

AMENDING THE LAWS.

Wisdom is multiplying upon the earth. Our legislators are gathering it up in great heaps and incorporating it in statutes designed to secure to man his rights and add to his happiness. As conditions are ever varying, however, it is commonly found that the act which seemed to be all right at the time it emerged from the state of being a bill requires amendment every session. This gives the legislature an excuse for its existence, the orators an opportunity to talk and the practical man a chance to demonstrate that the state of perfection in legislation is still a long distance ahead. This movement in the direction of perfection would be all right but for one startling thought. The law is already admitted to be a most complex machine, and there is a fear that the time may come when its highly organized system will be unable to bear the strain which has been put upon it and break down entirely. What would the world do then?

We observe that the senior member for Victoria has laid bare one of the secrets of his great popularity by introducing the following amendments to the law relating to inheritance and distribution:

5. If the intestate shall leave a widow or husband, him or her surviving, such widow or husband, as the case may be, shall be entitled, in case the intestate has or has not left lawful descendants, to one-half of such real estate absolutely, but such widow shall not be entitled to dower in the remaining half.

The complaints about defects developing through the working of the Placer Mining Act have been loud and deep, and the Minister of Mines, by and with the assistance of the practical miners in the House, is endeavoring to make the crooked straight by numerous amendments, and if any miner has a protest to make he had better make it without loss of time. The designations of bench, hill and gulch diggings are wiped out, and "streams and ravines" are made to include natural water courses, whether containing water or not. The privilege of one month in which to obtain a free mine's license by any one who has struck a claim, without renewing his license, is abolished. The most radical change is in regard to the size of claims. These are increased from 100 feet to 250 feet for bar diggings. In the case of discovery claims the discoverer is allowed 600 feet instead of 300 as before, and two discovery covers 1,000 feet instead of 600 as before. Over that number claims of the ordinary size are allowed, no provision being made for parties up to the number of four, as before. Another amendment provides that the name of locator, number of certificate, etc., is to be posted on each of the four posts of the claim, so that in case of some of the posts falling one alone would be sufficient to re-trace the boundaries of the claim. Provision is made for the erection of additional posts beside the discoverer's, this being necessitated by the larger area of the claim. Judgments affecting claims are to be recorded with the mining recorder and notices of insufficiency of water necessitating the laying-over of claims are to be posted on the claim itself, as well as with the mining recorder as heretofore. The amendments are too extensive to give in full, but here are a few of them:

No person or joint stock company shall be recognized as having any right or interest in or to any placer claim, and no bed-rock flume grant, or any minerals in any ground comprised therein, or in or to any water right, mining ditch, drain, tunnel, or flume, unless he or it shall have a free mine's certificate accepted. And on the expiration of a free mine's certificate the owner thereof shall absolutely forfeit all his rights and interest in or to any placer claim, mining lease, bed-rock flume grant, and any minerals in any ground comprised therein, and in or to any and every water right, mining ditch, drain, tunnel, or flume, which may be held or claimed by such owner of such expired free mine's certificate, unless such owner shall, on or before the day following the expiration of such certificate, obtain a new free mine's certificate. Provided, nevertheless, any co-owner fail to keep up his free mine's certificate, such failure shall not cause a forfeiture or act as an abandonment of the claim; but the interest of the co-owner who shall fail to keep up his free mine's certificate shall, these facts, be and become, vested in his co-owners, pro rata, according to their former interests. The filing in the office of the Mining Recorder of a certificate from the Department of Mines that the free mine's certificate of such co-owner has indeed shall be sufficient evidence of such lapse to vest the title in the continuing co-owners on the record in the office of such Mining Recorder. Provided, nevertheless, that a shareholder in a joint stock company need not be a free miner, and, though not a free miner, shall be entitled to buy, sell, hold, or dispose of any shares therein. And provided, also, that the provisions shall not apply to placer mines for which a Crown grant has been issued.

Every person who works any placer claim within the province of British Columbia, whether recorded or not, for his own use and benefit without being the holder of an unexpired free mine's certificate shall, on conviction thereof in a summary way, forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars, besides costs.

Section 11 of the said Act is hereby amended by adding thereto the following proviso: "Provided that a free miner acting as agent for another free miner shall not be entitled to locate or record any placer claim as such agent unless and until there has been recorded in the office of the Mining Recorder for the mining division in which such claim is situate a power of attorney appointing such agent to locate and record such claim for his principal."

Section 16 of the said Act is hereby amended, and the following substituted therefor: "16. The size of placer claims shall be as follows: "In 'creek diggings' a claim shall be 250

feet long, measured in the general direction of the course of the stream, and shall extend from high water mark on one bank to high water mark on the other, but when such high water marks are less than 250 feet apart the claim shall be 250 feet square:

"In 'bar diggings' a claim shall be: "(a) A piece of land not exceeding 250 feet square on any bar which is covered at high water, or

"(b) A strip of land 250 feet long at high water mark and in width extending from high water mark to extreme low water mark: "In 'dry diggings' a claim shall be 250 feet square."

