

MAY ABOLISH DUMPING TAX

Extra Duty Imposed Under Tariff Act Passed in 1907 Likely to be Removed by Government

OVERSEAS PREMIERS EXCHANGE GREETINGS

Rumor That Mr. Gutelius Will Enter Service of Government—Ministers Not to Take Holidays

OTTAWA, Dec. 23.—There is a strong probability that following investigations to be made by the tariff commission the "dumping tax" will be abolished. Under the tariff of 1907 this tax was imposed, nominally against all countries, but actually against the United States, whose manufacturers, according to complaints made to the government, had been dumping their surplus products in the Canadian market at sacrifice prices.

The dumping tax provides that where an article of foreign manufacture is sold in Canada at a price below a fair market value in the country of origin, the difference may be collected as a special tax up to 15 per cent. ad valorem. Exceptions are made where the regular duty amounts to 50 per cent. ad valorem, or where the goods are subject to excise duty in Canada, as in the case of sugar refined in Great Britain and binder twine or harvest binders made from New Zealand hemp.

It is said that the new government takes the view that this duty penalizes the Canadian buyer, prevents competition and bears heavily upon the Canadian consumer. It is being considered in operation.

The first exchange of the season's greetings between overseas premiers took place today. Sir Joseph Ward, premier of New Zealand, cabled Premier Borden: "Season's greetings to yourself and colleagues." Premier Borden sent back: "Thanks and congratulations to yourself and colleagues."

Hon. F. Cochrane, minister of railways, has nothing to say as to the report that General Superintendent Gutelius is to leave the service of the Canadian Pacific to enter the service of the government with gainful charge of the department of railways and canals. Mr. Cochrane neither confirmed nor denied the story.

The majority of the cabinet ministers will not take any Christmas holidays at all but will remain in the city to attend council meetings. The ministers will for the most part conduct public business on every day during the holiday, but Christmas and New Year. Those who will be out of the city for the holiday will include Hon. Robert Rogers and Hon. W. J. Roche, who have gone to St. John, Hon. Frank Cochrane, who will spend Christmas in Toronto and Hon. Martin Burrell who left last night for St. Catharines.

SENTENCED TO DEATH

French Soldier Who Committed Offense to Stay in Comrade's Company Must Suffer

PARIS, Dec. 21.—A strange and painful incident occurred this week at a court martial held at the head of the 8th regiment of Mounted Chasseurs. Among the prisoners was an infantry soldier named Mottais, who came from Havre. While in the penitentiary last October he threw his wooden shoe at the head of the visiting surgeon, and when brought up for trial appeared to be sorry for his offence listening without comment to the evidence of the surgeon and chief warder.

A third witness was called in the person of a trooper named Bourabe, who had also been in the penitentiary for desertion. While there, he being himself a native of Havre, he had struck up a very warm friendship with Mottais, and conceived the idea of committing a similar crime in order to have the same punishment awarded him, and so as not to be separated from his comrade. Accordingly he had scarcely been brought into court before he sprang on to the steps of the dais on which the officers were sitting and flung his knife violently in the face of the president, accompanying the act with abusive epithets.

On the colonel asking him if he was sorry he replied that he had come expressly to do what he had done. This and there he was arrested for striking a superior officer, and after a brief deliberation he was sentenced to death, while Mottais was given ten years' hard labor. When Bourabe—who had been taken back to prison and was commended in his absence—was told of the verdict, he grew pale and nearly swooned away.

The extraordinary severity of the sentence must serve as a terrible example of the strict notions of discipline in the French army.

SUCCESSFUL SHOW

Exhibition at St. Paul Under Auspices of Northwestern Development League is Closed

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 23.—The Northwestern Land Products show, held under the auspices of the Northwestern Development League, composed of civic and commercial organizations from here to the Pacific coast, closed tonight. It has been open for two weeks.

It was held to display the agricultural and other natural resources of the states represented, and to this end exhibitors from the various states lectured and distributed information every afternoon and evening.

About 100,000 people visited the show during the two weeks, and the estimated profits are about \$10,000. This sum will be used towards a permanent land products exhibition in St. Paul.

Many prizes for the best exhibits were awarded.

Fleets Innocence

GOLDEN, Col., Dec. 23.—"My conscience is clear, I did not kill Mrs. Laguarda. I know that she is alive and expect soon she will come forth and clear me of this murder charge." This was the declaration of Mrs. Angelina Garamone today, immediately after she heard the jury's verdict declaring her guilty of murder in the first degree for the killing of Mrs. Maria Laguarda on August 20, 1910. The jury fixed the punishment at life imprisonment. Mrs. Garamone was charged with killing Mrs. Laguarda with robbery as the motive.

COURT SUSTAINS CLAIM MADE

Contention of Province as to Retention of Right and Title in School Reserves Upheld by Supreme Court

An interesting and especially important judgment has just been handed down by Mr. Justice Gregory in the supreme court of this province in the case of the attorney general of British Columbia vs. the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway company, the contention of the province as to its retention of all right and title in the Comolank and various other school reserves within the Island railway belt being sustained by the judgment of the court. Retention of the school reserves, which also materially strengthens the claim raised by the province in other railway bargains, as for example with respect to the title in certain lands near Pass Creek claimed by the C. P. R., as portions of the acreage acquired under the subsidy act of the Columbia & Western railway company, one of its subsidiary interests.

The case which has just been decided originated through the sale by the railway company of lands contained in the old Comolank school reserve set aside long prior to the grant of lands to secure construction of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway company by the settlement act of 1880. The purchasers upon receiving their title deeds from the railway company applied in due course to the registrar here to have them registered, whereupon a caveat was filed by the attorney general and registration was refused, the registrar, instead, referring the question of title for determination to the supreme court, as provided under the terms of the Land Registry act.

In view of the importance of the issues raised, Mr. Justice Clements, who heard the matter, decided that it would be better to have an action entered in due form, and the attorney general accordingly brought action against the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway company to have the lands in question declared property of the Crown. Mr. E. V. Bodwell, K. C., representing the government in the subsequent proceedings and Mr. H. A. Maclean, K. C., the railway company. The judgment of Mr. Justice Gregory supports in toto the claim of the provincial authorities, and has an important bearing upon other matters in dispute between the British Columbia government and various railway interests, it being sustained that any possible right which the railway company might otherwise have asserted had long since been extinguished by its acceptance of the lands granted in the Campbell river district.

Beades confirming the provincial ownership of considerable tracts of land within the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway belt, Mr. Justice Gregory's decision may also materially affect the rights in the administration of the base metals within the railway belt lands.

Seriously Ill

TORONTO, Dec. 23.—Mrs. Lawrence Solomon, wife of the owner of the Tecumseh lacrosse team, and manager of Hanlan's Island and the Alexandra theatre, is in a very low condition, and little hope is held for her recovery.

Science Congress

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The largest convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science ever held is expected to be opened here next week, beginning Wednesday and lasting through the week.

INSURANCE BILL HURTS LIBERALS

Recent Reverses in Bye-Elections Attributed to Unpopularity of Chancellor Lloyd George's Measure

REDUCED MAJORITY IN GOV. DISTRICT

Unionists Plan Active Campaign After Holidays With Home Rule and Insurance Law as Issues

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The ministry finds little comfort in the election to the House of Commons on Friday of Mr. Hoimes, Liberal candidate in the Govan district of Lanarkshire.

While the party retained the seat it was by a reduced majority (988 compared with 2200 last election), and this, following three defeats recently in districts which elected Liberals in 1910, has brought the government to the realization of the fact that the Unionists are making headway with Mr. Lloyd George's compulsory insurance law as an issue.

It defeated the Liberal candidate in Lancashire on Saturday, for it was admitted afterwards that the new law was responsible for the overturn of the district.

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Pugilist Injured

BINGHAM, Utah, Dec. 23.—Since the first minute of a fight last night with Jack Sargent, Charles Ellis, a young pugilist, has been unconscious. He is at a local hospital and there is grave doubt as to his recovery. Ellis has concussion of the brain.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—Charges that inmates of Cook County charitable institutions at Dunming have been robbed of money and personal property valued at many thousands of dollars by employees were made today by Dr. Stephen J. Pleirow, recently appointed superintendent. An audit company, engaged in examining the books, discovered the thefts. It is thought the loss was in the neighborhood of \$2,000.

Sir Charles Tupper

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Physicians in charge of Sir Charles Tupper have been in considerable anxiety as to his condition. He has improved slightly since yesterday, but tonight his physicians have practically given up hope that he will last more than two or three days.

REDUCES RATE IN FEBRUARY

B. C. Electric Company Fixes 15th of That Month as Date for Lowering Cost of Service to City

Reduced rates for domestic lighting and power service will be granted by the B. C. Electric company to date from February 15 next. The new rates then to come into force will be those carried in a consent agreement between the city and the company under which the company guaranteed to develop Jordan River power and supply the city at the lower rates.

The city contended that under this agreement the company was forced to reduce rates from the time that the Jordan River plant came into operation, on about the city claims, October 12 last. On the other hand the company asserts that under its agreement with the city it has only to bring the reduced rate into force at the expiration of three years from the date of the agreement, or September next. The company does not deny that it was receiving power from Jordan river in October last, but points to the agreement under which it promised to develop a plant capable of furnishing 10,000 horse power, and claims that until that amount is developed within the three years' limit, it is not called upon to reduce rates.

Following the conference between Mr. Goward, local manager of the company, and City Solicitor McDiarmid, which resulted in the company making an offer to bring the lower rates into effect on March 1, while the city solicitor held out for February 1, the company has consented to accept February 15 as the date for the new schedule.

At Friday night's meeting of the city council the city solicitor reported this latest offer of the company, and advised acceptance of it as a satisfactory compromise. The solicitors suggested approval.

Mr. Goward's communication explained that as the meters are read every day from the beginning of the month and as there are so many customers it takes the meter readers every day in the month to get through. Consequently to take the middle of the month as the date for the reduction would be the fairest time whence to date the reduction.

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TURKS' ATTACKS ARE REPULSED

Meet With Reverses in Two Engagements at Tobruk and Derna—Casualties on Both Sides Light

ITALIANS HOPEFUL OF CONCLUDING PEACE

Cruiser Stops British Steamer and Takes Possession of Turkish Property—Red Cross Vessel Seized

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Only brief reports were received today concerning events in the Turkish-Italian war. A dispatch from Tobruk, Tripoli, reports a sharp attack by the Turks and Arabs yesterday, which was repulsed after six hours of fighting. This Italian losses numbered seven killed and fifteen wounded. The Turkish casualties are said to have been small.

From Massowa, capital of the Italian colony of British Somaliland, comes an account of the seizure by an Italian cruiser in the Red Sea of the Turkish hospital ship Kaiserlich. The vessel was flying the Red Cross on the mast, but it is said she was being used for a transport. This suspicion was confirmed by the discovery that there were no medicines or surgical instruments on the vessel.

A dispatch from Salouke, says that officers of a corps at Janina, in Albania, have telegraphed to the Grand Vizier and the officials of the Chamber of Deputies at Constantinople, demanding that the controversies that have been going on over personal questions in the capital must cease, and declaring that the army was ready to march to Constantinople to effect reforms.

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UNION SUSPENDED

Philadelphia Carmen's Local Incur Displeasure of International Association

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23.—The local carmen union, known as Division 47 of the International Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees, has been suspended by the international body for "insubordination and refusal of the local division to abide by the laws and the rules of the association."

The trouble is the result of a decision of the local body to give C. O. Pratt, formerly a national organizer, a position. Pratt, who managed the last two car strikes here, was booked for re-election as national organizer, and subsequently was made an officer of the local union.

The national body declared that Pratt could not hold the office, as he had never been employed on the cars here.

The charter was ordered surrendered by the national body.

QUÉBEC, Dec. 23.—Alexis Talbot, 16 years old, was found frozen in the woods of Laval, Quebec county. He had gone after a caribou which he had seen passing near his home.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 23.—Work on construction of the line of railway to Hudson Bay is to be proceeded with at once. It is to be a government-owned and government-operated line, and a line of ships owned by the government may operate between the Hudson Bay and Europe.

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THE FUTURE OF THE PORT

Mr. Coste has received definite assurances from the minister of public works that whatever programme for the development of Victoria harbor he puts forward will receive the serious consideration of the Government. Mr. Monk himself has promised to approve of whatever Mr. Coste decides should be done, and from this it is almost safe to say that the programme, of which an outline was given at a luncheon of the real estate exchange yesterday, will be carried out. It provides for an extensive and progressive scheme of development. The breakwater and dockage facilities will give shelter to twenty of such vessels as we may hope to have entering this port in a very few years' time. Two appropriations will be asked for—one to be spent on the inner harbor, and the other for the commencement of a great project embracing one or more breakwaters as well as open docks. We may hope to see these appropriations included in the estimates which will be brought down shortly after the House meets next month. This is all very encouraging and there is little doubt that the commencement of a great scheme of port improvements will have the effect of directing the attention of shipping interests to Victoria. It will probably mean that this city will be included in the schedule of many of the companies which contemplate sending vessels to the Pacific Coast, following the opening of the Panama Canal. Dockage facilities attract tonnage and shipping interests are always anxious to send their vessels to the harbors where they can find the best anchorage and the safest wharfage facilities. The provision here of a harbor, thoroughly up to date in modern facilities, will also play a strong part in determining Canadian steamship companies as to the place where they should make their terminus. Given good docks the trade is bound to follow because of the great natural advantages which the port possesses, because of the consistently rapid growth of population, the development of local industries and the need of imported produce. The future of the city as one of the rising ports of the Pacific Coast seems to be assured. Its waterways are free from fog of such a character as is dangerous to navigation. With one or more breakwaters protection from rough weather will have been secured and the space for dock accommodations largely increased. Moreover there is another advantage of paramount importance which this port possesses and that is that ships leaving here immediately enter open water and are free from the dangers and delay of winding through narrow channels at a reduced speed. Mr. Coste has brought to his task an enthusiasm which has grown as he has realized the great possibilities of the port. He has been anxious to make recommendations which will provide the best scheme of development in which the port as a whole can share. This can be gathered from his anxiety to improve the facilities of coastwise traffic so as to insure safe and more commodious anchorage for ocean vessels. We think from what he has said that it is safe to say that Mr. Monk and his colleagues in office will see their way clear to carry out the programme which he will outline and that when this is done that it will be found to be one of the greatest assets of prosperity that has ever been built up in connection with our city.

A NATIONAL PORT

The people of Victoria ought always to keep in mind the fact that the greatest engineer that Canada ever had, that is, the greatest in his grasp of a national situation, always regarded the Western coast of Vancouver Island, from Victoria to Cape Scott, as the true ocean frontier of Canada. All through his final report on the Canadian Pacific Railway surveys this stands out prominently. He discusses all the various routes that have been suggested and examined, and he reaches the conclusion, to use his own words, that "if the object is to reach the navigable waters of the Pacific simply by the most eligible line to a good harbor," the route to Burrard Inlet should be chosen. But if it was considered advisable, as one day he believed it would be necessary, to speak a port on the true ocean frontier, the Bute Inlet route was the only one to be considered, and he added: "The exigencies of the future may render a continuous line of railway to the outer shores of Vancouver Island indispensable whatever cost."

Let the people of Victoria look back to the day when the route of the Canadian Pacific was determined upon. That was a day of relatively small things. There was little between the Great Lakes to warrant the construction

tion of a transcontinental railway except faith and a budding national sentiment. The financial resources of the country were limited. Only ten years before it had been found advisable to secure the guarantee of the British government to a loan to pay the cost of building the Intercolonial Railway. The country was pledged to a transcontinental line. Hence when Sir Sandford Fleming pointed out that the easiest way to carry out the terms of the pledge was to build a line terminating at Burrard Inlet the government accepted his suggestion and directed that the line should be built accordingly; but perusal of the report in which this conclusion is stated will show that every argument, except that of reduced expense, was in favor of extending the line to a Vancouver Island port, and preferably to Esquimalt, as its true ocean terminus.

Let it also be remembered that at that time no one admitted the great possibilities of the prairie region. It was about that time that Professor Macoun told a committee of the House of Commons that cattle-raising would be profitable around Calgary, only to be greeted, as he told another committee some years later, with incredulous laughter. The most optimistic never expected the development that has taken place west of the Lakes. The great natural wealth of British Columbia was almost unsuspected. Mr. Blake had only recently referred to this province as "a sea of mountains," and G. M. Dawson had not yet pointed out to the world that there were extensive areas here fit for settlement. In all the reports that were made to Parliament there is not a suggestion that lumber from the Coast would be shipped to the Prairies, or that the Prairie might send any of its grain to the markets of the Coast by way of Western ports. Japanese revival had only fairly begun, and the awakening of China was undreamed of. The Panama Canal existed only in the imagination of some enthusiasts, who hardly dared express their views, and if they did, only excited ridicule.

