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FURNITURE
TENS AND REPAIRS.

H. BOWES,
St. Near Yates St.,
BIA, B. C.

TICE.

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Commencing at a point
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MOSES JOHNSON,
B., January 30th, 1903.

TICE.

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WARD E. POTTS,
H. H. V. KOELLER,
C., March 13th, 1903.

\$1.00 PER YEAR, STRICTLY IN ADVANCE, TO ANY ADDRESS IN
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VOL. 34.

TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION.

VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1903.

NO. 21.

SECRETARY TO THE LABOR COMMISSION

DEPUTY MINISTER LEAVES FOR COAST WEDNESDAY

The Redistribution Bill Again Before
Commons—The Lieut.-Governor
of Ontario.

Ottawa, April 14.—Mackenzie King, deputy minister of labor, who has been appointed secretary of the commission to enquire into labor troubles on the Pacific coast, will leave for Victoria tomorrow.

Sir Oliver Mowat.

Mr. McLean (East York) once more brought to the attention of the House the condition of Sir Oliver Mowat. He repeated what he had already said on the subject, and argued that owing to the present condition of affairs in the province, the government should appoint a Lieut.-Governor, who was properly able to discharge his duties. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said he had nothing to add to what he had already said. Sir Oliver had written him, Laurier, that he was able to discharge his duties, and until the Premier found differently he was bound to believe this.

Kettle Valley Road.

Mr. Hyman, in the absence of Mr. German, introduced a bill respecting the Kettle Valley railroad.

Redistribution.

The redistribution bill was taken up on its second reading today. R. L. Gordon proceeded to argue that the bill was not the same as that proposed by Mr. Borden in 1884; it was not the same as Laurier suggested in 1892, nor was it the same as the Premier mentioned in 1890, when the termination of conscription was left to the judges. However, the bill might or might not be a fair one. He would like to see the details before being committed to it. So far it was merely a skeleton that was before the House. Mr. Borden sympathized a little with the position taken by the province of New Brunswick in fighting against the decrease in that province. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that the case would be submitted to the court at once, and a decision got as early as possible.

BURNED TO DEATH.

Indianapolis Attorney Lost His Life While Trying to Save Others.

Indianapolis, April 12.—Nathan Morris, an attorney and Frank Haas, were burned to death today, and Mrs. Joseph Haas, Miss Belle Haas, Miss Rose Haas, Louise Haas and Grace Lemon, a governess, were injured by fire that almost destroyed the house of Dr. Joseph Haas.

The fire started from the furnace. The family was asleep on the second floor. Mr. Morris was a brother of Mrs. Haas. From the position of his charred body when found it was evident Morris was trying to get the family out of the room when overcome by smoke and flames. The body of Frank Haas and the unconscious governess were found on the back stairs.

Louise Haas broke her leg by jumping from a three-story window.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWO.

Mrs. Mary Roll, a Centaurian, Passes Away at Minneapolis.

Minneapolis, Minn., April 14.—Mrs. Mary Roll is dead at the age of 102 years. She is survived by three daughters, forty-eight grandchildren and ninety great-grandchildren. She came here from Dayton, Ohio, and was the first white woman born in that city.

SOLDIERS IN FREIGHT.

Combatants Were Separated By Armed Forces—Several Men Severely Injured.

Pekin, April 12.—A bar-room row today between German and Austrian soldiers culminated in a street fight, in which fifty men on each side were engaged. Bricks, clubs and knives were used. A great crowd of Chinese witnessed the affray. Finally a company of German infantry, with fixed bayonets, and a patrol of Austrian troops, separated the combatants and cleared the street. Several of the Germans and Austrians who took part in the disturbances were so severely hurt that they were taken to the hospital. Both of the fighting contingents will be confined to barracks for a fortnight.

SIR OLIVER MOWAT.

The Lieut.-Governor of Ontario Continues to Improve.

Toronto, April 15.—Sir Oliver Mowat had a good night's rest, and continues to improve. He shows marvellous vitality.

STRIKE AT END.

Meeting of Dutch Labor Organization Decide to Call It Off.

Amsterdam, April 13.—The strike has collapsed. The aged Socialist leader, Domela Nieuwenhuis, who emerged from his retirement in order to run the strike agitation, was present at a stormy meeting of the labor organization, which sat during the whole of last night and until half-past eight o'clock this morning. He proposed to terminate the agitation since the cause of labor had been betrayed. The meeting acquiesced in this view, and decided not to elect a new strike committee. A similar decision was reached at a recent meeting at Rotterdam.

MORGAN AND HILL.

Conference at New York; But Result Is Not Known.

New York, April 13.—J. P. Morgan was in conference this afternoon at his office with President J. J. Hill, of the Northern Securities Company, and chairman of the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific roads. The conference was reported to have some bearing on the decision in the Northern Securities case, but no confirmation is obtainable, as those present at the conference declined to talk for publication.

PRINCE ASSISTANT TO THRONE.

A Papal Office and Side Light on Its History.

Those who read the simple announcement that Prince Orsini has retired from the office of prince assistant to the Papal throne, in favor of his son, little know the story of his history and interest behind the scenes, says a Rome despatch.

In Rome, there are now but three of the old papal houses—the Cretani, and the Orsini and Colonna. The two latter were the great disturbers of the peace of Rome for centuries, and so great was their struggle for predominance, that they even quarrelled on the steps of the Papal throne itself as to which should have the precedence. Pope Julius II, in the beginning of the sixteenth century, to bring peace and settle the dispute for all time, created the head of each house assistant to the throne, the office to pass from father to son, but unfortunately he forgot that this is a right and a left hand, and that the latter is not equal to the former. So the warring went on, until it was decided that they should take the respective right and left, which is the custom to this day. This peace between the Colonna and Orsini was commemorated with medals and money, on which a bear (Orso) was depicted embracing a column (Colonna), the respective coat-of-arms of the two families. Many other noble Roman houses have tried very hard to have the coveted office; but it is hereditary, and if given to another would lose all character.

Now the two families are the best of friends, and often, over a glass of wine, fight the battles of other days, in which neither can claim to have really beaten his adversary.

LOUBET WELCOMED.

Thousands Thrang Streets of Marseilles to Receive the President of France.

Marseilles, France, April 13.—President Loubet arrived here to-day from Paris on his way to Algeria, after receiving continuous ovations along the route. The President's party was met by the civil and military authorities, and was escorted to the prefecture, where an official reception was held. A crowd, estimated to have numbered 300,000 persons, packed the thoroughfares and gave the President an enthusiastic greeting, cries of "Long live Loubet" and "Long live the Republic" being heard on all sides. A grand banquet at the bourse followed the reception. During the day M. Loubet made several short speeches, mainly impressive of his study Republicanism.

Only minor disturbances were reported. This was between a group of Socialist agitators and a number of adherents of the army. Blows were exchanged, and the police interfered. Six persons were injured, three of them rather seriously. This was chiefly due to the denseness of the crowds, and interrupted the popular demonstration to the President. A disorderly demonstration occurred on the route of procession, when a mob of anti-government radicals, called "Down with Pape Masonry," threw stones and made.

During the ceremonies at the prefecture, the Bishop of Marseilles, M. Loubet, and spoke of the irreproachable conduct of the clergy of this city. He said they regarded religion as being necessary to the greatness and security of the country. The President, in response, said the church had a mission of peace, fraternity and reconciliation. When it fulfils its mission, as did the clergy of Marseilles, the church gains the respect of all good citizens.

RATES TO DAWSON.

Vancouver, April 14.—The White Pass tariff issued to-day makes sweeping reductions in the rates to Dawson. It is a joint agreement between the railway company and the steamship lines. Freight in less than carload lots can this year be shipped from here to thirteen per cent. cheaper than carload lots were last year. The reduction on carload lots is from fifteen to twenty per cent.

SHAMROCKS AGAIN TEST THEIR SPEED

A RUN TO LEeward AND BEAT BACK HOME

Start Was Delayed Owing to a Slight
Defect in Cup Challenger's
Gear.

Weymouth, Eng., April 14.—A race of 16 miles to leeward from off Weymouth and a beat back, was laid out for the Shamrocks to-day. Shortly after leaving their moorings a weak spot developed in the cup challenger's gear. When the boats got outside the shelter of the breakwater the wind came in hard gusts and the yachts seemed to have all they could stagger under, and required an occasional luff up to ease them. The strain found a weak spot in the peak halyard gear of Shamrock III. A man was sent aloft and on his report the yacht fetched into sheltered water and anchored. All her sail was also dropped on deck. Shamrock I was also anchored and dropped her head sails.

The wind subsequently softened and the boats were sent off on a trial spin to leeward and return.

It was shortly after one o'clock when the boats started, the Erin going ahead to log off the course. During the first five miles the challenger, Shamrock I, under the same gun, was maintained to the first turn, where the timings were: Shamrock III, 2:24:03; Shamrock I, 2:25:23.

As the Shamrocks went about for the beat home they met bigger seas than the challenger had ever previously faced. She took them smoothly and well, however, and a couple of short tacks sufficed to convince those on board that she could easily out-sail Shamrock I under these conditions. Shamrock III, then bore away and ran back for a fresh start. She came about on the weather beam of Shamrock I, and they started together on the windward beat. Neither wind nor sea seemed to trouble the challenger. She sailed fast and higher in the wind, making about a quarter of a mile dead to windward in twenty minutes. The captain refrained from pushing his victory home. Even then he scored handsomely, beating Shamrock I, over six minutes in an hour's wind work.

The finishing times were: Shamrock III, 3:33:39; Shamrock I, 3:39:42.

ACTIVITY AT CROFTON.

Ore for the Smelter—Loading the Empty Cars With Copper.

Crofton, April 14.—Crofton is very busy with boats coming and going. Twice a week the Transfer comes with 12 cars of coke and coal. The barge Mackenzie has been in with 600 tons of Marble Bay ore, also the Selkirk with 200 tons, mostly high grade, from the same mine. The Transfer brought a load of very inferior coal from Seattle for the Lenora-Mt. Sicker railway, and the unfortunate engineers on the line are entering deep anathemas on the "black snake." The Transfer has gone on to Marble Bay for a load of ore. The Venture is down from Quatsino with a small shipment of some 300 tons from the Comstock, but some of her cargo is picked ore, so what she lacks in quantity she makes up in quality. The Transfer has been in with nine C. P. R. cars of Lome Pine ore from Republic, Wash., and six cars also from Republic are due over the Great Northern via Liverpool.

Four of the empty ore cars are being loaded with copper which is being turned out at the rate of from 50 to 75 bars a day, and these run from 300 to 400 lbs. each in weight.

Owing to repairs to No. 3 locomotive the Lenora-Mt. Sicker mine has ceased shipment from the dump for a few days, but will commence again at the rate of 150 tons a day before the end of the week.

NORTHERN TELEGRAPHS.

Cable From Seattle to Jmeau Will Be in Operation By November.

Seattle, April 15.—Within a month the telegraph system of Alaska will be complete, and probably by November 15th the cable connecting Seattle with Jmeau and the Far North will be in operation, according to General Greely, chief of the United States Signal Corps. The cable ship Bunsen will reach Sitka about June 13th, and after running a cable from Skagway to Haines Mission, will lay the big cable southward 1,300 miles, in two sections to Seattle.

SEVERE WIND STORM.

New York, April 15.—A fierce wind storm from the northeast swept New York early to-day, developing unusual severity after the night's gale. Cold rain fell steadily, the gale blew shoreward to-day, the highest tide known in years, and did much damage along the New Jersey and Long Island coasts. At Rockaway, a large part of the sand beach was cut out and much other damage was wrought.

DOMINION NEWS.

Strike at Montreal Now Appears Inevitable—Locomotive Engineers Drowned.

Montreal, April 14.—It is now believed that on Thursday or Friday one of the biggest strikes that ever occurred in Montreal, involving about 2,500 carpenters and joiners, will be inaugurated, paralyzing completely the building operations for an indefinite period. This opinion is freely expressed by members of the Brotherhood, who are emphatic in declaring that they will accept nothing less than 22 cents per hour as wages. This is a very strong feeling that the original demand for 25 cents per hour should be adhered to in the event of no settlement. There was a meeting in the Mechanics Institute building of a committee representing the men, and a large number of employers, when the matter was discussed at great length. The best offer the employers would make was a minimum of 20 cents per hour, with an offer to arbitrate the other clause, the board of arbitration to be composed of three members of the union, three employers, and a Superior court judge. The men claimed that they had absolutely nothing to arbitrate, so no decision was reached, and a general strike seems inevitable.

Police Investigation.

This afternoon the report of Justice Curran on the police investigation was received at the city hall. His Lordship condemns the system of dividing among the police liquor seized in disorderly houses; but finds nothing irregular in the matter of police uniforms, the exchange system having been proved to be in existence for several years.

Six Months.

Fortage in Prairie, April 14.—Eadley Stacey, a young Englishman, was today sentenced to six months' imprisonment in the central jail, being convicted on a charge of theft. Stacey, who has been working at Springfield, near Winnipeg, arrived here Saturday and secured a position with the Stacey Bros. Prospect. On Sunday he was missing, and it was also discovered that the collection of West Prospect church, which Mr. Simpson, as treasurer, had put away in the safe, had disappeared from service, was also gone. Security assistance, Mr. Simpson gave chase, and captured the culprit, and to-day Stacey was arraigned and found guilty.

Engineer Drowned.

Glouce Bay, C. B., April 14.—Engineer James Parsons, and a 110-ton locomotive went through the swing bridge at Mira last night. It is supposed that Parsons did not notice the bridge was swung. Fireman Dickson jumped, Parsons was drowned in 20 feet of water.

Sir Oliver Mowat.

Toronto, April 14.—At a late hour tonight Sir Oliver Mowat was resting quietly and his condition was favorable.

Strike.

Three hundred and fifty painters and decorators go on strike to-morrow morning. Only 14 voted against strike.

Practically Settled.

Walkerville, April 14.—The strike at the Canadian Bridge Company's works was practically settled this morning.

THE GAMBY ENIGMAS.

Member For Manitoulin Still Under Cross-Examination.

Toronto, April 14.—At the afternoon session of the Gamby commission, Mr. Johnson, counsel for Hon. J. B. Stratton, did not succeed in eliciting many new facts. Gamby said that during all the time he had conversed with the Sullivan about getting \$5,000, and having the best that could be rendered in support of the proposition. Gamby said he did not want the money himself, but it was important to get it to catch the government. He considered being promised the Sullivan in the matter, and believed it was Mr. Stratton who was behind the Sullivan, from what he had learned from them.

He had been told by Capt. Sullivan that he (Sullivan) went to Attorney General Gibson in the first place and had been turned over to Mr. Stratton. Gamby said he had destroyed the agreement made with Sullivan, because the Sullivan wanted it destroyed. He did this to retain their confidence while working up a case. Gamby said a contract brought the parcel into the smoking room. He looked back and saw the man going out. He had thought this man, who brought the parcel, was Meyer. He understood Sullivan to say later it was Chase.

Chase and Sullivan were asked just upon adjournment of the court to stand up, but Gamby could not identify either last fall. The company agreed to discontinue double-header trains, except on two divisions, where they run on a low tonnage restriction. The increase in pay will affect about 1,400 men, scattered between St. Paul and Duluth, and the Pacific coast.

INCREASE GRANTED.

Northern Pacific Railway Company Makes Concessions to Conductors, Train and Yardmen.

St. Paul, April 15.—All matters in dispute between the officials of the Northern Pacific Railway Company and conductors and the trainmen have been settled to the satisfaction of both officials and men. The men will get an advance of 15 per cent. for freight conductors and trainmen, and 12 per cent. for passenger men. Yardmen in all yards were granted the new Chicago scale, which is one-half cent. an hour higher than the rate which the Northern Pacific men secured last fall. The company agreed to discontinue double-header trains, except on two divisions, where they run on a low tonnage restriction. The increase in pay will affect about 1,400 men, scattered between St. Paul and Duluth, and the Pacific coast.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

London, April 15.—A private cable dispatch received here to-day from a British source at Bogota, Colombia, says the ratification of the Colombia-United States Panama canal treaty is extremely doubtful.

THE GREATEST SURPLUS ON RECORD

CANADA'S FINANCES UNDER LIBERAL RULE

Public Debt of Dominion Will Be Reduced by About Five Million Dollars.

Ottawa, April 15.—When Hon. W. S. Fielding delivers his financial statement to-morrow he will announce the largest surplus for the current year that Canada has had since confederation. It is probable that the surplus in the consolidated fund will be about \$13,000,000, and that there will be a real surplus of about \$5,000,000. In other words, the public debt will be reduced by about \$5,000,000. Only three times since confederation has the public debt been reduced. These were in 1871 and 1882, and 1900. It would not surprise anyone should Mr. Fielding make an argument that by his present financial statement he has succeeded in wiping out all that the present government is responsible for having added to the public debt and that therefore the present administration has succeeded in carrying on the affairs of the country since the inauguration of the Fielding tariff without adding anything to the public debt. Should the finance minister succeed in doing this, it will be good material for the government at the next general election. As for the growth of trade it has simply been marvellous. In 1873 Canada's aggregate trade was \$217,304,000, and in 1895 it was \$218,891,000. The current year will be about double what it was in 1885.

Seeking Amendments.

J. Charlton introduced a bill to-day to amend the act of 1897 to restrict the importation and employment of aliens. In that act it was provided that skilled labor can only be imported for new industries. Mr. Charlton wanted this struck out; that any industry could import skilled labor if such was not obtainable in Canada.

AMERICAN INVASION.

Agricultural Congress Now in Session at Rome Devises to Postpone Any Action.

Rome, April 15.—In the Agricultural Congress, which is meeting here and which is attended by well known European economists, the principal topic to-day was the invasion of European markets by the United States. Alarm at the extent of the invasion was expressed, and it was proposed that the committee of twelve, representing France, Italy, Austria and Germany, be appointed to determine the best way for Europe to fight American competition, but action was postponed at the congress.

