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SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA.
Matter of Margaret Isabella Gill,
deceased, intestate, and in the Matter
of the Official Administrator's Act.

SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA.
Matter of E. Harry Gray, Deceased,
intestate, and in the Matter of the
Official Administrator's Act.

SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA.
Matter of E. Harry Gray, Deceased,
intestate, and in the Matter of the
Official Administrator's Act.

NOTICE
is hereby given that thirty days
after the date of the following
application to the Chief Commissioner
of Lands and Works for permission
to purchase the following lands
situated on the east bank of the
river at Silver Star, thence
east 80 chains, thence south 80
chains, thence west 160 chains,
thence north 160 chains, thence
east 80 chains, thence south 80
chains, thence west 160 chains,
thence north 160 chains, thence
east 80 chains, post of corner
H. O. STEVENS.

NOTICE
notice that 90 days after date I
apply to the Chief Commissioner
of Lands and Works for permission
to purchase the following lands
situated on the east bank of the
river at Silver Star, thence
east 80 chains, thence south 80
chains, thence west 160 chains,
thence north 160 chains, thence
east 80 chains, thence south 80
chains, thence west 160 chains,
thence north 160 chains, thence
east 80 chains, post of corner
H. O. STEVENS.

\$1.50 PER YEAR, STRAIGHT IN ADVANCE TO ANY ADDRESS IN
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The Victoria Times

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VOL. 34.
Port Arthur, Feb. 9.—Japanese torpedoes attacked the Russian fleet during the night and three of the Russian ships were badly damaged. The Japanese, who thus scored the first success of the war, escaped undamaged. In consequence of the attack by the Japanese torpedo boats, martial law has been proclaimed here.

RUSSIAN REPORTS.
Dispatch Confirms Statement That Three of the Russian Warships Were Damaged.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 9.—An official dispatch here says that Japanese boats have attacked the Russian squadron in the outer roads at Port Arthur and that three Russian ships were damaged.

ALEXIEFF'S DISPATCH.
The Japanese Made Attack by Means of Mines Upon the Russian Squadron.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 9.—Admiral Alexieff's official report of the attack by the Japanese is as follows: "I most respectfully inform your Majesty that at or about midnight of February 8, Japanese torpedo boats made a sudden attack by means of mines upon the Russian squadron in the outer roads of the fortress of Port Arthur, in which the battleships Retvizan and Carevitch and the cruiser Pallada were damaged."

An inspection is being made to ascertain the character of the damage. Details are following for your Majesty."

ONE CRUISER SUNK
According to News Which Has Reached the French Foreign Office.

Paris, Feb. 9, 4:50 p.m.—It was announced at the French foreign office this afternoon that the Russian cruiser Pallada was sunk in the torpedo attack made by the Japanese on the Russian fleet off Port Arthur.

The injuries inflicted by the Retvizan and Carevitch are not known. It was reported on the same authority that the cable from Vladivostok had been cut.

THE ATTACK.
Four Torpedo Boats Were Responsible for the Damage Inflicted on Russian Ships.

Paris, Feb. 9.—The news of the first Japanese victory with torpedo boats on the Russian fleet in Port Arthur was received by officials of the foreign office here this afternoon. It was stated that two Russian battleships and one cruiser were damaged, and also showing that four torpedo boats made the attack.

An official of the foreign office said: "It is profoundly to be regretted that such a decisive step has been taken, as it terminates any efforts the powers might have made to avoid actual warfare."

Information has been received here showing that the British government will issue a declaration of neutrality within a few days, perhaps immediately, and that France will take the same course within a day or two.

OFF PORT ARTHUR.
A Large Fleet of Japanese Warships Is Now Lying Before the Town.

Berlin, Feb. 9.—A special telegram from St. Petersburg says three Russian ships at Port Arthur were severely damaged last night by torpedoes discharged from Japanese torpedo boats while the latter were passing the harbor.

Subsequently a large fleet of Japanese battleships and cruisers appeared before the port.

"TOO LATE."
Baron Hayashi Says Russia Is Endeavoring to Have Powers Intervene—Would Concede Everything.

London, Feb. 9.—The Japanese minister, Baron Hayashi, said this afternoon: "Russia is making desperate attempts through the various embassies to have the powers intervene. Russia now is willing to concede everything, but the offer comes too late."

Baron Hayashi added: "I learn on good authority that the reply Russia intended to send merely reiterated all the vital points to which Japan had consistently objected."

NAVAL OPINION.
Russia's Loss in First Attack Regarded as a Staggering One.

London, Feb. 9.—The naval men in London regarded the results of Japan's first attack with torpedo boats on the Russian fleet off Port Arthur as being a staggering one. They pointed out that Alexieff's reference to "minors" obviously meant "torpedoes" and said that if the Russian vessels had been struck by Whitehead torpedoes they probably have been sunk or are resting on the mud in Port Arthur, and are hopelessly out of action for a considerable time.

PLACED AT DISADVANTAGE.
Japanese Appear to Have Handled Their Ships Better Than the Russians.

Berlin, Feb. 9.—The comment at the marine department on the success of Japan's first blow at Port Arthur was that even the temporary disablement of three warships placed Russians at a great disadvantage in the future operations. It was added that the torpedoing of the Russian vessels, lying under the guns of the fortress, must have been carried out daringly and skilfully, as Alexieff's report did not mention any Japanese losses in his first dispatch. The

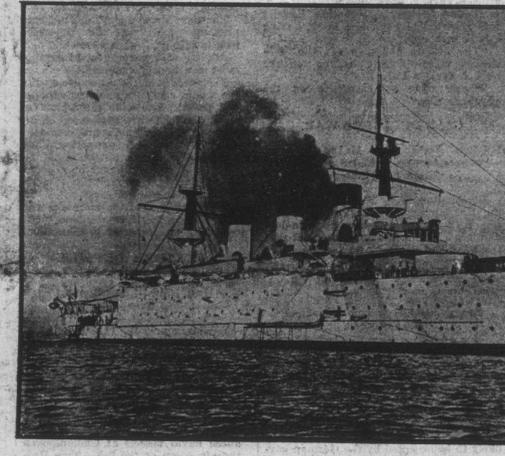
JAPAN HAS DISABLED ELEVEN BATTLESHIPS

Marvellous Record to Credit of Mikado's Fleet in the First Twenty-Four Hours of the Fighting.

common talk of the naval officers was that the Japanese have shown that they can handle their ships better than the Russians.

AN UNFOUNDED STORY.
Report Was Published in St. Petersburg of the Loss of Eleven Japanese Ships.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 9.—The announcement of the sinking of eleven Japanese ships and the fact that Port Arthur was in flames, was given out in St. Petersburg this afternoon as official, but investigation showed the report to be untrue. The only confirmed official communication is that from Admiral Alexieff, is



RUSSIAN BATTLESHIP POBIEDA.
The Pobieda is one of the vessels now blockaded by the Japanese at Port Arthur. She is a ship of 12,674 tons, 11,000 horse power, and 45 smaller guns. She has a speed of 18 knots. Her crew numbers 732 men.

ened either, announcing that Japanese torpedo boats had made a sudden attack on the Russian squadron in the outer roads of the fortress of Port Arthur, in which the battleships Retvizan and Carevitch and cruiser Pallada had been damaged.

JAPAN'S PURCHASES.
Has Bought Battleship, Cruiser and Gunboat From Chile, Which Sift For Far East Immediately.

London, Feb. 9.—According to a special dispatch from Rome, the Chilean legation there announces that Japan has purchased the Chilean battleship Capitán Prat, the cruiser Chacabuco, and the gunboat Almirante Condell. The vessels, fully equipped, will sail immediately for Nagasaki.

Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister, informed the Associated Press to-day that he had received this morning a dispatch announcing the departure of the Japanese fleet for the Yellow Sea. While he had no news of the engagement off Port Arthur, the minister was aware that Japan intended throughout this war to employ torpedo boats to the fullest possible extent. He had not heard of the landing of Japanese troops in Korea, and scouted the idea of mediation, saying that all chance of mediation had ceased with the breaking off of negotiations.

THE NEGOTIATIONS.
Statement Issued by Mikado's Government Setting Forth Japan's Claims and Russia's Attitude.

Tokio, Feb. 9.—The following is the text of the statement issued by the Japanese setting forth: "It being indispensable to the welfare and safety of the Japanese to maintain the independence and territorial integrity of Korea and to safeguard paramount interests therein, the Japanese government finds it impossible to view with indifference any action endangering the position of Korea; whereas Russia, notwithstanding her solemn treaty with China and her repeated assurances to the powers, not only continues her occupation of Manchuria, but has taken aggressive measures in Korean territory. Should Manchuria be annexed to Russia, the independence of Korea would naturally be impossible. The Japanese government, therefore, being desirous of securing permanent peace for Asia by means of direct negotiation with Russia, with the view of arriving at a friendly adjustment of their mutual interests in both Manchuria and Korea, where their interests meet, communicated toward

Accordingly the Japanese government explained the foregoing views to the Russian government, and at the same time it introduced other necessary amendments in the Russian counter-proposals. They further proposed, with regard to the neutral zone, that if one was to be created, it should be established on both sides of the boundary line between Manchuria and Korea, with an equal width, say of fifty kilometers.

After repeated discussions at Tokio the Japanese government finally presented to the Russian government its definite amendment on 30th of October. The Japanese government frequently gave its reply, but this was again delayed and only delivered on the 11th of December. In that reply Russia suppressed the clauses relating to Manchuria, so as to make the proposed convention apply entirely to Korea and maintained its original demand in regard to the non-employment of Korea territory for strategic purposes, as well as a neutral zone. But the exclusion of Manchuria from the proposed convention being contrary to the original object of the negotiations, which were to remove the cause of conflict between the two countries by a friendly arrangement of their interests both in Manchuria and Korea, the Japanese government reconsidered the question and again proposed the removal of the

the end of July such desire to the Russian government and invited its adherence. To this the Russian government expressed a willing assent. Accordingly on the 12th of August, the Japanese government proposed to Russia through its representative at St. Petersburg the basis of an agreement which was substantially as follows:

1. A mutual engagement to respect the independence and territorial integrity of the Chinese and Korean empires.
2. A mutual engagement to maintain the principle of an equal opportunity for the commercial industry of all nations with the natives of those countries.
3. A reciprocal recognition of Japan's preponderant interests in Korea, and that Russia has special interests in rail-

Tokio Special Reports Important Capture by the Japs of Transports and Troops Off Korean Coast.

Russia would be of impracticable value so long as it was accompanied by a definite stipulation regarding the territorial intention in China and Manchuria, since treaty rights are only coexisting with sovereignty. Eventually absorption of Manchuria by Russia would annul once those rights and privileges acquired by the powers in Manchuria by virtue of treaties with China.

THE OTHER SIDE.
Russia Accuses of Increasing Her Demands and Making Preparations For War.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 9.—A lengthy official communication issued to-day gives the Russian account of the negotiations which led to the rupture. Last year, says the foreign office note, the Tokio cabinet, under the pretext of a friendly character, Japanese social circles and the local and foreign press attempted in every way to produce a warlike ferment among the Japanese and to drive the government into armed conflict with Russia. Under the influence thereof, the Tokio cabinet began to formulate greater demands in the negotiations, at the same time taking most extensive measures to make the country ready for war. All these circumstances could not, of course, disturb Russia's equality, but they induced her also to take military and naval measures, nevertheless, to preserve peace in the Far East.

