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RUSSIANS MAY BE FORCED TO RETREAT

KOUROPATKIN FINDS POSITION UNTEENABLE

Kuroki Has Turned the Left Flank—Muscovites' Line of Communication Threatened.

Mukden, Feb. 27.—The Japanese crossed the Shalke river last evening, having driven in the pickets of the Russian vanguard. Russia supports came up and stopped the Japanese advance. On the right flank all is quiet, but the movements of the Japanese indicate an intention of attacking the Russian centre, at least in the form of a demonstration.

Heavy firing continued to-day to the eastward. Soldiers of the Tsinkehcheh division are in good spirits in spite of the heavy losses they have sustained, and the necessity which compelled them to retreat. They are encouraged by the execution they wrought upon the Japanese, whose bodies were piled in heaps outside the redoubts at the Beresneff Hill and the trenches at Tsinkehcheh.

Yesterday evening there was a violent storm of heavy and was snow. The temperature during the night moderated.

GENERAL ENGAGEMENT SEEMS IMMINENT.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 28.—2 15 p.m.—According to the Associated Press Mukden dispatches, the Japanese on Sunday evening crossed the Shalke river, but the place of crossing was eliminated by the Russian reinforcements. This is the most important news from the scene of war to-night.

Fighting is continuing on the Russian left bank, with indications that the Japanese are planning a demonstration against the centre, but the Russians believe their positions are impregnable.

JAPANESE FRONT HAS BEEN EXTENDED.

Headquarters of Gen. Kuroki, Feb. 28.—The Japanese army now holds a front extending from the Hun river to several miles east of Taitse.

The weather took a sudden change to-day, becoming unfavorable for further operations. The morning showed a driving storm of wind and snow which was almost a blizzard. To-night the weather is clear and cold with wind subsiding.

SAKHAROFF TELLS OF RECENT FIGHTING.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 28.—Related reports of the attack on the Russians at Tsinkehcheh do not satisfy the curiosity of the public as to what is going on in Manchuria, but the military authorities explain that the Japanese are probably attempting only to force in the Russian advance positions.

An Associated Press despatch from Tsinkehcheh is interrupted at an interesting point, and does not give the losses or final results of the battle, but it is evident both sides lost heavily.

Gen. Sakharoff, Gen. Kouropatkin's chief of staff, in a despatch dated to-day, reports that when the Japanese advanced and captured Beresneff Hill February 24th, after severe fighting, they were in superior force and advanced literally over the bodies of their own men. The Japanese loss was very heavy, the dead lying in heaps. The Russian losses have not yet been ascertained.

The text of Gen. Sakharoff's despatch is as follows: "We evacuated Beresneff Hill after a severe bayonet fight, the enemy having a considerably superior force. The attack on Tzintsi pass was repulsed. At Beresneff Hill the Japanese advanced against the bodies of their own dead in the face of exploding surface mines and through barbed wire entanglements. Their losses were considerable. Ours have not yet been ascertained."

KUROKI'S SUCCESS ON THE LEFT FLANK.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 28.—1.15 p.m.—The fragmentary official and press reports of the fresh reverses sustained by Gen. Kouropatkin are inadequate to draw a conclusion of the magnitude of Gen. Kuroki's success against the Russian left, but the public, as usual, is ready to believe the worst, and the city is already full of reports that disaster has again overtaken the Russian arms, according to which Mukden has been outflanked and Kouropatkin is withdrawing from his strong position on the Shalke river.

That such reports are exaggerated is beyond question, but although reticent and seeming to minimize the operations of the last few days, the officials of the war office are plainly discouraged at the fashion in which Kuroki is able to drive in and turn the Russian extreme left, his advance column actually crossing the Shalke river.

It is admitted that the fighting was desperate at several passes on Sunday and Monday while the front was being involved, the purpose of Field Marshal Oyama evidently being to keep the centre and right engaged, and prevent Kouropatkin from sending reinforcements to head off Kuroki.

Should Kuroki cross the Hun river the high road to Taitse, forty miles north of Mukden, would be open and Kouropatkin's retreat threatened.

Further news is awaited with great anxiety. Anything like an aggressive Japanese victory now would probably end the war.

RUSSIAN CASUALTIES AT TSINKHEHCHEH.

Tokio, Feb. 28.—It is reported that when the Japanese attacked and defeated the Russians on February 23rd at Tsinkehcheh, twenty-five miles north of Simanoh, the extreme Japanese right, the Russians numbered 17,000 men. Their losses are estimated at two thousand. The Japanese losses were slight.

HAS NOT YET ORDERED MORE WARSHIPS.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 28.—The Russian naval programme still waits on account of the failure of the ministry of finance to allot an appropriation, which may not be made until a new loan is floated. In the meantime representatives of foreign shipbuilding firms who are here after contracts are awaiting on the admiralty.

Mr. Gauntlett, of Newport News, and Mr. Leake, of the submarine boat builder, are the latest arrivals.

A twelfth submarine boat sold by the latter to Russia has already left America, and is expected to reach Libau in a few days.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS HEARS FROM A HIGH SOURCE THAT GENERAL KUROPATKIN CONSIDERS HIS POSITION ON THE SHALKE RIVER TO BE MENACED TO THE SOUTH TO AN EXTENT WHICH REQUIRES HIS SUCCESS ON THE LEFT BANK AS TO NECESSITATE THE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF HIS ARMY TO TAI PASS, AND HAS ADVISED THE EMPEROR.

No confirmation of this is obtainable in military circles here, where it is pointed out that, with the Japanese pressing the whole Russian line, such an attack must end inevitably in a disaster of the greatest magnitude.

FIGHTING ALONG FRONT OF TWENTY MILES.

Russian Headquarters, Huan, Manchuria, Feb. 28.—The Japanese attack was announced to-day, yesterday along the whole eastern front, and Da Pass was taken after fighting of the most stubborn character. An engagement was in progress off the front extending along twenty miles from the extreme left to the eastward of Kandoesan, where the Japanese opened a heavy artillery, to the district of Loolinan, where they advanced in great force, meeting with stubborn resistance.

The capture of Da Pass opens the road to Fushun, east of Mukden, and Tien Pass, but the Russians are gathering a strong force to meet the threatened attack on their line of communications.

This Japanese army now holds a line from Spahob, opposite Dhanant, through Shakhopeo, along the Shalke river to Vanpudui, and thence to Da Pass and Tomadai southeastward.