Section 17 of the said Act is hereby repealed, and the following substituted therefor: "17. If any free miner, or party of free miners, discover a new locality for the prosecution of placer mining and such discovery be established to the satisfaction of the Gold Commissioner, place claims of the following areas shall be allowed to such discoverers, viz.:

"To one discoverer, one claim 600 feet in length.

"To a party of two discoverers, two claims, amounting together to 1,000 feet in length.

"And to each member of a party beyond two in number, a claim of the ordinary size only.

"Provided that where a discovery claim has been established in any locality no further discovery shall be allowed within five miles therefrom, measured along the water-courses. The width of such claims shall be the same as ordinary placer claims of the same class."

OPEN DOOR FOR RAILWAYS.

The voice of the interior of British Columbia has been heard and it demands with a sternness of tone that we think our legislators will not venture to ignore that all companies that desire to so shall be permitted to build lines of railway in the province. The Associated Boards of Trade of the interior have endorsed the position of "splendid isolation" which the Times has maintained despite the opposition or indifference of nearly all the newspapers of the coast and many in the portions of the province chiefly interested. We regret to say it, but, whatever the cause, in this case the press has not voiced public opinion. There is not a city in the province, or any section of it, that would not mortgage its future in order to gain for itself better railway connection, and yet in the case which has occupied so much attention of late it has been assumed by those who must have a very low opinion of the astuteness of the public that an effective barricade could be raised against a project which when carried out will develop a fine section of country, build two or three cities in the course of a very short time and create a splendid addition to the markets of our farmers and merchants and manufacturers, besides adding enormously to the revenues of the province—revenues which will be of such material assistance in developing other sections and keeping in progress the growing time which has just begun to gather force.

It may not be inopportune to remind our coast Boards of Trade and merchants that they have once more in the impression gain ground that they are in antagonism to and not in sympathy with the aspirations of the merchants of the interior. That this is unfortunate it is not necessary for us to point out. The extent of the market which is being developed in the mining regions now that smelters are springing up in all directions, and the number of shipping mines is being added to every week, we shall understand by and by, perhaps when the Eastern merchants have secured a grip on the trade that will be difficult to unfasten. Would it not be well for the Western Boards of Trade to endorse the following resolutions passed by the Associated Boards of Eastern British Columbia at a meeting held in the town of Greenwood last week:

"Whereas, several applications have been made to the Dominion Parliament and provincial legislature for acts incorporating railway companies to build lines of railway into the province of British Columbia from the United States:

"And whereas interested parties are strenuously endeavoring to create the impression that such railways, if constructed, would be inimical to the mining and smelting interests of the province:

"And whereas in furtherance of their designs the opponents of the competitive railways have proclaimed that those interested in mining and smelting in British Columbia are opposed to the granting of said railway charters:

"Therefore, be it resolved that the Associated Boards of Trade of Eastern British Columbia, representing every town in the metalliferous portion of Eastern British Columbia, and every enterprise whose success depends upon the development of its mineral resources, emphatically declare for 'Free Trade in Railways,' and believe that every bonafide railway company, desirous of building railways in the province, should be allowed to do so:

"And be it further resolved that the association is strongly of the opinion that

cheap freight rates are essential to building up the mining and smelting industries, and in the absence of government owned railways, these can be secured only by competition and the control of rates through a railway commission or other effective instrument:

"And be it further resolved that this association petition the Dominion Parliament and provincial legislature to renege the charter applied for by the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co., and those applied for by other companies, who ask for nothing beyond the privilege of constructing railways into the province.

"And be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be printed and forwarded to the members of the Dominion and provincial governments, and the members of the House of Commons, Senate and provincial legislature."

The mover of these resolutions made a strong speech urging that neither the interests of the C. P. R. nor the coal company should be considered, but that the welfare of the province should be the dominant thought. Only five votes were cast against the resolutions, three of them being recorded by representatives from Trail, where the C. P. R. smelter is situated. Thirty-three members of the Associated Boards supported the resolution.

DR. CLARKE'S REPORT.

Judging by the report which the government has received from a man who is unquestionably competent to give an opinion, some radical changes are necessary in the management of the asylum for the insane at Westminister; in fact, perhaps it would not be too strong to say that the system which it is time the whole system were torn up by the roots and a new and different regime inaugurated. Apparently the right thing has not been done neither by the patients nor the public. The inmates of the asylum have not received the attention usually extended to the unfortunate in these days of supreme regard for all who are afflicted, and the substance of the province, if it has not been wantonly wasted, has not been conserved as it should have been. Probably there is no particular blame to be attached to any of the employees of the asylum. They simply have not approached their duties in the proper spirit, being apparently under the impression, as the report says in effect, that the institution was created for their convenience rather than the comfort and well-being of the patients. It may be that the blame for this condition of affairs for the most part rests upon the shoulders of the provincial authorities. With proper inspection and supervision such conditions should never have obtained. But whatever the cause, the report deals quite orquely with conditions as they exist, and it now only remains for the government to take the matter up and apply the remedy.