The Pope's Romanism, commenting on the proposition to establish a European solverein against America, says: "The difficulties in the practical accomplishment of such grandiose project are so grave and complex as to render it almost Utopian. The further discussion of the question has been postponed until the next session of the congress, which probably will postpone still further. It is the best that could be done, as the movement intended to shut off Europe from the countries over the sea already has aroused in the United States, which is sensitive on the subject, a reactionary current, thereby further embittering the commercial relations between the old and the new worlds."

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HEIR TO MILLION.

Young Man Recently Found in Sanitarium Near Paris, Back in United States.

New York, April 14.—Moses Fowler Chase, a wealthy young man of Lafayette, Ind., who recently was found in a sanitarium near Paris by Consul-General Gowdy, reached here to-day on the steamer Kron Prinz Wilhelm. A tug met the steamer at quarantine and took Chase to Jersey City. The young man came over under an assumed name and will be met by a number of friends, who were armed with a permit from the collector and accompanied by officers to facilitate the landing. At Jersey City Chase took a train for the west. The young man, who is heir to his grandfather's estate of nearly a million dollars, is said to have been taken abroad some time ago and secreted near Paris without the knowledge of his father.

BACK FROM CHINA.

Naval Officer Does Not Anticipate Any Trouble in the Near Future.

San Francisco, April 14.—Captain Charles H. Stockton, late commander of the battleship Kentucky, has arrived from China on his way to London, where he will act as United States naval attaché to the United States embassy. Speaking of conditions in China, the captain says he does not anticipate any outbreak in the near future, but that when it comes, as he thinks it will eventually, Southern China will be the seat of the disturbance. The Southern Chinese, he says, are the only Chinese who really love fighting for their own sake. Captain Stockton does not anticipate any serious trouble with the Boxers.

KILLED BY EXPLOSION.

Bodies of Two Men Were Frightfully Mangled—Two Others Seriously Hurt.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 14.—Two men were killed and two injured to-day in an explosion of dynamite at the new Mount Washington tunnel of the West Liberty traction railway. A blast had been prepared, but failed to explode and the men returned to ascertain the cause. Suddenly it went off with a terrific report, hurling rocks in every direction. Two men were killed outright, their bodies being terribly mangled. Two others were seriously but not fatally hurt. A number had narrow escapes. The victims, who were Hungarians, were not known by name.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Resolution to Be Submitted by the Toronto Board of Trade at Annual Congress.

Toronto, April 15.—The council of the board of trade will submit three resolutions at the fifth congress of the Chamber of Commerce, which meets in Montreal from August 17th to 21st next, favoring a commercial policy based upon the principle of mutual benefit to each part of the empire, that Britain's food supply can be safely relied upon by developing the output of her territories, and make her independent of foreign sources by diverting all of her surplus population to the shores of her dominions beyond seas, and also to unify the naturalization laws of the empire.

Sentenced to Death.

Constantinople, April 15.—The Albania soldier who shot M. St. Cherin, the Russian consul at Matrovia, inflicting a wound from which the latter subsequently died, has been sentenced to death. The Russian embassy here having demanded a revision of previous sentence of 15 years' imprisonment.

A number of pedestrians had narrow escapes from injury on Government street opposite the post office Tuesday afternoon. Some rock is being removed from the lot immediately across the road from the post office, and as a charge of dynamite was discharged stones of immense size, pieces of poles and a heavy chain were hurled in the air to a great height. Alighting, some of the debris narrowly escaped falling on passers-by. The accident was due to the breaking of a link in the chain fastening the poles usually placed over a charge of dynamite.

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HON. MR. FIELDING'S BUDGET SPEECH

DELIVERED IN FEDERAL COMMONS TO-DAY

Finance Minister Able to Make One of the Most Gratifying Statements Heard at Ottawa.

Ottawa, April 16.—Hon. W. S. Fielding arrived in the House to-day at 20 minutes to 4, and a couple of minutes later he was on his feet delivering his budget speech...

Taking the revenue for the year ending June 30th last, he predicted a surplus of \$5,000,000, but it really reached \$7,291,398, the largest surplus on record...

Dealing with the post office department he showed that for the year there was a surplus. If the service of Atlin and the Yukon were included there would be a deficit of \$10,000 instead of \$750,000...

Coming to the current year, Hon. Mr. Fielding said that he had a still more satisfactory statement to make. Up to April 10th of this year the revenue was \$48,984,128, and last year for the same time the revenue was \$43,169,658...

He anticipated that at the close of the fiscal year the expenditure would reach \$51,650,000, against an expenditure last year of \$50,759,391, an increase of \$89,008. The revenue, therefore, at the close of the current fiscal year would be \$55,000,000, and expenditure \$51,000,000 (cheers)...

Taking capital account and adding the expenditure on ordinary account there will still be a surplus of \$5,000,000 left.

There were only four instances since Confederation when the public debt was reduced. During the Liberal administration there was added to the public debt \$2,300,000 annually, while during Conservative rule there was added \$5,500,000 for each of the eighteen years they were in power.

In regard to tariff changes Hon. Mr. Fielding said that he had only two clauses to offer which would affect the rates in certain directions, and some amendments to the free list.

With these exceptions he proposed to make no changes in the schedule of the tariff rates. What the manufacturers were suffering from was scarcity of labor and want of space to fill orders.

THE SHOOTING OF ROGERS.

Injured Man Died Yesterday Afternoon.—C. P. R. Freight Clerk Is In Custody.

Vancouver, April 16.—James McGregor was arrested this morning charged with shooting Frank Rogers, who died yesterday afternoon. He is a C. P. R. clerk and was on the train when the shooting occurred on Sunday night when Rogers was fatally injured.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company announces that hereafter the local rate on canned salmon shipments from the Skeena and other places, heretofore absorbed in the rail shipment from terminals, will be charged in full, the same as other freight.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

In Dublin to Discuss the Irish Land Bill Recently Submitted in Imperial Commons.

Dublin, April 16.—The National convention convened by the United Irish League met to-day in the historic Round Room of the Mansion House here, about 2,000 delegates assembled in the rotunda which was incapable of holding all who had come from every part of Ireland to discuss the Irish land bill.

It was essentially a convention of the soil, but a lighter touch was given by

the presence of the well-dressed women who filled the galleries.

Early in the morning Lord Dunraven, who is simultaneously presiding at a rival meeting of the landlords' committee, sent word to John Redmond, the Irish leader, suggesting that the land conference reconvene on Saturday after the opinion of the National convention on the Irish land bill is known...

Mr. Redmond will be unable to decide on the proposition till after the proceedings for which a lengthy agenda was provided. They consisted of many proposed amendments to the details of Chief Secretary Wyndham's proposals.

The former, while congratulating Ireland on the fact that the British ministry had introduced a bill accepting in principle after centuries of struggle, that the land should be restored to the people of Ireland, urged the delegates to press amendments enlarging the financial scope of the bill.

A motion to reject Secretary Wyndham's Irish land bill as not meriting support was defeated by an overwhelming majority. This ensured the conference approving the bill in principle.

ALLEGED SWINDLER IS IN CUSTODY

Will Be Taken to Vancouver to Answer the Charges Laid Against Him.

Vancouver, April 15.—Euphrates, who was arrested in Victoria last night by Detective Perdue, will be brought back to Vancouver to answer charges here in connection with the business he and a partner did with a majority of the largest mercantile houses in town.

Two men are alleged to have worked the advertising scheme, on which they cleaned up from \$1,500 to \$2,000.

The select committee appointed to inquire into the question of subsidies to the Columbia & Western Railroad Company, met Thursday. Reports from the departments concerned in the collection of documents relating to the investigation, contained the information that the clerks are busy on the work, and it would not be until Monday before the work would be completed.

TROUBLE ON GREAT LAKES.

Members of Union Will To-Day Decide Question of Accepting Arbitration.

Buffalo, N. Y., April 16.—To-day a vote is being taken at all the ports on the Great Lakes, where there are unions of the marine firemen, oilers and water tenders association.

Secretary Casey of the Firemen's Association said today: "The men are voting simply on the question of arbitrating with the members of the Lake Carriers' Association. The vote is being taken at all ports where there are branches of our association. It will be late in the day before the result will be known.

THE GRAND TRUNK

President Refers to Extension of Line to the Pacific Coast—Annual Meeting.

London, April 16.—Sir Charles Rivers Wilson, president of the Grand Trunk railway of Canada, presiding at a crowded meeting of shareholders to-day, said the financial results of the past half year had been entirely satisfactory, except for the abnormal increase of the working expenses due to the American miners' strike, which had nearly doubled the company's fuel bill, and an increase of \$500,000 in the pay roll, besides the considerable amount expended on new buildings, which was imperative in order to cope with the increasing business of the road.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box.

SIR O. MOWAT'S CONDITION CRITICAL

LIEUT.-GOVERNOR NOT EXPECTED TO RECOVER

True Bill Against Directors of Coal Dealers' Association, Charged With Conspiracy.

Toronto, April 16.—At 9 o'clock this morning Sir Oliver Mowat, the Lieut.-Governor of Ontario, was sinking, and the end was looked for in a few hours.

Back at Work. Three hundred and fifty painters who went on strike yesterday for 55 cents an hour, have returned to work, the employers having agreed to the demands.

Perth, Ont., April 16.—Alden Mather, 70 years old, has been found guilty of the murder of his son-in-law, Nelson McWilliams, 32, in the town of Carleton Place, on March 22nd, as the result of a drunken row. McWilliams was stabbed with fatal result.

Brautford, April 16.—A true bill has been returned by the grand jury at the assizes here in the criminal case of the King vs. Thos. Elliott and directors of the Ontario Coal Dealers' Association, who are charged with conspiracy in keeping up the price of coal during the past winter.

THE COAL SITUATION.

Shipments Arriving From the Sound For Local Use—The Present Supply.

"If Victorians were experiencing a cold snap instead of the fine weather which at present prevails there is no doubt but that many would be shouting 'coal!' Such was the remark of one coal merchant on Wednesday. Considerable coal has recently been purchased in Washington, but it is doubtful if a large demand for coal will be made before the market for an adequate supply could be obtained.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer referring to the situation says: "British Columbia is buying coal in Seattle. The relative attitude of the new loading at the Pacific Coast Company bunkers, will take the first cargo and more will follow so long as the strike of the union miners on the other side of the international boundary line purposes, and for a time the exports from the province were unimpeded."

The Tacoma Ledger says: "The strike on the Canadian side is likely to develop a coal trade between Tacoma and Seattle. The Columbia ports. Captains of trading steamers say they expect to see heavy shipments made unless the strike is quickly settled. The barge Saddle No. 3 has been in and taken out 251 tons of Rydalton coal from the steamer. The barge also took off 161 tons for Chematum. The captains of both crafts stated that they expected to be sent right back for another cargo."

A COMMON MISTAKE.

Many People Weaken Their System By Taking Purgative Medicines.

People who use a purgative medicine in the spring make a serious mistake. Good people do not need a medicine at this season, but it is a tonic that is required to give health, vigor and vim. Purgatives irritate and weaken—a tonic medicine invigorates and strengthens. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are absolutely the best tonic medicine in the world. These pills do not gall through the bowels—they gently absorb into the system, filling the veins with the pure, rich blood that carries health, health and strength to every part of the body.

REMANDED UNTIL SATURDAY.

Case Against a Farm Hand—Several Witnesses Examined.

William Harper, a farm hand, was tried in the Supreme court Wednesday on a charge of discharging a gun within the city limits on April 1st.

Fred Pamphlet, a marine engineer, more than he was standing outside Mr. Morrison's house on Garbally road at about 15 minutes to 2 o'clock on the afternoon of April 1st, and he saw Mr. Morrison try to drive his dog back to the house. A man came out from a barn near by with a gun in his hands and shot the dog in the leg, which howled and ran away, while the man quickly stepped back into the barn.

Harper swears he is innocent, and says he was not near the barn at that time, also that he owns no gun nor did he ever fire a rifle in his life.

John Davis, for whom Harper works, swears that there is no gun on his premises, and that Harper was away that day for a long time.

It seems that there are two barns in the immediate vicinity, and a dispute arose as to which one the shooting was done from. As the witness who could settle all dispute on this point was not

within easy reach, the case was remanded until Saturday.

SELECT COMMITTEE.

First Meeting on Tuesday—Matters to Come Before It Outlined.

The select committee of the legislature appointed to inquire into the question of a land subsidy to the Columbia & Western Railway Company met on Tuesday. The committee is organized with C. W. D. Cullen, chairman, and H. Helmcken, secretary. The remaining members are A. E. McPhillips, A. W. Smith and R. F. Green.

At the meeting on Tuesday the preliminary steps were taken towards having the documents bearing upon the case produced. John Oliver was present, and pressed for the production of all telegrams, documents and communications between the government and the Columbia & Western Railway Company or any other persons in the matter of granting a land subsidy; and the substituting of a cash subsidy in lieu of a land subsidy.

He also asks for all orders-in-council heretofore issued, or being or to be issued, or maps showing all lands granted to the railway company up to the present time, also showing all land selected by the company or reserved by the Governor-in-Council; also copies of all crown grants issued to Columbia & Western railway, and the date upon which these grants were signed by the Lieut.-Governor; also that Attorney-General Eberhart and Chief Commissioner Wells be examined before the committee.

In discussing the question of what documents ought to be produced, A. E. McPhillips called attention to the fact that all papers dealing with the subject should be forthcoming. It should not be left to those enumerated by Mr. Oliver. The committee had a duty outside of anything Mr. Oliver said. If he omitted anything in his letter asking for documents the committee had still to see that these should be called for.

It was, therefore, urged that the chairman should call for all papers dealing with the subject since the granting of the subsidy in 1896.

The government will be asked to act on the matter, and in giving these documents ready so that the committee may proceed with their duties when they meet at 10 o'clock Thursday morning.

John Oliver did not think it should delay the government long to produce the documents. They had nothing to show in the matter.

Mr. Oliver submitted also copies of published reports of speeches delivered in the House at the time of the passing of the bill. He said that if objects aimed at were described as being for the development of the Okanagan by continuing the road to Pentiction to meet the Shuswap and Okanagan railroads.

DELIBERATIONS OF THE PEDAGOGUES

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE NOW IN CONVENTION

Opened on Tuesday Last Under Auspicious Circumstances—President's Address—The Business.

Miss Agnes Deans Cameron, writing from Revelstoke on the convention of the Provincial Teachers' Institute now in progress there, says:

The annual meeting of the Provincial Teachers' Institute opened on Tuesday, April 14th, in Selkirk hall, Revelstoke. This is the first time in the history of the province that the yearly convention has been held away from the coast cities.

To honor the innovation, Revelstoke welcomed the peripatetic pedagogues with King's weather. "The little city is high up among the everlasting hills a gem, it has prospered with large open air, and every Revelstoker is buoyant—'good times' are coming; every man expects to be in it."

For days previous to the formal opening of the Institute an advance army had been placing the exhibit of pupils' work, and the hall was pretty indeed when the president on Tuesday morning called the meeting to order. Walls, every available inch of them, tables, shelves, stands, like the wedding feasts of the orthodox, "groined with intellectual, which spoke of work done squarely and unswayed days. And there was a diversity of it, ranging from the wooden spoons and towel-racks of Mr. Dummell's department, to D'Oyly's of the Vancouver experts and the wonder of glass was broken, and then the point of view of the local kiddies at least, there were other exhibits than those prepared with malice aforethought. Wait for the morning mail in the post office you scribble hear one little giddle of 8 or 9, who was punning her small brother behind her in a wagon, call out to a chum across the street, "Hi, Jimmy, are yer goin' down to the hall to look at the teachers?" Her report, if one could get it, would surely be worth publishing.

At a few minutes after 10, Alex. Robinson, superintendent of education, called the meeting to order. He said: "Ladies and gentlemen, last year it was thought expedient that this Institute should meet in 1903 in the Kootenay country. In former years it was always held in the coast cities, and this year from Yale and Kootenay, so that the name Provincial Institute was really a misnomer. I would suggest that the Kootenay Institute, your own district institute, be the name of this year's meeting. The first boxes were stolen, and the contents of the partially filled ones were also taken. Two boxes taken as far as the door and then left with their contents. The till was unsecured and left on the counter, but fortunately the cash had been taken out.

The grocery store was then entered by a door behind the counter and a quantity of tinned meats stolen.

This is the second time that this store has been robbed. Some three months ago four boys were sentenced to two and one-half years imprisonment for breaking into and stealing goods from the grocery store.

Mr. Haggerty was informed at 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning that his store had been broken into, and an inquiry was made until last night. They are now working diligently on the case.

THE ACCUSED BOYS.

Case of Lads Charged With Assaulting Hey Up This Morning—Adjourned.

Considerable interest attaches to the case of the seven boys who are charged with assaulting the Chinese lad Hey, causing him to sustain injuries from a passing car, which resulted in the amputation of the leg. When the matter came up in the police court on Thursday the court room was pretty well crowded, but the boys being under age the spectators were excluded, and the case heard behind closed doors.

The accused are Masters Maurice Royds, Edward King, Fred Rome, Harold John, Leonard Hanham, Cecil Drake and Allan Loat. The former's name was lately added to the information. He is one of the largest boys, and is 14 years of age. They are defended by Messrs. J. H. Lawson, J. Lambert Bond, E. E. Woodson and W. P. Gooch. R. H. Pooley is prosecuting counsel.