The Japanese have effected a crossing of the Shalke at Taupundui, and attacked the Russian centre under cover of darkness, driving back the Russian advance posts; but support came up and stopped the Japanese advance.

An officer in command of the latter heard the Russians cry out that their cartridges were exhausted, and they thereupon advanced incautiously and received a volley at point-blank range losing heavily.

THE MUSCOVITES FLED IN CONFUSION.

Tokio, Feb. 28.—6 p.m.—Official reports of the battle of Tsinkehcheh indicate that severe fighting occurred.

The Japanese attacking force began the occupation of points on the left bank of the Taitse river on February 19th, but the topography of the country, steep hills, the river and the heavy snow delayed the attacks.

again repulsed. "They left a hundred corpses in front of our position. The Russian loss was six men."

JAPANESE TOOK SEVERAL MACHINE GUNS.

Gen. Kuroki's Headquarters in the Field, via Fusan, Feb. 28.—In the recent fighting, February 22nd and 23rd, at Tsinkehcheh, the Russians left 20 dead on the field, and lost several machine guns. Their casualties are estimated at over two thousand.

SHIPS FOR RUSSIA TO BE BUILT IN STATES.

Seattle, Feb. 28.—A. A. Delakoff, a special agent of the Russian bureau of finance, is here. He says that Russia is to construct a battleship, two cruisers and several torpedo boats in the United States within the next year for delivery after the war in the Orient.

THE RUSSIANS WILL ENTER ANOTHER PROTEST.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 28.—It is semi-officially announced that in view of the appearance of Japanese troops in the rear of the Russian army west of the railway, Russia will address a circular to the powers protesting against Japan's persistent violation of Chinese neutrality.

St. Petersburg, March 1.—1.50 a.m.—Last evening's news from Manchuria is of the most important nature, the Associated Press despatches from Mukden, transmitted at noon Tuesday, indicating that a general battle was beginning along the hundred miles of front occupied by the two armies.

Gen. Kouropatkin appears to have taken a leaf out of Field Marshal Kuroki's attack on the Russian line by a counter attack on the Japanese left, in which General Kaulbars's initial success is better for the Russians than the best efforts of Gen. Gippelberg, the Russian vanguard being established at the outskirts of Sandiappu. At the same time Gen. Kouropatkin delivered a blow against the Japanese centre, seizing a railroad bridge across the Shalke river.

These counter-offensives, give a more hopeful aspect to the situation, as the Russian army, though driven out of Da Pass, appears to have stopped, at least for the moment, the further advance of the Japanese.

The effect of yesterday's developments on General Kouropatkin's reported intention to withdraw from the Shalke is problematical. Retirement in the face of an enemy, which is extremely hazardous under any circumstances, is doubly dangerous when the armies are grappling in a general engagement; but if Gen. Kuroki succeeds in rolling up the Russian left much farther, the perilous expedient may become necessary. The counter strokes on the right and centre may possibly be intended to cover up withdrawal of trains and stores. If, however, Gen. Kouropatkin is determined to stand and fight out the battle on the line which he has held during the winter, and if he should be able to administer a vigorous check to Gen. Kuroki, he has secured a good position for his second movement in the great drama.

JAPS ARE USING HEAVY SIEGE ARTILLERY.

Mukden, Feb. 28.—(Noon).—Fighting is in progress to-day along the whole line, the Japanese attacking everywhere. All attacks this morning were beaten back and the Russians made counter attacks at many places.

On the right bank the Russians occupied Baotzotai, close to Sandiapu, and from that position hurled hand grenades across the intervening ravine into the Japanese trenches in Sandiapu, causing heavy losses and great disorder.

The Japanese are using heavy siege artillery in the bombardment of Putiloff hill and Novgorod hill, and this is believed to be preliminary to an attempt to storm them.

The loss of the defending force is insignificant.

St. Petersburg, March 1.—Lieut-General Stossel arrived in St. Petersburg this morning from Moscow. A quarter of an hour before his train was due it looked as if not more than a hundred persons would be present to welcome the death of a hero. St. Petersburg carried the mail between the station and the post office, and started across the fields just as a heavy snowstorm set in, lost his way and became exhausted. Search parties found him on Tuesday frozen to death. He leaves a widow and one child.

the arm of a military officer. She looked to be even more bronzed than her husband, and seemed happy at the warm welcome accorded him. It was remarked that the general's hair had turned quite white.

In the reception room Gen. Bogdanovich welcomed Stossel. In so doing he referred to the internal troubles, saying that when Gen. Stossel left Russia calm prevailed, while now a party was endeavoring to undermine the prestige of the state. Replied Gen. Stossel: "I had heard while at Constantinople of the disorders in Russia, and since then he had travelled in South Russia, had spoken to the people, and had noticed their tranquility of mind and expressing their loyalty to the Emperor. He was confident that the people would issue victorious from the present crisis."

When the reception ceremonies were over the general and his wife entered an open carriage and drove through the Nonsky Prospect to the residence of Lt.-Gen. Prince Vinzamsky, a member of the imperial council, where they will stay.

The absence of military and naval officers from the platform was very noticeable, only a few military men and no naval officers except Zilotti were present. A large force of police surrounded the railroad station, while the route to the Prince Vinzamsky's residence was patrolled by various detachments of Cossacks and Guards, apparently in expectation of hostile demonstrations. Altogether, the general's welcome was by no means in the nature of a popular demonstration, and lacked genuine enthusiasm. Two months ago, a Russian, singing the praises of the defender of Port Arthur, yet when he came home comparatively few people assembled to cheer him.

GERMAN STEAMER BEACHED BY JAPS.

Tokio, March 1.—It is reported that the German steamer Romulus, which was recently seized on her route to Vladivostok with a cargo of Cardiff coal, has been beached at Aomori bay.

It is understood that the Romulus struck an iceberg while attempting to pass through Sova strait and was damaged so that she was leaking on her port side when seized by the Japanese. A prize crew was put aboard her and she increased sail for Tsushima. Her crew is in the hands of the Japanese, who have been ordered to save her.

PLENTY OF MONEY FOR WAR PURPOSES.

Tokio, March 1.—A meeting of bankers and financiers was held to-day for the purpose of discussing the subscriptions to the new domestic loans, should it be found to be over-subscribed when the list is opened.

At the close of the meeting the associated bankers announced that they would take sixty million yen, about \$30,000,000. The Imperial household will take five million yen and other corporations and individuals forty million yen. It is expected that the loan will be doubly subscribed.