Now that the question of economy in the management of public institutions has been brought up through the report on the state of affairs at the asylum, perhaps we may be pardoned for suggesting that the profrugality which Dr. Clarke noted in the ordering of supplies seems to be inherent in our Western system of doing business. None of our public institutions is conducted on the economical lines insisted upon by Eastern public men. It was noted only a short time ago in some of the Eastern papers that the cost of feeding the prisoners in the jail of one of the largest cities in Ontario was about three or four cents a day. We do not look forward to breaking that record in British Columbia, but it does appear that in many of our municipal and provincial institutions there is room for the practice of a great deal of economy without approaching a state of rigidity or lessening in the slightest degree the comforts of the inmates. It is time all wanton waste was abolished.

BRITAIN AND HER NEIGHBORS.

One of the notable features of the debates in the parliaments of the great self-governing nations of the world is the frequency with which the leaders of the party in power have to defend themselves against allegations of undue friendliness with Great Britain. It is extraordinary that in the case of nations having so much in common as the empires of Great Britain and Germany it should be suspected that Emperor William was actuated by other motives than the mere paying of respect to the memory of his grandmother in his prolonged visit to the King his uncle. That the feelings of the people of our Mother Country towards those of the Fatherland have become more cordial because of the thoughtfulness and consideration of the Emperor for his relatives in their affliction there is no manner of doubt. Yet there are elements in Germany, apparently, which resent this, preferring bitterness and hostility. The antagonism of France and the United States we can understand, although many years of friendly business and social intercourse should ere this have melted the memories of former strife; but in the case of Germany it is not so easy to comprehend. The war in South Africa has displeased Germans in all parts of the world, but there were elements of hostility to Britons present among them before that broke out. So that we are safe in assuming that commercial and industrial rivalry is at the bottom of the antagonism in all cases. Why this should be so it is hard to understand when all the circumstances are considered.

Great Britain has admitted the products of all these countries into her markets absolutely free, although they have heaped up duties against her almost without limit. The temptation to retaliate must have been very great in

many cases, and yet it has always been resisted, not because of regard for the feelings of her rivals, but because she regarded it as in the interests of her people to adhere steadily to the course she had mapped out. Britain's course has received ample vindication in the prosperity which has uniformly attended within her dominions even when there was depression and stagnation among her neighbors. Perhaps this unchanging good fortune has aroused the passions which we have noted. If Great Britain had been the most highly protected nation in the world instead of what she is it is difficult to believe that her neighbors could have been more hostile. Will it breed joy or displeasure if an authentic announcement be made that it is the intention of Great Britain to raise part of her revenues in the future by duties on imports? We admit that that is a very difficult question to answer in view of the attitude which her rival nations have maintained in the past. They may accept it as an evidence of decadence and rejoice, or they may take it to be an act of hostility, and ask for means of retaliation. But as they have been for years striking at Britain in what they deemed to be her vulnerable parts their further efforts are likely to be awaited with equanimity.

OUR MINERAL OUTPUT. All things considered, the report of the Minister of Mines showing the growth of the mining industry in British Columbia is highly satisfactory. Great as the increase in the output has been for 1900, compared with the previous year, it is confidently expected, if nothing occurs to impede progress, that the increase will be still more marked with each succeeding year. British Columbians know that the era of expansion has not commenced here. Smelters have just been completed and others are being projected which will add greatly to the production in localities which have hitherto been hampered for lack of such facilities or have had no facilities at all. An adjustment of all disputes between capital and labor has been made, which promises to be lasting, and the one thing needed to secure the maximum benefit to the country from the wealth which it contains is such action on the part of the federal and the provincial governments as will secure the development of our resources to the highest point within the boundaries of the province.

It will be noted that the most remarkable increase has been shown in the production of lead. Authorities claim that this great industry is at present practically at the mercy of the American smelters and refiners. This need not necessarily be so for any length of time. If by reason of the policy which it has decided to pursue the Dominion government cannot see its way to offer a bounty on pig lead, there is no reason why the provincial administration should not take such action as would have the same effect. Let it follow the example of the government of Ontario, which allows none of its products to be carried off which can be turned to better advantage for the country by the people at home. It is difficult to understand why lead ores cannot be refined up to the highest point with respect to private capital on the northern as well as on the southern side of the boundary line. Probably experts are able to explain the phenomenon. There is a market in Europe which would absorb our output with avidity even if it were excluded entirely from the United States. If it should be necessary for the government to give encouragement to the industry in some form, or if it decided to enter into the smelting and refining on its own account, there does not seem to be much doubt that the electors would approve of its course if it placed one of our chief sources of wealth beyond the power of influences which are said to be inimical to its progress.

Hon. G. W. Ross: "I do not think we are half as intelligent as we ought to be. We are not a reading people. There is not a young man who does not waste the fortune of a Rockefeller, if time could be expressed in dollars, in idleness when he might be storing his mind with information from our libraries. There is no royal road to promotion in Canada. It is got by steady climbing and close application. I never saw a man come to the front in politics, in law, in medicine, who did not constantly nourish and fructify his mind by reading. Why is it that with good literature at our hand, we are so ill-informed as to the history of our own country? Why are we freer to-day than Great Britain and the United States? We do not know. We have not read our history. Can you be patriotic on air?"