Yet, under these circumstances, Sir Sandford Fleming, with prophetic eye, said that the time would come when the true Western ocean frontier of Canada would of necessity be reached by an unbroken line of railway. And is it doing any injustice to that distinguished man to suggest that if he were writing today, if he were asked to contemplate what ought to be provided in the way of a transcontinental railway, he would, in view of what has transpired since, in view of the fact that there are thousands of miles of railway on the prairies, where when he wrote there was not a single mile, when a rapidly progressing Central Canada demands the products of the Pacific Coast and the best way of reaching the ocean with its own products, when the Panama Canal is nearing completion and the whole Orient is instinct with a new life—is there any doubt, we ask, that he would have contented himself with suggesting, as a route for the Canadian Pacific Railway, simply the most feasible way of reaching tide water?

In this report of Sir Sandford's there is an inspiration to the people of this city. He foresaw a great commercial depot at the southern end of this island. It is for us to bend our energies to bring about the early realization of these anticipations. Let us not lose sight of the fact that the engineer by whose advice Burrard Inlet was chosen for the Canadian Pacific terminus, recommended in the same report that one of the ports on the West Coast of this island, in which class he included Victoria, should be chosen as the ultimate objective point of Canada's transcontinental railway system.

THE "RECALL"

It is proposed to adopt what is known as the "recall" in the municipality of Victoria, and a similar request will go to the Legislature from Vancouver. The Recall originated in Oregon, we think, and, stripped of all details, it may be stated to be a method whereby the citizens can dismiss an elected official who has lost their confidence. It has been tried in Oregon, Washington, and California, and possibly elsewhere, and we are not aware of one instance in which it has not worked satisfactorily, although we confess to being not as familiar as we ought to be with its operation before expressing any opinion upon it. There is one manifest advantage. When we elect a Mayor or Alderman now, he remains in office for a year, no matter how objectionable he may make himself, whereas if the recall were adopted he would know that he might at any time be called upon to defend his course before his constituents. This would undoubtedly add to his sense of responsibility. On the other hand, the recall would introduce an element of uncertainty into the municipal administration, and it might be employed by designing politicians as a means of annoying those to whom they were hostile and might desire to get rid of.

We see no objection to Alderman Fullerton's motion in regard to this question being adopted by the council, for thereby the subject will be brought before the citizens in a definite way, and there can be a general expression of

opinion. In the end it must rest with the legislature, and to a certain extent with the government to say if this new principle shall be adopted in British Columbia. It does not follow that because Victoria and Vancouver ask for it, it must be granted. Upon a matter of this kind the City Council has no mandate to speak for the people, and any resolution it may adopt will only be the individual opinion of the gentlemen who vote for it. In saying this we do not wish to be understood as opposing the proposal, in respect to which we have an open mind.

UNITED STATES AND RUSSIA

The result of the action of the United States in denouncing the Treaty of 1852 with Russia may lead to a tariff war between the two countries, and it is very certain to produce a feeling of ill-will in the latter. We do not suppose there is the slightest prospect of an actual war, however strained the relations between the two nations become, unless indeed, it might happen that United States citizens may be accorded such treatment in Russia as no government with any show of self-respect could submit to. No possible good could result from actual hostilities in any case that is at all likely to arise, and it is not easy to see how the two countries could make war against each other even if they so desired. Diplomacy probably will have no serious difficulty in settling the matters in dispute, the chief interest in which, from the point of view of an outsider, arise out of the fact that the United States has always professed to regard Russia as its special friend. We shall bear less of this hereafter, and indeed there never was any justification for that absurd fiction.

JOHN V. ELLIS

We notice by our exchanges that Senator John V. Ellis has just passed the fiftieth milestone in his career as editor of the St. John Globe. Senator Ellis may not be the dean of Canadian journalists, but few of them have as long a record and none of them a more honorable one. The Colonist is a long established newspaper, and has had many occupants of the editorial chair, but it was only two years old when Senator Ellis took up his pen to write his first editorial in the Globe. Although he has reached an age when most men seek well earned rest, his mind has not lost its keenness, although his point of view may have grown loftier as the years have passed. Ever kind and courteous, yet neither asking nor giving quarter when the fight was on, he was never bitter nor resourceful. Mr. Ellis has been an honor to the profession, which we hope he may be spared for many years to adorn.

Matters here apparently reached an impasse in China. The Premier says he will not accept a republic and the revolutionary leaders say they will not tolerate a monarchy any longer. The only thing left seems to be for the parties to fight it out among themselves. There is talk of foreign intervention. But on behalf of which side shall it be?

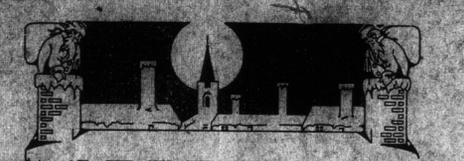
Hon. W. R. Ross seems to have spent an exceedingly busy time during his absence from the province. He comes back with much useful information. It is interesting to know that Mr. Gifford Pinchock, so highly commends the proposed creation of a bureau of forestry in this province. He is a high authority on such matters and praise from him is well earned.

A correspondent sends us the following list as his selection of the most famous women in history: Semiramis, Cleopatra, Hypatia, Sappho, Esther, Virgin Mary, Joan of Arc, Madame de Maintenon, Queen Elizabeth, Mary Queen of Scots, Catherine of Russia, Catherine de Medicis, Georges Sand, George Eliot, Rosa Bonheur, Charlotte Bronte, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Florence Nightingale, Madame Curie, and the Dowager Empress of China.

An interesting story comes from Ottawa. Some of the over-wise people, who have the running of things, fenced off a piece of Rideau park, which used to be a children's playground, because they thought the little folk would annoy the Duke of Connaught with their games. A few days ago H. R. H. saw a number of little boys playing in the street, and asked them why they did not go in the field where there was more room. "The Duke wont stand for it," said the spokesman of the lads. "Do you know him?" asked the Duke. "No," said the youngster, "but they say he's not a bad old guy." "Well, take a good look at him," answered H. R. H. as he passed along. Next day when the boys went out to play, they found the fence removed and the field at their disposal. "The Duke is certainly not a bad old guy."

Instructions have been issued by the Public Works Department engineers to Road Superintendent White at Kamloops to forthwith to begin preliminary work in connection with the promised erection of a new steel traffic bridge over the South Thompson at Kamloops. There has of late been considerable discussion over the matter of location, but the government after investigation has decided to place the new bridge upon the site of the long used structure, which it is to replace. Tenders for the erection of the superstructure will, it is stated, be invited almost immediately.

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THE STORE THAT SAVES YOU MONEY

Weiler Bros



THE ROM

Having restored which he was now terminated upon erect self, and for that p Constantinople upon which he proclaimed. He died July 22, 337 of his age. Not lon fessed Christianity character of Constas much discussion. Justice and as a ruler, a fact which put to death on the was not a Christian the Council of Nic things a politician, admit that his friend arose solely out of power over the Em ing obtained such other course would seems to have lived been free from the ceptional degree.

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It must not be a Jew, and that his. Today we see Chr ligion; it is hard fo ally this wonderful nothing more than a humble social rank, their number was t the death of its Po certainty among H had taught, and th them, possibly more of time the giant in great body of Chr but there always n agreement between the Romans the C have seemed at the Rome was absolutel ligious beliefs. It co mitted the people practices without t the same treatment and if the former times, it was beca race, excessively p confident that they the favored people d Jews were divided which may be mer dians, who were di dox Jews by the fa while cherishing the form to the custom were the two great ganization, the Ph which were very ho less also there wen any, record of th Josephus, the great born in 37, does There is in his hi one sentence in wh some authorities cl tion. It will be s people of Rome the Jews was a matter that in the imperia sect were at times this was not becau because they were the Acts that "Pau his own hired hous to him; preaching teaching those thi Jesus Christ, with bidding him," we might have been gi for the hospitality world.

From this insign tian Church grew. suppose that Rome tivities, from which to overcome all o does not mean th Rome and that he always been the h that point it is no opinion whatever. mind is that every man world, Christi The Epistles writte addressed to the R Galatians, the Eph Thessalonians, and This shows that du ligion had spread o Peninsula and Ital believe it had als Syria and Egypt. during the lifetime become numerous,

An Hour with the Editor

THE ROMAN EMPERORS

Having restored peace to the Empire over which he was now sole ruler, Constantine determined upon erecting a monument to himself, and for that purpose founded the city of Constantinople upon the ruins of Byzantium, which he proclaimed capital in the year 330. He died July 22, 337, in the 63rd or 65th year of his age. Not long before his death he professed Christianity and was baptized. The character of Constantine has been a subject of much discussion. He had a strong sense of justice and as a rule was of merciful disposition, a fact which it seems hard to reconcile with his order that his favorite son should be put to death on the charge of conspiracy. He was not a Christian, although he presided at the Council of Nicaea. He was above all things a politician, and even his panegyrist admit that his friendliness towards Christianity arose solely out of a desire to maintain his power over the Empire, the new religion having obtained such wide acceptance that any other course would have been disastrous. He seems to have lived abstemiously, and to have been free from the vices of the age to an exceptional degree.

The great event of the reign of Constantine was the recognition of Christianity as a religion, the closing of the pagan temples and the abolition of sacrifices. Thus in about three hundred years after the Apostles had set out to preach the Gospel, it had overcome all opposition and had supplanted every other religious system in the greatest empire which the world had ever seen up to that time. There is a popular misconception as to the attitude of people of learning, influence and refinement towards Christianity in the early days of its history, a misconception encouraged by those who teach that the new religion was not accepted because of the wickedness of the people. A few observations upon this point may therefore not be out of place.

It must not be forgotten that Jesus was a Jew, and that his disciples also were Jews. Today we see Christianity a world-wide religion; it is hard for us to realize that originally this wonderful organization consisted of nothing more than a little band of Jews, of very humble social rank, who believed that one of their number was the Son of Jehovah. After the death of its Founder there was much uncertainty among His followers as to what He had taught, and there was a division among them, possibly more than one. In the course of time the giant intellect of Paul swayed the great body of Christians towards his views, but there always remained considerable disagreement between the various factions. To the Romans the Christian movement must have seemed at the outset utterly insignificant. Rome was absolutely impartial as between religious beliefs. It conquered countries, but permitted the people to exercise their religious practices without interference. It extended the same treatment to the Jews as to others, and if the former were treated rigorously at times, it was because they were a stubborn race, excessively proud of their descent and confident that they were in a special manner the favored people of the Supreme Deity. The Jews were divided into several sects, one of which may be mentioned, namely, the Herodians, who were distinguished from the orthodox Jews by the fact that they were willing, while cherishing their belief in Jehovah, to conform to the customs of Pagan Rome. There were the two great sections of the Jewish organization, the Pharisees and the Sadducees, which were very hostile to each other. Doubtless also there were other sects, but little, if any, record of them has been preserved. Josephus, the great Jewish historian, who was born in 37, does not mention Christianity. There is in his history as we have it today one sentence in which Jesus is mentioned; but some authorities claim this to be an interpolation. It will be seen, therefore, that to the people of Rome the existence of a new sect of Jews was a matter of indifference. It is true that in the imperial capital the members of the sect were at times subject to persecution, but this was not because they were Christians, but because they were Jews. When we read in the Acts that "Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came to him; preaching the Kingdom of God, and teaching those things that concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him," we have only an account that might have been given of many other teachers, for the hospitality of Rome was open to the world.

From this insignificant beginning the Christian Church grew. It would be a mistake to suppose that Rome was the centre of its activities, from which the new religion went out to overcome all others in the Empire. This does not mean that Peter was not bishop of Rome and that he and his successors have not always been the head of the Church. Upon that point it is not necessary to express any opinion whatever. The fact to be kept in mind is that everywhere throughout the Roman world, Christianity was making its way. The Epistles written by the Apostle Paul were addressed to the Romans, the Corinthians, the Galatians, the Ephesians, the Colossians, the Thessalonians, and to the Hebrews generally. This shows that during a single lifetime the religion had spread over Asia-Minor, the Balkan Peninsula and Italy. It is not unreasonable to believe it had also made some progress in Syria and Egypt. We must not suppose that during the lifetime of Paul its adherents had become numerous, for they had not. They had

only become widely distributed. Afterwards everywhere the number increased with extraordinary rapidity. Persecution, so far from preventing its acceptance, only seemed to stimulate it. Yet it must be remembered that with all this progress more than a century passed before the new religion was looked upon as a formidable factor in the state. By the middle of the Second Century the Christians had become numerically formidable, and in 177 Marcus Aurelius issued his first edict against them. This act was so utterly out of keeping with the character of that distinguished statesman and philosopher, that his biographers have been at a loss to account for it. The persecution, so far as is known, was caused by no overt act on the part of the Christians, but was sanctioned because in the opinion of Marcus the Christians were a secret conspiracy, a pernicious sect, the practitioners of an immoral superstition. He regarded their ascription of divine nature to a man, who had been executed as a malefactor, as blasphemy of the worst kind. In this persecution a great many Christians perished, but the movement was in no way retarded. Its missionaries went abroad throughout all the Empire, making converts everywhere. It is a very remarkable thing that in a century after the massacres authorized by Marcus, the Christians numbered nearly half the population of the Empire, notwithstanding the fact that the period had been one of almost incessant war and tumult. When Constantine became sole ruler, the large majority of the people, not merely of Rome, but of the whole Empire had accepted at least nominally Christianity as their religion. It is not pretended that Constantine took up its cause for any other than political motives. He saw that to do so would be popular, and that he would thereby strengthen his position against all pretenders. There does not appear to have been any formal decree directing that Christianity should be recognized as the religion of the state, although the edict closing the temples and forbidding sacrifices was equivalent to it. The former religious freedom enjoyed by the Romans now ceased, and the tendency of events was towards the other extreme, one faction in the Church opposing another with every means at its disposal. In order that order might be brought out of chaos, and the powerful organization of Christianity might be in the hands of one authority, the famous Council of Nicaea was called. This great epoch-making assemblage of prelates was held at Nicaea, a city of Asia Minor, and was attended by three hundred and eighteen bishops, besides very many inferior ecclesiastics. It was called by Constantine to determine the doctrinal issue between Arius and the majority of the bishops, the cause of the latter being represented in the Council chiefly by Athanasius. Constantine had declared the point at issue, namely, the exact nature of the Divine Sonship of Christ, to be a matter of no importance, and yet he presided at the Council, and, pagan though he was, threw all his influence in favor of those who held what is now recognized as the orthodox view, and this prevailed.

It is a strange commentary upon the judgment of mankind that this Emperor, whose sagacity had assisted him to overcome every obstacle in the way of his personal advancement, should have made at the last an error which undid all his great work for Rome. It has been mentioned above that he caused his ablest son, Crispus, to be put to death on a charge of conspiracy, one of his daughters at the same time falling a victim to her father's anger. He had three sons remaining, Constans, Constantine and Constantius, and he divided the Empire between them, thus plunging Rome into turmoil that led speedily to her downfall.

SOMETHING ABOUT ICE

Recently the result of some observations among the icebergs of the Antarctic Ocean have been published. One instance is mentioned where an iceberg of great dimensions was measured and found to be 1625 feet above the surface of the water. As only one-eighth of an ice mass floats above the surface, that berg may have been 13,000 feet in thickness, although if the submerged mass greatly exceeded the elevated mass in area, the thickness would not be so great. Another instance was mentioned where a ship steamed at night into what appeared to be a large land-locked bay surrounded with hills of moderate altitude. When daylight came the shores and hills were seen to be of ice, and investigation showed that what appeared to be an island was only a vast floating berg. Indeed the accounts given of the magnitude of the ice masses in the Southern Ocean simply astound one. The greatest icebergs of the north are mere pigmies by comparison.

The origin of these masses is the Antarctic Continent. This vast area, the extent of which is not fully known, but it is several millions of square miles, seems to consist of little else than ice covered with a mantle of snow, the latter by pressure becoming solidified into ice. It is an interesting fact that ice particles freeze together at the point of contact, and therefore snow, which consists of minute ice particles, readily becomes converted into solid ice under the pressure of its own weight in a low temperature. This ice mass in the Antarctic Zone differs from the corresponding masses in the North in the fact that the latter are formed either on comparatively level land like Greenland or in the open sea; whereas in the South the ice seems to lie upon the slope of a mountain range, the peaks of which Lieute-

nant Shackleton told us about. If this is correct, the motion of the ice towards the sea must be more rapid than in the North, and hence greater masses are broken off.

The genesis of an iceberg is somewhat as follows: Snow falls in vast quantities in the latitudes of nearly perpetual cold; and in the course of a short time it is converted into ice. As the years pass the ice deposits grow thicker, and by its own weight it slides more or less slowly towards the sea. Having reached the water, the ice mass thrusts itself out unbroken until it reaches such a distance that the lifting power of the water breaks it, and the fragment, which may be of very great magnitude, floats away. The motion of these ice masses varies from a few feet a year in the case of some of the Alpine glaciers up to 50 or 60 feet a day, in the case of some of the northern glaciers. How rapid it may be in parts of the Antarctic Continent is unknown, for lack of sufficient observations to determine it. The idea that a great mass of ice can flow steadily onward was rather more than some scientific men were willing to admit less than a century ago, and it was only conceded when proof had been forthcoming by the arrangement of a line of stakes across an Alpine glacier, which were seen a year later to be considerably out of line, and all further down the valley than they had originally been placed. The position of the stakes showed that not only had the whole glacier moved downward, but that the centre had moved faster than the middle, showing that ice moves on a declining surface or in response to pressure just as water does in a river.