Count Okuma, addressing to-day's meeting, said that the Japanese domestic financial capacity was astonishing even to his friends. He expressed the belief that the slight disturbance in financial conditions, despite the enormous expenditures, was due to the fact that agriculture furnished the country's great wealth.

Continuing, Count Okuma said that he believed that the country would continue the war without any feeling of embarrassment.

JAPANESE TOOK SEVERAL MACHINE GUNS.

Gen. Kuroki's Headquarters in the Field, via Fusan, Feb. 28.—In the recent fighting (February 22nd-23rd) at Tsinkehcheh, the Russians left 20 dead on the field and lost several machine guns. Their casualties are estimated at over two thousand.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

An agreement of consolidation of the New York & Albany Railroad Company, capital \$5,000,000, with the Schoenectady & Albany Railroad Company, capital \$150,000, and the New York Northern Railroad Company, capital \$5,000,000, forming the New York Canadian Pacific Railroad Company, has been filed with the secretary of state of New York. The Consolidated Company has a capital of \$10,150,000. These companies hold franchises to construct a line of railroad from New York City to Canada, passing through Albany and the Adirondack region.

Joseph Soucy, station master of the Atlantic & Lake Superior railway at Bonaventura, Quebec, was killed by death Monday night. Soucy carried the mails between the station and the post office, and started across the fields just as a heavy snowstorm set in, lost his way and became exhausted. Search parties found him on Tuesday frozen to death. He leaves a widow and one child.

HAS SOLD HIS ESTATES.

London, Feb. 28.—Lord De Freyne, whose Irish estates three years ago were the scenes of notorious evictions, has ended the long struggle with his tenants by consenting to sell his estates to the Congested Districts Board under the Land Act.

DEATH SENTENCE ON DUKE SUSPENDED

VLADIMIR RECEIVES LETTER FROM TERRORISTS

Recently He Has Disregarded all Warnings and Ventured Out of Palace—Police Powerless.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 28.—The utter impotency of the police in the face of the terrorist organization is shown by the increasing boldness of the latter about St. Petersburg. Even on the steps of public buildings notices of the Grand Duke Sergius's death were found. They read:

"The sentence of death passed upon Sergius Alexandrovich, who was assassinated in February.

"(Signed) 'The fighting organization of the Social Democratic party.'

Moreover, the notices were neatly printed, a thing unknown in the days of the increasing boldness of the latter about St. Petersburg. Even on the steps of public buildings notices of the Grand Duke Sergius's death were found. They read:

The Grand Duchess Marie Pavlovna, wife of the Grand Duke Vladimir, father of the Grand Duke Cyril and Borispy, whose husband is high on the list of those condemned to death, is trying to shield his life with her own. Since "Red Sunday," the Grand Duke has not only been showered with threats and warnings, but has twice received from abroad formal letters signed by different groups informing him of his sentence to death, and of the assignment of men to accomplish it. At the same time, like the Grand Duchess Elizabeth in the case of the Grand Duke Sergius, the Grand Duchess was notified that her life and her son's life would be spared, and she was appealed to not to go abroad in her husband's company. The letters naturally concerned the family and household of the Grand Duke, who has aged greatly during the last few weeks under the strain of what he insists is the unjust criticism, which placed the responsibility for the bloodshed on January 22nd wholly on his shoulders. Although the Grand Duke's health has been falling for over a year he is now almost a complete wreck. For a time the entreaties of his family and the warnings of the police sufficed to keep him within the walls of the palace, but since the funeral of Sergius, Vladimir has shaken off restraint, declaring that he refuses to show cowardice, and not only drives out in a closed carriage, but on Sunday walked for a short time up and down the quay, in front of the winter palace. At his side, however, on each occasion was the Grand Duchess Marie Pavlovna.

To-day the Grand Duke Vladimir received a letter from one group, which had previously warned him, saying his sentence was temporarily suspended, which is attributed either to a more cordial appraisal of his share in the events of January 22nd or to a general decision of the Terrorists to give the autocracy a breathing spell, and await the result of the assassination of Sergius.

The latter coincides with the views of those acquainted with the methods of the Terrorists, who point out that a succession of assassinations would defeat their object by compelling the Emperor to leave the country for a general amnesty of concession and to sanction the most drastic measures of repression.

Has Gone to Riga. St. Petersburg, Feb. 28.—Maxim Gor'ky, who was released from the fortress yesterday on \$2,500 bail, was banished late last night to Riga, after he had been informed of the decision of Governor-General Trepotoff that he could not reside in St. Petersburg.

According to the official statement Gor'ky himself preferred a request that he be allowed to reside at Riga, and thereupon General Trepotoff consented, and the author was conveyed to the railroad station.

In the meantime, Madame Gor'ky had been informed of the author's release, and went to the station to bid him farewell. Madame Gor'ky and her son will join Gor'ky in Riga immediately.

THE CRUISER QUADRON.

Ships Under Command of Prince Louis of Battenburg Will Sail on Wednesday.

Portsmouth, Feb. 28.—King Edward to-day bade farewell to the second cruiser squadron which, under the command of Rear-Admiral Prince Louis of Battenburg, will sail to-morrow for the Mediterranean, and in the autumn proceed to American waters. The King stood on board the armored cruiser Drake, Prince Louis's flagship, and this morning inspected the squadron of half a dozen war craft, described by naval men "as battleships in disguise," all of which are capable of making twenty-three knots per hour.

The Russians are the greatest card players in the world. Last year they spent over 2,000,000 roubles (200,000,000 on cards.

JAPANESE DIET CLOSED.

Lively Debate Over Question of Contracts For Barracks.

Tokio, Feb. 28.—The Imperial Diet closed its session to-day with brief ceremonies. Count Katsura, the premier, read the Emperor's address, thanking the members for their labors and support, and formally concluding the session.

The Diet has adopted the report and settled the account of the committee appointed to investigate the questions arising over the contracts for the construction of barracks at Hokkaido, pronouncing the expenditure there as illegal and unwarrantable. The ruling of the chair which prevented a vote on the question of addressing the Emperor on the subject produced a turbulent scene during the closing hour of the discussion, the Diet being angered because Secretary of War Teratouchi said that he was answerable to the sovereign and not to the Diet.

The Diet committee summoned M. Teratouchi before the Diet and briefly questioned him on the subject of the contracts which were let before his entrance into the ministry. The opponents of the government admitted that M. Teratouchi is blameless in the matter. It is expected that the Chief Executive, Tomonaka, who resigned after assuming the responsibility of the contracts under discussion, will be restored to his position.