Lord Wolsey said until he was no longer commander-in-chief he was underduty to criticize the methods of the war department. If he had demanded that he and not civilian under-stoppers should be given the direction of affairs and resigned on the disregarding of his protest he would have had a stronger case to lay before his lords and gentlemen. His lack of sense has cost Great Britain many valuable lives and much treasure. Will the little man at present in charge clean out the incompetents?"

Talk about advertising the province. The table published in another column setting forth the progress we are making in the mining industry, is the very best advertisement British Columbia could have at the present time.

MEETING OF MINERS.

They Decide to Make Another Appeal to Premier Dunsmuir for a Conference.

(Special to the Times.) South Wellington, March 6.—A mass meeting of the Alexandra Miners' Union was held here this morning, when John MacKinnon acted as chairman. All the speakers agreed the union had exhausted all peaceable methods of attempting to lay their grievances before the company, and that they have been unjustly and discourteously treated. The men resolved that they would no longer recognize Alexander Frauds as foreman or manager of the mines, but would treat only with Premier Dunsmuir or other responsible representatives of the company. Several bitter attacks were made on the Nanaimo Miners' Union for alleged failure to carry out the promise to demand ten per cent. advance on the 1st of March.

The resolution was adopted that the secretary make a final appeal to Mr. Dunsmuir for a conference as a last resort.

The meeting adjourned for a week, when it is expected a reply will be received from Mr. Dunsmuir.

ABOUT THE HOUSE.

Joseph Martin, M. P. P., Arrived in the City To-day—Miners' Petition.

Jos. Martin, M. P. P., arrived in the city to-day, and will be on hand for the sittings of the legislature to-day, or, as he says, "to open fire" on the government. The almost simultaneous arrival of himself and Smith Curtis fills the opposition ranks up to full fighting strength.

A deputation consisting of T. J. Trapp, president of the Westminister Exhibition Association, as it is known; Ald. W. H. Keary, secretary and manager; W. J. Mathers, Arthur Maline, W. R. Gilley, Dr. R. Eden Walker, all of New Westminister; Capt. W. F. Stewart, of Ebhurie; H. D. Benson, Ladner; and John Hendry and R. Hamilton, of Vancouver, waited on the executive this morning to urge the granting of \$5,000 to the New Westminister fair. They were accompanied by Messrs. Garden, Tatlow, Helmecken, Taylor, Oliver, Munro, Kidd, Gilmour, J. C. Brown, Speaker Booth, Dickie, Hunter and A. W. Smith, and the executive were addressed by Messrs. Trapp, Keary, Oliver, Kidd, Tatlow, Munro, Green and Smith. The latter urged that the provincial fair be held alternately at New Westminister and Victoria. The others supported the deputation absolutely. The government promised all possible consideration to the proposal. The deputation was introduced by J. C. Brown.

This afternoon W. W. E. McInnes will present a petition to amend the Coal Mines' Regulation Act, asking for the establishment of a board to examine and declare as to the competency of miners working underground in coal mines. The board would consist of two members elected by the miners, and one appointed by the government.

The petition is signed by 817 miners in the collieries at Cumberland, Nanaimo, Extension and South Wellington.

A deputation from Extension waited on Premier Dunsmuir this afternoon asking him not to remove the pay office of the collieries to Ladysmith. The Premier informed them, in reply, that he intended doing so, and that he had given them distinctly to understand that it was his intention to build up Ladysmith. Any who so wished might continue to live at Extension, and would be provided with passes to go down to Ladysmith to draw their pay, or they might authorize some one there to do so for them.

A WIDESPREAD TROUBLE IN SPRING TIME.

Paine's Celery Compound The Only Remedy That Cures and Saves Life.

One of the most prevalent and fatal troubles at this season is Kidney disease. It comes on as silently as a cat steals upon its prey, and too often wrecks life before the victims are fully aware of their danger.

Do not disregard the early symptoms of Kidney disease, some of which are backache, constipation, indigestion with headache, and a constant call to make water which has abundant sediment of a bricky color.

The prompt and honest use of Paine's Celery Compound will quickly banish every symptom of disordered Kidneys. The great medicine has cured and given a new life to thousands in the past; it will do the same good work for all sufferers to-day.

Mr. M. Maher, Haldresser, St. John's, Nfld., says: "I suffered terribly for two years from Kidney trouble and Dyspepsia. I was completely run down and could not eat or sleep. One of the ablest city doctors attended me, but no good results followed his work. Happily, a friend advised me to use Paine's Celery Compound. I procured a supply, and the first dose relieved me. I have used eight bottles, and now sleep well, appetite is good, and I am as strong as ever before. I can recommend Paine's Celery Compound to all."

D. Carmody returned from Seattle on the Rosalie yesterday.

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SPRING The Trade are invited to call and inspect our many and varied lines of Spring Goods, which we offer at prices that cannot be beaten. J. Piercy & Co., VICTORIA, B. C., WHOLESALE DRYGOODS.

It Will Pay You To watch our ads. We advertise something interesting every week, and our space will not permit us to quote all the articles we carry but we will be pleased to have you call and get our prices before purchasing elsewhere. Our drives for this week: ARMOUR'S PORK AND BEANS 10c and 15c CALIFORNIA NEW GRASS BUTTER Large Square, 90c NATIVE PORT WINE 25c bottles AYLMER'S TOMATOES 10c tin AYLMER'S CORN 10c tin AYLMER'S PEAS 10c tin AYLMER'S BEANS 10c tin Dixie H. Ross & Co., CASH GROCERS.