George Mowat, who was motorman on car 22, which ran over the unfortunate boy, was first examined. He stated that he was driving car No. 22 at 7:30 o'clock on the evening of the accident along Cadboro Bay road, and that just before reaching Elford street he saw a crowd of boys playing on and about the street car track. He immediately shut off the power, put on the brakes and endeavored to stop the car. He heard a boy, who was somewhat in advance, shout "Here comes a car!" several times. He then saw two of the larger lads throw out their arms at somebody who fell against the car. Whether or not the person struck at was his he was not in a position to know, as he was stopped by the car. The car was stopped, and he went back to see what had happened, and found that the Chinese boy had been run over. A gentleman was with the boy, and the two of them carried him into Mrs. Janlon's house near by. The car was not traveling faster than six miles an hour. He saw the boy and all in his power to stop the car in time.

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Re W. A. Anderson, winding-up.—Liquidator's remuneration was fixed at \$200, on application by A. D. Crease.

ANOTHER BURGLARY.

Grocery Store and Saloon Broken Into and a Large Quantity of Goods Stolen.

Apparently there is a gang of thieves sojourning in this city, for late there have been a large number of thefts reported to the police.

On Monday night some person or persons entered the grocery store and saloon of Blaquiere & Haggerty, at the corner of North Park and Quadra streets, and carried away with a large quantity of goods. The store was not until after 11 o'clock, so the robbery must have taken place between that time and the early morning. The saloon is situated in the rear of the grocery department, and has one window in the front. One small pane of glass was broken, and then the catch slipped and raised. There were in the neighborhood of a dozen boxes of cigars under the counter in the barroom and several half filled boxes on the counter. The filled boxes were stolen, and the contents of the partially filled ones were also taken. Two boxes taken as far as the door and then left with their contents. The till was unsecured and left on the counter, but fortunately the cash had been taken out.

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B. S. McDonald (Ladner), Paul Murray (Maple Ridge) and W. N. Winsby (Victoria).

It was moved by Mr. Brandon, and seconded by Mr. Lovering: "That a committee of Kootenay teachers be appointed to nominate officers for the Provincial Institute of 1905, which will in all probability meet in the latter part of the year."

This motion called forth a lively discussion, in which the superintendent of education, Inspector Wilson, Stewart and Buchanan took part. The feeling of the meeting was that the coast teachers could be depended upon to recognize Kootenay needs in the matter of representation, and the motion was lost.

On motion of Inspector Wilson, it was decided to hold the convention of 1904 in Vancouver.

Miss A. D. Cameron brought up a matter of very close interest to the coast teachers, in asking this question: "In the event of a teacher's attending the Provincial Institute, and the trustees deciding to keep that class open, on whom devolves the responsibility of paying the substitute?" Mr. Robinson replied that in the case of such a teacher, most certainly the teacher could not be required to pay the substitute. This decision will give the teachers of the province a more assured feeling, and will undoubtedly give a larger number of students at succeeding Provincial Institutes.

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nde of Albanians and rks Cause Change rs' Plans.

The Times London... Bulgaria, tele-... Macedonian insurgent... to abandon the... during the... they will continue... intercepting... by bridges, etc... on by the Macedon... to the overwhelming... of the British army... the invading aid from... intervention unless... were perpetrated... attitude of the... feared that the A... reconciled to the... the extermination of...

April 16.—It is now... commission sent by... the Albanians... adhesion to the... except on the... Albanians be allowed... governor and civil... minor concessions... the Porte has deci-... bered nineteen bat-... there in view of... operations against...

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—The statement in Wednesday's... Colist, that the modus vivendi between... Great Britain and the United States... regarding sealing in the Behring Sea... would expire in August is absolutely incorrect... The arrangement agreed to at the Paris... tribunal is to continue indefinitely... An opportunity is afforded every five years... for any changes the nations interested... agree to adopt, but no time limit... was placed on the modus vivendi.

—The Sisters in charge of the Proce-... torate gratefully acknowledge the fol-... lowing donations and wish to thank the... kind donors: Mrs. Bains, \$5; Mrs. Beaumgard, 1 box of fish; Mrs. Allen, eggs, sugar and jam; Mrs. Johnston, fish; Mrs. Fee, eggs; Mrs. McTiernan, clothes; Mrs. Keast, eggs and clothes.

—Henry Pike, of the Highland district, was in the city Tuesday. He says that there has been considerable ground shoo-... ring going on in spite of the close season... The provincial police have been informed... and will use every endeavor to put a... stop to it and if possible bring to ac-... count those who have been breaking the... game laws.

—A carload of shade trees has been... shipped to Nanaimo by the Lauritz... nurseries of this city. They consist of... English oak, elm, ash, linden, acacia, Norway maple, catalpa, birch, julip, pine, etc., 2,200 altogether, and will be... delivered to the New Vancouver Com-... Mining & Land Company on their farms... near Nanaimo.

—John Barvilloux on Tuesday was... arrested on suspicion of breaking into... gas meter and stealing the cash at J. G. Hay's academy hall, situated above his... blacksmith's shop, was brought before... Police Magistrate Hall on Wednesday... He was charged with the theft and his... case remained until Saturday. He was... allowed to go on producing bonds.

—C. W. Minor's Rex Montez was... pedons at Seattle, Wash., on Monday... Turner, the handler, found it in the... cold and sticky, and immediately in-... formed the owner. Restoratives were... administered, and with a great deal of... effort the dog's life was saved. Rex... captured first in puppies at the Seattle... show. He was brought over from the... Sound yesterday by Mr. Minor.

—Local feed merchants are deploring... the fact that there is a great scarcity... of hay in the Victoria market. Not only... can it hardly be secured in this city, but... there is none offering for sale on the... Fraser or on the Soan, Inland, in Scot-... land, Tacoma and Portland, the same con-... ditions prevail, and numerous inquiries... have been received from these regarding... supplies. Locally the price has been ad-... vanced from \$14 to \$18 a ton.

—The annual convention of the Pro-... vincial Teachers' Institute was opened... at Revelstoke at 10 o'clock this morning... The programme for to-day is as follows: 10... a. m., president's opening address;... enrollment of members; general business;... election of officers. Two p. m., "Draw-... ings—Use of the Authorized Books," D. B... "Geography of British Columbia,"... A. Sullivan. Seven-thirty p. m., recep-... tion of visiting teachers by Revelstoke... city teaching staff; addresses of welcome... will be given by the board of school... trustees and the mayor. During the evening... the address on "Pacific Coast History,"... illustrated by 200 lantern slides, will... be given by R. E. Gonnell. As will...

aken in a new... and comfort-... prevents "draw-... ings" of fifty per cent... try Foot Elm... does Easy... 18 powders at... manville, Ont.

WEEKLY WEATHER SYNOPSIS

Victoria Meteorological Office, 8th to 14th April, 1903.

The weather during the past week has been unusually cool over this northern portion of the Pacific slope; showers have been frequent and furies of snow have occurred, especially on the higher lands of Vancouver Island. Sharp frosts have been reported on several mornings and vegetation in consequence has been retarded. During the first three days of the week low pressure areas from the ocean occupied the province, causing in their movements showery and unsteady weather. In Cariboo temperatures were low and some three inches of snow fell. On the evening of the 10th, the barometric pressure increased from California, northward to Vancouver Island and rain again fell in this lower section of the province; the high area centred in Oregon and Washington and fairer weather followed. On the 12th, the pressure again fell in advance of an ocean disturbance which passed off our Coast, causing threatening weather; this, however, rapidly passed away, and the week closed with brighter and more springlike weather west of the Cascades. In the Northwest low pressure areas from the ocean have traversed the province, but in Manitoba high pressure has been continuous during the week; precipitation has been light, a few showers and occasional snowfall, but on the whole temperatures have been moderate and the weather not unseasonable.

At Victoria, 35 hours of bright sunshine were registered; highest temperature, 53.5 on 12th; lowest, 31.2 on 11th; rain, 0.34 inch.

At New Westminster, highest temperature, 52 on 12th; lowest, 26 on 10th; rain, 0.22 inch.

At Kamloops, highest temperature, 54 on 12th; lowest, 26 on 10th; rain, 0.86 inch.

At Barkerville, highest temperature, 42 on 12th and 13th; lowest, 4 on 10th; snow, 3 inches.

At Dawson, highest temperature, 34 on 14th; lowest 18 below zero on 8th; no precipitation.

On Tuesday at the Temperance hall, Cedar Hill, a most enjoyable dance was held under the auspices of the Dramatic Club of that district. There was a large attendance. Music was supplied by Messrs. Wheeler and Fawcett. Refreshments were served about midnight and the dancers dispersed in the early hours of the morning.

—The statement in Wednesday's Colist, that the modus vivendi between Great Britain and the United States regarding sealing in the Behring Sea would expire in August is absolutely incorrect. The arrangement agreed to at the Paris tribunal is to continue indefinitely. An opportunity is afforded every five years for any changes the nations interested agree to adopt, but no time limit was placed on the modus vivendi.

—The Sisters in charge of the Proce- torate gratefully acknowledge the following donations and wish to thank the kind donors: Mrs. Bains, \$5; Mrs. Beaumgard, 1 box of fish; Mrs. Allen, eggs, sugar and jam; Mrs. Johnston, fish; Mrs. Fee, eggs; Mrs. McTiernan, clothes; Mrs. Keast, eggs and clothes.

—Henry Pike, of the Highland district, was in the city Tuesday. He says that there has been considerable ground shooting going on in spite of the close season. The provincial police have been informed and will use every endeavor to put a stop to it and if possible bring to account those who have been breaking the game laws.

—A carload of shade trees has been shipped to Nanaimo by the Lauritz nurseries of this city. They consist of English oak, elm, ash, linden, acacia, Norway maple, catalpa, birch, julip, pine, etc., 2,200 altogether, and will be delivered to the New Vancouver Company Mining & Land Company on their farms near Nanaimo.

—John Barvilloux on Tuesday was arrested on suspicion of breaking into gas meter and stealing the cash at J. G. Hay's academy hall, situated above his blacksmith's shop, was brought before Police Magistrate Hall on Wednesday. He was charged with the theft and his case remained until Saturday. He was allowed to go on producing bonds.

—C. W. Minor's Rex Montez was pedons at Seattle, Wash., on Monday. Turner, the handler, found it in the cold and sticky, and immediately informed the owner. Restoratives were administered, and with a great deal of effort the dog's life was saved. Rex captured first in puppies at the Seattle show. He was brought over from the Sound yesterday by Mr. Minor.

—Local feed merchants are deploring the fact that there is a great scarcity of hay in the Victoria market. Not only can it hardly be secured in this city, but there is none offering for sale on the Fraser or on the Soan, Inland, in Scotland, Tacoma and Portland, the same conditions prevail, and numerous inquiries have been received from these regarding supplies. Locally the price has been advanced from \$14 to \$18 a ton.

—The annual convention of the Provincial Teachers' Institute was opened at Revelstoke at 10 o'clock this morning. The programme for to-day is as follows: 10 a. m., president's opening address; enrollment of members; general business; election of officers. Two p. m., "Drawings—Use of the Authorized Books," D. B. "Geography of British Columbia," A. Sullivan. Seven-thirty p. m., reception of visiting teachers by Revelstoke city teaching staff; addresses of welcome will be given by the board of school trustees and the mayor. During the evening the address on "Pacific Coast History," illustrated by 200 lantern slides, will be given by R. E. Gonnell. As will...

be remembered the Institute met here last year, the deliberations being conducted in the South Park school building.

—On Thursday evening at the board of trade rooms the directors of the Provincial hospital will meet. Besides the regular business the special committee which interviewed the Mayor and council regarding the suggestion that the management of the Isolation hospital be taken into the hands of the city by the directors, will report. The meeting will be called to order as usual at 8 o'clock.

—Rev. M. N. A. Cohen, who will leave Victoria in August, is desirous that those who intend taking the course in English literature, which he proposes to give before leaving should see him at once in the matter. The class is now being formed and in order to complete the series of lectures before his leaving they must commence almost at once. All desiring to take advantage of this course are requested to communicate with Rev. Mr. Cohen at the Balmoral hotel.

—Masquerade ball was given Tuesday evening at Semple's hall, Victoria West, under the auspices of the pupils of Mrs. Thiovi's dancing classes. There was a large attendance and a pleasant time was spent by all. An excellent musical programme was given and considerable amusement was provoked by the costumes of some of the dancers. Supper was served at about 12 o'clock. The affair broke up in the early hours.

—Arrangements are about complete for the complimentary benefit entertainment to be given by the Trades and Labor Council to the B. C. S. S. Some of the best talent has been secured, and a first class concert is assured. A massed band comprising all the union musicians in the city and numbering about fifty will be one of the attractions. The entertainment will be preceded by a parade of all unions in Victoria, headed by the union band, terminating at the Victoria theatre in time for the concert. Ladies are cordially invited to attend as a treat is promised.

—M. O'Keefe, of this city, has been awarded the contract for the fine new headquarters building to be erected for the Chinese Reform Association in Vancouver at a cost of \$10,000. The building is a handsome one of stone, and is 100 feet long by 27 feet wide. The lower story is devoted to stores, the second to the public hall and committee rooms and school, while the third story embraces a billiard room, billiard parlour and reception hall. The contract for the site lay between Vancouver and Victoria, but Nanaimo and Westminster Chinese threw their vote with Vancouver, thus assuring the location there.

—The Epworth League of the Metropolitan Methodist church held their annual meeting for the election of officers on Monday. After the reports of the various officers, with the exception of the first vice-president's report, which was absent, had been submitted and accepted, and a vote of thanks accorded them for their services to the league during the past year, the following new officers were elected: President, W. M. Ritchie; first vice-president, A. C. Charleton; second vice-president, Miss Monteith; third vice-president, T. W. MacLennan; fourth vice-president, Mrs. Dalrymple; secretary, Miss Foxall; treasurer, Miss Taylor; reporter, E. B. Jones; organist, Miss Bailey.

—The sad news has been received in this city of the death at sea of Purser Harry Bellemaire of the Canadian-Australian liner Miowera. The news of his demise will be received here with much regret, as he was a very popular and well thought of by all who knew him. The Miowera is due to reach this port on Thursday from Sydney. According to the advices received the deceased was the victim of a fatal appendicitis shortly after the vessel left Melbourne on March 28th. Despite the care and attendance of the ship's doctor, he succumbed to the disease on April 5th, when the steamer was between Suva and Honolulu. The remains were buried at sea. He leaves a widow and three children to mourn his untimely death. His brother, Frank Bellemaire, is purser of the Aorangi of the same line.

—The sterling head of the Mining Association, John Keen, has received for the conciliation committee the following tribute from H. Tonkin, general manager of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, an expression which all who have followed their work will heartily endorse: "On behalf of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company I wish to tender my sincere thanks for the splendid work done by your conciliation committee during your recent visit to Fernie, as I feel confident that without the aid of this committee the coal mines of this company would have been idle for a longer period than they actually were. The work as performed by the conciliation committee was very satisfactory indeed to the company and myself, and I certainly feel that very few committees could have handled the matter with the fact as demonstrated by you, and leave with you good feeling that certainly prevailed during your visit."

—Some time since Thursday evening last the slot gas meter in the Alcazar dancing academy, above J. G. Hay's blacksmith shop, has been tapped of its cash contents. When gas is wanted it is necessary that twenty-five cents be dropped in the machine before the gas will flow to the jets. There was to have been a meeting in the hall last night, but when Mr. Hay went to turn on the gas he found that the meter would not work. He lighted a candle and proceeded to search for the leak, when suddenly a flame burst forth from a pipe which was disconnected. On further examination he found that the meter had been disconnected from the pipes, taken from the stand and the staple through which the padlock which holds the money drawer passes, broken in two, and the money, which probably amounted to \$6 or \$7 stolen. The meter was then placed on the stand and partially connected again. Mr. Hay claims that on Thursday night he was in the hall and a vote taken there being only one in favor of the books. The club will again meet on May 6th, to discuss the subject "Punctuality and Regularity," to be opened by Mrs. Maynard.

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therefore has not had access to it since that time. Early this morning he notified the police authorities and also the Victoria Gas Company. A man named John Barlow was arrested on suspicion.

—About 3 o'clock Thursday a blue-jacket of H. M. S. Grafton was killed at the drydock. He was working on one of the planks alongside when the rope broke and the unfortunate man fell into the dock, alighting on the side of his head. The plank fell on top of him.

—At the manse Wednesday Rev. W. Leslie Clay united in marriage Mr. W. J. Roscamp and Miss Minnie Van Horst. The bride was attended by Miss Marie Van Horst, her sister, and the bridegroom was supported by Mr. Geo. Van Horst, Mr. and Mrs. Roscamp will reside in the city.

—An interesting event took place in St. Saviour's church at 2:30 o'clock Thursday afternoon, when Mr. Arthur Crease, youngest son of Sir Henry Crease, and Miss Nellie G. Drake, youngest daughter of Mr. Justice Drake, were united in the bonds of holy matrimony. The marriage ceremony was solemnized by Rev. W. D. Barber, and the Misses Bridgeman acted as maids of honor.

—On Tuesday, May 19th, at 10 a. m., the first sitting of the annual Court of Revision for the city of Victoria will be held in the council chamber for the purpose of revising and correcting the assessment roll, also for the hearing of complaints against the assessment as made by the assessor.

—Mrs. Farrel, who for 35 years had been a resident of Esquimalt, and whose place of residence almost adjoins the drydock yard, was found dead Wednesday. Deceased had sustained a fall, the effects of which it is supposed she died from, for shortly afterwards she was picked up dead. Five children live to mourn her loss, one son being a sealer and another a steamboat hand. Of the daughters, one Mrs. James Davis resides in this city, another in the States. The deceased was 65 years of age and a native of Dublin.

—There was a large and enthusiastic crowd at the rooms of the Y. M. C. A. Wednesday, when an entertainment was provided by Miss Maevetta La Dell and Miss Emily Frances. Miss La Dell is an exceedingly clever artist. She is an adept at miming, and in a way all her own to alternately evoke a smile or a tear from her hearers. In "The Burial of General Wainope" and "Old Days and the New" she excelled, while in "The Scotch Cousins" and "The Bear Story" she caused much laughter. Miss Frances has a beautiful clear soprano, and her singing was highly appreciated, especially "A Dream" and "Whisper and I Sing" Hear.