CANADA AND THE FORTRESSES WILL BE READY FOR TRANSFER IN JULY

Speech by Minister of Militia at Rifle Association Meeting—The Customs Returns.

Ottawa, Feb. 28.—The annual meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association was held here to-day, Lieut.-Colonel King presiding.

Sir Frederick Borden, speaking to a vote of thanks, said that during the summer camp grounds and a suitable artillery range would be provided. In four or five years there would be proper buildings for accommodations of stores over the Dominion.

Sir Frederick, referring to the taking over of Esquimaux and Halifax, said it might be difficult to find all the engineers and artificers required, but still they would find sufficient to take over the fortresses on July 1st.

Col. Cotton said a new branch was to be added, and in the field there would be light heavy artillery batteries, the intermediate branch being the one added. Modern guns were promised for the field force, and this was received with applause. Extra days' drill will also be given to the force. Special pay will be granted to special lists such as range men and gun layers, and they will be induced to remain in the service. The policy of supplying ourselves with arms and ammunition is being successfully carried out.

Returns For the Month. The customs receipts of the Dominion during the month of February were \$3,013,051, or \$22,548 over the same month last year. For the eight months ending February 28th the revenue was \$24,222,015, an increase of \$618,006 over the same time last year.

Paardeberg Dinner. The Paardeberg dinner at Government House last night was a great success. Earl Grey suggested that it might be a good idea after the dinner each year or succeeding days to discuss the military efficiency of the Dominion. He said it was not the first dinner he had attended, and that at a Paardeberg dinner three years ago he was presented with a caribou head, which he had at his home in Northumberland.

ACTION BEGUN.

James Dunsmuir Will Fight the Crown Grants Issued to Settlers.

James Dunsmuir has taken the first steps towards testing the D. & N. Settlers' Rights Act of last session. It will be remembered that the government of British Columbia issued crown grants to Mr. Hogan and Mr. MacGregor in order to test the act. These crown grants were finally issued only about a week ago.

Mr. Dunsmuir has issued a writ against the proceeding and seeks to get an injunction to prevent the persons to whom the crown grants have been issued from entering into possession of their property. In the case of Mr. Hogan, whose property is situated on the Newcastle townsite, adjoining Nanaimo City, Mr. Dunsmuir claims the land, coal and timber. In the case of Mr. MacGregor the claim is for the timber and coal.

The province is represented by A. E. McPhillips, K. C., who will defend the title issued by the government to these men.

Mexican mints turn out more silver money than those of any other country in the world. Last year Mexico shipped several million dollars to China.

PAVILION FOR FOUL BAY.

Tourist Association Intends Constructing Building For Convenience of Visitors at That Resort.

An important meeting of the Tourist Association executive was held Tuesday afternoon. F. W. Vincent occupied the chair, and there were present Aids. Oddy and Hanna, H. B. Thompson, J. E. Wilson, J. L. Beckwith, Antio Henderson and Secretary Cuthbert. One of the principal matters decided upon was to include in the estimates a sum sufficient to cover the expense of constructing a building and pavilion at Foul Bay for the convenience and entertainment of bathers. A suitable piece of property will be leased as a site for the proposed building. The structure will be two stories high, the lower floor being devoted to dressing rooms for both ladies and gentlemen. At the entrance there is to be an office, where towels, etc., will be distributed. A shower bath, lavatories, and other conveniences are to be provided. The second floor will be an open pavilion. According to present plans this will be large enough to accommodate the band and a crowd of spectators. In this way it is hoped to make Foul Bay a splendid attraction for both Victorians and tourists.

It is estimated that the total expense will reach about \$1,000, and no difficulty is anticipated in collecting enough money in subscriptions to make this extra expenditure possible without interfering with other branches of Tourist Association work. If the pavilion is established arrangements will be made for a stage service between the city and Foul Bay. Another appropriation provided for in the estimates is for the construction of one or two glass bottom boats for use at Oak Bay.

Senator Templeman replied to a telegram forwarded by Secretary Cuthbert regarding the dredging of the Gorge as follows: "I realize that it is a work that must be carried out some time, but our difficulty at present is to make a sufficient appropriation to improve Victoria harbor, which, I think you will agree with me, is a much more urgent matter. When the harbor has been properly dredged to the maximum depth, attention should certainly be given to the 'Arm.'"

A favorable report was received from the printing committee, and it was decided to have an additional illustrated folder of line design printed for the use of eastern ticket agents and for distribution at the Portland and Westminster exhibitions.

The canvassing committee, members of which have been out for several weeks, announced that the response from local merchants and business men was as generous, even more so, than in previous years. The total collections were quite equal to what was obtained during the same time in 1904.

It was recommended by the finance committee that accounts to the amount of about \$470 be paid. This carried a list of estimated expenditures was also submitted. It was adopted unanimously.

On motion it was decided that the arrangement of all details in connection with the building referred to should be left in the hands of a committee comprising Messrs. Thomson, Heisterman and Beckwith. They will report progress at the next meeting.

During the meeting a letter was read from a resident of Charlottetown, P. E. I., asking to be put in communication with a local real estate firm in order to obtain the lease of a small farm of from five to 10 acres, suitable for fruit growing, and the raising of poultry. This was given as an illustration of the far-reaching influence of Tourist Association advertising.

CRUSHED TO DEATH.

Floor of Church in Brooklyn Collapsed—Thirteen People Dead.

New York, Feb. 27.—Thirteen persons were killed and upwards of fifty others injured, some fatally, by the collapse of the flooring of the First street African Methodist Episcopal Zion church at Brooklyn to-night. Of those killed ten were women, two men and one child. The building is in the heart of the colored section of the city, and the building was crowded to-night by the funeral services of Sydney Taitner, one of the older members of the church, and the auditorium, which is on the second floor of the building, was crowded with an audience of upwards of 300 persons. The congregation was waiting in silence for the arrival of the body when the half of the auditorium collapsed, carrying down more than 100 persons, who were crushed in the wreckage of the flooring.

A great volume of dust for a few minutes hid the audience finding themselves cut off from the doors and expecting every instant that the rest of the floor would collapse under them, fought madly to reach the windows, and in some instances persons leaped from them and sustained serious injuries.