This set the wise men wondering how a mass of brittle material like ice could move in such a way, and the suggestion was made, and generally accepted, that while ice is brittle in small masses, it is viscous in large masses, and hence while even a large block of ice is rigid and brittle, a glacier may be fluid to a certain degree as a whole, although each part of it is brittle. This explanation did not satisfy all investigators, and a new theory was advanced, founded upon the fact above stated, that ice particles freeze at the point of contact. It is now supposed that the flow of a glacier is due to the constant fracture and instant re-coagulation of minute ice particles, although at times the strain upon the mass, caused by inequalities of the surface over which it flows, leads to the formation of crevasses.

The great Southern ice-cap is of a bulk that is simply inconceivable. Some years ago a sensational article appeared in a New York paper forecasting the probable result of the "calving" of an exceptionally large iceberg in the South, and it was alleged that the effect would be the formation of a tidal wave that would devastate the whole Atlantic Coast. Such an event is exceedingly improbable for reasons suggested above, namely, that there must be a limit to the magnitude of the ice masses that can be broken off from the great ice-cap. Moreover, the greatest mass that could be broken off would take up less space in the water than it did before it was broken, because until the fracture took place the part in the water would be submerged, and after it took place the submerged mass would rise one-eighth of its magnitude above the surface. The only conceivable cause of such an event as was suggested is the occurrence of something in the Antarctic Continent that would send the ice-cap into the sea, such as a tremendous earthquake. This would cause a tidal wave of perhaps sufficient magnitude to do some harm to low-lying continental coasts, provided the ice plunged suddenly into the sea; but otherwise the displacement of the water would distribute itself over the ocean and no evil effects would be produced.

TALES OF ANCIENT CIVILIZATION

Egypt—VIII

Thebes, and a Story of the Reign of Ramses III.

The history of ancient Thebes is to be read in the remains of her monuments. At some distance from the banks of the river Nile they yet rear their stately pile, and tell even to the most careless passerby something of the story of proud and mighty days forever gone. There is the temple of El-Uksur, with its great obelisk of red granite and its tall colonnades, the graceful obelisk, with its marvelous hieroglyphics, part of the great temple built by Queen Hatshepsut to the god of her fathers, Karnak, the memorial of Ramses II., greatest perhaps of all the Pharaohs, with its innumerable columns, its lofty halls, and its statues of the dead king; and the Valley of Sepulchres, mysterious and splendid. It is on the walls of the cells on either side of the passage to the great sepulchre of Ramses III., that the interesting pictures illustrative of Theban life and customs were found in such profusion.

But many hundred years before the Christian era, Thebes was at the height of her glory. It was here that the Pharaohs had their royal residence. In the temple at Thebes they were crowned, and in the Tombs of the Kings, on the outskirts of the city, they were laid to rest.

A large and diverse population filled the city then, for intermarriage with neighboring peoples had produced a motley race. "Within the boundary walls of Thebes extended whole suburbs, more or less densely populated and prosperous, through which ran avenues of sphynxes, connecting together the chief boroughs of which the city was composed. On

every side might have been seen the same collection of low, grey huts, separated from each other by a muddy pool, where the cattle were wont to drink and the women to draw water; long streets lined with high houses, irregularly shaped open spaces, bazaars, gardens, courtyards and shabby looking palaces, which, presenting a plain and unadorned exterior, contained within them the refinements of luxury and the comforts of wealth."

The palaces in which the kings made their homes were large and rambling as in older days, but far more beautifully finished inside and furnished with sumptuous quarters for the Pharaoh, a harem of gracious proportions, beautifully decorated, and separate apartments for slaves and servants. The furniture was rich and heavy, beds, armchairs and seats of all kinds were made of rare woods, inlaid with ivory and gold and sometimes precious stones. They were intricately carved as well, and upholstered in gay colors. Rugs and cushions were of many-hued Asiatic woods, or of homespun material, dyed in Chaldean patterns, the linen was of the finest, and the small army of laundresses, retained by every rich household, kept it in an immaculate condition. The plate on the table of these old-time royalties was of gold and silver, beautifully polished and engraved.

It was in just such a palace as this that King Ramses III. lived and governed Egypt with a firm but kindly hand. It was his ambition to treat all of his people fairly, that it might not be said of him that he was an unjust or unmerciful monarch. If the feudal lords or those in authority abused their privileges, their rank and titles were taken from them, and a better man given their high position. Ramses loved to make his cities beautiful, and he had trees planted in great profusion, to afford a rest and shelter from the heat, and to gladden the eyes of the beholder. Such peace and tranquility reigned in Egypt during the latter years of his life that it was his boast that a woman might walk anywhere alone and be wholly unmolested.

But if Ramses' kingdom was at peace, his domestic life was a troubled one. His queen was Isis, and by her he had several children legitimate heirs to the throne; but a wife of the secondary rank, Th by name, had a son whom she wished to place upon the throne, and a conspiracy was formed to put Ramses to death. Certain waxen images were made and placed secretly in the harem, after incantations had been pronounced that were supposed to be invested with death-dealing powers, and the king looking upon them to fall ill, and gradually fade away. The king, however, became aware of the plot against his life, and the result of his investigations brought forty-six criminals to light, six women and forty men, all of whom were executed. For Pentaurit himself, the worst punishment of all was reserved, and a mummy disinterred at Deir-el-Bahari tells us the manner of it.

"The coffin in which it was placed was very plain, painted white and without inscription; the customary removal of the entrails had not been effected, but the body was covered with a thick layer of natron, which was applied even to the skin itself and secured by wrappings. It makes one's flesh creep to look at it; the hands and feet are tied by strong bands, and are curled up as if in intolerable pain—the chest is contracted, the head is thrown back, the face is contorted in a hideous grimace—and the mouth is open as if to give utterance to a last despairing cry. The conviction is borne in upon us that the man was invested while still alive with the wrappings of the dead. Is this the mummy of Pentaurit, or of some other prince as culpable as he was, and condemned to this frightful punishment?"

After this terrible affair, Ramses' reign passed in peace.

THE VEGETABLE KINGDOM

IV.

There are upwards of 200,000 known species of plants. These have been divided by botanists into 13 primary divisions, 30 classes and 60 families. They have also been divided into 57 orders. It is obvious that in articles intended as a mere suggestion of prominent features of vegetable life, no attempt can be made to show wherein these several classes differ, and these things have been mentioned only to convey a general idea of the complexity of vegetable life and how it has expanded from the time when the first water slimes appeared on the surface of the cooling ocean. There is no reason to suppose that, as is the case with animals, any of the species are dying out, on the contrary, it is likely that by cross-fertilization through the instrumentality of insects, winds or the proximity of plants to each other, new varieties are being continually produced.

Seeing how important is the part played by plant life in relation to human life, it may not be devoid of interest if something is said of the history of the great food plants. Wheat may be mentioned first. Its first use as a food plant is lost in the mists of antiquity, although there is some reason to believe that what is usually thought to have been wheat when spoken of in ancient history was a somewhat different grain from what we know by that name. Wheat is supposed to have originated in Central Asia, but this is little more than a guess founded upon the current belief that mankind originated in that part of the world. Some years ago it was discovered that a certain wild grain growing naturally in some of the coun-

tries bordering on the Mediterranean becomes wheat after cultivation, from which it may be inferred that this grain is the product of cultivation.

Maize, or Indian corn, is commonly supposed to be of American origin, and undoubtedly the grain now cultivated was derived originally, so far as is known historically, from the plants cultivated by the Indians before the coming of Columbus. There is, however, in an ancient Chinese book now in a library in Paris, a representation of this plant, and it is alleged that grains of maize have been found in ruined buildings of ancient Athens. Some writers claim that it was the "corn" of the Scriptures; others contend that this was a variety of wheat that has recently been brought to the attention of scientific cultivators, a variety that yields luxuriantly upon aridland.

Barley was cultivated both in Europe and Asia in prehistoric times, and seems to have altered very little in all the centuries that it has afforded food for man and a more or less intoxicating drink. No date can be fixed when in the countries surrounding the Mediterranean this grain was not used for food or for the manufacture of beer. Any effort to determine its origin would be hopeless.

Rye is relatively modern as a food plant. Its native place is the higher lands around the Caspian Sea and in the Crimea. Its use dates from some time before the Christian Era, but it does not appear to have been cultivated until a time well within the historical period. Scholars have not been able to identify rye with any of the more ancient references to grain.

Oats formed a very prominent place in the dietary of the tribes whom the Romans called Barbarians. This grain does not appear to have been known to the Jews in ancient days, and although the Greeks and Romans had heard of it, they did not cultivate it, at least to any great extent. This was doubtless due in part to the unsuitability of the climate of Mediterranean countries for its production, and possibly also to the fact that as a food it was not adapted for use by people not subject to extremes of cold.

Spelt is a grain of the wheat family, growing in parts of southern Europe and eastern Asia on poor soil. It is used extensively for food, and is the plant from which the Bedouin Arabs make flour.

Rice is of East Indian origin, but it is cultivated in all parts of the world where the climate is suitable. It is the staple food of perhaps half of the inhabitants of the globe.

A grain called fundi is largely grown in western Africa for food, and tef and tucusson, two edible grains, are used extensively in Abyssinia.

The potato is a native of tropical America, and Humbolt expressed doubts if it ever existed in a wild state, but modern investigators seem to think they have proved him to have been in error. Be this as it may, it is noteworthy that this plant, now so largely used by civilized mankind, was up to three hundred and fifty years ago practically unknown outside of the area mentioned. Even after its introduction into Europe, the potato was looked upon simply as a curiosity. As late as 1719 it was esteemed to be of little value that it is not mentioned in the "Complete Gardener" of that date. Shortly after this it began to be looked upon as a suitable food for swine. Towards the close of the previous century, the potato had been introduced into Ireland in the hope that it would serve as a preventative of famine, and from that island its cultivation spread to England. Hence the term Irish potatoes, used to distinguish the common potato from the sweet potato, which is a tuber of an entirely different species.

The turnip is native over a wide extent of country from India on the east to Britain on the west. It has been used as a food in India from prehistoric times, but its cultivation in the rest of the world is very modern.

The beet, though a native of southern Europe, does not appear to have been long used as an article of food. The carrot is also a native of that part of the world, but its cultivation for food has been maintained for a longer period than the beet, and its use is far more widespread. It is much used in various parts of Asia, the ease with which it may be grown doubtless being one of the reasons for its popularity, although its nutritious properties make it worthy of high esteem.

Although tobacco is native both in Asia and America, there is great doubt if it was used for any purpose in the Old World before the discovery of America by Columbus. There are extant old Chinese drawings representing what seem to be tobacco pipes, and there is some reason to believe that the Chinese smoked tobacco from time immemorial, but its use does not seem to have extended to other countries. The smoking of tobacco is distinctly an American habit, the natives thus employing it over nearly the whole continent. On the introduction of the practice into Europe, it spread with astonishing rapidity, gaining almost immediately a strong hold upon the people of the East. It resembles wheat and Indian corn in one interesting particular, for, like them, though it is a native of tropical countries, it thrives in almost all latitudes where mankind make permanent homes. Its cultivation and preparation for use gives employment to millions of people.

This brief and superficial review shows how much more extensively modern men have laid under tribute the vegetable kingdom for their use than their ancestors did.

ROLLER SKATING RINK BURNED

Frame Structure on Fort Street and Dwelling Adjoining Destroyed in Early Morning Fire—Origin Unknown

The Fort Street skating rink and one dwelling house were completely demolished last night by fire. Two other houses were damaged. Occurring within a few minutes of midnight the outbreak was accompanied by the excitement of a night alarm, and almost as soon as the siren of the fire brigade announced the fact that it was on the way to the scene a throng of spectators began to congregate from all parts of the city to witness the fight, the fire having had a great start before a high wind.

Although it was impossible last night to obtain an estimate of the damage it would approximate \$15,000. Until 2 o'clock this morning the skating rink and one house were demolished and the firemen under the guidance of Chief Davis had saved the adjoining dwellings. The rink had on three sides of it, to the southeast, on Fort Street, to the east on Vancouver Street and to the northwest on View Street.

The house completely destroyed belonged to Mrs. Trusdale, an old lady, a woman who had to be assisted out of bed and downstairs to the street where she watched the loss of her home. Miss Geik, a young woman, whose house adjoined the rink on View Street, also got out safely. Mr. Levy's residence on Vancouver Street was ignited but a hose was rapidly brought to play upon it with the happy result that it was preserved. The residence of Mr. George Stelly, View Street, was also saved by drenching.

As far as could be gathered in the excitement, one death, that of a little boy belonging to a young member of the Christie family, who made a valiant attempt to rescue it and had to be restrained from incurring unnecessary risk to his own life. The boy had apparently forgotten about the animal being in the house until the flames rendered his entrance positively dangerous.

Origin Mysterious

How the fire started it is impossible to state at this time, but from the evidence of witnesses who were on the spot the fire appeared to have its inception in the front of the building, at the Fort Street end. Perhaps the first to see the fire was young William Christie, who was in the rink an attendant. He endeavored to get in but as the door was locked and barred he could not affect an entrance. A few minutes later Alderman Moresby and Mr. Arthur Courtney, who were passing, observed the flames and that time the fire had not broken through but was raging within at a great pace. Two other men were on the scene at the time and they all applied their shoulders to the door but without result.

Ald. Moresby sprang at top speed up Vancouver Street to send in the alarm. An alarm was also phoned in from Mrs. Trusdale's house.

Within a minute the brigade arrived. The interval, though very short had been sufficient for the flames to obtain an unconquerable grip of the rink and as the firemen reached the spot the building followed by a considerable time flames, not in any one particular part but from end to end. A strong squally wind from the east lifted the flames in myriad sparks over to the adjoining properties and for a considerable time it seemed that that section of the city was in imminent danger of total destruction. People on Vancouver Street, about a hundred yards away from the actual fire, began to clear out their domestic effects.

Many Incidents

In this respect the fire was a tragic one, revealing many a pathetic incident and many a kindly action. On the Fort Street end Mrs. Trusdale's house was the first to go. But wind lashed the flames from the burning rink on the roof and gave it no chance of escape despite the efforts of the firemen. Realizing the peril in which the house stood, several people rushed to the door and saved the alarm and a considerable time it was a pathos as the residents, an old lady, clad for retiring, and a young son, were brought out to the street and safety. As soon as they were in the custody of friends on the other side of the street, a band of spectators entered the house and succeeded in rescuing practically all of the furniture.

In the adjoining house, occupied by Miss Geik, similar salvage was performed. At the other end of the rink on View Street, a similar fight was going on to protect the Christie house, and here again the efforts of the firemen were partially successful, the house being badly charred but not altogether destroyed. But for the adoption of drastic methods, had the wind been blowing directly away from it to the east this shell-like structure would have certainly been the ruin that would have been less consistent for the walls of the rink stood close up to those of the shop, so much so that until that part of the rink had burnt itself out it was not safe to leave it without a hose playing.

Covered by Insurance

Insurance is believed to have covered the rink and part of the residential property. Mrs. Trusdale's house was reported to be uninsured but the furniture was reported to be insured to some extent. As no definite information

EMPEROR OF JAPAN AT OUTER WHARF YESTERDAY MORNING—REFUGEES AMONG PASSENGERS

R. M. S. Empress of Japan at Outer Wharf Yesterday Morning—Refugees Among Passengers

After a good run from Yokohama the R. M. S. Empress of Japan, Capt. S. Robinson, reached the outer wharf yesterday morning, and the Emperor of the Blue Angel had reached quarantine last night, and will come up to the wharf this morning. The Emperor is also expected today. The Panama Maru will sail out today, and the Japanese steamer Sado Maru reports from 1,550 miles at sea that she will arrive about Tuesday. The white liner brought twelve saloon passengers, including Captain Archibald, of the F. M. S. Empress of China, who had stood by the vessel until a few days before she was floated. He was ill with appendicitis at Yokohama and returned home. Other passengers were Dr. J. C. Fyfe, a Canadian medical man from Bankok, Siam; Mrs. G. H. Harris, wife of the Canadian trade commissioner at Shanghai; T. J. P. Jolliffe, wife and two children, missionaries from Szechuan, who were part of a large band of refugees escorted down the Yangtze by the British gunboat Widgeon, in a fleet of thirty boats. Rev. C. F. Lindstrom and wife came from Klunberg; Capt. E. B. Pond of the U. S. Army, came from Manila; Major S. K. Rice, of the British army in India, was embarked at Victoria; J. M. Tait came from Formosa; G. Stockel, from Yokohama; A. T. Warrack from Shanghai; and A. P. Winston from Peking. Mr. Ralph Brown, a round-the-world walker, worked his passage as a stowaway. There were 250 passengers, of whom 40 Chinese landed here. A large number of the Chinese wore red armbands, a sign of revolutionary sympathy. Cargo made up of silk and silk goods worth \$55,000, straw hats, cigars, etc., totalling about 2000 tons. Soon after crossing the meridian the C. P. R. steamer encountered severe weather. The steamer, which dropped anchor at quarantine just too late to pass, is bringing a cargo of about 11,000 tons of general freight, mostly from the United Kingdom. For Victoria the steamer has about 1500 tons.

The Panama Maru of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha Line, will leave the outer wharf this afternoon with a full cargo, including a large shipment of steel rails, 5000 tons of flour, wheat, cotton and machinery.