At last Monday night's council meeting Ald. Stewart gave notice that at the next regular session he would move that permanent sidewalks be at once laid on the following streets: Fort Street, north side, from lot 1,098, block 13, easterly to School street; George street, east side, between North and South Pandora streets; North Pandora street, south side, from George street, easterly to lot 26, block 21, Spring Ridge; Linden avenue, both sides, between Becher and Fort streets; Wharf street, west side, opposite Hinch's Bay Co.'s store (with granite curb); Bellevue street, south side, from Menzies to St. John streets; Menzies, west side, from Bellevue street to Queen's street; Fort street, south side, from Quadra to Douglas streets.

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—In Hamilton, Ont., on August 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th, an Old Boys' carnival and reunion will be held. To ensure its success Hamiltonian clubs are being formed in all parts of Canada, and as many as possible of the members of the association will be asked to attend. T. B. McCabe, of the Colonist, has received a letter asking him to call a meeting of Hamiltonians in this city, for the organization and assist in making the carnival a success. A list of Hamiltonians known to be here was enclosed. It follows: Ed. Mahoney, Victoria; Planning Mills, Victoria; J. G. Macdonald, Victoria; Justice Martin; Ed. Hunter, purser; J. W. Ambery, P. O. box 268; Robert Malcolm, drug store; A. B. Pottinger, barrister; Thos. B. McCabe, Colonist office; Wm. H. Lewis, 81 Bliswery street; Fred Wilcox, Leonard Tait and David Tait, 28 Craigflower road.

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The secretary of the Settlers' Association of British Columbia writes a lengthy communication setting forth the conditions on the Mainland very clearly. He says in part: "To take evidence on oath as to the value and condition of agricultural produce brought into the province to support our own inhabitants; produce that we could not and ought to raise at home. The sum is now nearly six millions of dollars annually and constantly increasing, while our own lands remain in a wild and undeveloped condition; very little thought being given to the matter at all. This money is as surely lost to the province as is that sent to China by the Chinese, in fact more so, for the reason that in this instance when the produce is consumed there is absolutely nothing left to show for it, while the money itself goes to build up the foreign and particularly the United States, that may be antagonistic to our own. If there were no good agricultural land available in British Columbia and directly tributary to the capital city of Victoria, then there would be some cause for the existing apathy and neglect, but what are the facts? Take a good map of the province and see for yourself, and inform the Victoria Chamber of Commerce that within 45 miles from their own harbor, with good soil and safe water communication, there is a stretch of country 15 miles wide by 65 miles in length, the soil of which is equal in fertility to any on the face of God's fair creation, not a tith of which is occupied and productive. It has practically no facilities, other than nature provided, for its development, and we never see a boat or anything to give us any intimation that such a place as Victoria. Doubtless you will be led to ask, what is the cause of this with the question? It has this to do with it, Victoria can, if she wishes, very materially assist in the settlement of the lands mentioned and incidentally their development, and the consequent result, beneficial to herself, or she can leave it alone another two years and a half or three years and Vancouver sees the opportunity and takes advantage of it. A great deal more could be said on this subject, but I think enough has been written to show the advantage it will be to Victoria to assist in the development of the magnificent domain situated south of the Fraser river."

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HOW TO BENEFIT VICTORIA'S TRADE

SUGGESTION MADE TO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Efficient Steamship Service Urgently Required to New Westminster and the Fraser Valley.

At the last meeting of the chamber of commerce a partial report of the transportation committee was submitted by this branch. This consisted entirely of replies to circulars sent to the various provinces asking for general information as to the exports and imports of each place and its transportation relations with Victoria. A large number of these are most interesting and numerous suggestions are made for the improvement of the trade relations of this city with other points of British Columbia.

The secretary of the Settlers' Association of British Columbia writes a lengthy communication setting forth the conditions on the Mainland very clearly. He says in part: "To take evidence on oath as to the value and condition of agricultural produce brought into the province to support our own inhabitants; produce that we could not and ought to raise at home. The sum is now nearly six millions of dollars annually and constantly increasing, while our own lands remain in a wild and undeveloped condition; very little thought being given to the matter at all. This money is as surely lost to the province as is that sent to China by the Chinese, in fact more so, for the reason that in this instance when the produce is consumed there is absolutely nothing left to show for it, while the money itself goes to build up the foreign and particularly the United States, that may be antagonistic to our own. If there were no good agricultural land available in British Columbia and directly tributary to the capital city of Victoria, then there would be some cause for the existing apathy and neglect, but what are the facts? Take a good map of the province and see for yourself, and inform the Victoria Chamber of Commerce that within 45 miles from their own harbor, with good soil and safe water communication, there is a stretch of country 15 miles wide by 65 miles in length, the soil of which is equal in fertility to any on the face of God's fair creation, not a tith of which is occupied and productive. It has practically no facilities, other than

"A BUNGLING FOOL."

There was a time when the Colonist was in the habit of discussing public questions in a sane and temperate manner. In these latter days our contemporary is chiefly occupied in the task of attempting to make the fact plain that it is against the government. The more commendable the acts of the Dominion ministers, taken at the instance of the representatives of the province of British Columbia, the more vehement, the more incoherent, the more vicious, the more hysterical, does our contemporary become. The appointment of a commission to investigate industrial conditions in British Columbia has been received with approval in all quarters. The Vancouver News-Advertiser, a Conservative newspaper which endeavors to be fair in its criticism at all times, and generally succeeds except when an election is pending, for which some allowance must be made, had a notable article on Sunday dealing with this question of industrial unrest and the action of the Ottawa government in appointing a commission to inquire into and report upon the causes of the disturbances. The Colonist says "the investigations of this commission may result in profit, but they must result in loss and damage to the province of British Columbia." The News-Advertiser's opinion is that:

The Dominion government is deserving of commendation for the promptitude with which it has given effect to its decision to have an inquiry made into the continual labor disputes in British Columbia, by the selection and appointment of the members of a commission to make an investigation. The eminent capacity of the Chief Justice of British Columbia to act as one of the commissioners will no doubt be more fully admitted than in this province. With great mental alertness, unquestioned courage, keen discernment of the honesty or dishonesty of a witness, and quick to separate the kernel of essential truth from the husk of irrelevant or interested and biased testimony, the Chief Justice will meet the peculiar requirements of the position to which he has been appointed. Although we are not acquainted with his colleagues on the commission, the Rev. Mr. Rowe, we are informed that he will be found capable and fitted for the duties that will devolve upon him as a member of the commission. Mr. King, who is named as an elected member of the commission, should afford useful assistance from the experience he has gained in regard to labor issues from his official position.

It is to be hoped that there will be no unnecessary delay in the commission beginning its labors. It is no secret to say that the present situation in British Columbia is intolerable. The evil is not to be gauged only by the strikes which have occurred, and which are now interfering with important provincial industries. The evil effects of such disputes are always felt in a far larger circle than that which they directly affect, and their indirect results in paralyzing enterprise and causing the abandonment of important projects contemplated industrial and commercial projects are oftentimes very serious. That British Columbia has suffered, both actually and potentially, from these disputes, no intelligent man will deny. This province is pointed at throughout Canada as a section of the Dominion that both capital and labor will do well to keep away from at the present time. Yet no one acquainted with its natural resources and with the opportunities which their development would make possible under normal conditions, but must realize that a condition of things which prevents the realization of these opportunities implies something rotten in the state of Denmark.

As we pointed out the other day, the first step towards a better, more wholesome state of things, is to obtain a complete and accurate diagnosis of the disease in order that we may be able to apply effective and proper remedies for its eradication from the social or industrial system. For this purpose a commission endowed with the amplest authority to ascertain all the facts antecedent to and involved in these disputes should be an instrument effective for the requirements of the case. A large amount of testimony will doubtless be forthcoming voluntarily from both employers and employees. But it is not improbable that some of the employers may be reluctant to speak; it is not impossible they may attempt to suppress or even to distort facts that they may consider it is not in their interest to divulge. But with the powers which the commission must be endowed, if it is to achieve what is desired, all the essential facts should be elicited. The Chief Justice may be trusted to deal energetically whether he be a wealthy capitalist or large employer of labor, or a mechanic or unskilled laborer.

To be effective the inquiry must be thorough and searching. It is not improbable that some witnesses—especially among the employers—may regard an investigation as too inquisitorial in its character, and as trenching on matters that concern only themselves and not the public. But there will be a general disposition to give the assistance and widest latitude and range in its proceedings. When we see the transportation system of a continent thrown out of gear because of a local dispute between a railway corporation and a small number of its employees, and the fuel supply of three or four towns shut off, to the loss, discomfort and inconvenience of thousands of people, because of the refusal of a colliery-owner to concede some demand of the miners, is it time to find out who is really responsible for these things. If we can get at the actual facts and fix the blame where it properly belongs, the verdict of the public will be expressed in such a manner that few employers or employees will be inclined to bear the odium of continuing to pursue a course that is inimical to or destructive of industrial peace. But should any be found with the hardihood to resist the law, the action of the public will be such that it will be little difficulty in securing legislation appropriate for such cases. No individual is too rich or pow-

erful on the one hand, or too humble and insistent on the other, to think that he can adopt methods that work injury to the whole community. When that fact is thoroughly grasped by all classes, we shall see a great diminution in industrial strikes and lock-outs.

A few days ago Sir Hibbert Tupper returned from the East. In an interview with a Vancouver newspaper this prominent Conservative politician expressed regret at the existing unrest in labor circles in British Columbia. Whether the reports sent out regarding the industrial situation are approximately correct or not, they are creating a decidedly bad effect in all circles. Capital regards the province as an unsafe place to invest in; labor looks upon it as a spot to keep away from. "British Columbia was regarded as in one continued state of unrest; its government was bad, and its labor troubles accentuated the unsatisfactory state of affairs. This is the view taken in the East, and the people there anticipate its continuance until the end of the present period of prosperity and general good times, when British Columbia will be found to be hit harder than any other province by the change." That is undoubtedly the opinion in the East, because the views of Sir Hibbert have been endorsed by many other men who take an interest in the welfare of this province. Suppose the commission should accomplish no other good thing than the removal of such unfortunate impressions, would not its appointment be justified? But we hope it will accomplish much more than the eradication of false conceptions of the state of affairs in British Columbia. The investigations of the commission might bring about a better understanding and more cordial relations between Mr. Dunsmuir and the employees in his coal mines. The mines at Extension have not been closed down because of any difference of opinion as to wages. It is admitted even by his industrial enemies that the coal magnate of Vancouver Island is most generous in his treatment of his employees, whether on land or water, above or below the surface of the ground. That being admitted, it surely should not be an insuperable task to remove the difficulty which has resulted in the closing up of one of the most important coal mines in British Columbia and at the same time to lift the blight which has fallen upon all dependent industries and businesses as a result of the misunderstanding. It is impossible to predict what may come of a conference upon such a matter when the chief participants have cooled down and calmly reflected upon the consequences of their acts. In any case, the public have too large an interest in this matter, are too deeply affected by the consequences of the unfortunate dispute, to stand mutely by while their representatives, acting in their interests, are abused and the strongest language in the vocabulary of the vilest political swash-buckler is applied to them. Already, on this Island of Vancouver, where are situated the most extensive measures of the finest coal on the Pacific Coast, there is a shortage of fuel for manufacturing and domestic purposes. We are importing an inferior article from the United States to tide over the emergency. And yet the leader of the government which has proposed an investigation to find out why these things should be called by the Colonist "a bungling fool." A bungling fool there may be in connection with the unfortunate business, but we have reason to believe he will be discovered somewhere in the neighborhood of Victoria.

Under the arrangement made by the South African Intercolonial Convention held at Bloemfontein, the preference to British goods will be twenty-five per cent. A special arrangement, probably still more favorable, will be made for the entrance of mining machinery manufactured in Great Britain. Thus is the idea of preferential trade within our Empire spreading. Australia will assuredly come in under the arrangement. It has been suggested that the British East Indies should also be brought within the scope of the proposed limited Zollverein. That great and rich country is governed in all but its purely domestic affairs from Great Britain. Thus far all the world has carried on business in India upon the same terms as the country which governs it and protects it, and which unquestionably does both well. That may be a very good arrangement from the point of view of the Indian, but it is not the manner in which the rest of the world is doing business in these latter days. Besides, it has to be demonstrated that the Indians would be in any less favorable position if British manufactures and merchandise were given a preference in their markets. Internal competition in Great Britain is very keen and prices are regulated by the immutable laws of supply and demand. It is interesting to note that such matters are being discussed, although the preferential idea may be years away from adoption by our British statesmen. The Imperial spirit is much stronger than was a few years ago. The Liberal government of Canada was the first body to furnish a practical illustration of a policy under which the federation of the Empire might be accomplished. The Conservative opposition does not approve of the British preference. Mr. Borden, the leader of the party, sets himself in opposition to the movement. At one time he referred to the Imperial preference as a humbug and merely a paper affair. Now he

claims that Canadian manufacturers are being ruined by it; that we are building up industries in Yorkshire and killing them in Canada. And yet there is something in Mr. Borden's utterances that indicates he feels he is making a mistake; that he fears the people of Canada have no sympathy with his attitude. The growth of the preferential movement should convert his misgivings into convictions. The preference of South Africa will be extended to all British Colonies which desire to take advantage of its provisions. Canada will be included in the list. That will mean a further weakening of the opposition policy, which is wobbly enough now.

WATER METERS ONCE MORE.
The City Council has decided to throw away nearly four thousand dollars which might have been devoted to some useful purpose. The treasury is not so full and fat at present that we can afford to spend so large a sum in such an expensive luxury as water meters. The cost will probably be increased by a fourth before the machines are in operation. No doubt the agitators who are behind this meter movement are actuated by the most commendable motives. They believe they are doing the city a service. We are of a different opinion, and we believe the vast majority of the people of Victoria are of a different opinion. The experience of every city in which the conditions even remotely resemble those in Victoria does not sustain the position of the advocates of a separate system of meters. We intend to keep this matter before the people and to see that they have an opportunity of expressing their opinions. It is admitted that the programme contemplates ultimately an expenditure of upwards of fifty thousand dollars. That scheme should not have been embarked upon without a definite expression of opinion from the ratepayers upon the subject. Another municipal election will not be allowed to pass without aldermanic candidates telling the electors of the municipality what their ideas are upon the subject of meters.

The letter which follows was written by one who possesses a thorough technical understanding of the subject:
To the Editor:—You are quite right to encourage the liberal use of water in Victoria. Victoria has a separate system of sewers. A good authority considers a separate system of sewers without frequent flushing as a separate system of elongated cess-pools, good for the propagation of typhoid fever, diphtheria, etc. The more water Victoria uses the more healthy will be the condition of the place. The position is this: That the difference between the cost of a separate, and a combined, system of sewers should be regarded as capital saved, of which the interest should be spent in a free use of water. Better to add the cost of the meters to the money already saved and spend the interest of the whole in flushing by liberal use of water. The water commissioner, after all, is neither a scientist nor a sanitarian, and cannot be expected to understand technique. MORE WATER.

RAYMUR'S HOBBY.
We think Water Commissioner Raymur is assuming a trifle too much in asserting that the city of Victoria has decided upon a general introduction of the water meter system. We hope the City Council has not given countenance to any such scheme without consulting the wishes of the ratepayers. The people are not so active as at previous periods in the history of the province, and it is proposed to modify the price on metallic ferrous mines as to afford some relief to the industry, which, it is claimed, is unduly hampered in its operations. On the other hand, there should be a marked increase in the receipts from the royalty and taxes on coal. The trouble at the Fernie mines has been settled for a fixed period. A precedent has been set there which may exert an important influence in favor of peaceful and reasonable adjustments of future difficulties. The demand for the product of the mines has never yet been fully met, notwithstanding the effort of the company to increase the output. There are bright prospects for a prolonged period of activity at the Crow's Nest mines, with resultant benefits to the country generally and to the provincial treasury. There are clouds hanging over the coal mining business on Vancouver Island. But they may pass away as rapidly as they gathered. Possibly the public has disposed of some of its interests in the natural resources of the country such as coal, but it is likely to maintain its right to a voice in the settlement of disputes in regard to the operation of the mines and to sustain the action of the Dominion government in appointing a commission, at the request of the representatives of the province in Parliament, to inquire into and report upon the causes of the suspension of operations at Extension. Such an inquiry cannot possibly injure anyone whose position is justifiable. It may do good, but whether there be any result or no result from the investigation, it is undoubtedly a case in which the interference of the state is justifiable.

The rush of settlers into the North-western Territories of the Dominion will have a stimulating effect upon the revenues of this province. The newcomers must be provided with houses and barns. There is no part of the continent in which lumber is so plentiful as it is in British Columbia. The demand for this useful commodity has become very pressing. Prices are said to have gone soaring upwards to an unreasonable altitude, and some private statesmen have demanded a government investigation on the ground that there is a comb for the spoliation of the province. John Haggerty was one of the strangers who are "cashing against" the border from south and east. We do not

in order to guard against freezing and bursting. And yet not one of the aldermen of the city of Toronto had the courage to adopt the suggestion of the engineer. Not one voice in the entire city has been raised in favor of such a measure as the installation of meters. On the contrary, it has been pointed out that such a policy would be a huge mistake from almost every point of view, and that the effect upon the sanitary condition of the city might be disastrous. In fact the general opinion appears to be that as water is the chief purifying agent in a city, the greater quantity of it goes through the pipes the better for the health of the inhabitants. Here is what one newspaper says upon the subject: "It is out of the question to equip the whole of Toronto with meters. The cost would be little short of three-quarters of a million; there would be constant expense for maintenance, repairs and inspection. And it is to be feared that the mere fact of the meter being in the house would in many cases make householders too economical, just as they are too extravagant now."