Russia, so far as her incontestable rights and interests permitted, gave the necessary attention to the demands of the Tokio cabinet, and declared herself ready to recognize Japan's privileged commercial and economical position in the Korean peninsula, with the concession of the right to protect by military force in the event of disturbances in that country. At the same time, while rigorously observing the fundamental principles of her policy regarding Korea, whose independence and integrity were guaranteed by previous understandings with Japan and by treaties with other powers, Russia insisted on three points:

1. A mutual and unconditional guarantee of this principle.
2. On an undertaking to use no part of Korea for strategic purposes as the authorization of such action on the part of any foreign power was directly opposed to the principle of the independence of Korea.
3. In the preservation of the full free-

dom of navigation of the Straits of Korea. The project elaborated in this sense did not satisfy the Japanese government which, in its last proposals, not only declined to accept the conditions which appeared as the guarantee of the independence of Korea, but also began at the same time to insist on provisions to be incorporated in a project regarding the question of Manchuria.

Such demands on the part of the Japanese naturally were inadmissible, the question of Russia's position in Manchuria, concerning in the first place China, but also all the powers, having commercial interests in China. The Imperial government, therefore, saw absolutely no reason to include in a special

DEPARTURE OF JAPANESE.
Declined to Remain at Port Arthur Notwithstanding the Promises of Protection.

Chefoo, Feb. 9.—The Japanese residents are leaving Port Arthur. On Monday a steamer took one hundred and proceeded to Dalny, thence to Japan. Others are going to China. Admiral Alexieff tried to reassure them and promise the right to protect by military force in the event of disturbances in that country. At the same time, while rigorously observing the fundamental principles of her policy regarding Korea, whose independence and integrity were guaranteed by previous understandings with Japan and by treaties with other powers, Russia insisted on three points:

1. A mutual and unconditional guarantee of this principle.

2. On an undertaking to use no part of Korea for strategic purposes as the authorization of such action on the part of any foreign power was directly opposed to the principle of the independence of Korea.

3. In the preservation of the full freedom of navigation of the Straits of Korea.

THE CAR AND COURT OFFICIALS WILL ATTEND SOLEMN SERVICE.
St. Petersburg, Feb. 9.—The Imperial ball, which was to have been held this evening, has been cancelled. At 2 o'clock this afternoon the Imperial court and all

functionaries will attend a solemn Te Deum to pray for victory for Russian arms.

"I thank you sincerely and cordially for your loyal sentiments, with which I am convinced all true Russians are now imbued," is a message which the czar telegraphed to the provincial council of the government of Yaroslavl (capital of the government of the same name, 473 miles from Moscow) in response to a resolution expressing enthusiasm at the rupture of relations with Japan.

The express train service between Irkutsk, Siberia and Manchuria has been suspended.

The czar attended the opera yesterday evening, and received an enthusiastic ovation. The orchestra was obliged to



ON THE YALU RIVER.
Russian Troops and Chinese Workmen in the Concession Lensed From the Korean Government.

whilst Russia within limits of that province would not impede Japan or any other power in the enjoyment of rights and privileges acquired by them under the existing treaties with China, exclusive of the establishment of a settlement."

But this was proposed to be agreed upon only upon conditions maintaining the clauses regarding a neutral zone in Korean territory and the non-employment of Korean territory for strategic purposes. The conditions were impossible to be Japan's acceptance, as had been already fully explained to them.

It should be further observed that no mention was made at all of the territorial integrity of China in Manchuria and it must be self-evident to everybody that the engagement now proposed by

repeat the National Anthem thrice before the audience was satisfied.

THE PORT OF NEWCHWANG.
Powers Advised to Demand Its Surrender by Russia.

London, Feb. 9.—A dispatch from Newchwang says: "Owing to the enormous trade interests involved, the powers should demand that Russia surrender the port of Newchwang and agree to the neutralization thereof."

JAPS GREATLY EXCITED.
Local Subjects of Mikado Much Delighted With Events So Far.

Local Japanese residents are keyed up to a pitch of excitement scarcely less than that which is galvanizing their local countrymen across the Pacific. When they heard this morning that hostilities had actually commenced there was a constant procession of little brown men to the Times office, where the startling news was bulletined. It was interesting to watch the expressions that flitted across their countenances as they read.

Their faces beamed when they saw the bulletin announcing the disablement of three Russian ships off Port Arthur, but fell alarmingly when they read that "eleven Japanese ships and one Russian ship were destroyed." Quite naturally they unobtrusively branded this report as untrue, manufactured out of the whole cloth for Slav consumption. They were not disposed to believe that their vanquished navy had been placed hors de combat so early in the game.

Any apprehension that may have existed, however, was set at rest when they saw the bulletin containing the effect of Alexieff's dispatch to his Imperial master, and they went off with their heads in the air and an "I told you so" expression on their faces. Far from regretting that diplomatic relations between the two powers have been severed, the local subjects of the Mikado have viewed the trend of the affair with unfeigned delight. They have been anxious to see their country get a whack at Holy Russia.

In conversation with a Times reporter this afternoon a prominent Victoria Japanese merchant said that every Japanese was confident of the ability of the island kingdom to hold its own. They knew perfectly well that they were going up against a power that was familiar with the fighting qualities of the Cossacks, having been comrades-in-arms with them in the Boxer troubles in China. Having seen them fight, the Japanese are of the opinion that the czar's soldiers were very much over-estimated. This same merchant said that all expected that the first objective of the Japanese attack would be Port Arthur, but no one expected that it would come so soon. Now that the trouble had started, however, they wanted to see it fought to a finish. Korea, he said, was full of the Mikado's soldiers. The sixth division, which had disappeared mysteriously from Japan some time ago, had gone to the Hermit Kingdom, and these, together with the steady stream which had been pouring into the country for some time past, would aggregate a formidable force.

Local Japanese reservists have not yet received word from the consular calling them home. They are just bubbling over with fight, like so much gun cotton ready to explode. Those who are not reservists and who can't fight intend showing their intense patriotism by monetary contributions to the cause. A meeting will be held either to-night or to-morrow, and will make arrangements for periodical contributions to the war fund.

A number of the local Japanese belong to the second line of naval reserves, and are quite prepared and very willing to travel to Japan on the first notice. The Japanese of Hawaii, however, belong to the first reserves, and will be the first to be called on in event of their services being required.

CAUGHT UNPREPARED.
Engagement at Port Arthur in Which the Land Batteries Also Participated.

Chefoo, Feb. 9.—The steamer Columbia has arrived from Port Arthur with additional news of the attack by the Japanese fleet upon the Russian fleet in the roads outside of the harbor of Port Arthur.

The Columbia was in the roads at the time and felt the first shock of a torpedo explosion at 11 o'clock Monday night. The attack continued all night, and at daylight this morning two Russian battleships and one first-class Russian cruiser were seen to have been disabled and beached at the entrance of the harbor. The cruiser was badly listed.

This morning the Russian forts opened fire on the Japanese fleet, which was about three miles distant. The Japanese vessels returned the fire, mixing several of the Russian ships but doing little damage. The Russian cruiser then went out and the Japanese vessels disappeared. They were seen later on going in the direction of Dalny, undamaged. Although the officers of the Columbia say there were seventeen in the attacking party, only sixteen were seen later in the day near Chefoo.

The steamer Foochow, from Dalny, passed through the Japanese fleet to-day. The fleet consisted of six battleships, four first-class cruisers and six other vessels. They were eighteen miles from Port Arthur this morning and were proceeding in a southeasterly direction. The Foochow brought 800 Japanese refugees.

A member of the crew of the Columbia tells this story of the naval battle at Port Arthur: "The Columbia was lying in the roadstead surrounded by fourteen Russian battleships and cruisers. At 11:30 o'clock Monday night a severe shock was felt in board the Columbia. The Russian ships immediately commenced to operate their searchlights and opened fire towards the sea. The firing lasted only a short time. At 1 o'clock more shocks were felt and the Russians again commenced firing."

The Japanese did not return the fire. At 2 o'clock two Russian battleships went in and were beached across the entrance of the harbor. They were

soon followed by a Russian cruiser, which also was beached. None of the vessels were damaged above the water line. More shocks from torpedoes were felt during the early morning, and then all was quiet. Two unexploded torpedoes were found after the attack.

"At 10 o'clock Tuesday morning three Japanese cruisers passed Port Arthur in sight of the Russian fleet. The whole Russian fleet immediately weighed anchor and went after them, but returned in half an hour.

"The Russians left one cruiser outside to watch for the Japanese ships. The cruiser was fired upon by the Japanese and the other Russian vessels took up their anchors and cruised around the roadstead. The Japanese fleet came up within three miles and a battle commenced. The Japanese fired on the ships and forts, which replied. The Russian ships were struck by shells but were slightly damaged. The Russian fire fell short. The Columbia steamed away while the fight was in progress, but later saw the Japanese fleet leave. One cruiser with the torpedo boats is reported north of Chefoo.

The two battleships disabled are the Pallada and the Czarevitch. The disabled armored cruiser Retzivan, and the grounded battleships block the entrance to the harbor, preventing gunboats from getting out and battleships and cruisers from going in to coal.

Besides this Japan has the Russian gunboats Variag and Korietz caught at Chemulpo. They were bound for Vladivostok. The Japanese fleet was commanded by Vice-Admiral Togo and consisted of four fast cruisers, the Chitose, Kasagi, Tagago and Yoshino, which circled outside drawing the fire of the Russians, and all went into attack the armored cruisers. In the Japanese fleet, which consisted of two divisions, were the Mikasa (the flagship), the first-class battleships, the Fuji, Yamashiro, Shikishima, Hiei, Hatakeyama and the dispatch boat Tatsumi.

The second division of the fleet, under command of Admiral Kuroki, consisted of the flagship Ise, the battleships, the Matsuyama, the armored cruisers, the Asama and Iwate. When seen by the Foochow on Tuesday morning the fast cruisers were circling in a radius of six miles. The first-class battleships, the Mikasa, the Fuji, Yamashiro, Shikishima, Hiei, Hatakeyama and the dispatch boat Tatsumi.

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were taken to bring the damaged vessels to the harbor. We had no loss of officers. Two marines were killed, five were drowned and eight were wounded. The enemy's torpedo boats received a good deal of damage. Two unexploded torpedoes were found after the attack.

Another Account. Paris, Feb. 10.—The correspondent at Chefoo of the Paris edition of the New York Herald describes in a dispatch the tranquil appearance of Port Arthur on Monday night.

At 8 o'clock the lighthouse was lighted and the firing almost ceased. Only one Russian warship was sighted by her searchlight, and this in a leisurely fashion. Three torpedo boats were patrolling on the outskirts of the fleet, all the others were in the basin. A deep silence settled down, but this was disturbed at half-past eleven o'clock by three muffled explosions. Instantly firing began and the searchlights were used but without much method.

"I watched the operations," the correspondent goes on, "thinking that they were only manoeuvring at midnight, when the firing almost ceased. The Russian fleet was entirely at three o'clock in the morning.