Government Steamer Returned to Fort Yesterday From Tempestuous Passage to Aids to Navigation.

After a stormy passage, of which she has been absent since October 24, the government steamer Quadra reached port yesterday from Langara Island and Queen Charlotte Islands. When the steamer left here she was in command of Capt. Hackett, who was followed by his command by Capt. J. T. Wairan at Prince Rupert, and Captain Wairan took the vessel to Langara Island to land horses and material for the construction of the first order lighthouse on the island. The weather was encountered very heavy, and it was two weeks before the freight could be landed, the horses being taken ashore on a scow and the lumber rafted to the island. The steamer then returned to Prince Rupert for coal and provisions and proceeded to Skidegate to replace the beacon and buoy on the bar. On December 11 a heavy southeast gale blew with tremendous seas, and for two days the Quadra sheltered in McIntyre Bay. She was again blown out to sea for shelter by a severe gale and spent two days in the lee of Banks Island with two anchors down and sixty fathoms of chain out, straining in a high sea. Finally, finer weather, which prevailed for a day, permitted the steamer being replaced, and next day a strong southeaster blew again, the Quadra straining at her anchors off Skidegate village. She spent two days reaching Klunberg from there the steamer proceeded to Victoria after picking up the buoy recently replaced by the Newington at Cape Mudge and coaling at Boat Harbor.

ITALIANS DEFEATED

London Morning Post's Correspondent Reports Reverse in Tripoli—Port's Alleged Determination

LONDON, Dec. 22.—No developments in the war at Tripoli were reported here today. In Rome it was denied that there are Italian warships off Durazzo on the Albanian coast.

The Morning Post's correspondent with the Turks at Adzizia asserts that the Turks and Arabs were victorious in an engagement at Homs on December 15, and drove out the Italians and recaptured Zanthura on December 17. He reports the Italians as having lost heavily in these engagements.

The London Daily Mail's Constantinople correspondent says the Porte again has announced its determination to maintain its sovereign rights in Tripoli.

Smuggling Opium

MARQUETTE, Mich., Dec. 22.—According to Collector Customs Burns the arrests at Sault Ste. Marie indicate wholesale smuggling of opium into the United States in that vicinity. Three white men and three Chinese are under arrest. The Chinese have made some confessions, the official says.

New Zealand Politics

CHRISTCHURCH, N. Z., Dec. 22.—Parties are so evenly balanced after the elections that the only possible way out of a deadlock seems to be to take a vote of lack of confidence in the ministers. Many members favor an immediate dissolution as a test of public opinion.

EMPEROR OF JAPAN ARRIVES

White Liner Arrived at Quarantine This Morning from Ports of the Far East—Will Reach Outer Wharf About 8 a. m.

The R. M. S. Empress of Japan, Capt. Robinson, which left Yokohama on December 10, reached quarantine early this morning from Hongkong and the usual ports of call. The white liner was the first to reach the wharf. Passengers and several hundred Chinese in the steerage. The cargo totals about 2000 tons, including a large shipment of raw silk, which will be sent aboard by a special train from Vancouver.

Resuming her voyage to the Orient, the big Weir liner Kumeric, which was disabled in heavy weather when 550 miles out, passed out yesterday. The repairs to the steering gear and damaged deck was made by the steamer company of Seattle. The port captain of the Weir line, Lieut. Kennedy, ordered the steamer past her first port in order to give the work to a Sound firm. With a capacity cargo on board time meant money to owners and underwriters, but the time involved in taking the steamer to Seattle was sacrificed. The work was hurried. Two crews of skilled mechanics working twelve hours each, were placed on the liner, and in exactly 185 hours from the time the vessel tied up at the pier she was steaming for the Orient again.

Mr. Hefferman was informed by wireless just what was needed to repair the Kumeric, and had the men ready to board her the moment she arrived. The repairs to the steam steering gear included the installing of a new engine base eight feet in diameter, and new worm gear. It was found necessary to cut away the heavy steel plate on the vessel's house and a portion of her deck in order to take out the damaged machinery and to install the new.

The Kumeric's cargo consists of 9115 tons of flour, 745 tons of grain, 40,900 feet of lumber and 381 tons of general merchandise.

A single blasting charge of 1,300 lbs of powder was fired a few days ago at Battle Bluff by the C. N. P. construction gang. Over 40,000 tons of rock was dislodged.

The Chinese plagues are epidemic in New Westminster and Vancouver.

EMPEROR OF JAPAN ARRIVES

Hon. W. R. Ross Interviewed Mr. Gifford Pinchoot and Other Prominent Conservationists at Chicago

Hon. William R. Ross, provincial minister of lands, has just returned from an extended trip to the East, and is now busy engaged in preparing for the work of the rapidly approaching session. During his Eastern visit he attended the meeting of the National Irrigation Congress of the United States, which was this year held at Chicago. He also utilized the opportunity to go to Ottawa in order to discuss with the federal ministers a number of matters which are still pending, or which were at that time pending, between the Dominion and the province of British Columbia. Of these matters two have already been settled, a telegram has been received here since Hon. Mr. Ross started for home. By this telegram, as has already been announced, the Dominion has handed over to the province all rights in the forebore of the extinguished Songwees reserve and the administration of the forest in the Railway Belt. The other matters which Mr. Ross took up with the federal authorities were with regard to Point Grey and the lands selected there as the British Columbia University site. The federal government has claimed that this land belonged in part to the Dominion. Had such a claim been sustained it would seriously have interfered with the success of the provincial university, for the use of which a large portion of the land has been set aside. Mr. Ross did not during his stay at Ottawa succeed in getting the matter finally settled, but this was owing to no absence of goodwill on the part of the Borden administration. It is hoped, however, that Col. the Hon. Sam Hughes, minister of militia, was absent from Ottawa at the time, and as the claimed land would come under his jurisdiction as a part of the original military reserve on this coast, the federal government thought better to await his return before taking final action. There is, however, no room for doubt that the wishes of the province will be fully met in the matter, and that within a few days an order-in-council will be passed at Ottawa, handing over this land definitely and finally to the province.

Hon. Mr. Ross expresses himself as greatly pleased with the cordiality of his reception at the Irrigation Congress in Chicago.

"It was there," said he, "as a foreign delegate representing this province, and as a member of the Western Canadian Irrigation Congress. With me were Mr. N. S. Rankin, the secretary of the Canadian Irrigation Congress; Mr. W. H. Fairfield, superintendent of the experimental farm at Leithridge; and Mr. W. J. Cardell.

Lead Paper

"I had the opportunity of reading a paper on the irrigation situation in this country, and it will be published as part of the proceedings of the Congress. Also I, along with the other foreign delegates, was entertained at luncheon by the Hon. the Minister of the Interior. It was my privilege there to reply to the toast of the foreign delegates. Unfortunately, I was unable to remain for the banquet on the following evening, but Mr. Rankin, who was present on that occasion, replied for Canada. "During my visit I had an excellent opportunity to get in touch with many of the men who are considered exponents of the last word with respect to irrigation on this continent, and it was a great pleasure to me to meet with them. I had especially the opportunity, which I very much appreciated, of a long conversation with Mr. Gifford Pinchoot, a man, as you know, of very considerable reputation along these lines. He has been very helpful in the past of his life to dealing effectively with problems connected with the proper handling and conservation of natural resources in the United States." I discussed with him the necessity of a certain Bureau which we propose to establish in British Columbia. He expressed his warm sympathy with our efforts in this direction, and said that he was convinced such a bureau would prove of inestimable benefit to this province. He also remarked to me that in dealing with such questions in Canada we enjoy a very great advantage. In that, we are not burdened with questions of constitutional law, which have proved so such an annoyance in the United States. To Mr. Pinchoot and those who have joined with him in the effort to prevent natural resources being unwisely exploited and destroyed. We are lucky in that the process of deliberate waste has not proceeded nearly so far as it had in the States when they commenced the work of their bureau about ten years ago.

"With reference to irrigation affairs, the decision of the Dominion government, handed over to the administration of the water in the Railway Belt to this province will be a great help to us and will as you may easily understand, relieve us of many difficulties. But it is necessary to have a certain amount of reconstruction in the water branch of the Department. This matter I am now taking up and I intend to deal with it as speedily as possible. But it is necessary that we should hold their sessions at the principal points in the railway belt without undue delay. By this method the questions which are now outstanding will be settled to the satisfaction of the public in the shortest possible time. In this connection, too, I found that a great mass of material has been accumulated by the federal authorities, and that they have cheerfully agreed to place at our disposal. The arrange-

EMPEROR OF JAPAN ARRIVES

Encounters Near Derna in Which Assaults are in Heavy Force of Arabs and Turks at Tobruk

DERNA, Tripoli, Dec. 15.—(Delayed in transmission)—Turkish forces have made several attacks on Italian soldiers, where the latter were engaged in throwing up works outside the town. Reinforcements were sent to the aid of the Italians, and a counter attack resulted in the withdrawal of the Turks. The Italians lost three and 24 were wounded.

Large Force Assembled

LONDON, Dec. 21.—It is said that 15,000 Arabs and Turks have assembled within four or five miles of the Italian trenches at Tobruk.

The Porte, in consideration of the concession of the Sollum district of Barca to Egypt, stipulated that Great Britain use her influence to preserve peace in the Balkans, prevent Italian naval action in Balkan waters, and maintain a benevolent neutrality on the Egyptian frontier.

Logger Frontiers Sullied

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 21.—Dependent over the failure of a real estate deal in New Westminster, Archie Crozier, a logger, cut his throat with a jackknife in an uptown hotel tonight, where he had been staying for the past three weeks. Nothing is known of his antecedents.

Washington Official Resigns

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 21.—The resignation of Chairman J. C. Lawrence of the State Public Service commission was accepted by Governor Hay today, effective January 1, 1912. No successor to Mr. Lawrence, who has announced his candidacy for governor as a progressive, has been chosen by Governor Hay.

Steamer Sinks

PENZANCE, Eng., Dec. 21.—The British two-masted steamer Hulloph of 1797 tons capsized and sank near here today. The crew was saved.

MR. BIGELOW DEAD

Well Known American Diplomat and Author Passes Away at Age of Ninety-four

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—John Bigelow, the venerable diplomat and author, passed away at his home here today. Mr. Bigelow was born at Malden on the Hudson, in November, 1817, and was educated at Union College. For some years he was associated with William Cullen Bryant in the publication of the New York Evening Post. He entered the diplomatic service as consul at Paris, afterwards holding the post of U. S. Minister to France. Among his more prominent literary productions were volumes dealing with the life, writings and speeches of Samuel J. Tilden, of whom he was an intimate personal friend and political ally. Although over 90 years of age, Mr. Bigelow was until very lately, in good health, and able to write with vigor on public questions.

A fine collection of the apices of the Klamath valley has recently been made by special agents of the G. T. P. railway company, the intention being to utilize the collection as an advertisement in the promotion of settlement along the northern British Columbia sections of the new transcontinental line. The apices are of fourteen varieties and are exceptionally creditable specimens. They have been fully agreed to place at our disposal. The arrange-

EMPEROR OF JAPAN ARRIVES

Encounter of Russians and Persians at Tabriz Was of Somewhat Serious Nature Begun by Persians

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 22.—Fighting between Russians and Persians which was reported from Tabriz yesterday, lasted in the streets of the city throughout the day. The old citadel was bombarded. The Russian general has sent to headquarters a request for reinforcements in view of the danger to Russian subjects and Russian property in the city. The Russian Cossacks at Reht drove the Persians out of their position after considerable fighting. It was found that the Persians were armed with Russian rifles. According to dispatches received here, both at Tabriz and Reht the fighting was opened by an attack on the Russians from a Persian ambush.

A telegram received here from Teheran says that W. Morgan Shuster, treasurer general of Persia, has been notified of his dismissal and that the Persian government has instructed the local authorities to cease hostilities and enter into negotiations with the Russian consul to restore normal conditions.

Persia's Surrender

LONDON, Dec. 22.—Persia today yielded to the demands of the Russian ultimatum, which demanded that the Persian foreign minister apologize for an insult to M. Petroff, Russian vice consul at Teheran, on the occasion of the seizure of the property of his brother of the ex-shah, and also called for the dismissal from office of W. Morgan Shuster, the American who held the post of treasurer general. The Persian charge d'affaires at St. Petersburg called on the Russian foreign office late today to announce officially his government's decision to abide by the terms of the ultimatum. Up to a late hour tonight, however, no public announcement has been made at Teheran of the recession of Persia from the definite stand she originally took against the demands of the Czar's ministers, even in the face of threatened aggression. Delay in making public the fact that she has yielded to the Russian demand, probably was through the fear of the consequences of public resentment.

Mr. Shuster is still without formal notice of his dismissal. He is resolute in declaring that he would have nothing to do with the resignation. He would recognize the right of the National council to dispense with his services.

The exact form of Persia's reply to Russia is not yet known, but from the latest news received from Teheran, it would appear that the cabinet has overridden the wishes of the commission which the National council appointed to deal with the matter.

EMPEROR OF JAPAN ARRIVES

Railway Commission West in Latter Part of Month to Deal with Freight

OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—The railway commission will deal in the latter part of the month for the purpose of examining complaints respecting rates.

During the past month a number of petitions have been forwarded to and by the boards of trade and by the government to prohibit the practice of charging high rates in the west than in the east as far as the same is by the greater cost of Lake Superior. These petitions were sent to Hon. Frank Duff, chief of railways, who is the railway commission that no government action the commission having late freight rates.

The petitions set out high rates were established by the request of the mill various officials and the question, giving a opportunity to be heard.

The Winnipeg board of trade has been permitted to charge between points far higher than between distant from each other. Quebec, and these spots first be required into.

At the office of the commission was stated today that they are being received in large numbers, but they did not exceed the plants made every act.

Trial of N. B.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 21.—The trial of Attorney of the various officials and the jury will represent the ordinary hearing of Nathaniel wealthy nurseryman of the city. He is under arrest charged with the murder of William Hill, a suburb of Portland, in at work preparing the accused man. Only one witness was present at the prosecution will make the necessary. Tuesday's hearing. The of the prosecution will till the actual trial of.

MR. KIRKUP WAS A BUSY OFFICIAL

Veteran of Provincial Service Back from Peace River Country Having Completed Many Duties

Mr. John Kirkup, the veteran of the provincial service in the Kootenays, and an historic personality of the province, has long ago become acquainted through the pen of Julian Ralph and the pencil of Frederick Remington, is back again in his home in Rossland, having accomplished with characteristic thoroughness the establishment of the machinery of government in the far-flung Peace River region of British Columbia.

Mr. Kirkup had intended returning six weeks ago, but was obliged to remain on the field in order to swear in and formally instruct in his duties each of the new justices of the peace appointed to administer British Columbia law along the G. T. P. construction line on the eastern border of the province. While awaiting the commissions of these gentlemen, Mr. Kirkup occupied himself in cleaning out a nest of illicit liquor sellers, the camp followers of the military army, collecting approximately \$1,800 in fines during his short stay at the frontier. He also investigated police strategic points, located several police stations, and awarded contracts and supervised construction of the first two lockups established in the Peace river territory.

In a report which he has just made to the attorney general, Mr. Kirkup states that before taking leave of the Peace, he administered the oath and installed in office Messrs. Sugars, McCormick and McLaren, officials of the G. T. P. contract forces who had received their commissions from the peace. Mr. MacKenzie, the fourth recent appointee, had gone "outside" for an indefinite period, in consequence of the serious illness of a member of his family, and therefore was not sworn in. Mr. A. K. Boucher, J. P. had, however, lately arrived in the district from Fort George, and is now located at Sand Creek, two miles west of Tete Jaune Cache, where the administration of justice is well distributed throughout the new district and along the line upon which railway construction will advance during the present winter.

Before Mr. Kirkup left, Constable Ashton had arrived—reaching the Peace on the 10th ultimo—and had been immediately assigned to "Mile 1, B. C." which will remain his headquarters until Steelhead has sufficiently advanced westward to justify and necessitate his re-location, when he will be transferred to "Mile 47, B. C.," where a strong force of lock-up has just been completed. Another skookum house is situated at "Mile 29."

Mr. Kirkup's last official duty in the Peace river country was the collection of all outstanding taxes due the provincial government.

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INQUIRY INTO FREIGHT RATES

Railway Commission Coming West in Latter Part of Next Month to Deal With Complaints

OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—The Dominion railway commission will go west probably in the latter part of next month for the purpose of examining into the complaints respecting excessive freight rates.

During the past month a large number of petitions have been received from boards of trade and councils throughout the prairie provinces calling upon the government to prohibit the railway companies from charging higher freight rates in the west than in the east, excepting so far as the same may be justified by the greater cost of operation west of Lake Superior. These petitions were sent to Hon. Frank Cochrane, minister of railways, who referred them to the railway commission upon the ground that no government action was needed, the commission having power to regulate freight rates.

The petitions set out that the present high rates were established when their effect was small, with the understanding that they be reduced as their effectiveness became useless. The commission was first inclined to await some complaint in some specific case before acting, but has now decided at the request of the minister to take up the question, giving all parties an opportunity to be heard.