We observe that the tendency of the times is not to place undue restrictions upon the consumption of water in cities, but to give the people all they care to use at the lowest possible cost. In pursuance of this policy in a large number of places water for fire and other purposes is charged for. A fixed sum per year is paid for each fire hydrant and all other municipal services, which water works account. This may seem like taking money out of one pocket and putting it into the other. But it is a business-like arrangement. It enables the municipal officers to find out exactly what the cost of the water works system is and to equitably adjust the rates. There are few places nowadays in which the people are taxed sensibly for water, but really for general purposes through the medium of an exorbitant water rate. Has this phase of the subject ever been considered in Victoria?

ESTIMATES AND PROSPECTS.
The estimated revenue of the province for the fiscal year ending in June, 1904, is \$2,196,476.68, a slight decrease as compared with the estimates presented to the House last year. The expenditure will be increased by a few thousand dollars if it is kept within the estimates, which would be a rather unique experience for British Columbia. The total amount required by the Finance Minister for the coming year is estimated at \$2,491,506.31. If the expectations of the Minister are realized there will still be a considerable discrepancy between the receipts and expenditures of the province. It is satisfactory to note that there is some probability of the receipts at the treasury reaching the figure set by the Finance Minister. It is true there has been and is likely to be a lull in the activities of certain of our provincial industries, but others are experiencing what closely approaches a boom or what may develop into a boom before the close of the financial year. The receipts from one branch of the mining industry will undoubtedly be reduced. Prospectors are not so active as at previous periods in the history of the province, and it is proposed to modify the price on metallic ferrous mines as to afford some relief to the industry, which, it is claimed, is unduly hampered in its operations. On the other hand, there should be a marked increase in the receipts from the royalty and taxes on coal. The trouble at the Fernie mines has been settled for a fixed period. A precedent has been set there which may exert an important influence in favor of peaceful and reasonable adjustments of future difficulties. The demand for the product of the mines has never yet been fully met, notwithstanding the effort of the company to increase the output. There are bright prospects for a prolonged period of activity at the Crow's Nest mines, with resultant benefits to the country generally and to the provincial treasury. There are clouds hanging over the coal mining business on Vancouver Island. But they may pass away as rapidly as they gathered. Possibly the public has disposed of some of its interests in the natural resources of the country such as coal, but it is likely to maintain its right to a voice in the settlement of disputes in regard to the operation of the mines and to sustain the action of the Dominion government in appointing a commission, at the request of the representatives of the province in Parliament, to inquire into and report upon the causes of the suspension of operations at Extension. Such an inquiry cannot possibly injure anyone whose position is justifiable. It may do good, but whether there be any result or no result from the investigation, it is undoubtedly a case in which the interference of the state is justifiable.

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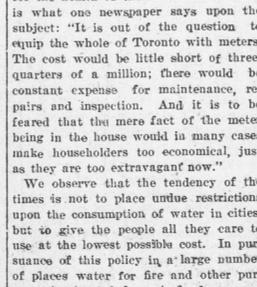
think there can be any complaint about the prices asked for lumber in British Columbia. The cost of transportation and the profits sought by the dealers at the other end may be unreasonable. But the saw mill men of this province are not likely to mount up with a bound to the millionaire class because of excessive profits at present realized. Nor is the provincial treasury bulging out with dollars collected as royalties upon timber. The receipts are increasing, however, we are pleased to note, and we hope they will continue to mount up until the discrepancy between revenue and expenditure finally disappears.

We grieve to say there is no likelihood of a favorable balance being reported under the management of the present government. The receipts of the treasury are increasing, but the expenditures are always kept a few laps ahead. Under the estimates just made public it is proposed to make considerable reductions in expenditures for public works. But the cost of administration is increasing, "leaps and bounds." When the great reformer, who will surely arise some day, appears on the scene he will speedily make the accounts balance, and he will not do it by increasing taxation.

We observe that the Finance Minister expects to receive from the Dominion government between June of the present year and June, 1904, one hundred thousand dollars on account of the head tax on Chinese. We should like to be informed whether the sum set down is arranged which will be due before the new restriction act goes into effect or whether it is expected that the revenue of the province from that source will be increased by more than one-half under the new law. The receipts from that tax have usually fluctuated between forty and fifty thousand dollars. The general opinion is that the five hundred dollar tax will mean almost absolute exclusion and the entire elimination of revenue from that source. Possibly the government understands the matter better than the average citizen. In that case Mr. Prentice, if he has the honor to submit the estimates next year, will have legitimate reason for congratulating himself on his financial penetration.

Premier Prior says no report has been submitted to the government by the commissioner appointed to inquire into the charges made by Smith Curtis, M.P.P., against ex-Premier Dunsmuir. The question is, what was the commission appointed for? Why has Mr. Justice Walkem been paid \$750 on account for services which have been of no benefit, and apparently are intended to be of no benefit to the province? Why were the distinguished services of R. Cassidy, K. C., called to an extent valued at \$500 for the purpose of eliciting nothing of interest to the people of British Columbia? Was the treasury overloaded with wealth at this time last year? Or were we giving people under some peculiar obligations to Mr. Justice Walkem and Mr. Robert Cassidy, so that the government felt impelled to appoint the commission as an excuse for the presentation of quite a handsome gift to the two legal gentlemen? We are sure the people would like to know all about these things, because the present aspect of the commission is rather perplexing. The \$750 was merely paid on account. Perhaps another bill may be presented before the next session of the House. Then there is Mr. Cassidy. Have our obligations on account of his services been entirely discharged? One hundred dollars a day is often charged by lawyers for their services, and even then they have been known to boast of their generosity in not exacting the maximum scale recognized by the most powerful labor union in the world. The legal representatives of the government must have been guilty before the commission of mysterious purposes more than five days. It is true he did not say very much or over-exert himself apparently, but he was thinking all the time. And the thoughts of the legal fraternity come when the day of reckoning comes. The House should insist upon fuller information about the objects and conclusions of that commission.

CONGRESSMAN WILBER SAYS
(To The Per-na Medicine Co., of Columbus, O.)
"Per-na is All You Claim For It."



Congressman D. F. Wilber, of Onondaga, N. Y., writes: "The Per-na Medicine Co., Columbus, Ohio. Gentlemen:—Persuaded by a friend I have tried your remedy and I have almost fully recovered after the use of a few bottles. I am fully convinced that Per-na is all you claim for it, and I cheerfully recommend your medicine to all who are afflicted with catarrhal trouble."—David F. Wilber.
Per-na is a Preventive and Cure for Colds.
Mr. C. P. Givon, Sussex, N. B., Vice President of "The Past-Time Boating Club," writes: "Whenever the cold weather sets in I have for years past been very sore to catch a severe cold which was hard to throw off, and which would leave after-effects on my constitution the most of the winter. Last winter I was advised to try Per-na, and within five days the cold was broken up and in five days more I was a well man. I recommended it to several of my friends and all speak the highest praise for it. There is nothing like Per-na for catarrhal afflictions. It is well nigh infallible as a cure, and I gladly endorse it."—C. F. Givon.
A Prominent Singer Saved From Loss of Voice.
Mr. Julian Weissitz, 175 Seneca street, Buffalo, N. Y., is corresponding secretary of The Singsong, of New York; is the leading second base of the Singsong, the largest German singing society of New York and also the oldest.

WILL PURCHASE A SUPPLY OF METERS
Referred to the city solicitor for report. Beaumont Boggs enclosed two accounts outstanding against the Agricultural Association. Referred to the finance committee, to be paid if found correct.
City Clerk Dowler reported having received a number of communications which were referred to the different departments for consideration.
W. W. Northcott reported the assessment rolls complete.
Hon. E. G. Prior and other residents through a manly petition that that they therefore receive attention when the sever extension work had been started in that part of the city. Referred to the streets, bridges and sewers committee for report.
W. Manleton wrote reporting that a deputation representing the trades and labor council had waited on His Worship asking for the use of the city market building for a benefit entertainment for the unemployed, and that the Mayor had refused permission, for the reason that disturbances were feared which might necessitate the calling out of the police.
The Mayor emphatically denied that he had refused permission for this reason. He wanted to remain neutral in the matter of the strike and did not see why he should give the use of the city market to one party more than another, as there were two sides to the story. In this the board endorsed the Mayor's action, and the letter was received and filed.
The electric light committee recommended the erection of a light on North Park street, between Quadra and Cook, and the purchase by tender of a carload of poles. Received and filed.
The finance committee recommended as follows:
"Tenders for the supplying of water meters were received from thirteen different parties, as per list enclosed, same by Lieut. MacDonald, was now lying on the C. P. N. wharf. Referred to the park committee.
W. Stein, secretary of the Vancouver branch of the Canadian Manufacturing Association, called attention to the fact that after the annual meeting of that organization a large number of members would visit the Coast in October next. He asked for the council's cooperation in providing some kind of entertainment for the visitors when they come. Received, the writer to be informed that the council will be pleased to co-operate in the matter.
Then followed several communications bearing on the selection of an architect for the Carnegie library. F. M. Rattenbury advocated that competitive plans be called for, and that the selection be left in the hands of some competent architect in Toronto or Montreal. W. Ridgway Wilson was not sure that the proposed action of the board would be the most satisfactory. He believed that a more satisfactory way would be to call for simple small scale pencil sketches free from the name or any identifying mark, and that a choice be made accordingly.
Thos. C. Sorby, Thomas Hooper, A. Maxwell Muir, A. Edward Watkins, S. M. MacIure and J. C. M. Keith petitioned that the council appoint from among their number an architect who shall be engaged upon the usual terms for design and superintend the erection of the proposed library. After some discussion the decision was postponed until next week.
John Haggerty wrote again explaining that he was a loser in connection with the breaking of the contract for the supply of stone for the Point Ellice bridge.

COUNCIL SO DECIDE ON TUESDAY EVENING
Architect for Carnegie Library Will Be Selected by Walk—More Permanent Walks Proposed.
After long months of weary discussion the city council on Tuesday determined to purchase 350 meters at a cost of \$3,745, as a solution in part, if not in whole, of the difficulties which have confronted this city for years in the matter of the water supply. Another matter of importance taken up at last night's meeting was the question of selecting an architect for the Carnegie library. A majority of the council were of the opinion that the calling for competitive plans along lines heretofore pursued only resulted in delay and dissatisfaction, and it was therefore decided to appoint an architect by ballot.
The Victoria Machinery Depot wrote enclosing a contract book and asking that the certified cheques be returned. Referred to the city solicitor for report.
Chas. Hayward notified the board that the big Chinese bell, donated to the city by Lieut. MacDonald, was now lying on the C. P. N. wharf. Referred to the park committee.
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POPULAR PROMOTIONS.
E. J. Case, Formerly of Esquimalt, to Be Lieutenant—G. Hickey Also Advanced.
The many friends—both civilian and service—will be pleased to hear of the recent well-earned promotion of Messrs. E. J. Case and G. Hickey, Royal Navy, the former lieutenant and the latter to carpenter-lieutenant, from the 1st instant inclusive.
Lieut. Case was boatswain of the naval yard, Esquimalt, from 1897 to 1902 and was largely instrumental in getting the Naval Warrant Officers' Club erected. Lieut. Hickey was carpenter of the yard from 1892 to 1897, and was prominently known in Masonic circles as a member of the grand lodge of British Columbia, and as one of the principal founders and first master of the "United Services Lodge, No. 24," at Esquimalt.
The above promotions actually make a total of five commissions awarded to well known former warrant officers on this station within the past two years, the remaining three being Lieuts. Wild (R.A.), Wiggins (A.O.D.) and Tennent (R.B.).
KIDNEY STRAIGHT LIGHTS.—Have you backache? Do you feel drowsy? Do your limbs feel heavy? Have you pain in the joints? Have you dizziness? Have you a first dragging feeling in the regions of the kidneys? Any and all of these indicate kidney troubles. South American Kidney Cure is a liquid kidney specific and works wonderful cures in most complicated cases. Sold by Jackson & Co., and Hall & Co.—94.

PARING EXPENSES ON PUBLIC WORKS
ENORMOUS REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATION
About One Hundred and Sixty and Dollars Less Estimated This Year Than Last.

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R SAYS For It? ... I have fully convinced myself ...

PARING EXPENSES ON PUBLIC WORKS

ENORMOUS REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATION

About One Hundred and Sixteen Thousand Dollars Less Estimated for This Year Than Last.

The estimates of revenue and expenditures as submitted by the Finance Minister Tuesday indicate that the government has decided so far as the main estimates are concerned to keep the expenditure down. There will be no quarrel with them on that point, but grave objection is likely to be taken to the fact that every branch of the public service almost shows an advance on the estimates of last year with the exception of roads, trails, wharves and bridges. It is on this item that the economy has been exercised, and the pruning knife has been applied to the extent of about \$130,000.

This decrease is likely to be seriously criticized, especially by those opposing members who receive from \$1,200 to \$2,000 for their districts, and who are anxious to see the government cut down the supplementary estimates which will cut the administration being anxious to create a good impression by a budget attractive in its economy.

Although there is an increase of about \$8,000 under salaries, this is due to new officials and not to advances on the old salaries. The appointment of a deputy minister of mines at \$150 a month, a mining recorder at Revelstoke, and the payment of various incidentals for clerical assistance explains the increase in this figure.

A comparison of the estimated expenditures of this year with that of last year shows wherein the increases have taken place. The table is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: 1903-1904 and 1901-1902. Rows include Public debt, Civil government, Administration of justice, Legislation, Public institutions, Hospitals and charities, etc.

Table with 2 columns: 1903-1904 and 1901-1902. Rows include North Nanaimo District, South Nanaimo District, Comox District, Vancouver Island, Main Trunk Road, etc.

The expense of the coal mines commission, as revealed by the overrunning of the grant for that purpose, was \$4,350.

The work of the constitution committee as far as the coal mines commission is concerned, cost \$2,100.

The splendid hall was most handsomely decorated. From the entrance to some little distance was an arch made of flags on the right and a neatly arranged room, contained off into five separate sections, used as a "sitting-up" department.

Table with 2 columns: 1903-1904 and 1901-1902. Rows include Road, Spring Creek to Paradise Mine, Bridge at Savona, Wharves generally, etc.

Table with 2 columns: 1903-1904 and 1901-1902. Rows include Grant in aid of Ethnological Society, Grant to Canadian Forestry Association, Investigation of life of young salmon, etc.

The Premier made a direct announcement in the House later on that the two per cent. tax would be repealed and an adjustment of the mineral taxes made.

Prayers were read upon opening by Rev. W. Leslie Clay.

A. W. Neill presented a petition from John Best and others, of Alberni, concerning the sale of timber leaseholds of British Columbia Lumber Company for arrears of rent.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE

MINISTRY NARROWLY ESCAPES A DIVISION

Motion of Smith Curtis Caused Consternation—Premier Pledges Abolition of Two Per Cent. Tax.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

As expected the resolution introduced by Smith Curtis yesterday afternoon caused considerable consternation on the government side of the House. In anticipation of its coming up the members were nearly all in their places. Price Ellison alone was not present. The resolution was one of an expression of the opinion "that it is in the interest of the government that there should be a dissolution of the legislature and an appeal to the electorate immediately after the close of the present session."

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Reports were presented by H. D. Hinchey from the petition committee. The standing orders in connection with the following were reported to have been complied with: Petition of Pacific Northern and Eastern Railway Company; petition of the Northwest and Ontario Railway Company; petition of Kootenay Central Railway Company; petition of Kootenay, Cariboo & Pacific Railway Company.

IMMENSE OPPORTUNITY.

For Getting a Beautiful Watch and Chain Free—No Money Required.

In order to have Dr. Arnold's English Toxin Pills placed in the hands of all persons suffering from bad health we make the following most liberal offer:

Every man, woman, boy or girl has the same opportunity under our system. If you will send us your name and address and agree to sell for us twelve boxes of Dr. Arnold's English Toxin Pills at 25c. per box, we will give you ABSOLUTELY FREE A BEAUTIFUL WATCH AND CHAIN in either Ladies' or Gents' size, or your choice of twenty other premiums such as fine sets of Jewelry, Rings, Violins, Mandolins, Tea Sets, Sateen Skirts, Cameras, etc. Remember we DON'T WANT ANY MONEY until after you receive the Pills and you don't have to sell any more than 12 boxes to get the premiums. This is a bona fide offer from a reliable concern that has given thousands of dollars worth of premiums to agents all over the country. Remember also that Dr. Arnold's English Toxin Pills are a well known remedy for all diseases of the kidney and bladder, Bright's disease, diabetes, rheumatism, nervous troubles and female complaints, and are for sale by all first class druggists and dealers in medicines in all parts of the world. You have only to show them to sell them. You are not offering something that the people don't know. Our watches are the regular standard size for Ladies and Gentlemen in Nickel or Gun Metal Cases with handsome illuminated dials and reliable time-keepers, watches such as no lady or gentleman need be ashamed to wear and that will only cost you a few cents. Free to all who will only twelve copies of these wonderful Toxin Pills. Write at once and be the first in your locality to earn one of those beautiful watches and chains. As soon as we receive your letter or post card we will send you post paid twelve boxes, together with our illustrated Catalogue and beautifully colored card with your name and address on as our authorized agent. Bear in mind that you will not be asked to sell any more than the 12 boxes and we DON'T WANT ANY MONEY until after you have sold them. We bear all the expense and are only making this liberal offer as a method of advertising Dr. Arnold's English Toxin Pills. Don't delay, write at once and earn a beautiful present for yourself for Christmas. Address ARNOLD MEDICINE CO., Dept. 122, 50 Adelaide street east, Toronto, Ont.

quently upon the removal of the two per cent. tax. "I said it would be removed, and it will."