The correspondent describes the arrival and beheading of the Russian warships, which were at first supposed to have been in collision. But at twenty minutes to three, he continues, "Russian naval officers boarded the steamer Columbia in a great state of excitement, saying the victory had been won. The Columbia did not attempt to leave. This was apparently done, with the idea of preventing the ship from acquiring the Japanese with the exception of the Russian damage. After daybreak a strange apparition seemed to pass the Russians.

The white-faced gawing crews crowded forward on the decks of the damaged vessels and none of the searchlights showed a disposition to chase the enemy or fire a single shot till the Japanese had departed at twenty minutes past eight, when the Russians started in pursuit, going in towards Port Dalry. They returned, however, at a quarter past nine without having fired a shot.

Apparently having occurred to them that the Japanese had effected a complete surprise, owing to their bad luck, the Russians have now outside the harbor five battleships and five cruisers, besides seventeen torpedo boats and other small vessels.

It was almost 11 o'clock when the Japanese squadron of sixteen ships, including five battleships, appeared in fine order. At a quarter past 11 there came the first flash from a Japanese vessel and a twelve-inch shell landed near the torpedo boats grouped near the entrance of the harbor. The aim was splendid.

Owing to confusion on the part of the quarantine officials, or perhaps because the Russians thought the Japanese would not like to fire near the British flag, the Columbia was not fired at. The cruiser Korietz is outside, but within range of the forts.

A naval officer who was recently at Port Arthur, says the Russians were not prepared for the attack and had insufficient amount of steam up. A boat patrolled the streets of Pechili continuously, but apparently the Japanese torpedo boats were not noticed until after the first torpedo was fired. The Russians fired but the Japanese did not return the fire and backed off.

An hour later the discharge of torpedoes was repeated, after which the torpedo boats withdrew some distance.

At 10 o'clock Tuesday morning the Japanese cruisers circled within view of the whole Russian fleet, but they were not engaged. The Russians returned toward the harbor after an hour. The Japanese came within three miles. A battle then began between the Russian fleet and fourteen ships and the six Russian vessels. A few of the Japanese shells were effective, but as far as seen the Russian shots fell short.

The Japanese were steaming toward Dalny when last seen. It is probable that the Japanese fleet was conveying twenty-six troops from Saesoo to some point in Korea. The Japanese are reported to be in possession of the southern portion of the peninsula. The Russian war vessels at Vladivostok are the armored cruisers Rurik, Besia, Gromoboi, the cruiser Bagray, a screw corvette, built in 1890. Russia has 1,000 tons of coal at Port Arthur, but the coal must be taken out to the battleships in lighters until the battleships disabled by the Japanese are disabled.

More Ships Damaged. St. Petersburg, Feb. 10. 1 a. m.—The following official bulletin has just been issued in the form of a telegram: "Victory Alexieff's chief of staff, dated February 9th:

"By order of the Viceroy I beg to report that this day, at about 11 o'clock in the morning, the Japanese fleet, consisting of about fifteen battleships and cruisers, approached Port Arthur and opened fire.

"The enemy was received with a cannon fire from the shore batteries and the guns of our squadron, which also participated in the engagement.

"At about midday the Japanese squadron ceased its fire and left, proceeding south.

landed and the searchlight. Several vessels were damaged. The Japanese troops also landed at the chief points of southern and western Korea. One division of the Japanese fleet, under the command of Admiral Kuroki, together with three divisions of the Japanese Guards each of 12,000 men, have been mobilized. It appears the correspondent continues, that the Russian warships at Port Arthur are being damaged.

Another correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphs from Port Arthur, under date of February 9th, that the Russian fleet has commenced operations. Krastalshky will leave Liao Yang tomorrow for the Yalu river at the head of the third brigade of artillery, consisting of 24 guns and three regiments of infantry. The third, fourth and fifth infantry brigades are entrenched along the railroad at a distance of forty miles from Hai Chong, and three batteries of the fifth brigade are at Hai Chong.

The greatest activity prevails here and ammunition is being served out at an average of 150 cartridges per man. New recruits are being enrolled with feverish dispatch. A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Tokyo, dated February 9th, says a plot is on foot at Seoul to bring 20,000 soldiers from Fanyan to take the Korean Emperor to the French legation, which place the imperial treasury has already been conveyed.

A dispatch from Chefoo dated February 9th, a correspondent of the Daily Express says: "The Japanese at Port Arthur, an advance command of the Japanese fleet, under command of Vice-Admiral Togo, is being equipped with sixteen transport ships, with a numerous torpedo fleet, left the main fleet of Shantung peninsula on Sunday. Immediately that the news of the Japanese capture of the Korean Emperor, this information was conveyed to the Japanese admiralty by a destroyer dispatched from Tsubima on Saturday evening. The Japanese scout cruisers are being equipped with torpedoes. The precarious situation of the Russian fleet outside Port Arthur. The squadron steamed slowly in battle formation Sunday morning, towards the goal, and the Russian fleet was in the harbor. The Russian fleet was in the harbor. The Russian fleet was in the harbor.

Confirmation of the Report of Sinking of Russian Ship at Chemulpo, Korea. London, Feb. 10.—Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister, has received official information from Tokyo of the destruction at Chemulpo of the Russian first class cruiser Variag and the third class cruiser Korietz.

A dispatch to the Central News from Port Arthur says: "The Japanese fleet returned here on Tuesday afternoon and again bombarded the Russian fleet and forts, but that it soon withdrew. The Russian fleet was in the harbor. The Russian fleet was in the harbor. The Russian fleet was in the harbor.

Official dispatches from Tokyo, received by Baron Hayashi, say the Japanese admiral, on arriving at Chemulpo, sent in word to the two Russian cruisers giving them a time limit in which to leave. Shortly afterwards the Russian fleet was in the harbor. The Russian fleet was in the harbor. The Russian fleet was in the harbor.

It is not yet known whether their sinking was due to the Japanese fire or to the Russian own action, but it is believed to be the former. The crews of both the Russian vessels sought refuge on a French warship at Chemulpo. There were no casualties among the Japanese, and their vessels sustained no damage.

JAPAN'S PLANS. A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Port Arthur says: "The Japanese fleet is being equipped with sixteen transport ships, with a numerous torpedo fleet, left the main fleet of Shantung peninsula on Sunday. Immediately that the news of the Japanese capture of the Korean Emperor, this information was conveyed to the Japanese admiralty by a destroyer dispatched from Tsubima on Saturday evening.

When Troops are Landed in Korea Another Fight is Expected at Port Arthur. London, Feb. 10.—"We were slow in negotiating, but are making up for lost time by quickness in action," said Baron Hayashi this morning.

The engagements at Port Arthur and Chemulpo are being conducted in accordance with plans matured. As soon as our forces are landed in Korea, I look for an important fleet action at Port Arthur. The Russian fleet is being equipped with sixteen transport ships, with a numerous torpedo fleet, left the main fleet of Shantung peninsula on Sunday.

By going to the Chinese side, however, the Japanese fleet by high angle shot can drop its bombs from a height of 10,000 feet, and thus make it very uncomfortable for the Russian ships lying moored close to one another. Thereby, it is hoped, to drive out the Russian fleet from the harbor. The Russian fleet is being equipped with sixteen transport ships, with a numerous torpedo fleet, left the main fleet of Shantung peninsula on Sunday.

Dealing with Secretary Hay's note to the powers on the subject of preserving the integrity of China, Baron Hayashi said: "The neutrality of China was first suggested by my government, and we received assurances that Chinese neutrality would be strictly observed. Japan will not be a party to any agreement which would be a detriment to the integrity of China. The Russian fleet is being equipped with sixteen transport ships, with a numerous torpedo fleet, left the main fleet of Shantung peninsula on Sunday.

It is reported yesterday that the Russian cruisers Korietz and Variag were lying at Chemulpo yesterday, and it is possible they were the vessels reported to have been engaged.

RUSSIAN CLAIM VICTORY. St. Petersburg Papers Publish Unconfirmed Story That Seven Japanese Ships Were Crippled. St. Petersburg, Feb. 10. 5.30 p.m.—Some of the newspapers print extra claiming a Russian victory at Port Arthur. Three Japanese warships and been seriously crippled. One report says that the Japanese battleship Shikishima was sunk.

The people are demonstrating, but there is no official confirmation of the report, and the announcement is discredited.

REPORT JAPANESE ROUT. Telegrams Received at Vladivostok Say Russian Move on Yalu River. Was Successful. Vladivostok, Feb. 10.—Private telegrams received here report the complete rout of the Japanese by the Russians on the Yalu river. These advices also claim that Che-

muipo, Korea, had been occupied by Russian soldiers and marines.

DELAID AIDED RUSSIA. Military Men Declare the Country Is Now Ready For All Emergencies. New York, Feb. 10.—All the members of the reserves have been commanded to remain at their present abodes so that they can be found easily when it is decided to call them out, says a dispatch to the Times from a Russian correspondent, who says that one company of every regiment of guard troops in the district of St. Petersburg and Moscow is to be sent to the Far East.

BRITAIN'S NEUTRALITY. Proclamation Will be Drawn Up at Special Meeting of the Cabinet. London, Feb. 10.—It was announced in the House of Commons to-day that a proclamation of British neutrality will be drawn up at a special cabinet meeting tomorrow.

SINKING OF CRUISERS. Story of Fight Off Chemulpo, Which Resulted in Loss of Two Russian Ships. London, Feb. 10.—Baron Hayashi's official advices regarding the battle of Chemulpo, Korea, are as follows: "On Monday a Japanese squadron, escorting transports now on the way to Chemulpo, Korea, met the Russian gunboat Korietz as the latter was coming out of port.

The Korietz took up an offensive attitude towards the Japanese vessels and fired on the Japanese torpedo boats. The latter discharged two torpedoes ineffectually, and then the Korietz returned to her anchorage in port.

Early in the morning of Tuesday Admiral Urik, commanding the Japanese squadron, formally called on the Russian warships to leave Chemulpo before noon. The Admiral added that if his demand was not complied with he would be compelled to attack them in the harbor.

The two Russian warships left the port at about 1.30 a. m., and a battle resulted outside.

After about an hour's engagement the Russian warships sought refuge among neighboring islands.

Towards the evening the Russian cruiser Variag sank, and at about 4 a. m. to-day (February 10th) the Korietz was reported to have also sunk, having been blown up.

The officers and men of the two sunken vessels sought refuge on the Russian island of Ulsan.

There were no casualties on the Japanese side.

CZAR DECLARES WAR. Russian Ambassador Makes Announcement to United States Secretary of State. Washington, Feb. 10.—Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, called on Secretary of State Hay about noon to-day, and left with him the announcement that the czar had declared war on Japan.

HAS GREAT ADVANTAGE. Japan's Success Against Russia Has Practically Given Her Command of the Sea. Berlin, Feb. 10.—Secretary Hay's note to the powers concerning the neutrality and integrity of China was delivered to the German government yesterday by Foreign Secretary Von Richtofen. The association of powers under the leadership of Germany has already conveyed an intimation to Secretary Hay that his proposals are likely to be accepted by the German government, because they tend to localize the war and prevent the outbreak of international dispute. The step is regarded by the foreign office as an able move.

The naval men here were doing little but talking about the Japanese-Russian engagements and the donations to be drawn therefrom. One convention was that Japan had acquired such a superiority over her command of the sea as to be practically invulnerable.