On the arrival of the police and firemen the work of rescue began. Those remaining unharmed on the portion of the floor remaining intact were taken from the windows by means of ladders. Those lying in the mass of wreckage on the floor could only be got after the firemen had hewed their way to them with axes. Out of the wreck ten bodies were recovered and taken to a station house and about thirty removed to the Brooklyn hospital, where three women died soon after being admitted.

The cause of the collapse was the decayed condition of the beams and supports of the flooring.

RESIGNATION OF HON. MR. SIFTON

Withdraws From Cabinet in Consequence of Introduction of Educational Clause in Autonomy Bill.

Ottawa, March 1.—Hon. Clifford Sifton has resigned his position as a minister in the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in consequence of the introduction of the educational clause of the Northwest Autonomy Bill.

The clause is as follows: "The provisions of section 93 of the British North America Act shall apply to the said provinces as if the date upon which this act comes into force the territory comprised therein were already a province, the expression, 'the union,' in the said section being taken to mean the said date."

"Subject to the provisions of the said section 93, and in continuance of the principle heretofore sanctioned under the Northwest Territories Act, it is enacted that the legislature of the said province shall pass all necessary laws in respect of education, and that it shall therein always be provided:

(a) That a majority of the ratepayers of any district or portion of a province or of any less portion or subdivision thereof by which name the same is known may establish such school therein as they think fit and make the necessary collections of rates therefor; and

(b) That the minority of the rate-

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Act. In regard to education, if this is done, the Northwest Liberal members will support it; at any rate this was what they suggested before the bill was introduced. If they do, it will go through. What the western members object to is the wording of the clause, which they say creates a special system of schools.

On the other hand, the supporters of the clause say they intend to maintain the present system, and that the bill does not contemplate anything else.

There are some here who say that the bill will be dropped for the present session, but matters are mere conjectures. It will take a day or two before the question at issue is finally settled.

Needless to say that the political opponents of the government are taking some comfort from what is happening.

The Correspondence.

Ottawa, March 1.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier read the following correspondence when the House met this afternoon:

Ottawa, Feb. 27th.

Dear Sir Wilfrid—After giving my best consideration to matters which we discussed last evening, I have arrived at the conclusion that it is impossible for me to continue in office under the present circumstances, and that it is better for

payers therein, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic, may establish separate schools therein, and make the necessary amendments and collection of rates therefor; and

(c) That in such case the ratepayers establishing such Protestant or Roman Catholic schools shall be liable only to assessment of such rates as they impose upon themselves in respect thereof.

"In the appropriation of public moneys by the legislature in aid of education and in the distribution of any moneys paid to the government of a province arising from the school fund established by the Dominion Lands Act, there shall be no discrimination between the public schools and the separate schools, and such moneys shall be applied to the support of public and separate schools in equable shares or proportions."

It is understood that Hon. Mr. Sifton considers this clause establishes a dual system of schools, which goes far beyond that which is at present established in the Northwest Territories, and furthermore seeks to divert a portion of a very large fund, which will arise from the sale of school lands in the Northwest Territories. This fund constitutes an endowment provided by parliament for public schools. Hon. Mr. Sifton declines to support any proposition for the diversion of this fund from the control of the legislature of the province.

It is not known what action the government will take in view of the resignation, which will be announced this afternoon.

Will Clause Be Changed?

Ottawa, March 1.—The resignation of Hon. Clifford Sifton from the government is not generally known here yet, but those who do know are busy canvassing the situation. The general opinion is that the educational clause of the Autonomy Bill will be changed so as to include nothing more or nothing less than is contained in the Northwest Territorial

WOMAN MURDERED.

Body, With Bullet Wound in Head, Found in Chicago.

Chicago, March 1.—The body of an unidentified woman has been found lying on the sidewalk in front of 5,529 Monroe avenue, in the aristocratic section of Hyde Park. She had been killed by a revolver bullet fired into her head behind the right ear.

The police have not yet been able to ascertain her name or gain any particulars of the case. Several residents of the neighborhood heard a scream followed by a shot, and hurrying out,

IT HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED

WHO WILL PROSECUTE THE TWO CHINAMEN

Deputy Attorney-General and Geo. Powell Argue the Matter in Police Court Wednesday.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

It has not yet been decided who will prosecute Wong Ah Lum and Gin Duck on the charge of perjury, and it will not be settled within a week at least. The police magistrate listened to an argument by the Deputy Attorney-General on behalf of his department, and Geo. Powell, counsel for the private prosecutor. The latter cited so many authorities in support of his case that the magistrate anticipates a busy week investigating them. In the meantime the prisoners occupy but a minor position in the case, and there is no indication in their attitude in the court room that they object to their temporary eclipse. Judging by the determined stand adopted by both counsel this morning, it is quite apparent that neither side will throw up the sponge, and the matter, therefore, will be fought out to the bitter end. The Deputy Attorney-General's remarks were along the lines of Hon. Charles Wilson's statements to the Times last week, namely, that it was the intention of the department to investigate the matter before determining what course shall be pursued.

Mr. McLean explained that the action of the Attorney-General was attributable to the fact that there had been so many charges and counter charges arising out of the murder trial, and it had been decided to intervene in the interests of justice—to prevent the abuse of the process of the court. Wong Ah Lum had already been acquitted of the crime of perjury, and it would seem that in instituting another trial there was such an abuse. Referring to the two trials of Wong Gow and Wong On on the charge of murder, he said it was quite evident that there had been perjury of the most outrageous character committed, but it may be impossible to bring that charge home, and in that event it would be idle to prosecute for this last charge, particularly in the case of Gin Duck, which arose from the recent trial of the two Chinamen for murder. Should the Attorney-General decide that there was a proper case the matter would go on, but if not the process of the court should not be abused, the court would not be allowed to be used out of spirit of vindictiveness.

His learned friend, Mr. Powell, took no right to intervene in a criminal proceeding, but he would have some difficulty in convincing the magistrate that such was the case. The Attorney-General had the right to step in and take charge of a criminal proceeding at any time. If he did not do so properly he was responsible only to the High court of parliament. This was a criminal proceeding; the crime was not in which the only interest was that of the King. The complaint was that the peace of the King had been disturbed, the charge being the King against the accused. Therefore, the Attorney-General being the general controller of all prosecutions on behalf of the King, could intervene at all times. Counsel cited the case of Rex v. Gilmore in Ontario, in which it was laid down that the private prosecutor had no voice in the proceedings against the will of both parties. It was true that this was decided in a Superior court trial, but the principle established, he contended, was applicable to the present matter.