Agents Wanted THE FONTHILL NURSERIES We have the largest nurseries in Canada, 800 acres, and can therefore give the best assortment of stock. STEADY EMPLOYMENT TO WORKERS And good pay weekly. All supplies free. We are sole agents for Dr. Mole's celebrated Caterpillar, which protects trees from the caterpillar. Our agents cover their expenses by carrying this as a side line. It is in great demand. Write at once for terms. Stone & Wellington, Toronto.

A beautiful, new Pansy The Steel-Briggs 'Madame Perret' Pansy has very large pink-to-purple flowers. Sometimes they are to 3 1/2 inches across. It has straighter stiffer stems than the ordinary pansy, and the flowers are held out from the foliage better. We will send our Catalogue and a Madame Perret Pansy seed packet by mail to you for 25c. Send to-day. The Catalogue is the largest Canadian seed catalogue ever published. THE STEEL-BRIGGS SEED CO., Ltd., TORONTO, Canada's Greatest Seed House. VITALLETS MAKE STRONG AND MANLY MEN. FREE TO MEN AND WOMEN. VITALLETS For Nerve Strength and Blood Health. Vitallets are a power to the brain and blood force. They feed the brain, build up, set on fire and strengthen the nerves. They give you the power to carry the load of every organ and cause you to laugh with new life. Have you weak nerves or laggard blood? Do you lack energy, ambition or a go? Is your memory poor? Are you constipated? Are your kidneys weak? Do you have a man and yet not a man, but suffering from neuritis or other effects of early indiscretions, nervous worry or other causes? Are you a woman and afflicted with any of the diseases peculiar to women? Have you any of the symptoms mentioned above? Then take VITALLETS and you will get well. Free treatment sent prepaid by mail. Do not delay but order now. MELWOOD MED. CO., Box 7110, Vancouver, B.C.

Treatment Of Ins

Dr. Clarke Outlines the He Discovered in Pr... cial Institution

Advocates More Em... Physical Culture, Dr... a Farm Colony

The provincial secretary submitted the report of Dr. C. investigating the working of at New Westminister. Amongst those conducting to an unstate of affairs he mentions: 1. Excessive salaries to staff and nurses. 2. Too numerous a staff. 3. Unnecessary officials, such as foreman and shoemaker. 4. Lack of economy in supplies. 5. Lack of organization in system. 6. Lack of system in the department. 7. Defective heating arrangements in management, and cost of fuel bills. 8. Inadequate and unattractive roundings and facilities for patients. 9. Allowing refractory patients occupy one bedroom. 10. Poor bedding and lack of patients. Dr. Clarke makes the following suggestions: 1. Proper and elaborate scheme of patient and nurse's work jacket. Brush making, carpentering and similar pursuits inmates. 2. If desirable the purchasing department for a farm colony. 3. Drill and physical culture. Concluding, Dr. Clarke says mental principle upon which had been that the more earnest an idea of the proper relation should exist between patient and nurse. The report, in full, is as follows: Sir: In accordance with the instructions contained in the commission on the 10th of January went to New Westminister, having complied with the provisions of the Public Inquiries Act, to investigate the affairs of the hospital for the insane on the 15th of January 1901. Dr. S. in the course of his investigation received me in a friendly manner, many visits to the institution, and answered questions frankly and things in his power to aid the investigation. In the course of the investigation on the 10th of January went to New Westminister, having complied with the provisions of the Public Inquiries Act, to investigate the affairs of the hospital for the insane on the 15th of January 1901. Dr. S. in the course of his investigation received me in a friendly manner, many visits to the institution, and answered questions frankly and things in his power to aid the investigation. In the course of the investigation on the 10th of January went to New Westminister, having complied with the provisions of the Public Inquiries Act, to investigate the affairs of the hospital for the insane on the 15th of January 1901. Dr. S. in the course of his investigation received me in a friendly manner, many visits to the institution, and answered questions frankly and things in his power to aid the investigation. In the course of the investigation on the 10th of January went to New Westminister, having complied with the provisions of the Public Inquiries Act, to investigate the affairs of the hospital for the insane on the 15th of January 1901. Dr. S. in the course of his investigation received me in a friendly manner, many visits to the institution, and answered questions frankly and things in his power to aid the investigation.

Desires of Remedying and I sincerely trust that the which are inevitable may be in a wrong spirit. They are a reflection, merely suggested to pave the way to the removal of what shall be the insane in the true sense of the word. One of the most serious defects of the economic system dealt with at New Westminister is the fact that the which has now risen to no less than a million, in the most apparent to one coming in from the side than those who have lived. I may frankly say that the of the staff have impressed me as being very good. Desires of Remedying and I sincerely trust that the which are inevitable may be in a wrong spirit. They are a reflection, merely suggested to pave the way to the removal of what shall be the insane in the true sense of the word. One of the most serious defects of the economic system dealt with at New Westminister is the fact that the which has now risen to no less than a million, in the most apparent to one coming in from the side than those who have lived. I may frankly say that the of the staff have impressed me as being very good.