Continuing, Mr. Curtis said a fair tax must be put upon the mines. The government would not lose money by it, but by readjusting matters they would get more. (Premier Prior: "Hear, hear.")

Mr. Curtis said that the objection seemed now to be that urged by the Premier, which was that it was not right for the House to express its opinion to the Government. It was not the prerogative of the House of Commons to express its views. He might even have added to this motion that the House should express its opinion to the Government.

The Speaker said that he would not offer his decision if it were to be put on exactly the same position as owners of other lands with respect to tax sales. He urged against those holding surface rights having the control over those holding the mineral rights beneath the surface. The subject had been discussed by the Mining Association, and he hoped something would be done. He was sorry to see that the two per cent. tax was not to be taken off as promised by the Premier.

Premier Prior said the two per cent. tax would be removed. A bill would be introduced later to cover that. It was found difficult to adjust matters consequent upon the removal of the two per cent. tax.

Mr. Curtis said that while Mr. McBride was in the government persons had been allowed to get off with 50 cents on the \$1.

Mr. McBride thought if such was done it was for good reasons. He did not remember the circumstances.

Mr. Martin said that while Mr. McBride was in the government persons had been allowed to get off with 50 cents on the \$1.

A Prominent American Bishop Writes for the Benefit of Canadian Sufferers.

HE STRONGLY RECOMMENDS Paine's Celery Compound

THE HEALTH GIVING SPRING MEDICINE.

Those of prominent clergymen in Canada and other lands through the use of Paine's Celery Compound are happily pointing their praise to the benefit of suffering with success to their congregations. Heart trouble, sleeplessness, nervousness, sluggish and impure blood, weak digestion, constipation and headache are the troubles that drag us down to despair unless relieved by Paine's Celery Compound. To-day, Paine's Celery Compound is the chosen home medicine of all wise and prudent ministers and priests. A vast number of them owe their lives and present good health to Dr. Phelps' well renowned prescription that "makes sick people well." Rev. John S. Michals, Bishop of Burlington, Vt., writes as follows:

"I have been asked why I recommend Paine's Celery Compound, and I desire to put on record frankly my reasons for its endorsement, hoping that my words may inspire those readers who need health and strength with faith to try Paine's Celery Compound and prove to themselves its worth and merits. At the Fanny Allen Hospital, an institution in which I am deeply interested, Paine's Celery Compound has been used successfully. The Sisters of Mercy at Mount St. Mary's Academy on Mansfield Avenue rely upon Paine's Celery Compound as a tonic and strengthener. In my own household one of the domestic has taken Paine's Celery Compound for liver trouble of long standing and it has done more good than any other medicine." Several priests have spoken to me in praise of this remedy, and I believe it has the confidence of my associates. Even did I not know from personal observation of the worth of Paine's Celery Compound I should feel glad in praising it for the simple reason that it is prepared by the Wells & Richardson Co., a firm whose members I have known for nearly a quarter of a century, and in whom I have perfect confidence.

Mr. Oliver asked: 1. Has the commissioner appointed to investigate the charges by the member for Rossland made any report as to the result of his investigation? 2. If so, why has the report been brought down? 3. If not, why has the government paid for his services? Premier Prior replied: "1, no; 2, answered by No. 1; 3, was paid \$750 on account."

Mr. Gifford asked: 1. To what account has the \$2,000 paid last year to Mr. Greenshields, in connection with the New Westminster bridge, been charged? 2. Have any other moneys been paid to Mr. Greenshields since the said payment? 3. Is Mr. Greenshields at present in the employment of the government in any capacity? 4. If so, what? Premier Prior replied: "1, bridge, Fraser river, at New Westminster; 2, no; 3 and 4, no."

Mr. Curtis asked: "Is it the intention of the government to introduce legislation, by amending the Railway Assessment Act, or otherwise, to provide that railway companies shall, within this province, give free transportation over their respective railways to members of this House?" Premier Prior replied: "No."

Mr. Curtis asked: Is it intended to change the name of the Trail Creek mining division to the Rossland mining division? Premier Prior replied: "No."

Mr. Green asked: Has the government agent of the road superintendent for the Slooan riding reported as to the amounts of money required for roads, trails and bridges in that riding, and, if so, what is the amount estimated, first, for maintenance and repair; and, secondly, for new work? Premier Prior replied: "Yes, government agent; \$28,425, maintenance; \$18,800, new work."

Mr. Curtis asked: 1. Will a report of the recent visit of the Hon. Premier and of the Attorney-General to Ottawa be laid before the House? 2. If so, when? Premier Prior replied: "1, yes; 2, as soon as printed."

DELIGHTFUL AFFAIR.

Very Successful Dance Given by Lawa Tennis Club Last Night.

The Assembly hall on Fort Street was a scene of gaiety and splendor Tuesday when a successful ball was held by the Victoria Tennis Club. All previous functions given by the club were put in the shade in comparison with that of last night. There were between eighty and one hundred couples present, and it was really seen that all were enjoying themselves by the hearty cheering of each dance.

The beautiful costumes worn by the gentlemen were shown to advantage by the var-colored electric light. The music furnished by the Phil's orchestra was excellent. The ball did not break up until the small hours of the morning. These on the committee in charge follows: J. A. Rihet, E. Langworthy, A. T. Goward, P. S. Langman, D. M. Rogers and F. T. Cornwall, secretary of the club.

Nothing to Settle About Strike So Far As Concerns Capt. Troup.

The strike on the waterfront is now something which, so far as the public is concerned, has been almost lost sight of. There have been rumors of settlement, but when asked regarding these, Capt. Troup, the local manager of the C. P. N. Company, denied that he is a party to any such agreement. "There is nothing to settle," he said when consulted on the subject. "In the first place I did all I could in an effort to persuade the men from going out on strike. When they walked ashore it was probably thought that C. P. N. boats would be tied up. The reverse happened. Other men were secured to take the strikers' places. The boats have been kept running, and I have simply dismissed the matter from my mind as far as possible."

That the captain has got the best of the strikers there is no doubt, and the fact is unquestionably due to the prompt measures taken when the first trouble broke out. The night when the crew of the Charmer walked ashore there were many of the C. P. N. fleet in port, and had it not been for considerable fact and good judgment exercised in the management of the men the company might have been placed in an extremely awkward position. As it was Capt. Troup, while showing every courtesy to the striking steamship men, took a very determined stand after they resolved on striking, and was bound that on no point should be bested. The various steamers of the fleet never missed a run; the travelling public never suffered in the slightest, and C. P. N. freight is received with the same regularity in which it was handled previous to the strike. The Longshoremen's Union remained friendly to the company, as a result of a clear understanding reached between them and the captain when the trouble first began.

Miss M. La Dell, who is to sing at the Y. M. C. A. concert, and Miss Emily F. Scott, of Toronto, are at the Driford.

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ance gave a direct promise that he would make provision for this. He was glad that annual tax sales were to be initiated. The whole reason for these not having been introduced before seemed to be that it was pointed out to the government that a voter could not against the government if his lands were put up for sale. And so Mr. Turner conceived the idea that tax sales should not be held. The system had been continued.

"It was continued in your time," said Mr. McBride. "Well, I wasn't long in power, and did not know of it," replied Mr. Martin. He was glad that the system of annual sales were now to be introduced in all countries. He referred to the "pull" which the Toronto Lumber Company had on the government, which amounted to a scandal. He did not believe in giving this company any advantage over the poor prospector. This company urged only that they had had poor luck. Yet they would not part with their property for half a million dollars. The government preferred to let these men leave their taxes unpaid rather than see the lands worth half a million. There were other grievances. It was said that the better off men were the less taxes they paid. Instructions were sent to government officials charged with assessing ordering them to limit the taxes on certain lands.

Mr. Prentice said no orders-in-council had ever been issued along this line. Mr. Martin said it occurred nevertheless. The member for Southeast Kootenay could hear of it on where his district orders were issued that the defenceless C. P. R. had had its tax reduced, no doubt at the suggestion of officials of that company. He wanted the charges for advertising reduced. He was glad the Minister of Finance had made a move in the direction of redressing abuses. He would assist the government in the further redressing of these.

The bill passed the second reading. The House then adjourned until 2 o'clock to-day.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

Prayers were read at the opening of Rev. W. Leslie's services. A petition was presented by Mr. Neill from residents of Alberni in connection with the sale of timber leaseholds of the British Columbia Lumber Company for a portion of Premier Prior's time.

On motion of Mr. Neill the document was received and ordered to be printed. The private bills committee presented three reports, which were received and dealt with in the usual way. These reports were the Morrissey, Fernie and Michel railway bill; the Quatsino Railway Company's bill; and the British Columbia Northern and Mackenzie Valley Railway bill. In connection with the latter it was ordered that the petition be amended to conform with the usual notices.

Mr. Houston presented petitions for the incorporation of the Anglican Synod of the Diocese of Kootenay, and for the incorporation of the Flathead Valley Railway Company.

First readings were given the bills of the Morrissey, Fernie and Michel Railway Company, the Pacific Northern and Eastern, and the British Columbia Northern and Mackenzie Valley lines. Upon taking up the motion of Mr. Curtis: "Resolved, that it is in the interest of good government that there should be a dissolution of the legislature, and an appeal to the electorate immediately after the close of the present session." The speaker, after stating the objections raised by Hon. Mr. Prentice and Premier Prior, said he did not believe rule 45 applied to this as a vote of want of confidence would, according to that way of thinking, be ruled out of order. Upon the ground that it encroached upon the rights of the crown he would not agree to either. The right of the Commons to approach the crown had always remained undisputed. It was an expression of opinion in which the legislature was within its right.

Smith Curtis, in speaking to the motion, said that the usual order was that a parliament should be elected every four years. With a session each year this meant four sessions in the life of a parliament. Four sessions had been held and, therefore, there should be an appeal to the electorate.

The continued passing of members from the opposition to the government side also prompted him in wishing the public to be appealed to. The country was anxious for an appeal. He hoped to see the country divided upon party lines at the next election. The allegiance to party or the free of public opinion would compel them to remain stable after being elected.

He favored the session being completed as quickly as possible. He was not in favor of this government remaining in power, if another government were put in its place the estimates should be passed by the new government before an appeal to the country.

Premier Prior contended that Smith Curtis was not consistent. He regarded this resolution as a direct vote of want of confidence. He wished the House to regard it in that way. The Lieutenant-Governor was the source from which dissolution should arise. He did not intend to be dictated to as long as he was in power by a minority of the House. He might lose power by this, but he did not intend to lose his self-respect.

Hon. Mr. W. E. Acland said it seemed to be an extraordinary motion to put in the House. There was a more straightforward way of showing lack of confidence in a government by a straight vote of confidence vote. This was a motion expressing approval of the government's work. If the ministry was considered fit to conduct the affairs of this country until the close of the present session was not fit to administer affairs for another session?

The government had not lost the confidence of the country. It was not shown by the bye-elections. In the three elections only the small total majority of 47 was given to the opposition. While the country did not show lack of confidence, the House certainly did not. The opposition did not dare to consent to a straight vote of want of confidence and an appeal to the electorate. There was no other cohesion among them.

"Why did you go over to the government side was it not to get into office?" asked Mr. Curtis. "I came over to keep my head above water in the opposition."

side from getting the control of the affairs." The government intended to remain in power until at the polls they were shown they had not the confidence of the people. Not till then would they relinquish power.

Mr. McBride was surprised that the Provincial Secretary should take consolation out of the bye-elections. Government had a peculiar advantage in such elections, and yet this ministry was defeated in a majority of them. There were four members of the opposition in whom they had every confidence joining the government side.

Referring to the efforts put forth by the members of the government to get a candidate in West Yale, he said, the Premier and the Provincial Secretary reversed the constituency. Mr. Clapper was implored to run. The greatest efforts were made to get a candidate, but finally they went into Lillooet and got Dr. Sanson in a weak moment—a very weak moment—to become their candidate.

Then the speaker went into the bridge building promises made by members of the government in that constituency to win the election. There were to be four bridges built in West Yale, he said.

Mr. Eberts—"Oh, more than that." Continuing, Mr. McBride said that before election all the members of the government went into West Yale. The Premier was represented as the executor of the Premier's will. In spite of all the efforts Mr. Semlin, though not in the best of health, won easily, his opponent barely saving his deposit. He recalled also the nursing of North Victoria for a year and like the Premier who spoke very much like him. Yet the government candidate was defeated there also. In North Nanaimo there were reasons for the victory of the Provincial Secretary. The candidate against him was a Socialist, which made him unpopular.

Beyond the time for passing of the estimates and necessary legislation he did not think there was need of a longer continuation of this parliament. The people wanted an election.

On two occasions in West Yale in the presence of the speaker the Premier stated that he had a promise from the Lieutenant-Governor that in the case of defeat he could have a general election. Premier Prior—"I said no such thing." John Oliver—"I heard him say so." Mr. McBride said he must accept the Premier's statement, but added: "Well, a gentleman who looked very much like the Premier, and spoke very much like him, stated that he had such a promise." There was a redistribution measure on the statutes which was another reason for this election.

Mr. Rogers said that the West Yale election was one of personalities and not the question of government and opposition. He was not so sure that had he been in the riding that he would have voted against Mr. Semlin.

Mr. McPhillips resented the "heroic" remarks of the Provincial Secretary, that member of the government had said that there were no members on the opposition side who were fit to occupy office. The Provincial Secretary even followed the member for Vancouver (Mr. Martin) as his leader. But now he had forgotten all this. He was led to believe he was evidently regarded his side of the House as lacking in ability. When a Provincial Secretary was needed men like Mr. Hunter and others on the government side were passed over and Mr. Semlin was chosen.

The present administration also sought a Provincial Secretary from the opposition. It seemed necessary to get ability on this side of the House. He recalled the outrage of North Victoria remaining vacant so long. Yet the present Premier had stated that he was not responsible for the continuation. What rule of responsible government could prompt such a statement. He went further into the charges against the government in connection with the railway subsidies. The government was a divided one. A. W. Neill had dreamed that the business was to go forward without hindrance, and votes of want of confidence would not come up more often than once a week. He found that the member for Vancouver had been on the order paper for four Thursdays.

The next election would be along party lines, he had no doubt. An appeal to the country would result in the return of the government to office. His election did not want to precipitate a general election at the present time. He was advised to avoid defeating the government if possible, and the electors would be his.

The Opposition cries: "Why?" Mr. McPhillips: "You were gerrymandered and you are supporting the government who did so."

Mr. Neill replied that he was elected as an independent. He did not conceive that he was to oppose the government nor to hang to its skirts. A government's platform was not the great point. It was what they did. He supported the Dunsmuir government for a time. He had opposed part of the government's policy with respect to railways. He had opposed them. The present government showed signs of doing better than the last one. In the way of filling vacancies in the House they had shown an improvement. He was prepared to wait for further development of this policy before deciding whether it was worth his support or not. If a railway policy was brought down by the government which meant the alienation of the provincial lands and resources he would not support them. He was not in a particular—but in a general way.

Mr. McPhillips asked if the government had promised to reinstate Alberni. "They have made no such promise," answered Mr. Neill.

Mr. Neill asked if the government had promised to readjust the constituency in any way. Mr. Neill replied: "I believe the government will act with justice and equity." John Houston said he could not be pleased with the members of the Delta. That member was when first elected a supporter of Mr. Martin, then he supported Mr. Dunsmuir and was now a member of the opposition. He was not a popper, and would not be such. He would not support poppers. That was why he was going to support the resolu-

tion strong enough to be free from dictation at the hands of individual members of the House. There would be some difficulty in changing from one system to the other. He thought, however, that one party would be returned strong enough to carry on the affairs of government. He would rather see the Conservative party, to which he was opposed, returned to power with a strong Liberal opposition than a continuation of this system.

Richard Hall said the opposition was composed of three elements. The government side was united. The country was in rather a disturbed condition for an appeal to the country at the present time. The legislation which the government was prepared to bring down was of great importance.

Taking up the question of the railway policy enunciated by the Premier, he said that the government had not the members of the House would not back him in this. Had that been allowed to have been carried out he believed parties would now be in the field in connection with the railway. Continuing, Mr. McPhillips interjected, "But the Premier has given that up!" Mr. Hall, continuing, said he had done it not because he had gone back on that policy, but because he had the statesman's wisdom to submit to the wishes of the representatives.

John Oliver read from the remarks of the member for Nelson (Mr. Houston) that the Premier had not the confidence of the people of the province. The opposition was no more a "loose aggregation" than that on the government side. He referred to the election of Messrs. Houston, Neill and E. C. Smith towards the government.

Referring to the forebore matter, Mr. Curtis said he was probably in error in this matter that members of the opposition crossed the floor of the House and supported the government.

Cries of "Order." Premier Prior objected to the inference that the Premier had been bought by the government.

Mr. Oliver, continuing, said the Premier secured his election in the city of Victoria simply by promises which were violated upon his becoming a member of the government.

Why did the government not carry out the broad policy brought down in the House last session? Members of the government said they had the confidence of the House. Did the withdrawal of these bills show that they had a majority of the House? He never believed so.

He quoted from an interview with E. C. Smith, given in the Times, in which the member for Southeast Kootenay said he was willing to compromise with the Premier's government, and stating further that the Premier had given up his railway policy and thus met Mr. Smith's views.

Premier Prior interjected: "I never said so." Mr. Prentice said that was the Times statement alone.

Mr. Oliver said it had never been contradicted. Proceeding to quote from the estimates of the government, Mr. Oliver was called to order.

Taking up the question of the support of the member for Alberni, he said Mr. Neill had a reputation of being able to take care of himself. He was led to believe that the government was paying \$50 a head for every elector in his riding. It was quite evident that the member for Alberni was not only able to look out for himself, but also for his constituents.

In the case of the member for Nelson, he was informed that \$40,000 was to be appropriated for the erection of a court house in addition to other appropriations.