The unwillingness of the Russian fleet at Port Arthur to leave the protection of the shore batteries enabled Japan, in the opinion of the naval experts here, to conduct her landing operations unmolested. It is believed Port Arthur will be invested on the land side as quickly as possible.

On the return the Japanese naval vessels announced officially that they would attack the place at 10 o'clock a. m. At the latter hour the Korietz blew up and sank. She was a slow vessel, which made it difficult for her to escape. The Japanese naval vessels attacked the Variag from the outside of the harbor, until she sank.

HOW JAPS GOT INFORMATION. Commander Traveled as Servant and After Noting Location of Russians Reported to Admiral. New York, Feb. 11.—In a special cable to the Herald the correspondent says he interviewed the Japanese consul at Chefoo, who told him that when he was informed by this government of the Japanese commander at St. Petersburg was withdrawn on February 6th, he chartered a British vessel and went to Port Arthur and Dalny to take off refugees. He was accompanied by a number of the Russian government officials at Port Arthur. Quarantine was removed and the consul entered the town in official dress. He was saluted by the soldiers and invited to dinner by a high official there, a toast was drunk that peace might be restored. After leaving Dalny he encountered the Japanese fleet about 18 miles from Port Arthur. A high naval Japanese commander travelled as a man in the consul's train to Port Arthur, and noted the exact position of the Russian ships, and also that they had not got steam up, and were not keeping a sharp lookout. As soon as the Japanese were sighted signals were interchanged, and the Japanese officer was taken aboard the flagship. There he made a detailed report to Admiral Logo.

"I saw this commander, who wishes his name withheld," says the correspondent, "and he explained to me with marvellous accuracy the course of the fight, though he had not seen it. He said the Russians were in line, and in front of all was the Yalu river. It will thus be seen that the Japanese torpedo boats carried out an exceedingly bold venture. The Japanese had 10 vessels.

diately commanded him to answer the Japanese challenge with armed force. "Making known this, our government, we, with unshaken faith in the help of the Almighty and with a firm expectation of and reliance upon the unanimous willingness of all our loyal subjects to stand with us in defence of the homeland, we ask God's blessing upon our stalwart land and naval forces.

"Given at St. Petersburg, January 27th, 1904 (our calendar February 9th), and the tenth year of our reign."

NOT CREDITED. French Officials Have No News Regarding Alleged Occupation of Shan Hai Kwan. Paris, Feb. 10.—The foreign office discredits the reports from Tientsin yesterday of the French occupation of Shan Hai Kwan, on the mouth of the Yalu river. Officials say the negotiations of this subject occurred six months ago without definite results, and the officials believe that the reported arrival of French troops there arose from the shifting of the small garrison detachment. The officials add there certainly can be no significance in the French occupying the forts vacated by the Russians.

OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED. Tokyo, Feb. 11.—The destruction of the Russian cruiser Variag and the gunboat Korietz at Chemulpo on Tuesday is officially confirmed, but details are lacking.

Admiral Urik, commander of the Japanese squadron, sent a cablegram to the navy department saying that the two Russian vessels weighed anchor at noon on Monday and were followed by the Japanese fleet. The Russian ships withdrew round an island at 7 a. m., nine miles from Chemulpo.

It is not known who fired the opening shot, but the Russian ships were destroyed in 24 minutes. The Russian ships withdrew to Chemulpo.

The Korietz exploded about 4.30 o'clock.

It is not clear how the Variag was destroyed. The loss of life and the effect of the shells on the Russians are unknown.

It is possible that the Russian crew aided in the destruction of their vessels to avoid capture and annihilation.

The Japanese did not lose a man, and their ships were uninjured.

The name of the Japanese ships are withheld for strategic reasons.

The Russian crews, it is reported, surrendered to the Japanese at Chemulpo.

Japan is elated by its success of the engagement.

Two Russian battleships and one cruiser were torpedoed Monday night at Port Arthur.

The navy department does not confirm the report that the Japanese fleet is still off Port Arthur.

Advices of a general naval engagement are hourly expected.

London, Feb. 11.—7.30 p. m.—A dispatch to Reuter's Telegram Co. from Tokio, dated 7.10 p. m. yesterday, says an unofficial report was current there that the Russian fleet was destroyed, four battleships and three cruisers being sunk, and that two Japanese warships were damaged in an engagement yesterday off Port Arthur, the Japanese getting between the Russians and the entrance of the harbor before the fight commenced.

RUSSIAN VERSION. Report of Two Days' Bombardment of Port Arthur of Japanese Loses. Paris, Feb. 11.—The Journal Des Debats, a special dispatch from St. Petersburg, announced that the bombardment of Port Arthur occurred the day before yesterday and again yesterday, and says that the Japanese fleet withdrew after having suffered heavy losses. To-day it is added all is quiet off Port Arthur.

ALEXIEFF IS SUPREME. Has Been Appointed Commander of Land and Sea Forces in Far East. St. Petersburg, Feb. 11.—It is officially announced that Admiral Alexieff has been appointed to the supreme command of the Russian land and sea forces in the Far East.

The minister of finance has issued a communication in which it warns the people against becoming panic stricken and speculating, the ministry exhorts the people to remain calm and collected regarding events in the Far East, which, while they may create temporary difficulties, will not shake the Russian economic power. It points out that stocks fell at the outbreak of the Russo-Turkish war in 1877, but that within a fortnight quotations recovered. These experiences, it says, is now being repeated.

Orders have been issued for the formation of a third Siberian army corps and a Russian division of Cossacks. These will be incorporated in the Manchurian army.

Repeating the charges that the Japanese attack on Port Arthur was made from Wei Hai Wei, on the north of the Shang Tung peninsula, the Novoe Vremya to-day bitterly assails Great Britain.

All rumors of rumors are about. The government, however, has taken measures to counteract their publication, forbidding the sale of the principal offender, the St. Petersburg Gazette. The government expressed great displeasure at the publication of the report of a Russian victory, thus raising false hopes among the population. According to one source, the Russian armored cruiser Gromoboi recently sailed out of Vladivostok, destroyed twenty Japanese transports off Southern Korea and herself sunk by a Japanese cruiser. Another story claims that one of the Vladivostok warships, under Admiral Stokelberg, had sunk four Japanese transports. The report of the sinking of the Russian armored cruiser Gromoboi was resented still another was to the effect that the Japanese attack on Port Arthur was a feint to protect the passage of the transports bound to Shantung. The Russian armored cruiser, and effect a junction with the forces of Yuen Shi Kai, the Chinese commander-in-chief, and attack the Russians in the rear.

All the Russian navigation companies having vessels in Far Eastern waters are anxious about their fate. The volunteer fleet particularly is concerned, and the Ekaterinsky, which left Vladivostok on February 4th, and the Voruj, which left Shanghai laden for Singapore on February 1st. No news of either vessel has been received.

The tone of the press comments to-day is most bitter against the Japanese, which is perhaps significant. The report circulated here that the United States had offered her good services in the strictest sense would have any result. It adds that it considers it strange that the United States has made a distinction between China and Korea, which, while one, is also an independent country.

CAPTAIN BLEW SHIP UP. Said to Have Destroyed the Variag After the Crew Had Escaped. London, Feb. 11.—Reuter's Telegrams correspondent at Tokio in a dispatch timed 9.15 p. m., yesterday, says: "Details of the Chemulpo fight received here say that the captain of the Variag remained on board his ship and blew her up after the crew escaped.

"Part of the crew swam to a French ship and others got ashore.

"One report says that the French warship notified the Russians of the Japanese approach.

The Korietz engaged the Japanese cruiser first, while the Variag destroyed the transport. The Korietz was soon destroyed.

MADE PRISONERS. Number of Bluejackets from the Variag and Korietz Captured by Japan. London, Feb. 11.—A dispatch to the St. James's Gazette from Tokio, under to-day's date, says: "There are great rejoicings here at the

successes of the Japanese public buildings, residences and houses are decorated with flags in to be seen every where the aspect of a city.

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BRITAIN'S NEUTRALITY. Proclamation Signed by King Edward at Council Meeting at Buckingham Palace.

London, Feb. 11.—King Edward, at a council held at Buckingham Palace this afternoon, signed a proclamation declaring Great Britain to be neutral in the war between Russia and Japan.

LAYING MINES. Russians Busy at Dalny—Consul to Leave Korea for Nagasaki Tomorrow.

New York, Feb. 11.—Several Russian vessels are leaving by the German mail steamer Gericke for China, says the Herald dispatch from Nagasaki. The mail steamer Yarya, which will sail from Yokohama on February 12th, will convey the Russian consul from that city to Nagasaki.

NOTICE TO CANADIANS. Notified to Remain Neutral During War Between Japan and Russia.

Ottawa, Feb. 11.—An extra of the Canada Gazette will be issued this afternoon with a notice from the state department notifying all Canadians to remain neutral in the war between Japan and Russia.

OVER-ESTIMATED. Russia Had Only Fifty Thousand Men in Port Arthur, Says "The Boer".

London, Feb. 11.—Cabling from Peking, the correspondent of the London Times asserts that the habitual over-estimation of the Russian forces in the Far East was due to the claim, arising from the Boer campaign, that the Russian minister at Peking, during the peace negotiations at Peking in 1900, for an indemnity of 47,000,000 on the ground that 50,000 Russian men in Port Arthur.

RUSSIAN GARRISON HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN—How Japs Spread News of Their Successes.

Tientsin, Feb. 11.—The Russian garrison was withdrawn yesterday to Shan Hai Kwan. The post offices were transferred to the city of Tientsin.

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successes of the Japanese navy. The public buildings, residences and business houses are decorated with flags. Bunting is to be seen everywhere. Tokio wears the aspect of a city of conquerors.

RUSSIAN BATTLE FLEET. Proposal to Send It Through Kaiser Wilhelm Canal on Way East.

Berlin, Feb. 11.—The Lokal Anzeiger says notification has been received of the proposed passage of the Russian Baltic fleet, consisting of fifteen warships, through the Kaiser Wilhelm canal, on its way to the Far East.

THE JAPS WILL WIN. Japanese War Correspondent Confident of His Country's Success.

The Japanese soldiers are sure to win. They are better disciplined than the Russians, and every man is imbued with an intense love of country and the Emperor.

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THE TRUSTEE BOARD IN MONTHLY SESSION. They Discussed a Number of Matters Scholastic—Fire Alarm System in Schools Proposed.

The regular monthly meeting of the board of school trustees was held Wednesday, when Miss Jeanette C. Cann was appointed to the High school-teaching staff in succession to Miss R. Watson.

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ANNUAL BALL OF THE LOCAL EAGLES. A Scene of Splendor at the Assembly Hall Last Evening—List of Prize Winners.

The fifth annual masquerade ball of the local order of Eagles was held Wednesday at Assembly hall. There was an attendance of between 500 and 600, and the evening passed in thoroughly enjoyable time.

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HUNTING FATALITY. Man Accidentally Shot at Howe Sound—Boy's Bad Death at Vancouver.

A coroner's inquest was held at Vancouver on Thursday over the body of Biceps, a Chinese, who was accidentally shot at Howe Sound on Monday. After hearing the evidence relating to the circumstances surrounding the death of the deceased, the jury were not long in returning the following verdict: "That the deceased came to his death from a bullet fired from a rifle which was in the hands of Albert Rivera. The rifle was fired by Rivera, who fired the fatal shot."