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Treatment Of Insane

Dr. Clarke Outlines the Defects He Discovered in Provincial Institution.

Advocates More Employment, Physical Culture, Drill and a Farm Colony.

The provincial secretary yesterday submitted the report of Dr. Clarke after investigating the working of the asylum at New Westminster.

- 1. Excessive salaries to subordinates and nurses. 2. Too numerous a staff. 3. Unnecessary officials, such as farm foreman and shoemaker.

Dr. Clarke makes the following suggestions:

- 1. Proper and elaborate schemes for employment and less bed and strait jacket. Brush making, carpenter work, gardening and similar pursuits for the inmates.

The report, in full, is as follows: Six months ago, in accordance with the instructions contained in the commission issued by you on the 16th of January, 1901, I went to New Westminster, and after having completed with me the investigation of the Public Inquiries Act, proceeded to investigate the affairs of the provincial hospital for the insane on the morning of January 18th, 1901.

Dr. G. F. Bodin, the medical superintendent, received me in a kindly manner, and during my many visits to the institution answered questions frankly and did everything in his power to aid the inquiry.

Desirous of Remedying Defects, and I sincerely trust that the criticisms which are inevitable may not be taken in a wrong spirit. They are not personal reflections, merely suggestions intended to pave the way to the development of what shall be a hospital for the insane in the true sense of the word.

One of the most serious questions to be dealt with at New Westminster is that of the enormous per capita cost, which has now risen to no less than \$253 per annum, when, theoretically, with the enlargement of the building and increasing number of patients, it should have fallen.

Much time was given to a study of this problem, and there is not the slightest reason why a very great reduction cannot be made, by means of a general reorganization of the staff, stricter economy, and a different system of controlling supplies.

In looking over the pay list one is immediately struck, not only by its length, but by the very high salaries paid out of all proportion to the work done.

It is stated that living is much cheaper in the East, consequently the rate of wages is necessarily higher. An examination of the contracts does not confirm the belief that the difference is cost is very great; at all events this factor does not come into the calculation when we consider the number of employees, because they not only receive their board, but in most instances also their clothing, and much of their washing as well. It is immediately apparent that attendants should be well re-paid, if they do their duty as they should, if the position is a trying one, and I would recommend that men who are paid more than market value for their services. My impression is that the present rate paid is much too high, and I would recommend that men who enter the service in future should be remunerated according to experience and ability. A man who entered at thirty dollars, with uniform, board and washing, and worked for three months, would work up to thirty-five dollars eventually, to thirty-seven if he became superintending in the West.

advancing gradually from \$23 to \$25 per month. Where this plan is in force excellent results follow, and when a nurse has been trained for two years and becomes specially qualified to care for the insane she can easily obtain a good living at private nursing if she is content with institution life.

Now, in regard to the staff of male attendants, it is a pretty generally accepted rule that in any institution where the majority of patients are chronic, one attendant for twelve inmates is ample.

Reduction Can Be Made to the staff. When an elaborate scheme for the employment of patients is adopted, the staff should be reduced.

The services of the shoemaker should be dispensed with. According to a return based largely on his own figures, furnished by the clerk, this cost amounts to \$1,000.50, and produces \$657.55; this too, allowing \$1 for the repairs made to each pair of boots and slippers, an amount far too great.

Total value of work done \$657.55 Salary of shoemaker \$720.00 Material used 189.89 Shoemaker's meals and incidentals 60.00 1 suit uniform 18.00

Cost of maintenance \$1,000.50

The estimated value of work done is too high; but putting the case in its best light, no argument can be found in favor of retaining this official, especially as patients do not work with him.

The position of farm manager appears to be an anomaly, when one considers that there is no farm to be taken care of. Even if there were a large acreage of tillable land, the gardener should be able to take care of it.

Assist With Some of the Other Departments. It is a question if there is room for an engine and plumber in such a small institution. When it is remembered that there is no machinery beyond a small engine and dynamo, that the plumbing to be done should be practically nil, it immediately occurs that one skilled man is enough to do the work requiring two mechanics at present.

capita rate for salaries in Ontario is \$43, in New Westminster \$123. The difference is too great to be accounted for by the higher scale of wages universal in the West or the small size of the asylum here.

Another Great Waste occurs in the so-called drying room in the laundry, a most incomplete and wasteful arrangement. The steam pipe running to the laundry cannot be properly covered as the ground above it is quite hot and steaming.

No End of Confusion results. The clerk or bursar should be the sole purchaser, except for medical supplies, and then only on requisition approved both by medical superintendent and the principal secretary's department.

There are no proper stock books kept, and there is no efficient way of tracing the history of the articles issued from the store or no proper system of condemning articles worn out.

The laundryman is in much the same position. The matron is clearly out of place in her department. She has nothing to do with the housekeeping duties.

Immense Saving Will Be Effectuated, by so nothing of the increased comfort of the patients. In the whole institution there is abundant evidence to show that a stricter attention to details will make a marked reduction in the per capita cost.