Mr. Prentice: "The member for Nelson's association with the government last year." "Sometimes he did and sometimes he did not. Sometimes he defied the government and used language in description. He was anything but complimentary," added Mr. Oliver.

He went further into the charges against the government in connection with the railway subsidies. The government was a divided one.

Mr. Semlin: "What about the 'Replique' fund?" Cries of "what" from government members.

"Oh, you're very innocent. You never heard of it," replied Mr. Semlin. "It was a fund for the government candidate living."

Hon. Mr. Eberts returned the answer: "At Ashcroft for 25 days." (Laughter.) "Why not let the government continue for a time?"

Mr. Curtis: "Because they know you too well." "That's just like you—you talk to yourself," replied the excited Attorney-General. "Not one word was said against the policy of the government on the King's speech."

Mr. McBride: "There's very little in it. One of your own members says so." It would be unwise to go to the country, Hon. Mr. Eberts contended, at the present time.

C. A. Semlin, rising for the first time during the session, was greeted with loud opposition applause. He said the Attorney-General would have the country believe this was a new government. How by any stretch could he convince the country of this? He was a member of the preceding government. As such he was just as responsible for his acts as the Premier of that time.

The Premier had issued a circular to the members of the House. In that he enunciated a new policy with respect to railway construction. He had formerly advocated cash and land subsidies for railway development. In the circular he dropped the cash subsidy and stood alone by a land grant. That was two policies. Now comes another, that of no aid to developing railways. The government had no policy what their policy was for the succeeding session, and why should they ask for confidence? There policy changed from day to day.

John Houston said he could not be pleased with the members of the Delta. That member was when first elected a supporter of Mr. Martin, then he supported Mr. Dunsmuir and was now a member of the opposition. He was not a popper, and would not be such. He would not support poppers. That was why he was going to support the resolu-

tion. It was not because Premier Prior was not responsible for good government, but he had in his cabinet men who were not true to him, and how could such a government stand? The province was not suffering so much from labor troubles as from lack of stable government. Possibly there was no member in the House who disliked to vote for this resolution, because of the member who moved it, more than he. He was not satisfied that the mover was actuated by the best of motives. The member for Rossland was one of the men in this province who could live alone by grand stand play. Hence it went against his grain to vote for it.

In replying, Mr. Curtis said he would have withdrawn his motion had the Premier consented to accept it. He lamented the attack made by the Attorney-General upon the member for Delta. No member would believe for a moment that Mr. Oliver was anything but honest in his motives.

He said it came with bad grace for the Attorney-General to make such imputations, especially when it was remembered that a public statement was made that the Attorney-General had blackmailed an individual in connection with a railway scheme. That charge had been publicly made, and never withdrawn to his knowledge.

He also referred to the charges brought up last session at his own instigation, implicating the Attorney-General.

Premier Prior stated that he was to be granted an appeal to the country showed either that the Premier considered them very ignorant or was very ignorant himself with respect to procedure. He did not live on either side of the porcupine. The two bodies being the Governor would have to consult the legislature. If the opposition was strong enough to form a government they had a right to do so. The Premier might have made an appeal to the country when appointed. He had not seen fit to do so, and must stand by the consequences.

He was surprised at the stand taken by the member for Southeast Kootenay. When members sat across the floor of the House, he thought they should have an explanation, or they were left free to ascribe motives for it.

The Alberni constituency got about as much in the estimates as the four constituents of Delta, Dewdney, Chilliwack and Richmond, of the New Westminster district.

The member for Alberni had announced his intention of opposing the government if they brought in land grants for railways. Yet that was the policy which the government announced their readiness to bring in. The member for Alberni was not assured that the ministry would not do so, supported by others who might side from the opposition side upon occasion.

Reading from the published reports of the Provincial Secretary's desire to run against Mr. Dunsmuir, and his desire to get after the coal baron in 1900, he said the Provincial Secretary had got after how to get after the coal baron than the Provincial Secretary's. No one could doubt how it would end, and who would come out on top in that struggle with the coal baron.

He lamented that the party to which he belonged had furnished six of the eight members who had sid over to the government.

A division being taken the vote resulted in a tie, 17 to 17.

The division was as follows: Aves-Curtis, Green, McBride, Tallow, Gilman, Houston, Patterson, Pulton, Moore, Semlin, McPhillips, Taylor, Gifford, Garden, Hawthornthwaite, Oliver and Kidd—17.

Says E. C. Smith, Neill, Hayward, Holman, Prentice, Prior, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Clifford, Walls, McInnes, Dunsmuir, Hall, Rogers, Hunter, Dickie, Mounce—17.

Martin and Stables paired.

The speaker gave the casting vote against the resolution.

The result was greeted with loud applause on the part of the government supporters and cries of "We'll catch you next time" on the opposition.

The speaker, in giving the reasons for his vote, said he regarded the motion as a direct vote of want of confidence in the government. It aimed at taking away from the government the right to advise the Lieutenant-Governor.

Mr. McBride asked if, in the face of this vote, in which it was clearly manifested that the government did not possess the confidence of a majority of the House, the Premier intended to continue in power. (Laughter on the part of the government.)

Premier Prior, rising to a question of privilege, called attention to an editorial remark in the Rossland Miner in which he was accused of breaking faith in not repealing the two per cent. tax. The Premier said he had never announced he would not repeal it.

The House then adjourned until 2 o'clock to-day.

A NORTHERN BUDGET. A Twenty Thousand Blaze at Nome—Items of Interest From Dawson.

Mail advices from the north tell of a big fire at Nome on the first of February, which destroyed property to the value of \$20,000.

Evan Thomas, a miner, was crushed to death near Dawson by falling rock and earth. Thomas was working in a tunnel on Gold Hill. In some unknown manner the earth was loosened and the unfortunate man was buried. Before he could be rescued he died and his lifeless body was brought to this place. He formerly lived at Black Diamond, near Seattle.

Postmaster Hartman has received notice from the Ottawa government that a post office savings bank will be established in Dawson. It will run in connection with the local post office.

A small outfit valued at \$10,000, en route to the new Tanana district, is stranded at the head of Good Pasture trail. It will be impossible to move the outfit until next winter on account of the condition of the trail. The mill is the property of Parker & Carroll.

The big dredge owned by the Lewis River Dredging Company is being moved from 42 below Bonanza, to Skookum Jim's property at Discovery Bonanza, where it will be used in the summer work.

Further inquiry shows there is just a

GAMMELL'S ENGLISH STEEL For Definite Results in All Kinds of Mining

We Manufacture Rails, Shoes and Dies CYCLOPS STEEL WORKS. SHEFFIELD, ENGLAND. ROWLAND MACHIN, Can. Agent, Yates St., Victoria, B. C.

J. Piercy & Co., Wholesale Dry Goods, VICTORIA, B. C.

MAIL CONTRACT

Sealed tenders, addressed to the Postmaster-General, will be received at Ottawa on 22nd May for the contract for the carriage of mail between Victoria and the coast...

AX AND AX FRACTIONAL MINERAL CLAIMS. Situate in the Victoria Mining Division of the Province of British Columbia...

A TERRIFIC GALE. Some Details of Recent Storms Which Swept Over the British Isles.

English papers chronicle a very long list of disasters as a result of the terrible storm that raged over the British Isles during the first week in March...

NOTICE. Notice is hereby given that 20 days after date I intend to apply to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a special license...

PRINTING PRESS FOR SALE. The Complete Plant of the Daily Times was printed for several years. The bed is 24x47 inches, and in every respect the best suitable for small daily or weekly offices. It cost \$1,200; will be sold for \$600 cash.

MONEY TO LOAN. On Household Goods; Pianos; Organs; Horses; Carriages; Farm Wares, etc. Payments monthly. Address Box 257, City.

FARMS WANTED—Owners having farms for sale please send terms and particulars to B. Box 18, Victoria, B. C. Exceptional facilities for placing same.

WANTED—By advertiser, aged 19, employment in any capacity in mines or mills; has been in mechanical engineering school and has good practical experience; would make himself generally useful; wages no object. B. Times Office.

BIRTHS. CHEATE—At Nelson, on April 4th, the wife of J. J. Cheate, of a daughter.

BLAKELY—At Nelson, on April 5th, the wife of A. Blakely, of a son.

AXAM—At Nelson, on April 5th, the wife of Frank Axam, of a daughter.

BRADY—At Nelson, on April 6th, the wife of G. W. Brady, of a daughter.

GREGORY—At Highland District, Victoria, on April 13th, the wife of F. T. Gregory, of a son.

PALMER—At Nicola Lake, on April 5th, the wife of W. M. Palmer, of a son.

WHEELING—At Vancouver, on April 11th, by Rev. G. Wilson, of a daughter, Nicholas Francesco Kendall and Maud Muriel, only daughter of the late Mr. E. W. Kendall, of Victoria.

CRESSMAN-MCKEN—At Revelstoke, on April 8th, by Rev. Chas. Laidler, J. B. Cressman and Miss Maggie McKen.

KENDALL WOODS—At New Westminster, on April 14th, by Rev. G. Wilson, of a daughter, Nicholas Francesco Kendall and Maud Muriel, only daughter of the late Mr. E. W. Kendall, of Victoria.

CAMPBELL-SCOTT—At Kamloops, on April 13th, by Rev. A. E. Heatherington, of a daughter, Mrs. Campbell and Miss Annie Scott.

COLVIN—At Lerwick, Shetland Islands, on April 11th, by Rev. G. Wilson, of a daughter, Mrs. Colvin, formerly connected with the Clyde shipyard of this city, aged 70 years.

VERICEL—At Vancouver, on April 14th, by Rev. G. Wilson, of a daughter, Mrs. Vericel, aged 50 years.

ROBERTS—At Vancouver, on April 13th, by Rev. G. Wilson, of a daughter, Mrs. Roberts, aged 50 years.

DUNN—At Vancouver, on April 12th, by Rev. G. Wilson, of a daughter, Mrs. Dunn, aged 56 years.

BETWEEN TWO FIRES. By Mrs. C. N. Williams. Author of "Lady Mary of the House," "The Woman in the Moon," "The Barn Stormer."

"The Last Hand in the Great G" "If there were still another man to offer—to buy your help, if you give it," continued Mrs. Hiss. "There was a paper—or rather a sheet of some importance to you, wasn't it?"

"I darted at the girl and caught her wrist, hardly knowing what I did. Heaven's sake," I gasped, "what know of the parchment?"

"What I could get it for you—"

"If I could get it for you—"

"I ask you to tell the authorities. Noel Brent was here last night twenty minutes past twelve on the spot."

"Until halfpast one," I thoughtlessly; then I saw by the ebbing of her face that, young as she childishly innocent as she looked had all along been cleverer, more controlled than I in this matter, and been leading me on.

"You will tell the police that?"

"I must, if you will sell me the meat at no less price. Yet, if I do, you will tell me that I am a liar. I love you, and he can never read the truth."

"Let me take him the diamond say to him that Noel Brent and I were possessed of the parchment that night. That would be true, for at the gate. I misjudged Noel and say your lover may misjudge you, see 'more' clearly now. And the parchment is in my hands. I was quarrelled, to make up to him everything. I would marry him as he was free. It is for you to free him. Have I made it easy for you to do that?"

"A trifle," I said, with a slight smile. "I would not risk it. Anything for the moment that may save me yet. Tell how you can possibly have got it, and I will assist you. I have searched the police notes, have searched prisoner before me—"

"No, not before he had time to. He hid it in the stove in the kitchen. The man was arrested. I went to him to-day—"

"I implied me quickly in Italian to end bring it to you. And oh! Mad as she was, she did not bid me to give you a price. The parchment was in my hands. I was promised. And Noel would not forgive me this—I cannot let you have what I gave you—"

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Cancer, "Its Cause and Cure"

THE CAUSES OF MINE ACCIDENTS

COMMISSION REPORT FULLY ON SUBJECT

Under Various Heads the Precautions Necessary for Giving Increased Safety Are Described.

In their report the commissioners appointed by the provincial government to inquire into mining disasters have gone fully into the various explosions under different heads. The commission consisted of John Bryden, Tully Boyce and P. S. Langman.

It is pointed out that ventilation is probably the most important in connection with coal mining. With the mechanical appliances now in use in the various coal mines of the province, there is no reason why a sufficiently large supply should not be passed through the workings, providing proper attention is paid to the intake and return airways and the law relating to splits is carried out. It appears that the provisions of the special rules, forbidding the deposit of obstructions and rubbish in the air course and roads, do not meet with the strict observance their necessity calls for.

At some of the collieries the sectional area of the railways was rather contracted for efficient service, but extensive operations were in progress to remedy this defect. The dangerous practice of opening up what may become an extensive colliery with narrow and contracted intake and return airways is deprecated. In extensive mines where mechanical haulage is employed, it would vastly improve the system of ventilation if the intake airway was divided into two parallel drifts or some other means adopted whereby there would be an intake airway independent of the main haulage way.

They recommend that the intake and return air pass through different mine openings; that the natural cross-cutting should separate them rather than the practice sometimes resorted to of having a board partition in the shaft.

While two fans are recommended, it is urged that in cases where this is impossible that there should be two engines, each capable of working the fan on opposite sides.

On the subject of dust, it is pointed out that now when a detected explosive even in the absence of gas.

Professor Galloway, an eminent authority on coal dust explosions, specifies five systems of watering mines, namely: 1. Water tanks, the handles of which are connected to the main airway, provided with a pipe pierced with holes; 2. sprays produced from very small nozzles fixed to vertical pipes fixed to a water pipe laid along one side of the haulage way; 3. a similar spray in which compressed air is employed for the purpose of pounding the water into very fine particles; 4. a water hose thirty or forty feet long attached at one end to a short stand pipe connected to a water pipe lying along the road; 5. the exhaust steam of a constantly working engine such as the engine of a ventilating fan, introduced into the intake air as it descends the downcast shaft.

Of the different systems most of the witnesses preferred the sprays as mentioned in clause two, and from our personal observation and from the evidence given before us, there seems no reason why such a system should not be adopted without causing any injurious effect to the roadways.

It is recommended that the watering should be carried to and around the working faces. It is at the working faces that a mixture of fire-damp and coal dust in suspension is most likely to be met with, and authorities are agreed, after a series of experiments and demonstrations, that a small percentage of fire-damp, say two per cent, or even less, which of itself is harmless, may, with coal dust in suspension, become highly explosive and especially dangerous in the case of a blow-out shot.

In connection with explosives the report says: "The ordinary black blasting powder now in use is generally admitted to be dangerous under certain conditions. In the coal fields of British Columbia an explosive of some kind is necessary. Where safety lamps are required the use of black powder should be prohibited. The many substitutes invented for getting coal, such as the fine cartridge, compressed air cartridge, the wedge, etc., would be useless owing to the nature of the coal seams; it therefore follows that where black powder is prohibited some substitute must be adopted. The government of Great Britain have adopted what is known as a permitted list of explosives, a system which we strongly recommend be introduced in this province. Dynamite should be taken in to the mine in a protected case only, and never when in a frozen condition; it should be wrapped so as to protect it from freezing after being brought in. Thawing in the mine should be strictly prohibited, unless proper appliances are provided for that purpose.

The danger from black powder is referred to. The use of clay or suitable shale for tamping is recommended. The firing of shots by electricity would do much to void danger. In a dry and dusty mine, giving off one shot, safety lamps are necessary, electric appliances such as motors, hoists and pumps should be prohibited.

It is recommended that only shot lights should fire shots. It is recommended that the rule with respect to inspection for gas should provide that the examination should be made not more than two and a half hours before the time of the workmen entering and less where deemed necessary. The rule should be applicable to all mines in the province, irrespectively as to whether or not inflammable gas had been found within the preceding 12 months. It should be an offence against the act for a fireman, or any one else, to attempt to remove a body of gas of any quantity by any means other than ventilation. To fully carry out the onerous duties of a fireman it is necessary that he should be

free from physical disabilities, and it is especially necessary that his eyesight should be good, and for this reason it is recommended that the examination of the act (19-01) governing the examinations be amended so that firemen and shot-lighters before being granted certificates of competency be required to furnish the examiners with a certificate from a competent person that their eyesight is in a good condition.

A better lamp for testing gas than that in use is urged. The one in use is useful only in detecting gas to the extent of two per cent.

Some of the safety lamps in use in the province were found to be unsafe. It is recommended that all safety lamps be tested in an explosive mixture before being given out to the workmen.

The report says: "Doubtless there were a few accidents from fire-damp explosions in this province, but in safety lamps were entirely used, but the accidents from other causes would inevitably be increased to such an extent that we hesitate to recommend their exclusive use. We see no reason why with an adequate supply of air properly conducted around the working faces, thorough examinations and supervision by the mine officials, discipline on the part of the workmen strictly enforced, safety explosives only used, roads and airways and working faces kept in a moist condition, that open lights could not be used with comparative safety."

On the question of shifts, three eight-hour ones each day was generally considered unsafe, except in leading places. There was little objection to a second shift, provided the mine was well ventilated. In mines, however, involving large quantities of inflammable gas, and where the coal is of a soft and friable nature, the working of two shifts in succession may be a source of danger.

The panel system is recommended, as it does away with the necessity of so many doors in conducting the ventilating current. Doors on main roads are considered a source of danger, and should be avoided as much as possible. With abandoned workings where possible, the ventilating process should be used, otherwise secure and airtight stoppings should be erected.

Recommendations made by the commissioners urging stricter examinations for those having authority in the mines, and enforcing exact discipline in the works.

In concluding the reports says: "The conditions which render a mine dangerous may be summarized as follows: "The atmosphere gradually becoming saturated with inflammable gas; sudden outbursts of gas, and dry and dusty roadways, working faces and air passages.