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PRINCESS REPORTED TO HAVE ENDED HER LIFE. Rumors of the Suicide of the Wife of Prince Otto Are Current in Vienna.

New York, Feb. 11.—Princess Elizabeth Wideschitz, grand daughter of Emperor Francis Joseph, who was reported on December 6th to have shot the actress, Louise Ziegler, who the Princess discovered in the apartments of her husband, Prince Otto, has committed suicide, according to a persistent rumor here, says a special cable from Vienna to the World.

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NEGRO AND WIFE VICTIMS OF MOB'S FURY. Tragedy Which Cost Eight Lives.

Doddsville, Miss., Feb. 9.—Luther Holbert and his wife, negroes, were burned at the stake here on Sunday by a mob of over 1,000 persons, during the killing of James Eastland, a prominent white planter, and John Carr, a negro, on Wednesday at the Eastland plantation, two miles from this city. The mob, which she is reported to have attempted her life several times.

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MADE PRISONERS. of Bluejackets From the Variag Korvets Captured by Japan.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE

REAFFIRMS POSITION RESPECTING INQUIRY

House Sits After Midnight in Effort to Get Vancouver Foreshore Bill Through.

Victoria, Feb. 8.—On the House resuming this afternoon, J. D. McNeil presented a petition from A. M. Greig and others, residents of Victoria, asking amendments to the "Game Act."

It was laid on the table. Mining Committee Report. Price Ellison presented the first report of the mining committee, as follows:

"Mr. Speaker—Your select committee on mining beg leave to report as follows: That your committee has resolved that it is not deemed advisable to make changes in either the 'Mineral Act' or the 'Mineral Regulations' at this session of the legislative assembly."

The report was received. Government House Committee. W. D. Clifford presented an interim report from the select committee appointed to inquire into all matters relating to the construction of Government House as follows:

"Mr. Speaker—Your select committee appointed by resolution of the House on January 21st last to inquire into certain matters pertaining to the construction of Government House beg leave to make this interim report:

"At a session of the committee held on February 8th, Messrs. Maxwell Muir and W. T. Dawson, representing the contractor, through their respective counsel, declined to give evidence touching the charges contained in the memorandum attached to the award, claiming that the memorandum is a part of the award, and is, therefore, privileged from any review by the legislature or a committee thereof."

Your committee would respectfully suggest that the charges contained in the memorandum are distinct from the award, and that the action of the committee in pressing the matter into the charges contained in the memorandum be endorsed. And, further, your committee respectfully request that they be empowered to compel witnesses to give evidence.

Mr. Macdonald proposed that the matter should stand over until the evening in order that fuller information should be obtained. He also suggested an inquiry into the matter. The Premier said that he understood that all that was asked was that the witnesses in connection with the matter be practically charged Mr. Battenbury with theft. The committee was appointed to inquire into this.

The matter was allowed to stand over until the evening. Near Bill. The following bills were introduced, read a first time and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow:

By Hon. Chas. Wilson: "An Act to amend the 'Bills of Sale Act.' By Mr. J. A. Macdonald: "An Act respecting the Fraudulent Preference of Creditors or persons in Insolvent Circumstances."

By W. W. B. McNeill: "An Act to amend the 'Animals Act.'" The Assessment Act. John Oliver moved the following resolution: "That a copy of the forms being used by the assessors under the provisions of the 'Assessment Act' be referred to the committee on carrying out the provisions of the 'Assessment Act.'"

In doing so he said that he was informed that assessors in sending out forms were discriminating. He pointed out that the forms were a part of the act according to the enactment. Yet the forms sent out by the assessors differed materially from those presented. Under the act section 10 and 11 differed very materially from the statute. Other sections involving a very considerable amount were altered. The House adopted the resolution as follows: "That the committee on carrying out the provisions of the 'Assessment Act' be referred to the committee on carrying out the provisions of the 'Assessment Act.'"

The Minister for Lands and Works was the first to inform that this was the first intimation he had received of any discrimination in serving notices upon taxpayers. The intention was to deal with all alike. He would fully look into the matter.

T. W. Paterson wished to call attention to the fact that in connection with the question of exemption up to \$500 of property of Vancouver, which very much affects this question, and the government is now considering this matter with a view of ascertaining the best course to pursue.

Mr. Oliver asked the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions: 1. Has any damage been done to the city of Vernon by reason of the matter of Long Lake since 1892? 2. If not, what reason had the government for supposing that damage would be done in the future?

Mr. Williams Green replied as follows: "1. No. 2. The danger is always imminent when flood impeding."

J. H. Hawthornthwaite asked the Provincial Secretary the following questions: 1. Has the government any information in its archives to Dr. Brown's exploration of Vancouver Island in 1864? 2. How many men were employed by Dr. Brown to carry out the expedition? 3. Can the government give the names of those forming the expedition? 4. What contract was made with Dr. Brown? 5. Has this contract been carried out?

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "This matter is receiving attention, and the necessary information desired will be furnished as the same is available."

Mr. Hawthornthwaite asked the Attorney-General the following questions: 1. Has the evidence taken at the coroner's inquest at Fernie, relating to the explosion of May, 1902, been printed, as ordered by the House? 2. If not, why not? Hon. Mr. Wilson replied as follows: "No. 2. The capacity of the printing press has been so heavily taxed of late that it has not been possible to undertake a work of such magnitude as that in question. It is the intention, however, to put the matter in hand at the earliest possible moment."

Supreme Court Act. The Supreme Court Act passed its third reading. Settlers' Rights. The act to secure to certain pioneer settlers within the E. & N. railway land belt was amended by the Premier by striking out the reservation of gold and silver in section 3, after which the bill passed its third reading.

Coal Tax Act. The Coal Tax Act, 1900, and the Horticultural Board Act passed their third readings. Stood Over. On the bill respecting certain contracts of insurance, R. L. Drury raised the question that the proposed amendments as to beneficiaries, preferred beneficiaries differed materially in the provinces of British Columbia and Ontario.

The Attorney-General thought no difficulty would arise, as this simply provided that all contracts should be subject to the law of British Columbia. He finally allowed the matter to stand over. Mechanics Lien Act. The Mechanics Lien Act amendment passed its third reading.

The act relating to the attachment of debts was committed, with Dr. Young in the chair. The bill was reported. Official Map. The House then went into committee on the act respecting the official map of the province of British Columbia, with Richard Hall in the chair. The bill was reported and passed its third reading.

Trail Incorporation. The bill for the purpose of incorporating the trail in the province of British Columbia was introduced by Mr. J. A. Macdonald. The bill was reported and passed its third reading.

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Coal Mines Regulations. In moving the second reading of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, the Premier said this was the outcome of the report of the committee appointed to inquire into the cause of accidents. Nothing should be spared to render the lives of coal miners as safe as possible. He had some years ago appointed a committee to inquire into the cause of accidents. Nothing should be spared to render the lives of coal miners as safe as possible.

Hon. R. F. Green replied as follows: "1. About 10,000,000 acres. 2. It is not possible to answer the question without having a statement prepared from the records, which would be a work involving much labor and time. 3. It will take a very long time to arrive at an answer to this question. The lands referred to are taxable in some instances as soon as they are alienated to the companies, and in other cases direct to the companies at the expiration of the period of exemption. If not already alienated by such companies, and as these lands are distributed on the assessment rolls with the other taxable lands of private individuals, without any distinctive mark to show that they were originally subsidy lands, the whole rolls will have to be examined and a list made out of each parcel included in the separate land grants."

Mr. Williams moved in favor of making the position of inspectors of mines as dangerous as that of a man too narrow to discharge his duty properly being elected. F. Carter-Cotton was not in favor of taking the responsibility which attached to the government in this matter. He agreed that the mover was actuated by the best motives, but it would not be a step in the right direction to take this course.

Mr. Williams opposed the argument of Mr. Cotton. This was the only way of getting the inspection properly carried out. Mr. Paterson wanted to know if this passed if the miners would take all the responsibility as to accidents or if he could find it that it commended itself to the public interest he would assent to something of the kind. He suggested the Premier that even Mr. Williams was rendered speechless, and hung his head.

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amendment of the Judgments Act. The bill passed its second reading, and was committed with J. Murphy in the chair. The bill was reported. County Court Act. The Attorney-General moved the second reading of the County Court Act. He promised next year to consolidate the County Court Act with the provisions of the act now before the House. The object of the present bill was to unite the two counties of Victoria and Nanaimo for County court purposes. The bill was reported and passed its third reading.

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appointing the committee had directly insulted the board. He had afterwards taken the ground that the committee's proceedings had been unbecomingly. An insult was thus cast upon the committee and upon the legislature. No power was given the committee to punish witnesses who refused to give evidence. The committee wished to meet at 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Green said the board had made an award. The award was found with that, but the board had not made any award. The committee wished to meet at 10 o'clock to-morrow.

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Mr. Williams moved in favor of making the position of inspectors of mines as dangerous as that of a man too narrow to discharge his duty properly being elected. F. Carter-Cotton was not in favor of taking the responsibility which attached to the government in this matter. He agreed that the mover was actuated by the best motives, but it would not be a step in the right direction to take this course.

Mr. Williams opposed the argument of Mr. Cotton. This was the only way of getting the inspection properly carried out. Mr. Paterson wanted to know if this passed if the miners would take all the responsibility as to accidents or if he could find it that it commended itself to the public interest he would assent to something of the kind. He suggested the Premier that even Mr. Williams was rendered speechless, and hung his head.

Mr. Williams Green replied as follows: "1. No. 2. The danger is always imminent when flood impeding."

J. H. Hawthornthwaite asked the Provincial Secretary the following questions: 1. Has the government any information in its archives to Dr. Brown's exploration of Vancouver Island in 1864? 2. How many men were employed by Dr. Brown to carry out the expedition? 3. Can the government give the names of those forming the expedition? 4. What contract was made with Dr. Brown? 5. Has this contract been carried out?

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "This matter is receiving attention, and the necessary information desired will be furnished as the same is available."

Mr. Hawthornthwaite asked the Attorney-General the following questions: 1. Has the evidence taken at the coroner's inquest at Fernie, relating to the explosion of May, 1902, been printed, as ordered by the House? 2. If not, why not? Hon. Mr. Wilson replied as follows: "No. 2. The capacity of the printing press has been so heavily taxed of late that it has not been possible to undertake a work of such magnitude as that in question. It is the intention, however, to put the matter in hand at the earliest possible moment."

of these were a little premature. The government intended to look into the claims of those promised Dominion aid. He intimated that the Ottawa government had not done anything for a Coast-Kootenay line as yet. This he lamented because it was necessary. The completion of the New Westminster bridge had made this doubly necessary.

He was in communication with the Great Northern, and he hoped to see before very long the completion of an all-Canadian road. It was conceded that the Coast-Kootenay road, when built, had to be done by the Great Northern, or the Canadian Pacific railway. He deprecated the schemes of parties who had from time to time asked aid, stating that they were able to build. These were but peddling in charters, and he did not propose to deal with any but those who might be able to build.

