intention to tax that property whether 90 per cent. of it was owned elsewhere or not. He contended that the agitation of the Victoria merchants against the bill was largely for a political purpose. He said that the Vancouver Board of Trade refused to join in this, and read a message in which it was declared that it was considered unnecessary to take this subject of a protest up. Mr. Macdonald asked who signed it? The Minister of Finance read the names of the president and secretary of the Vancouver Board of Trade. The leader of the opposition thereupon called his attention to the fact that there was nothing to show that the board of trade had not taken any action, but that the president and secretary had alone taken upon themselves to answer. The Minister of Finance said he had a message in favor of the act from a wholesale merchant. The name was demanded, and amid laughter the Finance Minister announced the name of Fred Buscombe. The Finance Minister proceeding, said that the government intended to deal properly with the mineral industry. R. L. Drury attacked the bill. It had not received careful consideration, he referred to many instances bearing this out. The result of the bill would be that the measure would be repealed. It was detrimental to the province to have a bill introduced at the next sitting of the legislature. The bill had been put through with the Premier absent during nearly all the time that it was under discussion. It was put through by the assistance of the member for Nanaimo, who took occasion to say that he did not care how the taxes were raised, and who appeared as the champion of certain interests. The old Assessment Act was not perfect, but it would be wiser to retain it with slight alterations, rather than bring in a measure so ill considered as this one. W. G. Cameron asked concerning certain documents which had been referred to this legislature, but which had not been delivered to the members. He wished to know what was the rule with respect to these documents. The Speaker said that he had objected to the documents being circulated. Proceeding to the bill itself, Mr. Cameron said that the measure had been repealed at the instigation of the business men who had been heard regarding the bill. Other interests had been heard, but the representatives of the Victoria Board of Trade had been referred to for Victoria, and he had not heard. The bill would have the effect of driving trade out of the country. Wholesale stocks would not be kept in the province as a result of this. Merchants would have to deal with distant houses, and the business would be done by samples instead of wholesale houses carrying a stock. Different corporations would be treated differently. The system laid down was a bad one. He opposed the bill in details, especially as it affected the mercantile and manufacturing interests. Mr. Drury explained that the Minister of Finance, in correcting him before as to book debts being excluded from taxation, had not really stated the position correctly, as he found his had been right in the first instance. Mr. McInnes believed that the Finance Minister really thought that book debts were excluded from taxation when he made the statement he did. He did not think the Minister knew what was in the bill. But now that it was announced that the Vancouver Board of Trade was asleep on the matter the bill would go back to the board of trade. The board of trade would wake up and argue that it would be trouble. He contended that the excessive taxing of the merchants and other classes would result in it coming back to the workingman, who would be paid higher rates for his goods in consequence. He believed the workingmen would prefer to pay the taxes directly rather than through others. It was better for them to pay the taxes directly necessary changes in the old act rather than pass this bill. Mr. Hall also protested against the act, which was a sort of "socialistic rush act" for the purpose of pacifying the banks in their demands. The opposition would have joined in any fairly adjusted tax to increase the revenue. He protested against the attitude of the Premier towards the representatives of the merchants and business men of the city of Victoria. Those from other places had been well received, but the Premier treated the Victoria representatives in a political spirit. He doubted whether some of the provisions would stand, as they bordered on direct taxation. Stuart Henderson pointed out that inaccuracies still existed in the act. Changes which were to have been made were not made. He moved the adjournment of the debate. A vote being taken the motion was carried by 22 to 18. Mr. Davidson and John Houston voted with the opposition, and the Socialist members with the government. Continuing the debate, Mr. Henderson said that the interests concerned had not had an opportunity to make their representations in this matter. J. H. Hawthorthwaite contended that Mr. McInnes did not understand the labor question, except from the standpoint of the Liberal party. The wage earners whom he represented did not care what commercial class bore the burden of the taxation. The government had promised not to increase the burdens upon the wage earners. It had kept its promise in that particular. If the wage earners were to have the burden thrown

upon them, then why should they oppose the bill? The Liberal party was pursuing a consistent course in looking to the interests of the middle classes. This tax pressed upon individual members on the government side, and yet they did not say anything. But the Liberal members were soon as it affected them, cried out against it. Mr. Oliver protested against the stand taken by the member for Nanaimo. He threw off his responsibility for certain statements made by the member for Nanaimo which did not reflect credit upon the member. The member for Nanaimo said he did not care how the tax was placed, and therefore how it affected the people. This was a time when all should realize that they had an interest in the whole of the people of the province. Mr. Davidson saw no very great difference between the bill and the amendment introduced by the leader of the opposition. This bill rose above party interests. 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Range... The oven in a range and actual working feature... TILATES: Small vents into the oven...