A glance at the bills for coal during the past year makes plain that there is a defect either in the heating arrangements or in the management of them. The fact that the enormous increase in the consumption of fuel dates from the installation of the new plant, leaves the impression that there may be inherent defects in the system.

Before discussing the heating plant, it would be well to mention some very evident sources of waste. The electric lighting plant includes an engine with 7-inch cylinder, run at a steam pressure of 90 pounds.

Straw mattresses and pillows should gradually be replaced by something better. When it is remembered that the British Columbia government has been so lavish in its expenditure for its hospital it is remarkable that the wards should be so bare and unattractive.

Dangerous and Offensive. A well defined rule fixing time and place should be instituted. During my visit although the weather was very fine no walking parties were organized, although in my opinion nearly every patient in the asylum might have been taken for exercise, and a large number of the working men, clear complexioned, bright eyes, ruddy lips and rounded contours.

The laundry could be improved by a small expenditure; and while at present it might not be advisable to put in washing machines, an extractor is a great help.

Study and Experiment. The laundry could be improved by a small expenditure; and while at present it might not be advisable to put in washing machines, an extractor is a great help.

On every hand it is freely admitted that under the management of the present superintendent a wonderful advance has been made in the care and treatment of the patients at New Westminster—advances in the line of great difficulties. It is much to his credit that such has been the case, and I am satisfied that the best of his work should be attempted, it is not intended to reflect on the good work already done.

Perhaps the surroundings and lack of facilities for development account for this, as the employees seem to be in a small way, and the whole body of work, no doubt higher ideals may be worked up to. The wards are painfully depressing, being ill-furnished and lacking in brightness.

With this amount of interest taken in the chronic cases received is certain to be everything that it should be. In making these criticisms it may appear that the good points at New Westminster have been overlooked, but such is not the case. There is an atmosphere about the place plainly indicating that the sins of omission have been far greater than those of commission, and I feel satisfied that the commendable efforts are not the least.

Structural defects have caused the adoption of a plan in the refractory ward that must be classed as dangerous. In some instances two patients occupy one

bedroom. This is certainly an unsafe arrangement and a branch of well established rules. It would be well to show this, particularly in wards where dangerous patients are confined.

The possibilities of gardening have by no means been exhausted. The women's airing court should at once be put under the management of the patients.

To be Pleasant. The old airing court for men would give an excellent site for the workshops, and also furnish a large piece of ground for cultivation.

As a Farm Colony, such as we have at Rockwood, instituted. This is a cheap but home-like building, erected largely by patients' labor, and giving accommodation for thirty-four patients.

Old Time Disposed of to Hudson's Bay Co.—H. M. S. Imperieuse on Reserve Squadron.

The sloop Pelican, which many Victorians will remember on this station years ago but which of late years has been lying idle, has been sold to the Hudson's Bay company, and so far as the navy is concerned, this ends the career of what has been one of the most serviceable vessels in the British navy.

Syracuse, N. Y., March 5.—The 28th annual session of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the seventh annual session of the Degree of Honor, A. O. U. W., state of New York, opened in this city to-day. There are 500 delegates in attendance at the Grand Lodge and 75 women meet with the Degree of Honor.

WOMAN'S BEAUTY.

How It is Made or Marred

There is nothing more subtle than a woman's beauty. It eludes all attempts to analyze it. A woman may have the measurements and lines of the Medicus Venus and yet lack beauty.



Low soon we see it fade. The young wife looks at her yellow skin, sunken cheeks and hollow eyes and marvels at how such aches and pains in her arms and limbs could not stand any length of time.

How to Keep Beauty.

In order to preserve this beauty of youth, to retain the charm of sweetness and freshness which belongs to maidenhood, the prerequisite is to understand that the chief foe of woman's beauty is womanly ill-health.

"I will always recommend Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, 'Golden Medical Discovery' and 'Pleasant Pellets,' for they cured me when doctors and other medicines failed," writes Mrs. Mary E. Lewis, of Tanner, Gilmer Co., W. Va.

parently ungracious pole, but I have enjoyed most improved type, a cork of about \$30,000. Her after repair trial was carried out last week.

The extensive character of the repairs and alterations necessary in the machinery of the cruiser Hyacinth, at Devonport, before she will be ready for sea, has necessitated another postponement of the trials under the direction of the special boiler committee.

The Christmas-Tree Aster For 15c we will send a packet of the new Steele-Briggs Christmas Tree Aster, and also the beautiful Steele-Briggs Seed Outing. This Christmas Aster is a new and very free-flowering. Often one small plant contains 50 to 100 blossoms. It is easy to grow. Send for the Aster and Catalogue. It is a beautiful plant. THE STEELE-BRIGGS SEED CO., LTD., TORONTO, Canada's Greatest Seed House.

say they can hardly believe that I am the same person; after being sick so long I have changed to be robust and rosy checked. I have taken fifteen bottles of 'Prescription' from the 'Discovery' and fifteen of the 'Pellets.' I know that if it had not been for your medicines I would not have been living to-day."

"Getting Young Again." It is one of the triumphs of "Favorite Prescription" that its results are so plainly and visibly real. The cure of womanly diseases by this medicine is proved by the gain in flesh and weight, by the restoration of youthful freshness, by the renewed strength and ambition, by women, stout and manly, and all signs of robust health.