The question of aid to railway lines was an important one. There were those who believed that the Dominion and the provincial governments should give aid to lines. It was hardly fair to expect British Columbia, with her resources, to meet the Dominion government in this respect. The lines promised aid by the Dominion had been considered by his government. These were the Northport & Kettle River, the Nicola Valley, the Midway & Vernon and the Comox & Cape Scott lines. The government would be pleased to do what it could in these projects.

With respect to the E. & N. deal, he explained that this had its origin in his speaking, in conjunction with Mr. Dunsinuir, a solution of the settlers' rights question. Mr. Dunsinuir had made some offer in this respect. The policy of the Conservative party was not that of state ownership of railways. These negotiations were still under way.

He expected in probably a few months that these railway matters would reach such a stage that a special session might be called to deal with the question. T. W. Paterson asked if the Premier was going to withdraw his opposition to break down the contentions of the arbitrators. The Deputy Attorney-General expressed his opinion that the arbitrators would proceed along the same lines as it began. The allegations contained in the award were known by the public before the resolution was appointed. Unless the committee was upheld the investigation might as well cease.

Mr. Oliver pointed out that the great trouble was the presence of the Deputy Attorney-General, who appeared for the government, and showed a disposition to break down the contentions of the arbitrators. The Deputy Attorney-General expressed his opinion that the arbitrators would proceed along the same lines as it began. The allegations contained in the award were known by the public before the resolution was appointed. Unless the committee was upheld the investigation might as well cease.

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"Any such order may be made on such terms and conditions as the court may think fit, and the court may make such order as to costs as it deems proper, and may direct that an office copy of the order shall be filed with the registrar aforesaid, and the order shall in all respects have full effect."

When such an order is made in any such case as aforesaid, the court is satisfied that the filing of the order in contract would cause delay or inconvenience, or is impracticable, it may, in lieu of the order, direct the filing of a memorandum in writing in terms approved by the court, specifying the consideration for which the shares were issued, and may direct that on such memorandum the court is satisfied that it shall, in relation to such shares, operate as if it were a sufficient contract in writing within the meaning of section 50 of the 'Companies Act, 1897,' and of any act in that behalf amended."

The Premier said that the bill was reported and passed its third reading. The bill was reported and passed its third reading. The bill was reported and passed its third reading.

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On the second reading of the act to amend the 'Bills of Sale Act,' the Premier said that he understood that all that was asked was that the witnesses in connection with the matter be practically charged Mr. Battenbury with theft. The committee was appointed to inquire into this.

The matter was allowed to stand over until the evening. Near Bill. The following bills were introduced, read a first time and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow:

By Hon. Chas. Wilson: "An Act to amend the 'Bills of Sale Act.' By Mr. J. A. Macdonald: "An Act respecting the Fraudulent Preference of Creditors or persons in Insolvent Circumstances."

By W. W. B. McNeill: "An Act to amend the 'Animals Act.'" The Assessment Act. John Oliver moved the following resolution: "That a copy of the forms being used by the assessors under the provisions of the 'Assessment Act' be referred to the committee on carrying out the provisions of the 'Assessment Act.'"

In doing so he said that he was informed that assessors in sending out forms were discriminating. He pointed out that the forms were a part of the act according to the enactment. Yet the forms sent out by the assessors differed materially from those presented. Under the act section 10 and 11 differed very materially from the statute. Other sections involving a very considerable amount were altered. The House adopted the resolution as follows: "That the committee on carrying out the provisions of the 'Assessment Act' be referred to the committee on carrying out the provisions of the 'Assessment Act.'"

The Minister for Lands and Works was the first to inform that this was the first intimation he had received of any discrimination in serving notices upon taxpayers. The intention was to deal with all alike. He would fully look into the matter.

T. W. Paterson wished to call attention to the fact that in connection with the question of exemption up to \$500 of property of Vancouver, which very much affects this question, and the government is now considering this matter with a view of ascertaining the best course to pursue.

Mr. Oliver asked the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions: 1. Has any damage been done to the city of Vernon by reason of the matter of Long Lake since 1892? 2. If not, what reason had the government for supposing that damage would be done in the future?

Mr. Williams Green replied as follows: "1. No. 2. The danger is always imminent when flood impeding."

J. H. Hawthornthwaite asked the Provincial Secretary the following questions: 1. Has the government any information in its archives to Dr. Brown's exploration of Vancouver Island in 1864? 2. How many men were employed by Dr. Brown to carry out the expedition? 3. Can the government give the names of those forming the expedition? 4. What contract was made with Dr. Brown? 5. Has this contract been carried out?

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appointing the committee had directly insulted the board. He had afterwards taken the ground that the committee's proceedings had been unbecomingly. An insult was thus cast upon the committee and upon the legislature. No power was given the committee to punish witnesses who refused to give evidence. The committee wished to meet at 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Green said the board had made an award. The award was found with that, but the board had not made any award. The committee wished to meet at 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. McNeil was sorry that the Attorney-General did not drop this bill. The act relating to the attachment of debts was committed, with Dr. Young in the chair. The bill was reported. Official Map. The House then went into committee on the act respecting the official map of the province of British Columbia, with Richard Hall in the chair. The bill was reported and passed its third reading.

Trail Incorporation. The bill for the purpose of incorporating the trail in the province of British Columbia was introduced by Mr. J. A. Macdonald. The bill was reported and passed its third reading.

Supply Bill. The House then went into committee on the Supply Bill, with C. W. D. Clifford in the chair. The bill was reported and passed its third reading.

Coal Mines Regulations. In moving the second reading of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, the Premier said this was the outcome of the report of the committee appointed to inquire into the cause of accidents. Nothing should be spared to render the lives of

The bill was reported and passed its third reading.

Granby Consolidated Company's Act. F. Carter Cotton asked that the bill be suspended in order to move the second reading of the amendment to the Granby Consolidated Company's Act.

Counties Definition Act. The Counties Definition Act passed its second reading. The amendment to the Animal Act was read a second time.

The Municipal Elections Amendment Act passed its second reading. The amendment to the Animal Act was read a second time.

Victoria, Feb. 10. The legislature was prorogued this evening shortly after 9 o'clock. The day was spent in preparing for this, and bills were rushed through their final stages as usual.

Mr. McInnes asked what the purpose of the bill was then. The bill was committed, with Mr. Paterson in the chair, and passed as altered by the Attorney-General.

Read Third Time. The bill to amend the Granby Consolidated Company's Incorporation Act was committed, with W. J. Bowser in the chair. The bill was reported and passed its third reading.

Insurance Companies. The act to incorporate the Vancouver Insurance Company also passed its third reading, the name Vancouver being attached to British Columbia.

False Creek Foreshore. The adjourned debate on the act to enable the city of Vancouver to acquire the foreshore of False creek was proceeded with.

Incorporation Act. The House then went into committee on the Vancouver Incorporation Act amendment, with Mr. Cameron in the chair.

In connection with an amendment introduced by J. F. Garden, providing that the property qualification for a member of the Park board should be in all respects that required for an alderman.

W. Davidson took exception to this property qualification being required. In doing so he pointed out that he had been asked to protest against this by some residents of Vancouver. He opposed the distinction being made in favor of property qualification.

P. Williams also protested against it. The Attorney-General expressed his approval with this objection also.

Mr. Garden wanted to know why the Attorney-General did not apply the principle by amending the General Municipal Act along this line.

The Attorney-General he said was in the amending business pretty well this year. The amendment was carried, Messrs. Taitow, Garden and Bowser voting for the amendment, Messrs. Wilson and Macgowan against it.

Third Readings. The amendment to the Line Fences and Water Courses Act, and the amendment to the Medical Act, passed their third readings.

Free Transportation. J. H. Hawthorthwaite, in moving the third reading of the bill providing that railway and steamship companies should give free passes to members of the legislature, said that a similar act was passed by the Dominion House.

F. Carter-Cotton argued against it. The act could not be enforced. There were only two small companies affected, the Kaslo & Siccan and the Victoria-Sidney. The Dominion parliament was the only one to deal with this. He contended that it was only right to return the allowance if the bill passed.

J. Murphy contended it was not right in principle. If the bill passed it could not be enforced. It would cost many millions more than the seasonal allowance to contest it, and he would fall in his case. Railway men either lived or starved by this business.

Premier McBride said that opponents of the bill were laboring under a misconception. It was the practice of railroad companies to issue passes. Some members objected to taking these. This was simply done by the member for Nanaimo not to impair the dignity of the members of the House. The Dominion parliament had passed a similar act. There was no change of confiscation by the railroad companies.

"Confiscation straight," said Mr. Murphy. Mr. Macdonald said that the Premier had said that if a railway company had protested against this bill, the railway companies in so doing had shown more dignity than it was proposed that the members of the legislature were showing. The Premier pointed to do have the railway companies to give these passes. It was just as reasonable to say that those who had been in the habit of giving New Year's gifts should be asked to do so by the parliament now. He thought it was beneath the dignity of the House to pass such a bill.

Mr. Oliver doubted the right of a private member to introduce this bill. It had been introduced by the government this bill would have been in an entirely different position. The Premier had undertaken to interpret the mind of the member for Nanaimo.

The bill was defeated on the following division: Yes—Davidson, Henderson, Williams, Hawthorthwaite, McBride, Houston, Clifford, Bowser, Ross, Wright, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford, Grant—14.

Nays—McInnes, Drury, King, Brown, Murphy, Jones, Taylor, Oliver, J. A. Macdonald, Munro, Paterson, W. J. Hall, Cameron, Taitow, Ellison, Fraser, Green, Fulton, Garcia, Young—21.

Discharged. W. C. Wells asked that the order for the second reading of the amendment to the Master and Servant Amendment Act be discharged. This was done.

Liquor License Act. The second reading of the amendment to the Liquor License Act was carried, and the bill was committed, with Mr. Munro in the chair.

Municipal Classes Act. Mr. Garden moved the second reading of the amendment to the Municipal Classes Act. This carried, and the bill was committed.

The bill provided for striking out the words over and above any registered incumbents or change in the property qualification or members of the council.

Mr. Garden wanted the bill amended to read as at present. J. Houston objected to this strongly. Members of the legislature without a dol-

lar might make laws for the province, yet this clause stood in this bill.

The amendment of Mr. Garden was defeated. Mr. Houston interjecting: "This is one time when the city of Nelson beats the city of Vancouver."

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Mr. McInnes asked what the purpose of the bill was then. The bill was committed, with Mr. Paterson in the chair, and passed as altered by the Attorney-General.

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Insurance Companies. The act to incorporate the Vancouver Insurance Company also passed its third reading, the name Vancouver being attached to British Columbia.

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In connection with an amendment introduced by J. F. Garden, providing that the property qualification for a member of the Park board should be in all respects that required for an alderman.

W. Davidson took exception to this property qualification being required. In doing so he pointed out that he had been asked to protest against this by some residents of Vancouver. He opposed the distinction being made in favor of property qualification.

P. Williams also protested against it. The Attorney-General expressed his approval with this objection also.

Mr. Garden wanted to know why the Attorney-General did not apply the principle by amending the General Municipal Act along this line.

The Attorney-General he said was in the amending business pretty well this year. The amendment was carried, Messrs. Taitow, Garden and Bowser voting for the amendment, Messrs. Wilson and Macgowan against it.