George Powell, counsel for the private prosecutor, said he was not surprised that his learned friend the deputy Attorney-General was unable to cite any applicable authorities in substantiation of his contention. He pointed out that the decision in King v. Gilmore was given in a trial on an indictment, a point on which he had no quarrel with the Attorney-General. He did not dispute that official's right to intervene after an indictment.

Mr. Powell then showed that a police court proceeding was not a trial, but merely an inquiry. He also drew attention to the fact that after a commitment for trial the "crown" took the place of "prosecution," and in that case the Attorney-General as representative of the crown had the right to intervene. But this was not a court of record as was established by fact that the magistrate, if he so desired, could close the doors to the public. The representative of the crown in the present proceeding was misapprehending his position. The Attorney-General was the first law officer of the King in all courts of the King, but it was patent that this was not a court. Why, if it were established that the Attorney-General could intervene in this case, what was to prevent him from stopping proceedings if a relative or friend were charged with a serious offence? Mr. Powell quoted Wharton's definition of Attorney-General to the effect that the official was the representative of the crown in Supreme courts, and he contended in these courts only.

He then went extensively into the history of the office, explaining that it originated upon the creation of the court of the King's bench. He cited authorities and precedents to show that it had never been the custom of the Attorney-General as representing the King to participate in criminal proceedings in inferior courts, that such action would be tantamount to the degradation of the King, and he challenged his learned friend to show instances in which this had ever been done. It was the duty of the Attorney-General to persevere depositions taken in the lower courts, after there had been a commitment for trial, and should he decide that a crime had been committed to prefer an indictment on the grand jury. But if the contention of his learned friend were established, the

anomaly would be presented of the Attorney-General first trying to make out in the lower court that a crime had been committed, and then upon a commitment for trial persisting the depositions to ascertain whether there was sufficient to justify an indictment.

Counsel went exhaustively into authorities and legal history to show how jealously the rights of the subject had been safeguarded in this matter, and he held that to-day in England the Attorney-General could not intervene in a criminal inquiry of this kind. He would adhere upon request, but he could not intervene. Mr. Powell wished it understood that he did not dispute that official's right to exercise control in a trial—in other words upon indictment, but in the lower court he did not possess the right of intervention.

The Deputy Attorney-General replied briefly, after which the case was remanded for a week.

MRS. J. L. STANFORD DIES FROM POISON

PASSED AWAY IN HOTEL AT HONOLULU

Let Her Home in California on Account of Previous Attempt Made on Her Life.

Honolulu, March 1.—Mrs. J. L. Stanford, widow of United States Senator Leland Stanford, died at 11:40 o'clock last night, forty minutes after she was taken ill at the Moana hotel here, under suspicious circumstances, pointing in the opinion of the physicians who attended her in her dying hour, and seemingly in that of others, to poison by the administration of strychnine in a vial of bicarbonate of soda.

Mrs. Stanford herself, when found by a guest of the hotel who had heard her groaning in her agony and suffering from a severe headache, "that she had been poisoned" and her last words were, "This is a horrible death to die!"

The physicians say that between consultations, Mrs. Stanford repeated the assertion that she had been poisoned, and said it was the second time that an attempt had been made, the first time being in her San Francisco home, and it was this attempt which caused her to come to Honolulu.

An autopsy on the remains showed that the cause of death was tetanus of the respiratory organs, but how this was brought about will not be known until after an examination of the contents of the stomach, the result of which examination will probably be known to-morrow.

Miss Bertha Berns, Mrs. Stanford's secretary, said that the previous attempt on the life of her employer was made January 14th last at her home when she was attacked by a substance which she described as "strychnine" and a bottle of Poland mineral water.

Miss Berns said to the correspondent of the Associated Press: "We went to a picnic yesterday and were planning to go to Hawaii, a submarine boat carrying us back to Honolulu. We returned to the hotel at 4 o'clock and Mrs. Stanford retired to her room for a rest. Later she dressed for dinner. When the soup was served she said that would be sufficient as she was not hungry."

"We then went to the veranda where Mrs. Stanford planned the trip to Haleiwa for to-day. She then said she would retire early so as to be refreshed for the trip. At 8:30 Mrs. Stanford said for her maid, May Hunk, whom she recently employed. She then said to me, 'I shall retire and take my medicine. Please get it for me.' I got a teaspoonful of bicarbonate of soda, one purgative tablet and a bottle of Berlet's water. Mrs. Stanford forgot to take the medicine and lay down and slept. As soon as she awoke she took the medicine and again retired."

Mrs. Stanford soon afterward was seized with more than ordinary pains out of bed. The maid and myself came in answer to her call, as did also a guest from a nearby room. She said: "I am poisoned."

The conclusions continued in spite of Dr. Humphreys, the physician following statement to the Associated Press correspondent: "When I was called in I found Mrs. Stanford in convulsions and applied for quiet remedies, but it was of no avail to save her life. Mrs. Stanford said to me: 'Doctor, I have been poisoned.'

"Mrs. Stanford's condition seemed to indicate strychnine poisoning. Between convulsions her mind was unusually active, and she said: 'This is the second time they have tried it.' They tried it last January, and I came here to avoid it."

It is reported to-night that R. A. Dunbar, the territorial food commissioner, and chemical analyst, had found strychnine in the bottle of bicarbonate of soda. No report of such finding has yet been made and other chemists have been called into consultation.

A despatch from The Hague to the London Daily Telegraph reports that Japanese cruisers intercepted two Dutch liners near Formosa on the allegation that they were carrying contraband of war.

We Convince Sceptics

COLDS, CATARRH AND CATARRHAL RHEUMATISM RELIEVED IN 10 MINUTES AND CURED BY DR. AGNEW'S CATARRHAL POWDER.

Here's one of a thousand such testimonials: "Rev. A. Buckley, of Buffalo, N. Y., writes: 'I wish to let you know what a blessing Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder is in a case of Catarrh. I was troubled with this disease for years, but the first time I used this remedy it gave me most delightful relief. I now regard myself entirely cured.'"

Dr. Agnew's Pills are delightful, 40 cents.

JOHN M' CLOSKEY IS QUITE PLEASED

RESPECT BRIGHT FOR PROFESSIONAL BALL

Says Victoria Will Have Good Team—Preparations for Annual Meeting of Local Lacrosse Club.