AGENTS... for Xmas Trade... Prices quoted doz... Street

scheme of the government. It was not now a question of revenue. That had been decided upon according to the amendment made by the government. There was, therefore, no necessity to rush it through. It was now a question of whether or not licenses should be renewable and transferable. The Premier said that the government intended to pass the bill before it rose for good and sufficient reasons. The bills brought down were all parts of the financial scheme, and it was necessary to put them through before December 15th. The Land Bill had for its object the increasing to a very large extent of the revenues of the province. It was not the intention to press unduly upon any industry. When the bill went through committee it would be perfectly agreeable to all members on both sides of the House.

of the members that the Chief Commissioner had decided in the House that it was the intention to bring in a new measure in line with that in Ontario. Making that announcement, they would find there would be a rush for leases covering 21 years, because with the new law coming in next year, these lands would become very valuable. If the Ontario system had been adopted years ago they would have been deriving enough to pay the running expenses. The rental which would be paid would be a mere bagatelle compared with the profits to be derived when the manufacturers would have to get their supply from them. There were leases held by the banks. These could not be bought for less than a bonus of \$6 an acre now. They should go very carefully in this matter of issuing leases in view of the fact that a statement had been made by the Chief Commissioner that a new law was to be introduced. That statement was a very dangerous one to make, and it should be considered.

Ragged clothes quickly—that's what common soaps with "premiums" cost; but SUNLIGHT SOAP REDUCES EXPENSE Ask for the Octagon Bar... In the Supreme court before the Chief Justice, the case of Johnson vs. Oliver was on Thursday decided in favor of defendant. —Capt. Rufus Calhoun has passed away at San Francisco. The captain was 70 years of age and was well and favorably known on this coast, having sailed up and down Northern Pacific waters for over a score of years. —The pioneers have a movement on foot to hold a reception in honor of Harry Jones, M. P. P. The Cariboo old-timer who has recently been elected to the legislature. The date has not yet been fixed. —Geo. Snider has the contract for erecting a store for Terry & Marrett, next to their drug store on Fort street. The front portion will be occupied by W. A. Jameson, and the rear part by Terry & Marrett as a warehouse.

Local Retros. CLEANING OF CITY AND SUBURBANS OF NEW & CONDENSED FORM. —In the Supreme court before the Chief Justice, the case of Johnson vs. Oliver was on Thursday decided in favor of defendant. —Capt. Rufus Calhoun has passed away at San Francisco. The captain was 70 years of age and was well and favorably known on this coast, having sailed up and down Northern Pacific waters for over a score of years. —The pioneers have a movement on foot to hold a reception in honor of Harry Jones, M. P. P. The Cariboo old-timer who has recently been elected to the legislature. The date has not yet been fixed. —Geo. Snider has the contract for erecting a store for Terry & Marrett, next to their drug store on Fort street. The front portion will be occupied by W. A. Jameson, and the rear part by Terry & Marrett as a warehouse.

—A public meeting will be held in Odd Fellows' hall, Spring Ridge, on Tuesday evening, to discuss municipal matters and possibly elect a committee to represent the suburb in the forthcoming civic election. —The Victoria West Methodist Sunday school will hold its annual Christmas merriment on Monday, 21st inst., at Semple's hall. —A largely attended meeting of Vancouver Ladies' Association, preparations for the annual show which will be held on the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th of January, were considered. The special prize list was augmented. It is expected that the show, which will probably be held at the market building, will be larger than hitherto. The judge will be L. M. Cobblestick, a noted authority on poultry. —The electors of Spring Ridge will meet in the Odd Fellows' hall Tuesday evening for the purpose of discussing the coming election. All North ward electors are invited to be present, as it is probable that candidates may be selected at the meeting. —At a meeting of the officers of the Victoria Poultry Association, preparations for the annual show which will be held on the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th of January, were considered. The special prize list was augmented. It is expected that the show, which will probably be held at the market building, will be larger than hitherto. The judge will be L. M. Cobblestick, a noted authority on poultry. —There will be a more limited number of seedlings on the London market for disposal at the big fair sale on the 17th inst. than anticipated. Shipments forwarded via the C. P. R. Company on the 6th and 13th of last month it is now learned have been delayed by transit, and will not reach London by the late mentioned. In these two shipments there are 3,500 skins, which will now have to be held for the January sales. —The Y. M. C. A. Literary and Debating Society met on Saturday evening and decided not to hold any debates until after the Christmas holidays. The next meeting, which will be held under the new management of the society, will take place on January 6th. It was thought desirable that the change from Saturday to Wednesday evening would be a decided advantage in inducing an increased attendance. —The British Columbia Institute of Assayers has been reorganized for the ensuing year, officers being elected as follows: President, Thomas Kiddie, Tye Copper Company; vice-president, S. G. Blaylock, Trail; secretary, treasurer, Arthur A. Cole, Rossland; conductor, Walter Carruthers, Victoria; J. McKillop, Nelson; Walter E. Segsworth, Greenwood; and Douglas Lay, McGuigan. The organization has a snug balance in the bank and looks forward to a useful year's work. —A class in singing is to be opened by Hugh Kennedy, of No. 12 Calcedonia avenue. Mr. Kennedy was formerly musical director in the College Street Presbyterian church, Toronto; conductor Ladies' Glee Club, Toronto University; assistant in voice training for four years to W. Elliott Haslam, formerly conductor Metropolitan opera house, New York, and principal professor of oratorio at the National Conservatory of Music of America, in New York; then under the directorship of Anton Dvorak, the great Hungarian composer. —Prof. E. G. Wickens has removed from 115 Bellair street to 27 E. P. street opposite the Philharmonic hall, where he holds his classes for violin, cello, piano, etc. He has just received a letter from two of his pupils who left here a few months ago for the conservationists. The resignation of J. T. Little, who has acted as secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association for several months, is in the hands of the board of directors. It was submitted on Tuesday last, and has since been under consideration. A committee of the directors waited on Mr. Little asking him to reconsider his decision. However he could not see his way clear to remain in office, and is now leaving at the first of the year. During Mr. Little's connection with the Y. M. C. A. he has labored energetically, and the association has prospered. In the past two months the membership has increased from a little over 200 to almost 400. This in itself is a tribute to the efficiency of the retiring secretary. —Judgment has been given in the suits brought against the B. C. Electric Railway Company in connection with the death of Conductor Elkins last summer, who fell from a car on the Oak Bay line. Two suits were brought against the company for damages and the other under the Workmen's Compensation Act. In the first the company was freed of all blame of negligence and judgment was given in its favor. In the second, under the Workmen's Compensation Act, where the company is liable unless the personal negligence of the person affected is proved, judgment was given against the company, who are obliged to pay \$20 a month for three years, amounting in all to \$720. —Those who attended the recital by Miss Archbutt and her pupils in Walt's hall on Saturday afternoon enjoyed it thoroughly. The entire programme was rendered in the most artistic manner, the performance of the pupils showed in a marked way the excellent training they have received. After the concert prizes were awarded by Mrs. Irving, Miss Charles Grey getting first for a fine