Third Readings. The amendment to the Line Fences and Water Courses Act, and the amendment to the Medical Act, passed their third readings.

Free Transportation. J. H. Hawthorthwaite, in moving the third reading of the bill providing that railway and steamship companies should give free passes to members of the legislature, said that a similar act was passed by the Dominion House.

F. Carter-Cotton argued against it. The act could not be enforced. There were only two small companies affected, the Kaslo & Siccan and the Victoria-Sidney. The Dominion parliament was the only one to deal with this. He contended that it was only right to return the allowance if the bill passed.

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Premier McBride said that opponents of the bill were laboring under a misconception. It was the practice of railroad companies to issue passes. Some members objected to taking these. This was simply done by the member for Nanaimo not to impair the dignity of the members of the House. The Dominion parliament had passed a similar act. There was no change of confiscation by the railroad companies.

"Confiscation straight," said Mr. Murphy. Mr. Macdonald said that the Premier had said that if a railway company had protested against this bill, the railway companies in so doing had shown more dignity than it was proposed that the members of the legislature were showing. The Premier pointed to do have the railway companies to give these passes. It was just as reasonable to say that those who had been in the habit of giving New Year's gifts should be asked to do so by the parliament now. He thought it was beneath the dignity of the House to pass such a bill.

Mr. Oliver doubted the right of a private member to introduce this bill. It had been introduced by the government this bill would have been in an entirely different position. The Premier had undertaken to interpret the mind of the member for Nanaimo.

The bill was defeated on the following division: Yes—Davidson, Henderson, Williams, Hawthorthwaite, McBride, Houston, Clifford, Bowser, Ross, Wright, Gifford, Macgowan, Shatford, Grant—14.

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The Saunders' Grocery Co., Ltd. The "West End" Grocery Co., Ld. SEE OUR WINDOWS. 39 and 41 Johnson Street. 42 Government Street.

FANCY NAVEL ORANGES 15c. a Dozen. Dixie H. Ross & Co. CASH GROCERS. The Grocers Protecting You Against High Prices.

Foot Elm Cures Chilblains. Eighteen Postages 25c. at all Dealers, or we pay postage. V. Stott & Jurg, Bowmanville, Ont.

CLEVER OF WORD GIVES EXPLANATIONS CONCERNING Some Interesting Statement Geo. Jeeves Before Senate Committee This Morning

(From Tuesday's Issue) The select committee of the House of Commons inquiring into Government contracts met again this morning. A Hood, of the lands and parks department was the first witness called for the request of F. C. Gamble by the latter witness said Gamble had given him the supply of the board with all the refusal by Mr. Gamble. He remembered Mr. Hooper's day. Hooper objected that was leading up to the qu Hooper acquiescing in the Mr. Rattenbury was a witness said rather than Mr. Hooper. Mr. Hood's position in the works department was such should not be asked to answer.

The chairman allowed and Mr. Gamble proceeded. "Do you infer that Mr. Rattenbury?" Mr. Hooper acquiesced. Mr. Hooper gave evidence to the effect that Mr. Hooper had met witness of the works department. He had said that Mr. Hooper had met witness of the works department. He had said that Mr. Hooper had met witness of the works department. He had said that Mr. Hooper had met witness of the works department.

How trusses had to be being opened. Defence in this were with in plans. Some of were necessary, as it made the changes made in one rooms was worth all the plan. With reference to the changes, witness said that had laid out the building. He understood that Mr. M had been shipping. The trusses were of which was to be used for the building. He had not seen the architect was power of the contract. The gas piping was put building was put up. He gas should never be turned on in the condition in which the gas was in the rooms to hang up the electric pipes were left open, and if turned on there would be an explosion. He had not seen the plan, but he could do nothing, a supervision over it.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly: His Honor then read the following speech: "Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly: His Honor then read the following speech: "Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly: His Honor then read the following speech: "Mr.

THE FIREMEN WON AFTER HARD FIGHT FLAMES HELD MASTERY FOR FORTY-EIGHT HOURS

The Commercial District of Baltimore is Now a Mass of Blackened Ruins.

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 8.—Baltimore is staggering tonight under a fire loss which no one has the temerity to put into figures. The important commercial district is a mass of blackened ruins, the result of a conflagration which raged for nearly 48 hours in spite of almost superhuman efforts, but for the hard fighting forces, which more than half a dozen cities muster, to-night the city is overcast with gloom. Apparently there is but one cause for gladness, and that is that there are no homes, for the residence section of the city escaped.

At 2 p.m. the Associated Press sent out a bulletin saying the flames would be held in check at the Union docks and prevented from leaving Jones Falls. At 3 o'clock the bulletin was confirmed. A score of times small fires were found near the sides of lumber piles on the east bank of the falls, but these were quickly extinguished.

About seventy-five blocks, or 140 acres, are gone. The burned district is within the territory bounded on the west by Liberty street; on the east by Jones Falls, and on the south by the Basin.

The district thus swept by fire comprised nearly 2,500 buildings. Insurance companies have joined temporary offices in the Lexington hotel, but their representatives decline to estimate the loss. The answer of one is typical of all: "It's too big. We have not money to describe it. It makes it about \$100,000,000 is the best we can do."

The same indecision was true in regard to estimates concerning insurance. The city was early in need under martial law to prevent looting.

The struggle to-day has been with the one end of confining the fire to the west side of Jones Falls. That the fire was checked was the result of the meeting of concentrated labors of nearly 100 fire companies, aided by the powerful tug Cataract.

The programme adopted last night, blowing up buildings in an attempt to stop the progress of the flames, was continued until the fire was under control. With the fire under control, the waste which lies in the wake of the flames is a river of terrible in its grandeur. It can be likened best to oceans of great coke ovens shooting out its thousand leagues of flames from pyramids of brick, stone and members of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, of the United States, which is to be held in San Francisco from September 6th to the 8th. The Pittsburgh Commandery, No. 1, arrived for their own special train of fifteen cars, and will come over the Northern Pacific. This party will comprise two hundred and sixty-five. They will leave Seattle for Victoria on August 20th at 7 o'clock a.m., arriving here at 11 o'clock.

Special arrangements will be made for their reception and entertainment. The members of Tatorced Commandery, No. 48, on a number of the number, will not journey over the Northern Pacific to their special train. They will likely arrive in Victoria the same day.

In addition to these two excursions on the coast, the city is expected to receive about fifteen other parties coming west over the same route, and most of these are expected to take a run to Victoria. Certainly every effort will be expended to attract them here. They comprise some of the most prominent people of the United States, and this city is bound to be the gainer through their visit. It is expected that the city will be able to come north from Frisco on their way home, and they undoubtedly will not fail to take in Victoria. The place will be at its best about that time, and the Knights Templar as favorably as it impressed the various parties of critical journalists who have visited here from time to time.

Local fire officials extend unstinted praise to the fire companies from New York and the brave and noble men in the face of the conflagration. Time and time again they were driven from their position by fierce bursts of flame, but at the coal yards they made a stand and won a contest which finally ended the terrible spread of the fire.

When darkness fell to-night the people of this stricken city knew the worst was over. The firemen working manfully, and aided by a muddy stream, finally conquered a fire that will rank among the world's great conflagrations. Worn out by the night and day of terror, the great crowds that watched the ruin of their city turned homeward, and at midnight the streets were deserted save for the police and soldiers who guard the city. A red glow rises from the ruins of the property that yesterday morning represented values to the extent of from \$75,000,000 to \$125,000,000. One factor that will figure largely in the final estimate consists of securities in the banks and trust companies whose homes were destroyed. Their safes and vaults are to-night in the ruins, covered with tons of bricks. Experts who have seen them as close an inspection as possible, express their belief, however, that the contents are safe. On the correctness or falsity of this belief depends many millions of dollars greater or less of the final total.

Relief. Washington, Feb. 8.—A bill was introduced to-day by Representative Emrich, Illinois, appropriating \$1,000,000 for the relief of the sufferers from the Baltimore fire.

COULD ILLUMINATE EARTH. Kipling's Estimate of Powers of the Victoria Falls.

Rudyard Kipling says that South Africa is able not only to feed the Motherland with corn, but the United States, too. The Victoria Falls, with 25,000,000 horse-power, would be able to furnish electricity enough to make the Dark Continent a blaze of glory and illuminate the earth.

OUTING FOR FEBRUARY.

In view of the sensation created last month by Robert Dunn's frank diary of the Mt. McKinley expedition, the extracts in February Outing are bound to interest every reader. This month's article, "Into the Mists of Mt. McKinley," uniquely combines a fascinating story of exploration with all the blackings, the quarrels, the fierce tempers of weary, tortured men, lying under wholly abnormal conditions.

Many readers may prefer, at this time of disturbances in Morocco, to turn to Albert H. Dana's first-hand account of a journey "Through the Rebel Country of the Moors," with human-interest photographs by the author.

An article of very different character, and of unusual interest, is Clifton Johnson's "Among the Georgia Crackers," a study from within of untoward conditions, where babies take snuff and women do all the work.

Caspar Whitney's graphic account of his experiences among the Sumatra Malays has a very Kiplingesque title, "In Abu Fins, an Elephant." Whitney intends to combine the series of travel-studies he has been writing into a volume called "The Jungle Hunter."

The fiction in this number is notable, including the most interesting chapter of Stewart Edward White's best story, "The Silent Places" or "The Trail of Jingsos," and a fragrant coaching story, "The Tip," by Emory Pottle, with some Pen-fish drawings that suggest a love story. Just as interesting as fiction is Emerson Hough's intimate study of "Sam Houston, one of his unique series of articles on the Outdoor Men of History."

The regular department devoted to "Outdoor Men and Women" contains characteristic anecdotes of two brothers, the angling craft, Wm. C. Harris, and Charles Hallock. Herbert K. Job, who has been photographing rare birds on Florida keys for using readers, has returned with some remarkable photographs, and Mr. Harris has something to say on when to fish in the same region.

Of equal interest to sportsmen and general readers are Dr. McKenney's "Breathlessness," or the progress of fatigue as seen in the human face; Edwyn Sandy's monthly talk, "Hinton Perry's 'Animals in Art,'" and finally instructions from John A. Roosevelt and Dan Beard on how to sail ice yachts and the art of skate sailing. "A Country Club in Oklahoma" is suggestive of long strides from the days of Indian reservations.

In the Sportsman's Viewpoint, Caspar Whitney discusses in his usual vigorous way the development of horsemanship in this country and the intelligent effort that has made our Horse Show the equal of any in the world.

Photographs full of the outdoor feeling, a little nature verse and a great many inspiring drawings by the most distinguished artists, complete the magazine.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

More Information Concerning the Big Excursions Next Summer.

From a reliable source the Times has secured additional information concerning the visit to this city of a big contingent of members of the twenty-ninth annual convocation of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, of the United States, which is to be held in San Francisco from September 6th to the 8th. The Pittsburgh Commandery, No. 1, arrived for their own special train of fifteen cars, and will come over the Northern Pacific. This party will comprise two hundred and sixty-five. They will leave Seattle for Victoria on August 20th at 7 o'clock a.m., arriving here at 11 o'clock.

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WHEN YOUR THROAT IS SORE

Inhale Catarrhizone and Get Cured Before Bronchitis or Diphtheria Set In.