John J. McCloskey, who has been associated with the management of Pacific coast baseball leagues for years, is here in the interests of the newly organized Northwest International Baseball League. He called at the Times yesterday and announced that the organization could not be more favorable. There was every indication that Victorians would take up the proposition and enter a team and support it with the same enthusiasm as they have shown in the case of the Dominion Hotel, and a number of prominent merchants were taking an active interest in the project. Under the circumstances, Mr. McCloskey says, there is no doubt that, when the series commences, Victoria will be found with a first-class team in the field, and not only ready, but anxious for the race to start.

Regarding the question of grounds Mr. McCloskey thinks that no difficulty will be experienced in coming to some arrangement for the use of those at Oak Bay. He acknowledges that on some occasions league games might clash with important amateur lacrosse events, but it is of the opinion that such a possibility could be foreseen and avoided by the managers. He pointed out the advantages of making it a splendid financial proposition for the city, the equitable division of gate and grand stand receipts, and the salary limit all made it practically impossible for any of the clubs to go behind. "However, if Victoria found anything to be said against the arrangement for the use of those at Oak Bay, he acknowledges that on some occasions league games might clash with important amateur lacrosse events, but it is of the opinion that such a possibility could be foreseen and avoided by the managers."

Mr. McCloskey, during his stay in Victoria, has become most impressed with the spirit of sport taking up the different athletic organizations. He attended the Association football match on Saturday between the Garrison and Victoria-United teams—the first game of the kind ever witnessed here—and was delighted. But it wasn't this that attracted his attention so much as the practice of the Victoria ladies' hockey team in progress on the adjoining "New Bay" rink, which he saw on the American side. "I wish we had some ladies here, don't take any active interest in outdoor athletics. Why, the girls I saw playing at Oak Bay had the ruddy glow of health in their cheeks, and it was a contrast to what I saw in the scientific play while on the field."

This stirring eulogy of Victoria athletes prompted the remark: "Were you not the man, Mr. McCloskey, who expressed the opinion that ping pong and cricket were the only sports?" An expression of indignation spread over the countenance of the baseball manager as he replied emphatically: "No, I never said that. It appeared in connection with an interview I gave in Seattle, I know, but I was misunderstood. I was explaining that, while many believed the true sporting spirit could not be found in Victoria, I thought differently, and was going to prove it by securing a base-ball team that city for the new league." Mr. McCloskey, concluding, said he always had confidence in Victoria, and after witnessing the enthusiasm with which amateur athletes were taken up, he was more than satisfied.

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THE RING.

NELSON WON.

Woodward's Pavilion, San Francisco, Feb. 28.—"Battling" Nelson, of Chicago, and "Young Corbett," ex-champion featherweight of the world, met for the second time at Woodward's pavilion to-night in a contest to determine which of the two shall meet Champion Britt in a return match. Nelson was given the decision in the ninth round. Nelson entered the ring a favorite in the betting. Corbett, who often has claimed lack of condition as the cause of his recent defeat by Nelson, and realizing that defeat to-night might send him into pugilistic obscurity, trained faithfully for two months, and to-night announced that he was in perfect shape. His statement was corroborated as he stripped, as it was evident that the man who twice lowered the colors of McGovern was fit for the battle of his life. He looked fresh, strong and confident, and expressed himself as hopeful of an early and easy victory. Nelson, likewise, devoted himself to a drastic course of training, but experienced difficulty in making the specified weight. He physically showed little signs of the wear and tear of his training.

After the men had been introduced a challenge was read from Eddie Hanlon. Jimmy Britt was then introduced. He said: "I am always ready and willing to meet anyone in the world at my weight."

The crowd yelled for Gans, who was presented and received the most generous applause of the evening. Gans said: "I will lay low for a while and let the featherweights settle it among themselves."

In the first round the advantage was with Corbett, Nelson acting mostly on the defence. There was desperate fighting at close quarters in the second round and Corbett had a shade the better of matters. The following round closed

with honors in favor of Nelson, but the fourth was even. Nelson obtained a slight advantage at the opening of the fifth and Corbett was extremely tired when he went to his corner. The sixth looked serious for Corbett, who went to his corner groggy. Nelson was very careful, however, and took no chances of receiving Corbett's blows, which had steam behind them. The seventh was Nelson's round. Corbett failed to land at any stage and was dazed. He fought like a drowning man grasping at a straw, but Nelson showed him no mercy. Occasionally Corbett whipped his right to the jaw, but it was returned threefold. Corbett took a terrific beating in this round and looked like a defeated man as he went to his corner.

Nelson kept after Corbett in the eighth round and landed almost at will. He forced Corbett to the ropes with left and right swings to head and body. He kept up this work. Corbett fighting with an exhibition of gameness seldom seen in a ring. Nelson drove Corbett to the ropes and left and right to jaw. He kept administering terrible punishment. Corbett was game and fought back like a wild man, landing two hard rights to the jaw. Nelson then got Corbett against the ropes. Corbett threw his arm around the Dane's terrific onslaughts. The gong rang with Corbett in this position and all but out.

In the ninth round Corbett broke ground and received a straight left and then a straight right to the face and then shot a straight left to the chin, but Nelson retallied in kind, giving blow for blow. The ex-champion was again buffeted about the ring, and a right to the jaw sent him to the ropes. Suddenly Corbett shot two straight rights to the jaw, but Nelson never budged an inch. Corbett rallied again, driving left and right to face. They worked to the center of the ring, Corbett finally going to the floor from a straight right, which caught him on the jaw. He took the count getting up, but was so groggy that he could scarcely stand. Nelson sent him like a tiger, but at this point, seeing their man was hopelessly defeated, the seconds threw up the sponge, and Corbett was borne to his corner. Nelson was given the decision.

ATHLETICS.

THE NEW ASSOCIATION.

An Oak Bay Athletic Association has been organized for the purpose of managing the grounds that will be used for playing all important amateur matches, according to the terms of the agreement reached between representatives of local clubs and the B. C. Electric Railway Company. It was formed at a recent meeting of delegates from various local clubs held at the offices of Thomas Hooper, Five Sisters' block. There were present T. Hooper and Rev. W. W. Bolton, of the Victoria Lacrosse Club; J. A. Virtue, Victoria Baseball Club; Alex. Tait and Tye, Victoria District Football Association; H. Austin, Victoria Rugby Football Club; and Henry G. Dalby, of the Victoria Hockey Club.

After the usual formalities it was explained by Mr. Hooper that the application for incorporation under the Beneficial Societies Act having been granted and duly gazetted, it was only necessary to adopt a constitution and by-laws and to elect officers.