New Xmas Fruits... Re-Cleaned Currants, 3 lbs., - - - 25c Seeded Raisins, - - - 10c Sultana Raisins, per lb., - - - 10c and 15c Taylor's English Peel, 2 lb. pkgs., - - - 25c Pop Corn, lb., - - - 10c Whethly's Mince Meat, package, - - - 10c English Walnuts, soft shell, lb., - - - 25c St Augustine Wine, bottle, - - - 50c DIXIE H. ROSS & CO., CASH GROCERS, Are not in the Grocers' Combine. IF YOU MISS Seeing our large and well assorted stocks before making your Xmas purchases, something will suggest to you, "I could have done better there." If you see them you will see something you want. AN INTERESTING LIST. RAISINS: California Clusters, from 15c to 25c per lb. Doble Clusters, from 25c to 50c per lb. Elene, Fancy Stock, from 15c to 25c per lb. California, Fancy Table, ..... 10c per lb. We have something entirely new in Bon-Bon Crackers. See them! The Saunders' Grocery Co., Ltd. PHONE 23. 29 AND 41 JOHNSON STREET. The "West End" Grocery Co., Ltd. PHONE 88. 42 GOVERNMENT STREET.

CAN WALK THE SLACK WIRE NOW... EXPERIENCE OF FRANK CROMWELL OF GALT, WITH DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS. He Had Kidney Troubles That Threatened to Disable Him Permanently. The Great Canadian Kidney Remedy Cured Him Completely. Galt, Oct. Dec. 11.—(Special).—Mr. Frank Cromwell, the well known slack wire performer who left here recently to fill an important theatrical engagement in Chicago, at one stage of his career had few hopes indeed of ever again appearing on the wire. In relating that experience, he said: "I had been troubled with Kidneys, I had a severe backache and my limbs were swollen. I used several medicines, but none did me any good, and I had given up all hope of getting well. "One day a Dodd's Magazine was left at my house and I read it carefully and my case was there. I bought Dodd's Kidney Pills and began to use them. Before I had finished one box I got relief and four boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills cured me completely. "That Mr. Cromwell's cure was complete and permanent is shown by his return to a profession that requires strength and steadiness. But if the disease is of the Kidneys, or from the Kidneys, Dodd's Kidney Pills never fail to root it out entirely."

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BORN. ARMITAGE—At Armstrong, on Dec. 1st, the wife of A. E. Armitage, of a son. PULLMAN—At Field, B. C., on Dec. 4th, the wife of W. J. Pullman, of a daughter. MARRIED. McLAACHLAN-FLETCHER—At Nelson, on Dec. 7th, by Rev. Father Althoff, John D. McLaachlan and Miss Jennie Fletcher. DIED. FRASER—At Vancouver, on Dec. 11th, William H. M. Fraser, aged 70 years.