The Winnipeg board of trade has submitted a number of cases where freight charges between points in the west are far higher than between points equally distant from each other in Ontario and Quebec, and these specific cases will first be enquired into.

At the office of the commission it was stated today that while complaints are being received respecting the shortage of cars for moving western freight, they did not exceed the volume of complaints made every autumn on this subject.

Trial of N. B. Harvey

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 21.—The District Attorney of Clackamas and the various officials and detectives who will represent the people at the preliminary hearing of Nathan B. Harvey, the wealthy nurseryman of Ardenvall, who is under arrest charged with the murder of the four members of the family of William Hill at Ardenvall, a suburb of Portland, last June, are hard at work preparing the case against the accused man. Only enough of the evidence alleged to be in the hands of the prosecution will be introduced to make the necessary showing at Tuesday's hearing. The main contentions of the prosecution will be reserved until the actual trial of the man begins.

LONDON UNEMPLOYED

Hundreds Answer Advertisement Mistakenly Supposed to Offer Chance of Work in Australia

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Proof of the fact that immense numbers of London workmen are unemployed was given in Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, this week.

In answer to advertisements by Mr. John E. Ridgeway, shipping agent, stating that Mr. Murray, of the Master Builders' Association of New South Wales, was prepared to interview plasterers, bricklayers, and joiners who intended to emigrate to Australia, more than 2,000 men eagerly sought admission to Mr. Ridgeway's office.

Although the hours fixed to make applications were from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m. and from 2 to 4 p. m., hundreds of artisans arrived as early as 7 a. m. Eventually the police had to be called in to clear the roadway.

Many of the candidates misread the advertisement, for they believed that a free passage was offered to suitable applicants. Many confessed that they had not a penny in the world, and as the fare to Australia is \$80 they turned away sadly, complaining bitterly of the country where they were denied the right to live.

Mr. Murray told a press representative that he did not expect such a rush of unemployed artisans.

"For many years," he said, "would-be emigrants were dubious of the conditions of labor in Australia. What workmen required was assurance of employment and good pay. I advertised stating that I would give parties who were in need of work, but how so many mistook my meaning I cannot possibly understand."

"There is a great future for Australia. At present the demand for labor is in excess of the supply, and Sydney alone wants 3,000 artisans. Building operations are almost stopped and matters have reached a crisis. Contractors are afraid to take work in hand, schemes for making newer and wider thoroughfares in the larger cities cannot be entertained."

"Wages for builders' artisans are as much as \$9.76 a day."

YOUNG AUSTRALIANS

Boys from Commonwealth Appear in Streets of Vancouver—Their Mission There

VANCOUVER, Dec. 21.—Marching up the main streets of this city with the Union Jack and the Canadian and Australian ensigns, the Australian cadets with their escort, the Vancouver High School cadets, presented a spectacle which must have quickened the pulses of the citizens who surged around the procession as they realized the meaning of it all.

Forty-four boys from the western-most state of the commonwealth mingled with their comrades in this city.

"We have come as members of the Young Australia League to tell you

what we are doing in our schools in Australia to promote the broad imperial spirit. We want you to know us better, and we want to know you better, you Canadians, especially, who although your country is far distant from ours, are the nearest of our own kind and blood, excluding the people of New Zealand. It is the boys of our country who can carry best the message of love for you and the desire to know you better which is the instinct of all our countrymen."

These are the words of Lieutenant J. A. Simpson, who is the moving spirit of the corps of Australian boys who are making a tour of the white British dominions.

The Australian cadets arrived in Vancouver this afternoon from Seattle.

WOULD FORCE FULL FRANCHISE EXERCISE

Alderman H. M. Fullerton Seeks to Put Stop to System of "Plumping"—Would Add to Council's Powers

To put an effectual ban upon the practice of what is, in the vernacular, known as "plumping" is the purpose of Alderman H. M. Fullerton, who will tonight urge upon the city council the advisability of memorializing the provincial government at the forthcoming session to amend the Municipal Clauses Act so that unless the required number of candidates to be elected at any municipal election is declared for, the ballot shall be declared spoiled.

Hitherto it has been a common practice in Victoria municipal elections for voters who particularly desire the return of one alderman to so mark their ballot, but refuse to vote for another candidate, though two candidates are to be elected. By this system of "plumping" it is the hope that the candidate favored will be given a distinct lead while placing the other candidates at a disadvantage.

In some cities where voters are supposed to vote for one candidate it is the law that unless a ballot is marked for two out of the total number running the ballot shall be void. This regulation has been adopted for the very purpose of discouraging any such scheme as "plumping" and at the same time forcing electors to exercise their full franchise.

Another Amendment

Another important amendment to the act desired by Alderman H. M. Fullerton is that whereby the power of the appointment of council committees would be taken from the mayor and placed in the hands of the council as a whole. Subsection "C" of section 11, gives the mayor power to appoint necessary standing committees. Until a year ago the practice was to name a majority of the council members for each committee and the chairman thereof. Last year his worship named only the chairman, who were supposed to bring in all matters relating to their "committees" and the same were considered in council session. This did away with the committee discussion which, under the old system, took place before the committee's report was made to the council. The old system permitted of a majority of the council becoming cognizant of the merits or demerits of any question and when approved by that committee the subject was brought to the attention of the council by the committee chairman, who was assured of support. Now a matter brought to the council, by say the chairman of the streets committee, is practically sprung upon the council and is generally productive of a great deal of discussion which, under the old system, would have been carried on in committee. It is the general consensus of the aldermanic members of the council that the system as introduced by the mayor last spring has signally failed though as a method of springing matters upon the council at short notice and taking them unawares it has proved an excellent method.

Alderman Fullerton would have the council appoint the committees, of each of which the mayor would be a member ex-officio; each committee to elect its chairman.

Alderman Humber will introduce the bylaw to authorize the expenditure of \$175,000 on the acquisition of playgrounds at various points throughout the city. The motion will be decided upon after the ratepayers vote the money, should they do so.

United Wireless

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Announcement was made tonight of the appointment of six additional members of the stockholders' reorganization committee of the United Wireless Telegraph company, which plans to put the company on its feet and recover money of the company, alleged to be in the possession of C. D. Wilson, the former president, now in the Atlanta federal prison. This brings the committee's membership up to ten, among them being Robert H. Armstrong, of Seattle. The deal of discussion which, under the old system, would have been carried on in committee. It is the general consensus of the aldermanic members of the council that the system as introduced by the mayor last spring has signally failed though as a method of springing matters upon the council at short notice and taking them unawares it has proved an excellent method.

Proposed Wool Bill

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—A wool bill, framed according to President Taft's recommendations on the tariff board report on schedule K, will be prepared by the house Republicans on the Ways and Means committee. Republican leaders in the Senate, who have similar plans, suggested today that the Senate and House get together, during the Christmas recess and have a bill ready by the time the Democrats have a message ready to report. The Progressive leaders say that they are already in record for a protective duty equal to the difference between cost of production here and abroad.

TWO BANKS JOIN THEIR FORCES

Directors of Canadian Bank of Commerce and Eastern Townships Bank Arrange for Merger

TORONTO, Dec. 21.—The directors of the Eastern Townships bank today decided to enter into an agreement with the Canadian Bank of Commerce by which the interests of the two banks will be merged and the latter will be reorganized as the Eastern Townships bank.

This will mean the consummation of the largest bank merger that has yet taken place in Canada. The basis of the union is an even exchange of shares, namely two shares of Bank of Commerce for one of the Eastern Townships bank stock, the par value of the former being \$50 and that of the latter \$100.

This union will result in the creation of a bank with a paid-up capital of \$15,000,000 and a reserve of \$11,500,000. The aggregate assets will exceed \$216,000,000 while the territory of the banks will cover every portion of the Dominion, including the Yukon. The number of branches already in existence will be over 300.

The present board of directors of the Eastern Townships bank is to remain as an advisory board of the united bank, and a certain number of the directors are to be elected full directors of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, as representing the present Eastern Townships shareholders.

Sir Byron Walker, the present president of the Bank of Commerce, will be the president of the united bank, and the headquarters will be in Toronto. The name to be used is "The Bank of Commerce, with which is affiliated the Eastern Townships bank."

There have recently been sensational advances in prices of the stocks of the two banks.

GRIM WAR RELICS AT PORT ARTHUR

Slopes on Which Japanese and Russian Soldiers Fought Desperately Present Scene of Desolation

PORT ARTHUR, Dec. 23.—Bare steep hills, gashed by the living rock. High drifts of mangled steel and shattered concrete. Acre upon acre of hillside crushed to road-metal.

Never a tree, never a bush. Valleys of death, here and there the crumbling foundation of a house-wall. Sparse, grassed valleys, scarred and pock-marked at every few feet with bare, stony hollows.

This is Port Arthur, seven years after the most terrible siege chronicled in history. In most instances, of modern times, no sooner had peace been declared between two combatants than the slopes have been taken to delete the dreadful traces of war. The scenes of fierce encounters and stubborn sieges in Alsace-Lorraine, in the Philippines and in South Africa have today little more than their artificial monuments to recall the past.

Japan has other ideas about Port Arthur.

Beyond clearing away the dead, taking sanitary measures to purify the battlefield and shattering forts of the district, and occupying the strategic positions at either lip of the harbor mouth, she has done nothing to obliterate the grim traces of the price she has had to pay for her victory.

Relics of the fray lie on every hand—spent steel gun-carriages, torn like discarded sardine-tins; guns with burst breeches or jaggedly rent at the tips of their muzzles; shells and projectiles of every size and in every shape; fragments, unrecognizable in proportion, too, half buried and unexploded, though a reward stands for the Chinese peasants who report their location; rusted bayonets, battered ladders and nicked bullets, broken rifle stocks, twisted leaden boot soles, metal regimental badges, snapped sword blades and the bits of what were sabres.

And bleaching bones, with here and there a grinning skull.

Port Arthur, seven years after the siege in which perished a tenth of a million men, is today undoubtedly the most menacing lesson of the horrors of high explosive warfare that exists on the face of the earth.

One's first, and perhaps most striking, impression of the spot—always excepting a vivid consciousness of the horrors, a smashed countryside—is the narrowness of the mouth of the long, spacious lagoon of a land-locked harbor. That gap of a couple of hundred yards of placid deep blue water between towering Golden Hill and the low, unquivering ridge of Tiger's Tail promontory seems too quiet and insignificant, if picturesque, a corner of lonely Asiatic coastlines to have been for most of the year 1904 the principal focus point of interest for the world's civilized people.

The lock whose forlornly desolate debris Russia of her dream of a warm-water Pacific outlet. From January to December, Port Arthur, is a seaport, but you cannot get within some distance of the sea for miles each side of the harbor, so intent are the Japanese on preserving absolute secrecy about the extensive coastline fortifications that are piled along the flanks of their naval base.

The Japanese have only just completed the clearing of the fairway, the raising of ships to sink which, and bottle up the fleet of Russia's cowering behind Tiger's Tail promontory. Superior Captain Hirose rushed in under the outpouring of shot and shell and perished in the

successful accomplishment of his blockade.

Neither pen nor camera can depict the scene today as Tsuchikuanhan, the celebrated artist, in the crowding arcade of which fell the gallant General Kondrachenko. It was here that the Japanese laboriously dug tunnels, charged them with 2,500 pounds of powder, and with their gigantic mines blew their way to his killing or wounding every one of the little garrison of 320. There had been earlier mine operations in the fort, but sides tunnelling. The Japanese sappers had buried their mines tied to their ankles, and asked their comrades to pull back their corpses when the Russian mine should be exploded. They knew what would be their end, and sang enough, on October 27, it came. All were killed.

Two miles inland from the harbor, 203 Metre Hill rears its gaunt head high above the enclosing heights. Our rickshaw coolies brought us up the winding granite steps of the road, away from the little town, past the last, mud-walled Chinese farmlet, into a region of "shell-wash" devastation. We left them and "colled" up the littered zigzag trenches that creep toward the twin summits.

Tons upon tons of mangled corpses did the combatants bear away in those dark days of 1904, but so thoroughly did the shell-fire shun up the ground that many skeletons remained unexcavated. The ground is so saturated with the passing years, should expose them. Here and there may be seen a skull, now a place of shattered human hipbone, now a cluster of femurs and tibiae, or a single rib, or a splintered shell, brass cartridge, case, and the carriage sockets of automatic quick-firing rifles, and warped and twisted fragments of boots.

It was a bleak, bitter day. Halfway up the hillside—so steep one could only just scramble up—it came into low clouds of woolly sea-foam, driving inland from the Gulf of Pechili. A hundred feet higher, and every sound from the town in the valley below had hushed out of hearing.

An oppressive, utter stillness—now striking a contrast with the thundering, death-belching inferno seven years ago—lay over the 203 Metre Hill. High an' low, the fog looked out of the fog ahead. A torn carriage, resting on a pile of road-metal, shell-punctured ironstone, a little further on the northern slope, a glimpse given to the view, under the scudding clouds, showed thousands upon thousands of tons of blasted, jagged, waist-high boulders of rock, not a blade of greenstuff sprouting among them. This was the scene of the death agonies, tens of thousands of men and the loss of the Russian landward gateway to Port Arthur.

English Jews

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Jewish Chronicle says that the leading Jewish institutions have arranged to urge abrogation of the Anglo-Russian treaty, which, they say, discriminates against English Jews.

Liberal Government

TOULON, Dec. 21.—The impartial to its report on the explosion on the French battleship *Electre*, which occurred in Toulon harbor on September 23, today acquitted all the officers. The explosion cost the lives of 235 men and wounded about 100 more.

Emperor Francis Joseph

VIENNA, Dec. 21.—Emperor Francis Joseph is suffering only from a cold and nervousness. His appetite is said to be fairly good. Notwithstanding various reports alleging the emperor's serious illness, it was said tonight in most reliable quarters: "There is no reason for alarm." This is confirmed by the fact that Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the heir presumptive, left Vienna with his family this evening to spend Christmas at his country home in the Tyrol. The emperor today gave half-hour audience to Count von Aehrenthal, the Austria-Hungarian minister of foreign affairs.

Immigration Agent Dismissed

PORT ARTHUR, Ont., Dec. 21.—R. A. Burris, Dominion government immigration agent, has been dismissed. He is the first local official to go since the change in government at Ottawa.

North Atlantic Election

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The government has lost another seat in the House of Commons, with the result of the bye-election for North Ayrshire, Scotland, on Monday. The Liberal member, returned at the last election, had to seek re-election on his appointment as solicitor-general for Scotland, and was defeated by Captain D. F. Campbell, Conservative, by a majority of 281 votes.

Railroad for Alaska

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—A million dollars for the construction and operation of a road to be known as the Alaskan Railroad Lines, and for additional Alaskan conservation, is contemplated in a bill introduced today by Representative Sulzer, who recently visited that territory. The measure would place Alaska under interstate commission jurisdiction and would establish a railroad commission known as the "Alaskan Public Service Commission." The commissioners would be authorized to construct and operate the Alaska road from Seward, on Reardon's bay to the Malanaska coal fields.

Turkey for President

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—A turkey from Rhode Island, intended for the president's Christmas dinner, arrived at the White House today. It weighed forty pounds.

Mrs. Pankhurst Not Invited

TACOMA, Dec. 21.—Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, the celebrated leader of the English militant suffragettes, will not be invited to speak in Tacoma by the local associations. Mrs. Mason declared that the women voters of Washington do not believe in Mrs. Pankhurst's methods, and Dr. Crocker asserted the association of which she is an officer is opposed to paying the dues asked by Mrs. Pankhurst, knowing it will be used for the furtherance of militant tactics. Mrs. Pankhurst is now in Seattle.

PERSIANS FIGHT WITH RUSSIANS

Reports of Encounters at Tabriz and Other Points—National Council Gives Regent Authority to Settle

TEHRAN, Dec. 21.—That serious fighting has commenced between the Persian constitutionalists and Russian troops is stated in dispatches from Tabriz, which state that the governor's palace has been bombarded. There were casualties on both sides, but their extent has not yet been made public. The Russian legation here professes tonight to have no direct knowledge of the engagement.

There was also fighting between the Russians and Persians at Ensi, on the Caspian sea, and at Reht, 60 miles west of Ensi. Different versions are given as to the cause of the fight.

Council Yields

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Tehran correspondent of the Morning Post says that a suburb of Tashkent, Persia, the Persians attacked a Russian detachment. The firing lasted all day. Telegraphic communication with Persia has been interrupted. A later dispatch from Tabriz says a small body of Russians has been attacked while resting on a telegraph line. Two of the attacking party were killed.

Small Forces Engaged

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 21.—According to reports received from Tashkent, a suburb of Tashkent, Persia, the Persians attacked a Russian detachment. The firing lasted all day. Telegraphic communication with Persia has been interrupted. A later dispatch from Tabriz says a small body of Russians has been attacked while resting on a telegraph line. Two of the attacking party were killed.

Statistics of Penitentiaries

Records Show Large Number of Youthful Criminals—Parole System, Inaugurated 12 Years Ago, Working Well

OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—There were 1,365 criminals in the penitentiaries of Canada on March 31 last, an increase of only six as compared with the corresponding date in the previous year. The cost of their detention to the country averaged sixty-seven cents per day, or \$24.4 each per year; the net expenditure for all penitentiaries during the year being \$478,830.