"I enjoy good health; thanks to Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and 'Golden Medical Discovery,'" writes Mrs. J. J. Schreyer, of Pontiac, Livingston Co., Ill. "I have taken six bottles of each. I was taken sick last February and the doctors here called it 'Grip.' I lay for four weeks in bed, and when I got up I found I had 'displacement.' Had such aches and pains in my arms and limbs, could not stand any length of time. I knew that our home doctor would insist the first thing on an examination, and that I would not submit to another such examination, and then it would be too late. If any one had told me your medicines would do me so much good I would have said, 'Oh, that's much good.' I can say truly I was surprised at the benefit I received. An old friend of mine said to me, 'You look like a young girl.' 'I matter with you, you are getting so young again?' I told her I had taken six bottles of Dr. Pierce's medicine, and that if she would do likewise she would feel ten years younger, too."

There is one cause in Mrs. Schreyer's letter, which voices the sentiments of thousands of sensitive women. "I knew that our home doctor would insist the first thing on an examination, and that I would not submit to another such examination, and then it would be too late to do any good."

Many a woman in just such a case, realizing the danger she runs yet neglects medical attention because she shrinks from the indelicate questioning, the offensive examinations and obnoxious local treatments which the home physician often thinks necessary.

A Way Out of this difficulty is opened for women by Dr. Pierce's invitation to consult him by letter, free. All correspondence is held as strictly confidential, and the written confidences of women are guarded by the same professional privacy observed by Dr. Pierce in personal consultations with women at the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y. The Family Friend.

A. L. Amend, of Newfield, El Paso Co., Colo., says: "We have studied the Medical Advice thoroughly, and when anything is the matter with any of our large family the first thing we do is to take the 'book says.'"

Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser, containing 1,008 large pages and over 700 illustrations, is sent free on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Send 31 one-cent stamps for the cloth-bound volume, or only 21 stamps for the book in paper-covers. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N.Y.

The Alberni Smelter

Said to Have Been Chosen For It on Ucluelet Arm. An Advantageous One for the Treatment of Ore.

The exact locality of the smelter, as announced in a recent issue of the Times, is to be established in the city of Alberni, has at last been decided.

The Alberni smelter, which arrived last night morning, will cross sea and land, it left Liverpool on February 13th, taking just fifteen days to make the distance.

The death took place last Sunday of Mrs. Pollock, relict of the late Charles Pollock, at her residence, Cedar Hill. Deceased was 60 years of age.

The funeral of the late John Rees, a former resident of this city, who died at San Francisco arrived at noon today on the steamer Wall Walla.

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Local News

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Their First Meeting

The New Managers of Protestant Orphanage Held Session This Morning. Officers Were Elected and Ladies' Committee Appointed - Dis-cussed Church Attendance.

The recently elected managers of the B. C. Protestant Orphan's Home held their first meeting at the committee room of the city hall this morning.

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ASIANIC IMMIGRANTS.

To the Editor:—It has been asserted in the press and by Consul Shimezu that the "B. C. Immigration Act, 1900," passed at the last session of the legislature, will in a very short time be disallowed on the ground of inexpediency.

For the past twenty years there has been an agitation in this province for the exclusion of Chinese from Canada. This agitation has been more or less pronounced in its character from time to time.

The largest movement of Japanese immigrants during 1890-1900 towards British Columbia alarmed more than the working element of the danger that was besetting the province.

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ARISING FROM A CRUSH.

Police Commissioners Investigate Charge of Unnecessary Violence Preferred Against Constable—Latter Was Exonerated.

A special session of the board of police commissioners was held in the committee room of the city hall yesterday afternoon for the purpose of investigating a charge of unnecessary violence preferred by a gentleman against one of the constables.

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eloquent Address

Hon. Dr. Montague Speaks in Interests of Independent Foresters in Institute Hall. Speaker Leaves for San Francisco to Take Boat For Australia.

Taking advantage of the presence in the city of Hon. Dr. Montague, who, in company with Alderman Langrill, of Hamilton, is on his way to Australia to represent the Independent Foresters, a public meeting was held in Institute hall last night.

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Gottage City From Alaska

Steamer Arrived This Morning After a Stormy Voyage—No Dawsonites. Large Number of Gold Seekers Leave This Evening on Steamer Amur.

Steamship Gottage City was at the outer wharf this morning, en route to the Sound from Alaskan ports. She experienced all kinds of weather in coming south, snow, rain and sunshine alternating for supremacy, with consequent discomfort and displeasure to the forty or more passengers aboard.

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ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

Genuine Carter's Little Liver Pills. Must Bear Signature of Frank Wood.

Work commenced yesterday on the construction of a substantial addition to the E. & N. freight sheds here, which, when completed, will double the capacity for handling through traffic.

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APOLI & STEEL

REMEDY FOR IRREGULARITIES. SUPERSEEDING BITTER APPLE PILLS HERE BY BENEFICIAL, ETC.

Order of all chemists, or post free for \$1.50 from EVANS' SON'S LTD., Toronto, Ont., or MARTIN, Pharmaceutical Chemist, Southampton, England.

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