It may be only a slight cold now—just a tickling in the throat. But little colds soon grow large and dangerous. Then they become chronic, develop catarrh and end in consumption.

Catarrhizone is the remedy. It draws in the inflammation and soreness out of the throat. Relieves the cough. It cuts out the phlegm, makes breathing easy and kills any germ lodged in the mucous lining of the throat or lungs.

Mrs. Chenoweth, of Glendive, writes: "I had a bad cough for several months, lost last fall that settled on my lungs. Nothing I used could shake it off. I read of the Presbyterian Witness of the wonderful cures of Catarrhizone I decided to try it. The irritability and soreness left my throat in a few days, and in less than one week entirely cured my cough."

The reason Catarrhizone always cures is that it goes right to the sore spot which it heals and makes well. It has no effect on the speedy cure of colds, coughs, catarrh, bronchitis and lung trouble, and is well worth a trial.

Catarrhizone-inhale can be carried in the vest pocket ready for use any time. Two months treatment costs only one dollar; trial size 25c. Sold by druggists or by mail from N. C. Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont., and Hartford, Conn., U. S. A.

APPOINTED TO SUPREME COURT.

Ottawa, Feb. 10.—Hon. D. C. Fraser, M. P., Gaysboro, N. S., has been appointed to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia in place of Mr. Justice H. McE. Henry, superannuated. The writ for Gaysboro will be issued at once.

SWORE ROBERTS WAS VERY EXCITED

EVIDENCE ON CLALLAM INQUEST ON MONDAY

One Witness Made Sensational Statement Regarding Conduct of Captain on the Life Raft.

Evidence was given by three witnesses at the inquest into the Clallam disaster, which was continued yesterday afternoon. They were two of the passengers, Charles G. Bennett and H. D. Boney, and one of the crew, Alan McKoen. All three made statements of a somewhat sensational nature.

The first one said that when the life raft was launched the captain ordered passengers to get below on the main deck. It is corroborated by McKoen, who, after telling of the order, added: "The captain then commenced to edge off towards the life raft."

But in the course of his examination, said he was pulled on the life raft by a man named Case, who afterwards told him that the captain tried to push floating about on the life raft because it was slightly crowded. Witness did not notice this, being too exhausted to pay attention to anything.

Charles G. Bennett, the first witness called, swore he was a passenger on the Clallam on January 8th. He had some considerable experience at sea. He recounted the circumstances leading up to the disaster, and said that about 2:30 he noticed the captain and officers passing from the upper deck. Shortly before 3 o'clock the captain said to some of the passengers: "We'll be in Victoria in an hour."

Witness went down to the life preservers, and was told that the ship was leaking. Passengers were then put on life-preservers. Putting on a life-preserver he then proceeded to the deck, and saw the starboard lifeboats being lowered. Looking over the port side shortly after he saw that a small boat had foundered. People were clinging to her sides, and other boats cleared the vessel. Among those floating he recognized N. P. Shaw, who drifted between the small boat and the ship.

After assisting in lowering the small boat witness helped to bail. Between 9 and 10 o'clock the Holyoke came up and took the Clallam in tow. "I noticed," witness continued, "that when the ship was taken in tow she commenced to settle rapidly. I knew this because previously we were kept even with the water, and then it began to sink. Witness then told the captain and chief officer that I thought the vessel was sinking. The latter looked over the side, but did not say anything."

"Was the captain there at the time?" Coroner Hart asked. Witness replied in the affirmative. Continuing, the witness told of the arrival of the Sea Lion and the foundering of the ship. He escaped by getting on the life raft, which was occupied by the chief officer alone when witness reached it. Afterwards about 12 were rescued and picked up by the Sea Lion after drifting about for half an hour or so.

Questioned by the coroner, witness said he was not anxious to go in the small boats because he did not think they could live in such a sea. From the first he had decided to go with the ship, because the captain arrived he thought she would take the passengers and crew off. At this time the sea was calmer than before, and his opinion, that the small boats were available at the time the Holyoke approached, which, with the life raft, were sufficient to accommodate all on board. Capt. Roberts had expressed all afternoon his opinion that the small boats would be available at the time the Holyoke approached, which, with the life raft, were sufficient to accommodate all on board.

Witness had approached the captain early in the afternoon and asked him whether there were any lifeboats on board. "There were three on the lifeboats," he answered. "An adjournment was therefore taken until 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon."

CANADIAN NOTES.

Meeting of Railway Commission.—The Alleged Criminal Libel Case.

Ottawa, Feb. 9.—The first meeting of the railway commission was held this afternoon. British Columbia applications were discussed.

Committed For Trial.

Montreal, Feb. 6.—Hugh Graham, proprietor of the Star, and manager of the Star of the Pacific, was committed to the Court of King's Bench to stand his trial on a charge of criminal libel preferred by Hon. Raymond Prefontaine.

Nominations.

The following candidates were nominated to-day for the bye-elections which take place next Tuesday at Victoria: Conservative—J. E. Armstrong, Conservative; Charles Jenkins, Liberal; Ed Bruce—J. J. Donnelly, Conservative; A. W. Robb, Liberal; Montague—Armand Lavigne, Liberal; M. Rousseau, Conservative; St. Hyacinthe—J. J. Banchet, Liberal; E. Tache, Conservative; Hochelaga (Montreal)—L. A. Rivet, Liberal; Dr. A. A. Bernard, Conservative; St. James (Montreal)—J. G. H. Bergeron, Conservative; Honore Gervais, Liberal; P. Lancelotti, Liberal; Workmen's candidate, St. John—Dr. J. H. E. L. Horace Hazard, Liberal; A. McLean, Conservative.

Confessed to Embezzlement.

Brookville, Ont., Feb. 9.—A sensation has been caused here by the news that James A. Hutchinson, a leading barrister of this town, has given himself up to the extent of thirty or forty thousand dollars. The defaulter runs back as far as four years, and Hutchinson states that during that time he was successful in keeping all knowledge of it from his partner, Fisher. Last Friday he told Fisher of the fact and the latter advised him to call a meeting of his creditors. Hutchinson refused to do so, as he wished to surrender himself to justice. The money was lost in speculation on the market.

The French authorities at Papete have issued a notification that in future no foreign vessel will be allowed to enter or to carry cargo between the islands of the Society group.

COUNCIL SUPPRESSED ISLANDS

AND WILL URGE THE GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST

Efforts Will Also Be Made to Secure Dominion Exhibition for Victoria.

Acting Mayor Graham again presided at the regular weekly meeting of the city council Monday. Probably the most interesting matters before the board were a couple of motions, introduced and passed, one favoring the construction of the Cowichan, Alberni & Fort Rupert railway, and the other directing action on the part of the city council towards securing the Dominion exhibition for Victoria in 1905.

There were some vacant places in the aldermanic circle, among the absentees being Aldermen Kinsmen and Fell. George Riley, M. P., wrote stating that he was in hearty accord with the resolution favoring the construction of the Dominion exhibition in this city, and offering his service in doing what he could towards securing an appropriation from the Dominion for the same.

The Tourist Association also communicated on the same subject, enclosing a copy of a resolution passed by that organization, which has already appeared in previous letters were temporarily laid on the table.

F. B. Pemberton asked for the extension of a box drain on St. Charles street. Referred to the city engineer for report. Referred to the building inspector and finance committee for report.

Crease & Crease asked that a special committee be appointed to investigate into the conduct of the city pound-keepers in regard to the loss of a cow, belonging to Wm. Donaldson.

In compliance with the request three aldermen were appointed on the committee, who will report to the Mayor, namely, Aldermen Goodacre, Oddy and Vincent.

John R. Giacomo applied for further time to make a sewer connection. Request granted.

Mrs. R. J. Riddell drew attention, on behalf of the W. C. T. U., to a number of idle men living on Humboldt street, and asked that the council do something towards supplying them with work.

Before the letter was dealt with, Acting Mayor Graham stated that he had already been regarding this matter, and he stated that in his opinion there were probably others in the city who had been here longer, and who were probably more deserving of the city's help. Just before the letter was read, the worst time of the year for civic employment.

On motion, the letter was referred to the Mayor to deal with.

T. P. McConnell, secretary of the Victoria Royal Club, asked for an appropriation of \$100 towards the club's next show in Victoria, and expressed the opinion that the city derived benefit to the amount asked, and more, in advertising in bringing people here for the show. Referred to the finance committee for report.

City Engineer Topp recommended payment of \$10,000 to the Victoria Machinery Depot in accordance with the terms of the Point Ellice bridge contract. Received and adopted.

J. L. Baymore recommended the purchase of 25 1/2-inch valves for the use of the water works. Referred to the streets, bridges and sewers committee.

A petition was next read asking for the extension of the street from Seventh street. Referred to the city engineer for report.

The finance committee recommended payment of accounts totaling \$3,728.98, and also payment of \$10,000 to the Victoria Machinery Company. Approved.

The same committee also recommended that contract for drugs be awarded to Morrison & Co. Post tenders were received. Adopted.

On motion given early in the week, applications will be called for the position of cemetery keeper.

Ald. Beckwith next moved that steps be taken by the council to urge the government to support the Cowichan, Alberni & Fort Rupert railway project. Ald. Beckwith said that he was convinced that there was a great deal of the substantial behind the movement, and the step proposed would do a great deal of good. He stated that he was of the opinion that the necessary legislation surveys would be out, and that within three months actual construction work would be well advanced. He was of the opinion that this had struck Victoria for some time.

Ald. Stewart said he would hold up his hands for anything which would develop the Victoria Island, for anything that helped the Island was beneficial to Victoria. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Ald. Beckwith moved that a committee of three be appointed to convene with the Tourist Association, Agricultural Association and the Board of Trade in regard to securing the Dominion exhibition.

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

In the Matter of Margaret Isabella Gill, Deceased, Intestate, and in the Matter of the Official Administrator's Act.

Notice is hereby given that under an order made by the Honorable the Chief Justice, dated 25th day of January, 1904, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the estate of the above deceased. All parties having claims against the said estate are requested to send particulars of same to me, on or before the 25th day of February, 1904, and all parties indebted thereto are requested to pay such indebtedness to me forthwith.

H. P. O'FARRELL, November 19th, 1903.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

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W. M. MONTEITH, November 19th, 1903.

WANTED—Futuristic person to travel for well established house in a few counties, selling retail merchandise and agents. Local territory. Salary \$20.00 per week with expenses additional. All parties in cash each week. Money for expenses advanced. Position permanent. Business successful and rising. Standard House, Victoria, B. C., January 20th, 1904.

A pretty home wedding took place at the residence of Capt. S. W. Beckman, 30 Montreal street, Tuesday evening. The principals were Mr. H. J. Lincoln-Ullyot and Miss Elma Jeanette, eldest daughter of Capt. Beckman. The young couple were supported by Mr. A. Clayton and Miss Joe Beckman, sister of the bride. Rev. W. C. King officiated, the ceremony being solemnized at 6 o'clock. A large number of beautiful presents were received, and the evening was most graceful and artistic affair. After the wedding Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln-Ullyot left on the Sound steamer en route to their new home in Langdon, Dakota, amidst the well wishes and congratulations of a large number of friends. The bride is a Victorian, well known in musical circles, both she and her sister having delighted local audiences with vocal selections on many occasions.

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