No less than ten per cent of the entire prison population was composed of youths under twenty years of age, while at St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary the juveniles constitute fifteen per cent of the total. One thousand and four of the convicts were native-born Canadians, while 322 were natives of other British countries, and 598 were of foreign birth. Nine hundred and thirty were Roman Catholics, 317 were of the Church of England, 219 Presbyterians, 182 Methodists, 83 Baptist, 54 Lutheran, 19 Hebrew, 19 Buddhist, and 14 who had no creed.

Montreal is apparently the crime centre of the Dominion. Three hundred and thirty-five of its citizens became inmates of penitentiaries during the past year, as compared with 130 from Vancouver, 114 from Winnipeg, 89 from Toronto, 44 from Hamilton, 41 from Quebec, 39 from Halifax, 28 from St. John, 21 from Ottawa, 21 from Calgary, and 23 from Edmonton.

During the year 1913 convicts were paroled and pardoned. These are some of the most interesting statistics contained in the annual report issued by the Minister of Justice as to the penitentiaries of Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31 last. The report emphasizes the need of reform in the practice of committing juveniles to the penitentiaries. It is pointed out that the lamentable fact that nearly two hundred of the present convict population are under twenty years of age, is partly due to the restrictions placed upon the judiciary by the provisions of the penal code, and partially to the fact that some members of the judiciary do not realize the unwisdom of sending meritorious youths to the penitentiaries, where they are in necessary contact with mature criminals.

In analyzing the nationalities of the convicts it is interesting to note that 198 of the British-born are English, while 54 are Irish and 45 are Scotch. Of the foreign-born the United States contributed 229, Italy 94, Austria-Hungary 61, Russia 41, France 30, Germany 13, and China 13.

The report of the Dominion Parole Officer, Archibald, shows that the parole system, inaugurated twelve years ago, is having excellent results. Of a total of 3,721 paroles granted since 1899, only 261 were cancelled for non-compliance with conditions or forfeited by subsequent conviction. Only two per cent of those released on parole were re-convicted for subsequent crimes. Mr. Archibald states that the average wages or salary received by prisoners on parole is \$2.54 per week.

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Have You Forgotten Anything

COPAS & YOUNG

Can supply you with the little odds and ends, as well as take care of the large orders. Try them, and kindly shop early.

- ANTI-COMBINE JELLY POWDER, 4 pkts. 25c
 - ONTARIO FRESH TESTED EGGS, 3 doz. \$1.00
 - FINEST MIXED NUTS, per pound. 20c
 - NEW SMYRNA TABLE FIGS, per lb. 20c and 15c
 - FANCY JAP. ORANGES, per box. 50c
 - FINE CALIFORNIA TABLE RAISINS, lb. 15c
 - FINEST MALAGA TABLE RAISINS, lb. 35c, 25c
 - NEW HALLOW DATES, 1-lb. packet. 10c
 - FRENCH PEAS, the same brand that gave such great satisfaction last Christmas. Per can. 10c
 - FINE CELERY, per head. 10c
 - FINEST SHELL ALMONDS, per pound. 40c
 - NEW ZEALAND JAM, a large shipment just to hand. 4-lb. tin. 50c
 - CHRISTMAS CRACKERS, Bells, Tinsels, Candles, etc., etc.
 - CHRISTMAS CANDLES, per box. 15c
- We save you money on everything you purchase. No specials or baits.

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EXTRACT OF WILD FLOWERS OF HEMLOCK

A deliciously fragrant and most beautiful perfume—an odor that lasts long. It is made from nothing else but the Devonshire wild flowers. Buy just as much or as little as you please; 50c per ounce, sold here only.

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- Then ponder over this list and see if you have not forgotten some dainty requisite that will appeal to your appetites so that you will enjoy your Christmas Feast.
- Lobster, per glass, 85c, 75c, 50c or 25c. 35c
 - St. Ivel Curried Prawns, per jar. 75c
 - Hors d'Oeuvres, per jar. 60c
 - Pomodora Sauce, per tin, 15c
 - French Mustard, per jar, 35c, 25c or 15c. 25c
 - Cranberries, per quart. 75c
 - Lobsters in Aspic, per jar. 50c
 - Halford's Curried Powl, per tin. 75c
 - Olives—Our stock comprises the largest variety in B.C.: Mammoth, Queen, Manzanilla, Ripe, Stuffed with Nuts, Anchovies, Mushrooms, Peppers, etc.
 - Sardines, per glass. 60c
 - Boiled Crab, per tin. 50c
 - Hungarian Paprika, per tin. 25c
 - Nepaul Pepper, per bottle. 25c
 - Tobasco Sauce, per bottle. 20c
 - Chicken Tamale, per tin. 25c
 - Chutneys of all kinds from, per bottle, \$1.00 to 35c.
 - Capt. White's Oriental Pickle, per bottle, 65c and 35c.
 - Pin Money Melon Mangoes, per bottle, \$1.25 to 75c.
 - Cherries in Creme de Menthe, \$1.25 75c and 50c.
 - Shelled Pistachio Nuts, per lb. \$2.00
 - Shelled Cashew Nuts, per lb. 40c
 - Shelled Pignolia Nuts, per lb. 40c
 - Olive Farces, per bottle, 65c or 35c.
 - Morgan's Eastern Oysters, per tin. 85c
 - Angelica, per lb. 60c
 - Almond Paste, per lb. 60c

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PREMIER YUAN WILL NOT YIELD

In Official Statement Declares Without Qualification That He Will Not Accept Republic

PEKING, Dec. 21.—Premier Yuan Shi Kai today gave his answer to those who are aiming to transform China into a republic. In an official statement he declared without qualification that he refused to accept a republic. At the Shanghai Peace conference yesterday, Wu Tsung-fan, foreign minister in the revolutionary provincial cabinet, spoke strongly in favor of a republic, and later Tang Shao Yi, Yuan Shi Kai's representative, said he was convinced that the abdication of the emperor and the establishment of a republic was the only thing that would satisfy the public. At the same time he expressed doubt whether it would be possible to persuade Yuan Shi Kai to abandon his plan for a limited monarchy. Only the new situation has arisen. Great Britain, which has been supporting the premier's monarchical programme for several weeks, is now strengthened by Japan, and is endeavoring to obtain the support of the United States and other countries. Great Britain believes the separation of the dependencies of Manchuria and Tibet and the serious disintegration of China proper would result from the establishment of a republic. Only the name of the monarchy is left. It is said that the American group, if not the American state department, already support the British idea, and are ready, with two of the three members of the "four nation group" of financiers to lend Yuan Shi Kai's government money. Negotiations to this end have been pending for some time. Now Great Britain is endeavoring to persuade the rebel revolutionaries. It is pointed out that British interference is not directed against China's interests, but against the sentimental idea in such cases where the practical interests of the entire nation are being jeopardized. The extension of the armistice for ten days, to which the revolutionaries have agreed, has given some hope, but unless the revolutionaries accept Premier Yuan's offer, the only alternative is a continuation of the conflict, with a possible division of the country, with dependencies rallying around the northern empire. The premier has sent 3,000 troops of the twentieth division to Chungking, and has ordered the Pechili, with the object of preventing republican troops from assembling in the north.

World Endanger Forelornness. SHANGHAI, Dec. 21.—The revolutionary leaders here assert that should Yuan Shi Kai persist in his refusal to accept a republic, the powers giving him the support would be regarded as the enemies of China, and the lives of all foreigners in China would be jeopardized. "It is believed," the revolutionaries claim that Great Britain is supporting the monarchy solely because of the dangerous example that will be set for India should China become a republic. Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the reform leader, is due to arrive here in a few days, and it is believed he will assume the leadership of the south. Large reinforcements of well armed and well trained revolutionary troops are arriving from Canton.

"Patriotic Bonds." LONDON, Dec. 21.—A Pekin dispatch to the Daily Telegraph says the issue of the so-called "patriotic bonds" amounting to \$30,000,000, is really a contribution from the metropolitan and provincial officials, ranging from 2 to 15 per cent. of their annual incomes. A curious feature, the correspondent says, that 6 per cent. interest is payable for four years only after the bonds have been issued. This, he adds, is a heavy burden. The reform party with Premier Yuan Shi Kai's expressed opinion that the struggle will last four years.

Advices from Tokio say the entire press is indulging in a delirious campaign in favor of joint Anglo-Japanese intervention. That Dr. Sun Yat Sen's arrival at Hong Kong is the turning point in the constitutional, social and industrial history of China, is the opinion expressed by Dr. James Cantlie, Secretary for Dr. Sen, who is understood to be thoroughly informed as to the Chinese reformer's plans. If the reform party, as a body, accepts him, then Dr. Sen will go ahead and nominate a cabinet, and Premier Yuan Shi Kai will have to say what he is going to do. The reform party wishes Yuan Shi Kai to be the first president of the republic of China with Dr. Sen as vice-president. If Yuan Shi Kai accepts this proposition, the whole trouble will be ended in 24 hours. If Yuan Shi Kai does not join the reform party China may secure another year of civil war.

Expect Disturbance. AMOY, Dec. 21.—Reports from the treaty port of Swatow, for which place the United States monitor Monterey sailed yesterday, state that everything is quiet. Trouble is expected at Chao Chow, north of Swatow, between the local levies, the Chinese troops, and the aboriginal tribe of Hakkas from the interior.

San Yat Sen's Movements. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the revolutionary leader, left Hongkong last evening for Shanghai in the company of Wu Han Ming, the revolutionary governor of Kwang Tung province according to news received by cable by the Chung Sat Tat Po, a local Chinese paper. It was stated Dr. Sen was given an enthusiastic reception at Hongkong during his short stay there of less than half a day. At Shanghai he will meet Wu Ting-fang who is representing the republicans in the negotiations with the imperial government.

COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED

Investigation of Civil Service and Work of Departments at Ottawa to be Commenced at Once

OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—An order-in-council appointing a new investigation commission for the civil service was signed today by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. The document is based upon the report made to the Council by the Premier. In this report Mr. Borden states that the work of the former commission was not complete, and did not extend to more than a few departments. To secure increased efficiency and a more thorough organization and co-ordination of the departments, it is considered advisable to continue and enlarge the inquiry, and to give the commission enlarged powers. The commission is to investigate and enquire into and concerning all matters connected with or affecting the administration of the various departments of the government, and into the conduct of public business, and, especially, but without restricting the generality of the foregoing matters: The methods employed in the transaction of public business; the control of appropriations, and expenditures; the construction and maintenance of public works and the carrying on of dredging operations; the administration methods and operations of the chief spending departments; the administration and attention of the public domain; the discipline and efficiency of departmental staffs; the duplication of the same or similar work in two or more departments; any other matters embraced in the scope of the order-in-council of the 8th of May, 1907, or mentioned in the report of commissioners thereupon appointed. The enquiry is to go back as far as the commissioners decide. It is to be made as rapidly as possible, and the commissioners, if required, are to report from time to time regarding each department. Provision is made for the employment of counsel. An Iceberg Detector. An invention which will minimize, if not abolish altogether the risk from icebergs to steamships has been presented to the department of Marine and Fisheries here, by Professor Howard Barnes of McGill University. Next June one of the department's vessels will be placed at the disposal of Professor Barnes for experimental purposes. The instrument is claimed by Professor Barnes to detect at a distance of several miles the presence of masses of ice. The cruise of Professor Barnes, who will be accompanied by several experts, will be in the Straits of Belle Isle at a period when the icebergs are flowing in full swiftness. The government vessel will poke its way through the ice, and the instrument will record as in the manner of a thermometer the proximity of the ice floes. It is claimed that the instrument will not only register the fluctuations in the nearness of ice, but also of land. Experiments for this purpose will also be made.

Health in Ireland. DUBLIN, Dec. 21.—The proceedings of the executive committee of the Women's National Health Association of Ireland have just been concluded in the Aberdeen hall of the Gresham hotel. Her Excellency, the Countess of Aberdeen, president of the association, occupied the chair, and His Excellency, the Lord Lieutenant was also present during a portion of the proceedings. Some 50 delegates were present, representing 150 branches of the association, scattered all over Ireland, numbering 17,000 members, and belonging to all churches, politics, and societies of the community. Lady Aberdeen stated that the association is making satisfactory progress, and the new branches were being organized in various districts, including some in Antrim, Enniskilling, Cavan, Longford, and Donegal. She referred to the special work effected by the association in checking the spread of infant mortality in Dublin by the appointment of temporary emergency nurses, acting under the supervision of the medical officers of the city dispensary districts, during the recent outbreak of epidemic, and co-operating with the visitors working under the Public Health Committee. The Central Association was taking effective steps to safeguard the interests of the organization in connection with the Insurance Bill. The next item of business, continued her Excellency, was the presentation of the report and statement of accounts in connection with the Great Health and Industries Exhibition, organized by the association in the summer of 1910, and its aims and objects. The exhibition had, under the Countess of Carrick as general manager, proved an extraordinary success. Lady Carrick then submitted her report and statement of accounts as general manager to the Ulster Hall exhibition. The average daily attendance at the exhibition was 11,500, and on Whit Monday, the attendance was 17,000. These figures were exclusive of the large number of school children who attended the exhibition. Lady Carrick dealt with the various departments of the exhibition, such as the food section, the nursing section, the beauty exhibit sent by the Department of Agriculture, the technical education exhibits, the village hall entertainments, the floral designs, the travelling health exhibition, and pointed out that a number of them, such as the town planning section, were organized solely for educational purposes, and without any hope of profit. Some 6,000 school children and 700 adults were supplied with lunches without charge. Miss Geddes delivered an illustrated lecture on the progress made in Edinburgh and Dublin in transforming certain derelict spaces into playgrounds and gardens. Two spaces had been acquired in the city of Dublin from the corporation in the Cook street district. Lady Aberdeen announced that a Vice-Royal commission had been appointed to inquire into the milk question.

Legal Obstacle. PARIS, Dec. 21.—Miss Isadora Duncan, who is now a favorite on the stage and a familiar figure at first nights to my great regret, has just had a disagreeable experience. Her special domain has lately been somewhat encroached upon by Miss Lois Fuller and a school of children headed by Miss Orlanese, who performs imitations of Miss Duncan's classic ballet dances. Consequently Miss Duncan has announced a series of matinees at which she is to introduce entirely new features, among them being a bacchanal dance, and she interprets it as a substitute for the usual evolutions in Wagner's "Tannhauser". The management of the Paris opera, however, possesses the exclusive rights of performing "Tannhauser," and yesterday, by a sberiff's intimation that the dance would not be permitted. Miss Isadora Duncan writes today the following letter explaining her position: "I will be good enough to state that I have made it my own self obliged to modify the programme of my matinees. The management of the opera has forbidden me to dance the Bacchanal out of 'Tannhauser'. I was very astonished for it was not a question of reproducing the 'Tannhauser' ballet. It was to be quite a personal interpretation. I should not have been surrounded by dancers, and there would have been neither the costumes nor the setting of the piece. "It would, in fact, have been like a concert number, and I still fail to see why I should have been warned by an officer of justice not to dance the Bacchanal. I should have been very pleased to submit to the public the study I have made of the music of this fearful frenzy. I fancied I had discovered new movements suited to its rhythm, and the result might have been of interest to artists. Everything that Richard Wagner has written on dancing leads me to believe, without undue vanity, that he would have given his indulgent support to the efforts and teaching that I wished to attempt." Doubtless the Opera has good reasons for its decision, and I am glad to reconsider its decision and allow the public to see what would certainly be a most interesting novelty.

Mother Seeking Edward Osborne. A young man from Drogheda, Ireland, disappeared in 1909 and was last seen in Vancouver. Inquiries are being made in this city for information regarding Edward Osborne, of Smithtown, Drogheda, Ireland, who has been last sight of by his parents for the last two years, but is believed to be somewhere in the Northwest. The young man is 25 years of age, and is described as tall and fair, with blue eyes, and has been five years ago, and was at first with some people named Finlay at Shoal Lake, Manitoba. From there he gradually moved across the continent with a view to taking up land for himself. He wrote home at regular intervals, and was last heard from in July, 1909. In that year he was in the employment of the Fort Kells Shingle Co., whose manager wrote that he left them in September of that year to go into the mountains. A member of this firm saw him afterwards in Vancouver. Since then nothing has been heard of him, though inquiries have been made and advertisements inserted in various papers. His mother, Mrs. E. Osborne, of Smithtown, Drogheda, Ireland, will be extremely grateful for any information concerning him.

Purchases Control of New York Sun. NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The controlling interest in the New York Sun has been sold to Mr. William C. Reick, who since 1907 has been one of the owners of the New York Times and the Philadelphia Public Ledger. It is reported that Mr. Reick has purchased a majority of the stock of the Sun from Mrs. William M. Laffan, whose husband died in 1909. Ever since the death of Mr. Laffan there has been considerable speculation as to possible changes in the Sun's ownership and its movement from its present offices at Nassau and Frankfort streets. A few days ago reports were circulated that the Sun had leased property from Mr. William Waldorf Astor in West Forty-sixth street, and was to establish a plant there. It is not yet known whether Mr. Reick will carry out such a plan or will continue the Sun's headquarters as at present. The Sun was established as a penny paper in 1833, and in 1863 passed into the control of Charles A. Dana, who established it on its present site, having purchased the old Tammany Hall, and transformed it into a newspaper office. Under Mr. Dana's editorship, which continued until his death on October 17, 1897, the Sun gained a high reputation for brilliancy and ability. The paper continued after his death under the editorship of his son, Paul Dana, and the business management of William M. Laffan, until 1906, when Mr. Laffan purchased from the Dana estate its interest in the Sun, and he was in active control of the property until his death two years ago.