The causes which would create an explosion where these conditions exist are naked lights, defective safety lamps, flame from shots, concussion from blowing out shots or volley firing, accidental ignition of explosives and lightning entering the mine. "While it is generally conceded that the coal mines of British Columbia generally contain inflammable gas, yet the investigations into the different explosions which have taken place in the past point to the fact that coal dust and not fire-damp was the main factor in those catastrophes. With possibly one exception the miners were working as usual, and according to the reports of the firemen, were practically free from gas, the evidence showing that watering had been done in compliance with the rule in the act governing the same, yet a dangerous condition must have existed or the explosions would not have occurred. This shows that the precautions heretofore taken have been inadequate, but even were all precautions taken it is doubtful if we can ever become entirely free of explosions, and for this reason there are some appliances which we recommend should be provided so that they may be used in case of accident."

EASTER AT SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME

The Service Men and Civilians Unite in Observing the Occasion—A Successful Concert.

Easter was spent in a most interesting manner at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Esquimalt road. To begin with on Good Friday, by the thoughtfulness of the ladies of the place, the Home was opened all the afternoon and evening as a convenience and an attraction to a large number of service men and their families on such days are usually "on leave." No special effort was made to entertain anybody, the idea being that men could come and go as they wished. There was a tea provided, however, with "cross buns," etc., at about 5.30, for the mere nominal charge of ten cents. A goodly number of men passed in and out during the afternoon, and many of them remained for tea and the evening.

On Sunday special Easter services were held, Rev. R. Newton Powell, of Nanaimo, preaching morning and evening. The sermons, which were wonderfully appropriate for the day, were full of power and beauty, and were listened to by large and interested congregations. Solos were sung also in the morning by Mr. Launing, of Ladner, who possesses a rich alto voice, and in the evening by Mr. Warne, formerly of the Royal Navy, who is always appreciated at the Home. The hall was suitably decorated also with Easter lilies and other flowers, the work of Mrs. Hardy, Miss McLeod, Miss Giffin and others.

On Monday the Home was again open during the afternoon and evening for an "Easter at Home," and many civilian friends were present to give a cordial welcome to naval and military men who might come. Notwithstanding many outdoor attractions, a considerable number attended during the afternoon, and were greatly to appreciate the comfort of the fine reading room recently furnished by the spontaneous generosity of the local W. C. T. U. About tea time a crowd of many more came, and the three long tables so well laden in the hall could not accommodate all at one sitting. A distinctive Easter feature of the tea was the passing of an Easter egg to each guest. These were mainly wrapped in many colored tissue paper (the work of the young ladies), and when unfolded revealed a life-like (if pencilled

portrait of the recipient. After tea there was varied amusement, the hiding and finding of nests of eggs, for which prizes were offered; a guessing competition called "The Towns of B. C.," introduced by Mrs. Hardy, and for which prizes were given. After this for an hour a formal musical programme was recited, which was of such a fine order as gave delight to everyone. The singers were Mrs. Launing (Ladner), Mrs. McIntyre, Mr. Gideon Hicks and Mr. Warne, Mrs. and Miss Giffin acting as accompanists. Mr. Giffin gave an amusing reading, and Mr. Townsend a recitation. Mr. F. J. Bailey was called upon by the chaplain to take the chair, and most efficiently discharged the duties of this office. The formal enjoyment was resumed and kept up until 11 p.m., when the happy gathering dispersed by singing "God Save the King," and three cheers for the ladies' committee, under whose management all these proceedings had been carried out. Mrs. Rutter, the president of this committee, and her hard-working associates, are deserving of much congratulation for the success attained.

The trustees, who were represented at Monday's gathering by Mr. Armon, Mr. G. Hicks and Mr. Bailey, have pursued a "pay-as-you-go" policy in establishing the Home. It has therefore been slower in reaching full equipment than anyone desired, but lately they have been steadily cheered by the generous donations of sympathizing people. In addition to the furnishing of the reading room by the W. C. T. U., as already mentioned, also the furnishing of bedrooms by men of the Shearwater and friends from Ladner (also already published), Mr. J. McLeod, of the naval yard, has furnished a bedroom, and Mrs. Frank Adams has promised to furnish one, while Messrs. Weller Bros. have shown great generosity in giving the window shades for the building, throughout, after giving a cash subscription and wholesale prices on a number of chairs supplied by them.

There is a good deal still needed for furnishing and cash for putting in the laths and other connections, and on behalf of the trustees the Times is again asked to state that the chaplain, Rev. J. P. Hicks, will most gratefully acknowledge contributions for these purposes.

A. J. McMurtrie, of Ladysmith, is in the city for the purpose of attending the ceremonial session of the Mystic Shrine, to be held to-morrow night. He is at the Victoria.

The amendments to the Children's Protection Act of British Columbia, introduced by A. E. McPhillips, provides for the raising of the age of those coming under its provisions from 15 to 16 years, and for further protection to children having no home or guardians.

The bill introduced by Mr. McPhillips, entitled "An Act respecting the Support of Illegitimate Children," makes provision for the recovery from the father for food, clothing, lodging and other necessities furnished to any illegitimate child. In case the mother of the child sues for the value of these necessities, it provided that the fact of the defendant being the father shall be proved by other testimony than that of the mother. To take advantage of these provisions the mother of the child shall deposit an affidavit with the clerk of the peace, or with the clerk of the council, not more than six months after the birth of the child, declaring that the person afterwards charged in the action is really the father.

Mr. Gardin's amendment to the Special Surveys Act, 1890, makes provision for a special survey to be made of any lands in a city for the purpose of correcting any error or supposed error in any existing survey. This order shall also direct in what proportion the costs of the survey shall be charged against the city and against the land affected.

W. R. McKenzie, of Nanaimo; W. G. Thomson, Jas. Xanthi and C. J. Godfrey, of Vancouver; Mrs. Frohman, of Portland; Geo. McLean and E. Turbayne, of Toronto; and W. R. Falls, of Montreal, are at the Vernon.

GRAFTON ARRIVED FROM SOUTH TUESDAY

No Stoppages Were Made En Route from Acapulco—Torpedo Boat Destroyers Left Wednesday.

With ratings for the two torpedo boat destroyers which leave here en route to Hongkong to-morrow, H. M. S. Grafton, returned to Esquimalt this morning from an extended cruise in southern waters. According to the original schedule of the ship, prepared prior to her sailing, the vessel was not to be back before the first of May, but in view of the Sparrowhawk and Virago going away no stoppage was made on the way north from Acapulco. Coming along at a 12 knot speed, she made the passage in just ten days. Having received the men necessary to complete their complements, the destroyers will now sail at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

They will be escorted by the Amphion, which will tow each five days, it being expected that the voyage to Honolulu will occupy just ten days. The Amphion will be gone a little over three weeks. The trio are ready for sea, and many will regret seeing the trim little craft, which have been such an attraction to tourists, leave port. On the China star-

THE FLAGSHIP ARRIVES.



REAR-ADMIRAL BICKFORD, Commander-in-Chief of North Pacific Station, Who Returned on Tuesday.

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BUSINESS MEN IN REGULAR SESSION

TRANSPORTATION WAS ONE OF THE SUBJECTS

Chamber of Commerce Consider the Best Way of Developing Trade With Other Parts of Province.

There was not a great deal of business transacted at the regular meeting of the Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday. A partial report of the transportation committee was received, and from present indications when the full report is forthcoming it will prove invaluable. The appointment of harbor commissioners was again discussed.

In the absence of the president, G. C. Carter, and the vice-president, J. Kingham, both of whom were ill, R. Mowat was unanimously voted to the chair.

The post office department of Canada acknowledged receipt of a motion of the chamber relating to the delay of Eastern mails en route to Victoria. The matter will receive consideration. Received and filed.

Phil Smith, on behalf of the transportation committee, said that as yet the report was not complete. Some 46 localities had been heard from, but there were 176 places yet to answer the inquiries of the committee.

Mr. Smith read a number of replies to the circular sent out by the committee. They were from all districts of the province, and varied and numerous suggestions were made for the improvement of the trade relations of this city with other parts of British Columbia.

Of these communications "that which caused the most discussion" was from New Westminster. The question, "Have you any suggestions for an improved service and better trade relations between your place and Victoria?" was answered as follows: "Communication with Victoria steadily growing worse. With Vancouver steadily improving.

Victoria formerly received practically all sorting up orders from Westminister merchants, but business between the two points has been all but killed by lack of direct efficient steamer service."

Mr. Houston corroborated this statement. He was in Westminister a few days ago, and was given an order only on condition that the goods be sent via Vancouver. Some improvement in the transportation facilities between Victoria and the Royal City was urgently required.

Mr. Houston, reporting on the work of the home industries committee, said that the instructions of the chamber were being carried out. Subscriptions would shortly be solicited from the merchants for the collection and maintenance of a permanent industrial exhibit. Before the work could be carried out successfully he thought a committee should be appointed to take into consideration the securing of a place for this exhibit.

Mr. Morley said that a number of merchants had already expressed their approval of the idea. The exhibit should be located as centrally as possible. Permanent headquarters should be secured immediately, and if possible made self-supporting. The exhibit should be placed in the same building.

Mr. Houston's suggestion was put in the form of a motion, and carried. The committee appointed consisted of Messrs. Levy, Christie and Price.

Mr. Hanna reported that the committee on incorporation had interviewed the government, and had been received most courteously. Immediate action was promised towards the amendment of the Benevolent Societies Act so that the chamber may incorporate under its provisions.

The question of the appointment of a board of harbor commissioners was next considered. Mr. Sorby spoke at length. He explained what the duties of the commissioners would be if appointed.

The meeting shortly after adjourned.

The general offices of Wells, Fargo & Co., which have been maintained in San Francisco since the establishment of the company of half a century ago, are to be removed to New York next month. The removal is said to be due to the Southern Pacific interest in New York.

The Paterson Shoe Co. Ltd.
(WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.)
Boots and Shoes, Rubber Boots, Etc.
We are the largest exclusive dealers in Boots and Shoes in the province, and carry complete stocks of every description of Boots and Shoes, Rubbers, Rubber Boots, etc., etc., in each of our five large stores. Minors' Footwear a Specialty. Letter orders promptly and carefully filled. Write for Catalogue to
The Paterson Shoe Co. Ltd.
VICTORIA, B. C.
Branch Stores: Vancouver, B.C.; Nanaimo, B.C.

This Business
Is being builded for the long future, not for to-day only. We cannot afford to sell a single article at a price higher than a quoted elsewhere. We can afford to do so in many instances every day, and goods at prices decidedly lower than similar quantities are sold elsewhere. A trial order will convince you of these facts.
For 3 Days Only
Preserves, in Glass, 1 lb. each 15c.
Sausages, Huntley & Palmers', Marie, Alberta and Water, per lb. 20c.
Zinfandel, per bottle 25c.
The finest Wines now being used are A. L. de Turk's; every bottle guaranteed pure.
The Saunders Grocery Co., Ltd.
Phone 28. 39-41 Johnson Street.

Our Java and Mocha COFFEE
40c Lb.
IS UNSURPASSED—ALWAYS FRESH.
DIXIE H. ROSS & CO.,
Cash Grocers.

Tyee Copper Co. SMELTING WORKS AT LADYSMITH
Prepared to purchase ores as from August 1st. Con- venient to E. & N. or Sea.
CLERMONT LIVINGSTON, MANAGER.

PUBLIC NOTICE.
To Wm. Linn, of Vancouver, B. C.; Harry Davis, of Vancouver, B. C.; W. N. Alton, of Hamilton, Ont.; Dr. N. Aikens, of Hamilton, Ont.
Take notice that if the delinquent assessments on your shares in the Forrest group of mineral claims, situated in the Telkwa Camp, amounting to the sum of two thousand dollars, for development work on the said claims during the years 1901-02 and 1902-03, be not paid on or before sixty days from the date hereof to the undersigned, at Hazelton, B. C., your said shares in the Forrest Group Mining Partnership will be sold by public auction at the Court House, at Hazelton, B. C., to defray such assessments (under and by virtue of the provisions of the "Mining Act" and amendments thereto), on the 15th day of May, A. D. 1903.
W. M. E. FORREST, Manager, Forrest Group Mining Partnership, Hazelton, B. C., 1st March, 1903.

MINERAL ACT.
NOTICE.
"Little Bantam" Fractional Mineral Claim, situated in the Victoria Mining Division of Chemsun District, located on Mount Sicker.
Take notice that I, George R. Elliott, agent for the owners, Free Miner's Certificate No. 872468, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.
And further take notice that action under section 37 must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.
Dated this 28th day of March, 1903.
GEORGE R. ELLIOTT.

Public notice is hereby given that 60 days from date I intend to make application to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 100 acres of land situated on west side of Work's Canal, and south of mouth of Gunter Bay, as follows: Commencing at a stake marked "R. S. N. E. Corner" planted at shore and adjoining last surveyed claim on the peninsula on the south side; thence west along section line 40 chains or thereabouts; thence east 40 chains or thereabouts; thence north along shore line to point of commencement, containing 100 acres more or less.
D. A. ROBERTSON.
Staked 7th March, 1903.

Notice is hereby given that sixty days after date I intend to apply to the Honorable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described tract of Freehold land, British Columbia, viz.: Commencing at a post marked P. R. S. E. corner, thence forty chains north, thence forty chains west, thence forty chains south, thence forty chains east to place of commencement, and containing one hundred and sixty acres more or less.
April 2nd, 1903.
F. RUDGE.

FRUIT TREES, ETC.—New catalogue, post free. M. Toiaie Nursey, Victoria, B.C.

Old Things Made New

Our Furniture Polish, 25c

APPLIED TO OLD FURNITURE BRIGHTENS AND RENOVES.

CYRUS H. BOWES, CHEMIST,

88 Government St., Near Yates St., VICTORIA, B. C.

NOTICE.
Notice is hereby given that 60 (sixty) days from date I intend to apply to the Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described tract of land: Commencing at a stake marked "R. S. N. W. Corner," thence east 40 chains, thence south 40 chains, thence west 40 chains to the shore line of Work's Canal, thence north along the shore line to point of commencement, containing 150 acres more or less.
MOSSES JOHNSON.
Port Simpson, B. C., January 30th, 1903.

NOTICE.
Public notice is hereby given that 60 days from the date hereof we intend to make application to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described tract of land situated at head of Work's Canal, in Cassiar District: Commencing at a post marked "R. S. N. W. corner," thence east 40 chains, thence north 40 chains, thence west 40 chains, thence north along shore line to point of commencement, containing one hundred and sixty acres more or less.
Staked 15th February, 1903.
GEO. RUDGE.
WALTER R. FLEWING.
Notice is hereby given that sixty days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 140 acres (more or less) of land at Solander Island, thence commencing at a post planted on the south-east point of Solander Island, thence following the shore of the land to the point of commencement, including the whole area of Solander Island.
EDWARD E. POTTS.
Per His Agent, H. H. V. KOELLE.
Dated Victoria, B. C., March 15th, 1903.

CUP CHALLENGE WAS DIS
ONE MAN DROWNED
SIR T. LIPTON
Yacht Was Caught by Squall
paring for a Race With Shamrock.

Weymouth, April 17.—Sir Thomas's gear challenger for the cup, Shamrock III, was dis-

qually to-day shortly after harbor preparatory to another with Shamrock II. Her main- overboard, carried several and all the gear and canvas. One man was drowned, and sons, including Sir Thomas, knocked down a hatchway, or otherwise injured.

The man who was drowned brother-in-law to Capt. W. Thomas at the time he was board. One of Sir Thomas's injured, but not seriously.

The yachts were manoeuvred mainsails, jibs, foreails and prior to the start. Her main- breeze was blowing, but nothing in the nature of a boats seemed to carry their well as they fetched the she breakwater.

Shamrock III, was leading apparently with the intention of the strength of the wind out breeze had just weight enough to keep her from being blown down. Before the start Sir Thomas Rater, the sailmaker, and man Crawford, the commodore Royal Ulster Yacht Club, be- knockers, which was a picture as under her cloud of drove past Northhead. The taken up a position to send away around a triangular co-

everything seemed to promise a Shamrock III, then made a on the port tack, dragging t heavy squall with her lee de-

At about 10.30 a.m., when mile off shore, she went about board tack to stand up to cross when a sudden gust of wind, out of Yemmouth bay, struck and completely dismasted the weather rigging across the shrouds gave way, and her m- away close to the deck. With sails and gearing in a confused wreckage.

The yacht's decks were crew Sir Thomas Lipton's guests, of men, and it seemed impossible disaster was not attended by se-

of Life. Deprived of its shrouds the tubular steel mast swayed for- tion of a second, crumpled up of paper and went overboard, general havoc as it fell.

So sudden was the calamity that many of the crew and helms- anyone on board realized what pended. Fortunately most of mous weight of the gear fell the deck, otherwise the disaster have been multiplied tenfold. A only one life was lost, a me-

the crew named Collier, a brothe- of Capt. Wringle. Collier at the of the accident was handling a glass to see the scene of the acci-

the glass in his hands when struck by some of the tumbling knocked overboard.

The rattle of blocks and wire the mast, decked the boat dro- other sounds for the time. The broken by a sharp order from Wringle to get away a boat. T-

tain's self-possession spurred the man to action, and a boat was overboard and manned and ste- search for Collier. Boats were al-

couple of minutes they were all for the scene of the accident. however, never reappeared.

A number of others were inju- falling gear, but none were se-

lurt. Sir Thomas was knocked d- hatchway and one of his hands i- jured, but not seriously. Clearing the wreckage was quite a difficu-

owing to the nature of the spar- most gear, buckled its head, going until it rested on the bottom. It comparatively easy to repair the but the whole suit of sails are ir- ably ruined. Boats with a cran-

soon on the spot to raise the mast, after which Shamrock III, taken to her moorings, inside the water. Sir Thomas had a narrow escap-

board, and fell with such force as to the board floor covering the tar- Sir Thomas, who was extremel- dresed by the fatality and the inj-