MUCH EVIDENCE

Alderman H. M. Fullerton Will Urge Council to Press for Necessary Legislative Power to Adopt System

A system of "re-call" whereunder a mayor or alderman or alderwomen whose course in council has not received approval of a certain percentage of the electors, may be forced to stake his municipal career and seek approval of his or her actions by an appeal to the electors is advocated by Alderman H. M. Fullerton. At tonight's meeting of the city council Alderman Fullerton will introduce a resolution that the provincial government be memorialized at the forthcoming session of the legislature to so amend the Municipal Clauses Act as to permit the city requesting such removal on grounds stated therein, such petition to set forth the number on the voters' list of such petitioner and his residence to be verified on oath as to facts and signatures and to be filed with the city clerk. The petition should be filed within seven days of the filing of such petition the clerk shall certify the number of votes cast at the last general municipal election for all candidates for mayor, the number of electors on the voters' list and the number of electors who signed such petition, and shall present such petition and certificate to the council. If such petition be signed by qualified electors in number equal to twenty-five per cent. of the total number of votes cast at the last preceding general municipal election, the mayor or alderman sought to be removed shall be a candidate without nomination unless he file notice to the contrary with the clerk ten days before the date fixed for the election. The procedure for nominations and elections shall be the same as in general municipal elections, and the term of office of the candidate elected shall be for the unexpired term. If one or more aldermen or the mayor and one or more aldermen may be joined in one petition for removal. Whatever other merits the re-call system may have it will have the effect of forcing a clear cut issue on one point, and should objection be taken by the electors, the mayor or alderman would not be the possibility, as at present, of going before the electors with a host of various policies and schemes tending to hide the point at issue and so confuse the electors. Mr. Reick is well known in newspaper circles. GENERAL ACT—FORM F. Certificate of Improvement. NOTICE. A. T. Monteth Mineral Claim, situate in the Quatino Mining Division of Rupert District. Where located: On Kookshittie Arm of Knapok Sound, west coast of Vancouver Island. Take notice that John T. Hargi, Free Miner certificate No. 54032B, and John T. Monteth, Free Miner certificate No. 54032C, intend to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Crown Grant for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant. Add further take notice that action under section 27, must be commenced before the expiration of the period of improvement. Dated this 23rd day of October, A. D. 1911. ROBERT SWORD. LAND NOTICES. VICTORIA LAND DISTRICT—DISTRICT OF COAST. Take notice that 30 days after date, I, L. Albert Lee Allen, intend to apply to the Minister of Lands for a license to prospect for Coal and Petroleum over and under the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted 3 miles northwest of Rocky Bay, thence 30 chains north, thence 30 chains east, thence 30 chains south, thence 30 chains west, thence 30 chains north to point of commencement. ROBERT SWORD. October 28th, 1911. VICTORIA LAND DISTRICT—DISTRICT OF COAST. Take notice that 30 days after date, I, Leslie H. Ellis, of Victoria, B. C., intend to apply to the Minister of Lands for a license to prospect for Coal and Petroleum over and under the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted 3 miles northwest of Rocky Bay, thence 30 chains north, thence 30 chains east, thence 30 chains south, thence 30 chains west, thence 30 chains north to point of commencement. LESLIE H. ELLIS. October 28th, 1911. VICTORIA LAND DISTRICT—DISTRICT OF COAST. Take notice that 30 days after date, I, Thomas Hooper, of Victoria, B. C., intend to apply to the Minister of Lands for a license to prospect for Coal and Petroleum over and under the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted 3 miles northwest of Rocky Bay, thence 30 chains north, thence 30 chains east, thence 30 chains south, thence 30 chains west, thence 30 chains north to point of commencement. THOMAS HOOPER. October 28th, 1911. VICTORIA LAND DISTRICT—DISTRICT OF COAST. Take notice that 30 days after date, I, W. H. Ellis, of Victoria, B. C., intend to apply to the Minister of Lands for a license to prospect for Coal and Petroleum over and under the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted 3 miles northwest of Rocky Bay, thence 30 chains north, thence 30 chains east, thence 30 chains south, thence 30 chains west, thence 30 chains north to point of commencement. W. H. ELLIS. October 31st, 1911. VICTORIA LAND DISTRICT—DISTRICT OF COAST. Take notice that 30 days after date, I, Mrs. Thomas Hooper, of Victoria, B. C., intend to apply to the Minister of Lands for a license to prospect for Coal and Petroleum over and under the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted 3 miles northwest of Rocky Bay, thence 30 chains north, thence 30 chains east, thence 30 chains south, thence 30 chains west, thence 30 chains north to point of commencement. MRS. THOMAS HOOPER. October 31st, 1911. VICTORIA LAND DISTRICT—DISTRICT OF COAST. Take notice that 30 days after date, I, Mrs. W. H. Ellis, of Victoria, B. C., intend to apply to the Minister of Lands for a license to prospect for Coal and Petroleum over and under the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted 3 miles northwest of Rocky Bay, thence 30 chains north, thence 30 chains east, thence 30 chains south, thence 30 chains west, thence 30 chains north to point of commencement. MRS. W. H. ELLIS. November 1st, 1911. VICTORIA LAND DISTRICT—DISTRICT OF COAST. Take notice that 30 days after date, I, Robert S. Sword, intend to apply to the Minister of Lands for a license to prospect for Coal and Petroleum over and under the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted 3 miles northwest of Rocky Bay, thence 30 chains north, thence 30 chains east, thence 30 chains south, thence 30 chains west, thence 30 chains north to point of commencement. ROBERT SWORD. November 3rd, 1911. VICTORIA LAND DISTRICT—DISTRICT OF COAST. Take notice that 30 days after date, I, Charles Reynolds, of Vancouver, B. C., intend to apply to the Minister of Lands for a license to prospect for Coal and Petroleum over and under the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted 3 miles northwest of Rocky Bay, thence 30 chains north, thence 30 chains east, thence 30 chains south, thence 30 chains west, thence 30 chains north to point of commencement. CHARLES REYNOLDS. November 4th, 1911. VICTORIA LAND DISTRICT—DISTRICT OF COAST. Take notice that 30 days after date, I, Edward Ellis, of Vancouver, B. C., intend to apply to the Minister of Lands for a license to prospect for Coal and Petroleum over and under the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted 3 miles northwest of Rocky Bay, thence 30 chains north, thence 30 chains east, thence 30 chains south, thence 30 chains west, thence 30 chains north to point of commencement. EDWARD ELLIS. November 4th, 1911. VICTORIA LAND DISTRICT—DISTRICT OF COAST. Take notice that 30 days after date, I, James Dawson, of Vancouver, B. C., intend to apply to the Minister of Lands for a license to prospect for Coal and Petroleum over and under the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted 3 miles northwest of Rocky Bay, thence 30 chains north, thence 30 chains east, thence 30 chains south, thence 30 chains west, thence 30 chains north to point of commencement. JAMES DAWSON. Date, October 31st, 1911. VICTORIA LAND DISTRICT—DISTRICT OF COAST. Take notice that 30 days after date, I, Albert Lee Allen, intend to apply to the Minister of Lands for a license to prospect for Coal and Petroleum over and under the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted 3 miles northwest of Rocky Bay, thence 30 chains north, thence 30 chains east, thence 30 chains south, thence 30 chains west, thence 30 chains north to point of commencement. ALBERT LEE ALLEN. Date, October 31st, 1911. JAMES DAWSON, Agent. ALBERT LEE ALLEN, Agent. November 13th, 1911. HARRY B. HANLEY, Agent. November 13th, 1911. AFFLICTED MACEDONIA. Murder, Pillage and Brigandage Site Throughout District—Christians Prepare to Retaliate. LONDON, Dec. 21.—A dispatch from Salonika, European Turkey, to a London agency, reports a condition of anarchy throughout Macedonia. Murder, pillage and brigandage are rife. Twenty-seven assassinations have taken place within the last month, within two hours' journey of Salonika, all the victims being Greeks. The Christians, finding it impossible to obtain redress, are organizing bands with the object of killing the Turks. SOFIA, Bulgaria, Dec. 21.—In the national assembly here today an Interpellation was submitted regarding the anti-Christian outrages in Macedonia. Premier Guchoff announced that a number of arrests have been made in connection with the recent massacres, and that the persons charged with the crime will be tried by court martial. The outrage referred to by the premier took place on December 9th when a bomb was thrown in a mosque, 12 persons being killed and 20 injured. Case Against Packers. CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—Denying the material allegation made by the government against the ten Chicago packers on trial before United States District Judge Carpenter, for violation of the criminal sections of the Sherman law, Attorney George T. Buckingham outlined today the case of the defendants in an opening statement to the jury. The defense met defeat when Judge Carpenter denied motions to eliminate counts 2 and 3 from the indictment and have the jury disregard statements made by counsel for the government. Attorney Buckingham described in detail the method of buying, selling and accounting used by the packers and declared that the nature of the business made such a system absolutely necessary. Archibald Plack, who represented the Okanagan Fruit Union at Penticton during the past summer, has been appointed an instructor for the packing classes, instituted by the Provincial Department of Agriculture, and which are now attracting active interest in the Okanagan country. Pauline Johnson, the famous Indian poetess and author, is critically ill at Vancouver. The Morton Griffiths Steel Construction Co. has secured the contract for the erection of the new St. Paul's hospital in Vancouver, at a price of \$425,000. Steelhead on the Grand Trunk Pacific railway in British Columbia on Saturday last had reached the higher waters of the Fraser river, at mile 30 on the descent of the western slope of the Rockies where tracklaying operations will be discontinued for the winter months, to be resumed it is expected about June 1st. The construction of a substantial bridge will be necessitated at this point. Penticton is urging the need of a modern high school. COLLEGE SCHOOLS FOR BOYS. The Laurels, Rockland ave., Victoria, B. C., Headmaster, A. Muskett, Esq., assisted by L. A. Miller, Esq., Grand Oxford, Three and a half acre extensive residential estate, previously situated on the corner of Victoria and James streets, Xmas term commences September 12th. Apply Headmaster. IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. In the matter of Lot 1933, Victoria City, and in the matter of the Quitting Titles Act. Take notice that Mary Ann Booth, who claims to be the owner of the above land, in fee simple possession in the above land, has applied to this Court under the above Act to have her title declared a priority title and that the Registrar General of Titles, to whom the petition was referred, has decided to grant said application, and at the expiration of four weeks from the date publication of this notice will sign a declaration of title in favor of said applicant, subject only to a claim of 15% fee by the Registrar of said land, to be paid by the applicant within ten days from the date of said declaration, to be paid to the Registrar of the Supreme Court at Victoria, B. C., on the 27th day of November, A. D. 1911. Dated at Victoria, B. C., the 27th day of November, A. D. 1911. HARRY B. HANLEY, Agent. Solicitors for the Petitioner.

LEGAL OBSTACLE

Alderman H. M. Fullerton Will Urge Council to Press for Necessary Legislative Power to Adopt System

A system of "re-call" whereunder a mayor or alderman or alderwomen whose course in council has not received approval of a certain percentage of the electors, may be forced to stake his municipal career and seek approval of his or her actions by an appeal to the electors is advocated by Alderman H. M. Fullerton. At tonight's meeting of the city council Alderman Fullerton will introduce a resolution that the provincial government be memorialized at the forthcoming session of the legislature to so amend the Municipal Clauses Act as to permit the city requesting such removal on grounds stated therein, such petition to set forth the number on the voters' list of such petitioner and his residence to be verified on oath as to facts and signatures and to be filed with the city clerk. The petition should be filed within seven days of the filing of such petition the clerk shall certify the number of votes cast at the last general municipal election for all candidates for mayor, the number of electors on the voters' list and the number of electors who signed such petition, and shall present such petition and certificate to the council. If such petition be signed by qualified electors in number equal to twenty-five per cent. of the total number of votes cast at the last preceding general municipal election, the mayor or alderman sought to be removed shall be a candidate without nomination unless he file notice to the contrary with the clerk ten days before the date fixed for the election. The procedure for nominations and elections shall be the same as in general municipal elections, and the term of office of the candidate elected shall be for the unexpired term. If one or more aldermen or the mayor and one or more aldermen may be joined in one petition for removal. Whatever other merits the re-call system may have it will have the effect of forcing a clear cut issue on one point, and should objection be taken by the electors, the mayor or alderman would not be the possibility, as at present, of going before the electors with a host of various policies and schemes tending to hide the point at issue and so confuse the electors. Mr. Reick is well known in newspaper circles.

MOTHER SEEKING EDWARD OSBORNE

Young Man from Drogheda, Ireland, Disappeared in 1909 and Was Last Seen in Vancouver

Inquiries are being made in this city for information regarding Edward Osborne, of Smithtown, Drogheda, Ireland, who has been last sight of by his parents for the last two years, but is believed to be somewhere in the Northwest. The young man is 25 years of age, and is described as tall and fair, with blue eyes, and has been five years ago, and was at first with some people named Finlay at Shoal Lake, Manitoba. From there he gradually moved across the continent with a view to taking up land for himself. He wrote home at regular intervals, and was last heard from in July, 1909. In that year he was in the employment of the Fort Kells Shingle Co., whose manager wrote that he left them in September of that year to go into the mountains. A member of this firm saw him afterwards in Vancouver. Since then nothing has been heard of him, though inquiries have been made and advertisements inserted in various papers. His mother, Mrs. E. Osborne, of Smithtown, Drogheda, Ireland, will be extremely grateful for any information concerning him.

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Field Sports at Home and Abroad

LAVERACK'S HOME

A Ramble in North Shropshire

About a mile and a half from Whitchurch, on the road leading to Ash Magna and Lightfield, there is, on the right hand side, a house of interest to old-time lovers of the English setter, and no doubt of equal interest to the young generation of sportsmen who, after a day's shooting, admit that without the dogs the pleasures of the day could not have been so great, for this house was the home of a breeder who followed strictly his own ideas, who seemed to ignore and disbelieve all methods of breeding, scientific or otherwise, excepting his own, and who, after many years of patience and great love of gundogs, founded a strain which in make and shape, style and character, staunchness, nose, and color, not only satisfied his own ambition and represented the ideal he had for many years held in his mind, but created a lasting name in both England and America. The house referred to was the home of Laverack. "The Grange," Lord Gerald Grosvenor's hunting box, is on the left, and a little further is the village. Adjoining the old smithy is Dan Cliff's cottage. Years ago, when not too busy at the anvil, it was Dan's custom to assist Laverack with the dogs. He was a great believer in the value of tan-pits as a cure for all skin diseases, and used to take the setters into Whitchurch for the purpose of giving them a dip. The virtues of tan-pits are known to others besides Dan, for I remember "old friend" Fred Gresham when he lived at "Shefford" in Bedfordshire, considered he owed much to "the pits," his famous kennel of St. Bernards being close to them, at the time when "Monk, Shah Hector, and many other specimens of the breed, were making the Shefford kennels famous. Inside Dan's cottage there are several things kept in memory of Laverack. A chain is one; at the end of it there used to be a dog whistle. "My sister has the whistle," said Dan; "a gold one, sir, one that Mr. Laverack won with the dogs." But there is something else, something I remember seeing years ago, and what the setters no doubt had heard the crack of many a time. On my mentioning it, Dan immediately found it, and with stick in his right hand—emblem of rheumatism, and old age, and you cannot get rid of one more than you can of the other—he held in his left Laverack's gun, "Pin-fire, sir," and the only one he ever used while I knew him.

As we were leaving Dan he had on the "tip of his tongue" a name he could not recall. "My mother," he said—and his mother is still alive—"would know who it is. I'm thinking of, for the gentleman was a great friend of Mr. Laverack, and fond of the same kind of dogs." It required no thought to tell the name our quaint, old friend was puzzled over, but, to squeeze it out of him, we asked if it began with the same letter as Mr. Laverack's—that is L. "Oh, yes," replied Dan, "I can get as far as that, but—". And there he stuck. Old-time breeders of setters, and the present for that matter, would finish the name as readily as we did. What pleased so much was that we should leave Dan with his stick and Laverack's gun just as he was making strenuous efforts to utter the name of a sportsman as much associated as his confidant Laverack with all and everything appertaining to gundogs—Mr. Purcell Llewellyn.

A little further up the lane stands Ash Church. In the churchyard is a tall tombstone, a convincing testimony of the esteem in which Laverack was held by his fellow sportsmen, and their feeling of admiration of him as a breeder. On one side is the inscription: "To the memory of Edward Laverack born Keswick 1800 died at Broughall Cottage 1877 this monument is erected by admirers in England and America," and on the other: "His great love for the lower animals made him many friends. He was especially fond of dogs and by careful selection remodelled the English setter the best of which are known by his name. 'He prayeth well who loveth well both man and bird and beast.'"

Among the names of Shropshire sportsmen who have devoted much time and thought to the pointer and setter, none are more familiar, or stand higher in estimation, than Mr. Purcell Llewellyn and Colonel Cotes. For a length of time their respective kennels have been famous for gundogs, and there is "nought amiss" with a dog bearing the well-known affix Llewellyn or the prefix Pitchford. Each stands as guarantee of careful breeding, and of style and character and ability to work. From Laverack's day to the present time is not long in the history of the setter, yet long enough to permit the question as to whether a setter, say, from the Ightfield or Lyth Hill kennels is a dog of different variety. Evidently, in the opinion of some, it is, for quite recently a sportsman who had rented a moor in Scotland was seeking information as to where he could obtain a Laverack. To suggest an English setter was futile, he must have a Laverack, believing one to be something quite apart from the other. Laverack established a kennel of setters bred according to his ideas of what an English setter should be, and stamped it, so to speak, with his own name. A breeder may set his mind on eradicating what he considers a fault, he may increase length of neck, convert coarseness into quality, he may have a predilection for straight legs and good feet, and give all his attention to them, or he may have a strong dislike to any color except one, and not

be contented till he has every dog in his kennel marked alike; but however successful he is in getting what he wants he has not created a distinct breed of setter. He has improved a point or given a character which, running through the whole of his kennel, is, as it were, fixed, and becomes a family or kennel trait. Neglect of certain points causes deterioration, but excessive exaggeration causes more. Fortunately all our chief breeders of gundogs are not given to the committal of either fault, for the reason that, however inclined they may be to overlook one point and tempted to attach overmuch importance to another, there is in the pointer or setter, retriever or spaniel, one property so essential that without it bodily structure, style and character become of little or no account, and that property is, of course, a good nose.

The scenting power, the sense of smell, no breeder can create. He can build and model bone and flesh to his liking, but while he is doing it, what good result accrues if by lack of keenness of smell the dog is of no practical service? Scenting power is a subject second to no other to the breeder of gundogs, foxhounds, harriers, beagles, and bloodhounds, yet it is a subject of infinite complexity to all excepting those who are painfully apt to settle any question regarding it by the terms "good nose," "bad nose," "no nose." When you meet such a man there is no better way of bringing him to reason than to ask him to test his own nose. Granted that there is an amazing difference between the scenting power of our canine friends and our own, there is nevertheless a possibility of those who are so certain in their opinions modifying them when their own sense is tested. Pick up a fragrant flower, or rather pick up two, both of the same kind. Smell the first for ten or twenty seconds, then put it down and immediately pick up the other. Will you get the same fragrant odor from the second as you got from the first? You will not. Try again and reverse the order, that is, smell the second flower first, and the first second. The result will be the same. Why is it so? Maybe you have so saturated your sense of smell that it has become incapable of sustaining the same odor any longer. But rest the sense for awhile, and it will revive and again drink up that which it had just before been unable to. This fact, and it is a fact, leads one to think that there may be in our dogs a similar failing; an inability to keep on smelling the same scent beyond a certain time, or, to put it another way, may there not be a weariness of the sense of smell in pointers and setters at times? If that surmise be correct, we must be more chary in damning their noses. The point is whether or no the scenting diminishes in strength after being much used on the same scent with no interval between the exercising of the power. Conversing on these matters on our return by the Shrewsbury road from Hawkstone, we arrive at the Raven Inn, which is two miles out of Whitchurch and faces the open heath, green with fern and purple with heather. About three hundred yards up the track facing the inn is what my friend is anxious to see, viz., the cock-pit. Turn a soup plate upside down and you have a correct formation of it. The middle is about 18 in. in diameter, separated from the outside circle by a ditch about 16 ft. deep and 20 in. broad, used by the "handlers" or "setters." How long since the last main was fought in it no one knows, but we could not resist remarking that it only required the removal of a little fern here and there and a few sprigs of heather to be at once ready for another. Those who enjoy seeing a link with the games and sports of our forefathers have, I have no doubt, to thank Mr. J. S. Walley that this relic of an ancient sport remains. No one knows the Heath better than he (for on it there are the training stables and the jumping course. At the time when Gallo-way and pony racing was at its best Mr. Walley was the happy possessor of that wonderful pony Underhill, and no doubt it was his success in this branch of sport that put him on the way to the higher and more pretentious form, and eventually caused the erection of the training stables on the Heath, and a patronage of a kind which immediately caused the forty boxes to be occupied. Owing to Mr. Walley's ill-health the chasers are sadly missed, whilst the stables are awaiting a new tenant. To pass by a steeple-chase course unused, and a big range of stabling standing empty in such an exceptionally sporting centre is not pleasant. Perhaps the Heath will reclaim what it has lost, and some lover of chasing refill the stables. Across the Brown Moss and over the style near Broughall Cottage, and we were back to where we started.—J. A. Tatham in Field.

"DUCK HUNTING" WAY BACK

We are not the only people who drop their guns; anyway, the "hunters from Belville" did in the old days when they were the sporting subaltern's rivals and mentors in that best of soldiers' quarters—Kingston, Ontario. This was when we talked of Quebec, Montreal, Kingston and London, Canada West, as the real Canada, looking down on our less fortunate (so we thought) comrades who were quartered in Nova Scotia. What a subaltern's heaven it was! Unbounded hospitality was dealt out to us, while fishing and shooting for those who cared to work hard for it was to be had for nothing. The winter brought us skating, and that best and most exciting of all outdoor sports (flying had not then emerged

from the Jules Verne stage), ice boating. But it is of the late autumn that I propose to write. Then it is that the flock-duck come in to their favorite sheets of water; then it is that the wooden decoys, painted with loving care and artistic accuracy during the summer, are launched; then it is that with an eye on the falling barometer we load up our canoes with those same ducks, reeds wherewith to construct a blindage, guns, cartridges, and a goodly store of tinned food.

I am writing for convenience in the present tense, but, alas! all this was in the far off past. Hay Bay, now I believe preserved by an American club, was easily reached by paddling across Lake Ontario, past Long Island, and up a length of canal, and it was there that on one side we found a friendly sheltering farmhouse, the "hunters from Belville" being camped on the opposite shore. Between them and ourselves lay a line of ducks of over a mile in length, and apparently about six deep. No one has dared to compute the numbers of this vast assembly, but when the wind came and scattered them, the sky seemed to darken and the air quivered with the pulsations of a myriad wings. The hunters from Belville shot, I believe, for the market, and shot very well, but they were men of strong opinions, and I am convinced that, had any one fired a gun and disturbed that mighty concourse before the wind arose and scattered it, there would have been an immediate and thorough piece of lynching.

Behold us arrived at our destination. The owner of the farm is delighted to see us, for we bring him news from the "madding crowd," and he cheers us up when, in a talk about the weather, he taps a prehistoric wheel barometer and thinks "there'll be wind before nightfall." After a drink of his very best old rye whisky, we run down to our canoes hauled up in the creek, and with the help of a ball of string, we fasten our store of reeds into a curtain which can be attached "all standing" to the canoes, thus making a perfect screen for the gunner which is quite indistinguishable from the rest of the lake border. A pleasant evening with the farmer and his family and a sound sleep on the floor, softened by ample folds of a buffalo robe, brings a tempestuous morning, and we are away after an early and very large breakfast to set out our decoy ducks, gladdened by the sight of the general break-up of the long line, and by the whiz of countless wings as the birds rise after the first shot fired by the hunters from Belville. Then, sitting comfortably behind our blinds, we watch the ducks circling, and soon a couple of "buffle-heads," the merriest and boldest of the flock ducks, swoop down to our decoys and swim among them, plainly astonished to find no response from their inanimate, glass-eyed presentments, bobbing stupidly up and down on the waves. Shooting them on the water is ill-advised; first, because these stout little birds are so well clothed that they take a lot of killing with their wings closed; second, for the good reason that filling our wooden ducks with shot does not add to their floating capabilities. We wait, therefore, till they have taken alarm from the silence of their supposed friends, and fire as they rise, leaving them if they fall dead to drift ashore in our little bay, for our decoys have been set out up wind. Then the fun which, if the wind holds, is to be continued all day, begins. Blue-bills, red-heads (Pochards), and buffle-heads drop down towards the decoys, and we get grand driving shots as they fly past or head straight towards us. Towards sunset all the canoes fold up their blinds and come out for the pick up. A few cripples are finished off, and looking down into the clear, shallow water, which covers the wild rice growing at the bottom, we find not a few that, when wounded, have dived down, caught a stem of rice in their bills, and have so died, the serrations in their mandibles holding them there until a strike from the canoe paddle releases them. The pick up, and a supper in which some of the hard shot ones are a much appreciated feature, brings the day to a close. Then pipe, talk, and bed.

But, the reader will say, "this is not 'way back'." No, it is not, but it is an excellent preparation for it, for it teaches us how to set out our decoys, to make blindages, and to take advantage generally of surroundings, which knowledge will come in useful for a more extended expedition to some lakes "back of" the township of Peterborough. For all I know this may now be a well drained and settled district. When a brother subaltern and I went there forty-three years ago it was in its pristine and very attractive wildness. It was reached by way of the Rideau Canal, a tug boat taking our two selves, our canoes, and our decoy ducks a very long way for a very small sum. We came to forest primeval on either side, a few clearings, and mostly swamp, which forest fires had covered with tangles of tree trunks, crossed and re-crossed like giants' spillikins. No farmhouse this time, but a "tente d'abris," tinned food of sorts, some flour, and a "batterie de cuisine" of a very rudimentary and limited order. To our great annoyance we found that the tug had to bring down the last fleet of barges the following night, so we had only one clear day on the lake. This was because a cold snap was expected and they were afraid of being caught in the ice. We disembarked at the lock nearest our proposed camp, paddling up a creek to reach the lake, and got to our ground before sunrise. Next day we started off before sunrise

and in the dim light of dawn we set out our decoys and blinded one canoe. Then we tossed up to settle who was to take first turn at sitting over the decoys while the other paddled round the lake to put up ducks. As usual, I lost, and started away as the first almost horizontal rays of the sun swept down the inky, calm lake. There was what is called in Canada a "vert glace" (my spelling of this is phonetic and probably wrong, but it must go at that); rain had fallen in the night and had frozen as it fell, and every twig was coated with a thin layer of perfectly transparent ice, the weight of which bent the lower branches till their extremities touched the black water. Never was such a fairy scene! Prismatic, iridescent colors flashed from each jeweled twig as the sun's rays, piercing them at an ever changing angle, found fresh tubes to illumine. The reeds, too, contributed to the splendor, and the dark pine woods behind them served to lend brilliance to the display. Not a breath of wind was stirring, and when there was a sufficiency of sun power, the smooth surface of the lake duplicated the scintillating fires of its shores. I have seen many a "vert glace" since that, but never did I see one so exquisitely composed and framed. It was as though some deft-handed angel had plucked a rainbow from the sky and flung it, a filmy fold of lace work, over the marsh, and each point of sedge had caught its atom of the glistening fabric and held it aloft.

In the half light I pushed out and paddled slowly around the shore. When about halfway round I saw another canoe steal out, and with only a round black head visible, make for the opposite bay. It was evident that the short paddle was being used (this is a toy about 2 ft. long, and used generally for the last fifty yards of a stalk; it is tied to the canoe by a short string, and can be dropped silently into the water, thus avoiding the noise of shipping it), and that the stealthy approach was being made with some important object in view. Then the fact dawned on me that the canoe was heading for our precious decoy ducks! Though nearly half a mile from me, I saw the black head rise, and the body of an Indian boy follow, it raising with it a gun of preposterous length. Almost instantaneously, boy, gun, and all, fell back in the canoe, and borne on the wind came shouts from my friend, who, by waving his arms and using language of inordinate strength and breadth, had saved himself from a devastating shower of "grape and canister" for the Indian brave is not particular about what he puts into his gun. Encouragement from both front and rear, for I had then paddled up, brought the young Objibway up to look at the great medicine of the wooden ducks, and with one long "wagh" of admiration he started with but little instruction from to work the shores and creeks, while we both sat in the blindage. A little wind came up and we had a most successful day; the thermometer fell to a degree or two below zero, and with the help of a friendly farmer and a cart we brought canoes and ducks, fleshy and wooden, back to the lock. The tug hailed the lock about 2 a.m. It was a very dark night, and we heard the ice creak and rattle as the upper gate closed behind her. Getting on board was no easy matter. A warp stretched from a bollard on shore to the bits in the bows of the tug bridged the two feet, or thereabouts, between her side and that of the lock, but the moment in which I chose to step on it was unfortunate, in that a man on shore chose the same in which to cast off and ease the strain on the warp, which was tautening as the water lowered in the lock. I fell forward, breaking my gun across the grip against the side of the tug, and dropped into the water between her and the lock. Almost as I fell a huge hand grasped the collar of my coat, another when I rose gripped the waistband of my breeches, and I was landed on deck by a gigantic lumberer as the tug swung over and ground with a sort of squeal against the lock wall. Grateful for being saved from being burst like a bubble, I proffered what small sum a subaltern would have with him, but my hand was pushed away. "Take away your (adjective) money! Don't you think you'd have done the same for me if you'd bin strong enough?" We made friends with the five or six men, nearly all giants like the big chap who had saved my life, and told them of our sport over "them cute little ducks." Honest they certainly were so far as this world's ordinary goods were concerned, but at the end of our voyage we were two of "them cute little ducks" short. Ah, well! After all, one's life is not dear at the price of two wooden ducks, is it?—D. O'C., in Field.

THE PHEASANT IN HISTORY

The etymological claim, by tradition, of the pheasant for an oriunde in the Colchian port of Phasis may be reasonably admitted, without accrediting that district as the birthplace of this far eastern jungle fowl. There are too many other instances of a depot for delivery to customers affixing its name to the experts therefrom. Oporto and Xeres respectively christened the wines that were floated down river for shipment at these ports. Stilton, as a coaching halt for change of horses, became a depot for cheese distribution and hence conveyed its name to the table supply thereof. There is further evidence from the Clouds of Aristophanes that this traditional land of the Golden Fleece endowed other animals beside pheasants with its port title. The pheasant seems to have found its way to



Sportsman's Calendar

DECEMBER

December 15—Last day for deer-shooting.
December 31—Last day for pheasants, grouse, and quail.
After November it is illegal to sell ducks, geese, snipe.

British woodlands and British tables centuries before the science of shooting flying with firearms had gained recognition among sportsmen of these isles. We do not hear much of it in hawking records, probably because its taste for woodland shelter, except when feeding rendered it practically immune from attack in this line. Its capture was one which devolved upon the fowler rather than on the falconer, although the latter would avail himself of the use of spaniels to drive a pheasant from the wood and kill it with a goshawk, as shown in a fine engraving by Hollar after Francis Barlow, and as recorded also in the Household Books of the L'Es-tranges of Hunstanton about the same period. The bird figured on banqueting bills of fare in early Plantagenet times. Whether Roman conquest of Britain assisted its introduction to our islands is not clear; Roman epicures knew of it as "phasianus," and there is consensus that the "taturas" of Pamphilus is identical with *Avis phasianus*. Hippocrates refers to it in the study of diet, and of food for invalids, and seems to esteem it highly for nutriment and flavor. The tradition of Colchian origin or source of introduction of the bird seems to hold its own in all old records.

BACK TO BOYHOOD

I loll at the sycamore's knotted feet,
And troll my line in the deep, dark pool;
Oh the welcome the fresh leaves whisper, is sweet,
The caress of the woodland wind, how cool!

How lightly the lipping waters curl
O'er solemn and bearded rocks, and tinkle,
Low bells in their play, and bubble and swirl
A rainbow of ripples! How pebbles twinkle!

Where kissed by the frolicsome, careless wind,
The waves in lingering laughter wrinkle!
A flurry of minnows, silver-finned,
A sudden dash—a showery sprinkle!

Of glittering jewels! Then strikes the bass!
I lead him slowly o'er shallows of gold,
Nerves tingling, and tense. How he leaps!
Will he pass
That gnarled, old root? Will the thin gut hold?

Ah, netted at last! Such a moment redeems
Dull days held captive in duty's chain!
The world is good; and once more it seems
There is joy in life to pay for the pain!

My heart sings here with the merry birds,
With myriad voices of summer in tune,
And rhythm that never had raiment of words,
All swelling delights of the blooming June,

Flow free and full with my leaping blood!
A boy released from tasks and at play,
Rejoicing as when my life was in bud,
I fish in the meadow brook today.
—By Stokely S. Fisher, DD., Sc. D. in Rod and Gun.

Near Creston recently a pedestrian met four cougars on the trail. A local paper suggests that the Provincial Government increase the bounty on these animals so that it would be an incentive to hunters to get after these pests, who are fast depleting the deer and other game in the vicinity.

In Labrador it has been demonstrated that one deer can readily do the work five of the local dogs do with constant urging. On one day, for example, the deer drew three logs each, while the teams of from seven to nine dogs were hauling not more than two, and these no larger.

"Well, old man, how did you get along after I left you at midnight. Get home all right?"
"No; a confounded posy policeman haled me to the station, where I spent the rest of the night."
"Lucky dog! I reached home."—Boston Transcript.

Every tailor knows a lot of promising young men.—New York Tribune.