This was immediately proceeded with. A rough draft of proposed regulations and rules was submitted for consideration. After some discussion it was decided to adopt them temporarily in order that the association might be put on such a footing as to call for immediate recognition from all teams wishing to play at Oak Bay. They, however, will be revised.

The election of officers was taken up and resulted as follows: President, Thomas Hooper; vice-president, W. W. Bolton; secretary-treasurer, H. Austin. These three officials, together with J. Virtue and B. Tye, were appointed trustees.

Now that the Oak Bay association has been organized it will take absolute control of the grounds. It might be well to point out that the agreement between local clubs and the tramway company provides that all important championship matches, whether football, hockey, lacrosse or baseball, must be played at Oak Bay. This does not include professional games such as would be played here if a local team entered the newly organized Northwest Baseball league. In such a case the management would have to come to some understanding with the Oak Bay association if it was desired to use those grounds. In all probability they would have to be rented in the usual way. But under no circumstances would the professional baseball matches be allowed to clash with an important amateur league event. For this reason if a local line is entered in the International circuit it will become necessary to secure other grounds in Victoria.

Other matters of minor importance were considered by those present, after which the meeting adjourned.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

DECISION RECONSIDERED.

It is understood that the Garrison club has reconsidered its decision to withdraw from the Island leagues. As a result of the Times will remember, Capt. Fajoy announced his intention to take no further part in the series after the result of the protest entered by the Victoria-United team because of overtime play in Saturday's match between the Garrison and civilian teams. The decision was in favor of Victoria-United. The soldiers did not think they were being treated fairly and tendered their resignation. After giving the matter consideration, however, they have decided to continue the series and the match between the same two teams will be played on Saturday at Work Point.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

A LEAGUE CONTEST.

At Beacon Hill Wednesday afternoon a match was played between the South Park and the Victoria teams, resulting in a win for the former by a score of 3 points (1 goal and 1 try) to 6 points (2 tries). In spite of the deplorable condition of the ground play was fast throughout. The Central forwards were strong and played well together. But the speed and reliability of the South Park defence more than over-balanced this advantage.

WRESTLING.

ANOTHER VICTORY.

Again Jack Karkeek succeeded in fulfilling the contract to down any opponent within fifteen minutes. Gr. Darlington, R. G. A. met him at the Savoy theatre Wednesday. His considerations were put on the mat some minutes before the expiration of that time.

GOLF.

MONTHLY CONTESTS.

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THE AMENDMENTS BEFORE COUNCIL

TWO ALDERMEN ENGAGE IN A VERBAL DUEL

Ald. Hanna Indignant at What He Considered Ald. Fell's Lack of Courtesy.

The city council Monday declined to permit the proposed amendments to the Municipal Clauses Act to be presented to the municipal committee of the legislature until they had considered them. As a result several clauses were struck out and some amendments were during the debate on Ald. Stewart's motion to reconsider, or to properly put it, to consider the amendments, that one of those exchanges occurred which had the effect of the old time verbal duels in the council chamber about it. Ald. Goodacre acted as chairman in the absence of the Mayor.

continuing, the irate North Ward city father said that he would not remain a member of the board and allow such transactions to take place. He would resign. What he wanted to know was did Ald. Fell coerce the city solicitor? Was the council competent to try this case? Was it not a matter for the police court? Ald. Fell: "Why don't you charge me with murder?"

Old Men's Home went to the home committee for report. The fire wardens reported in favor of a full paid fire department. This report was signed by Ald. Oddy and Stewart. Ald. Fullerton dissenting. It was laid on the table until the estimates are taken up.

BURGLAR TRIED TO BURN HOUSE

HE ROBBED PREMISES OF REV. MR. ADAMS

He Ransacked Place and Then Started Three Fires—Young Man is in Custody.

An encouraging optimistic feeling marked the proceedings of the second annual meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association held on Tuesday at the rooms, Broad street. There was a good attendance, about fifty active members being present. Reports submitted by the secretary and treasurer showed that exceptional progress had been made during the past few months, and that several hundred dollars of the association's debt had been wiped out during that period.

VICTORIA Y. M. C. A. IS PROSPERING

THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY

Favorable Reports Submitted by Secretary and Treasurer—Directors Elected for Year.

WILL NEGOTIATE ANOTHER JAP LOAN

DISTINGUISHED BANKER EN ROUTE TO LONDON

Says the Fighting in Manchuria Will Not Extend as Far as Harbin.

Vice-Governor Takahashi, of the Bank of Japan, accompanied by three subordinates, arrived here on the R. M. S. Empress of India on Tuesday en route to New York and England, to place Japanese securities on the money market in London. Mr. Takahashi was in England but a short time ago, and it is understood completed all arrangements for the borrowing of another Japanese loan. This done, he returned to Japan and submitted his proposition for the consideration of the Diet.

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THE Tye Copper Co., Ltd.

Purchasers and Smelters of Copper, Gold and Silver Ores.

Smelting Works at LADYSMITH, VANCOUVER ISLAND, B. C.

CLERMONT LIVINGSTON, THOS. KIDDIE General Manager Smelter Manager.

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GET A BOTTLE OF BOWES' BUTTERMILK TOILET LOTION. Now. It prevents chaps. Soothes and heals. Is not greasy nor sticky. Gloves can be worn immediately after using. Once used always liked. 25c.

Cyrus H. Bowes, CHEMIST, 98 Government St., Near Yates St.

Made in Canada SECOND TO NONE. Chatham Incubators Brooders.

Easy payments. Sold by J. M. CAMERON, 82 BARR STREET, VICTORIA, AND J. W. PINLOTT, MAYWOOD P. O. Agent for Saanich, Salt Springs, Sooke and Metchosin.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. The Matter of the Estate of JANE SOPHIA BALLET, Late of Victoria, British Columbia, Deceased.

Take notice that probate of the last will of the said Jane Sophia Ballet, dated 6th September, 1895, and on February 8th, 1905, issued out of this Court to Arthur John Weaver Bridgman and William Frederick Gaudin, of Victoria, B. C., the executors therein named.

The annual meeting of the Dairymen's and Live Stock Association of British Columbia will be held in the Agricultural Building, Victoria, B. C., on Thursday, March 2nd, at 10 A. M. for general business and election of officers for the present year.

Notice is hereby given that thirty days from date I intend making application to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for special licenses to cut and carry away timber from the following described lands situated on Frederick Arm: No. 1.

News has been received regarding the Hudson's Bay Company's steamship Stock, which sailed from Hudson's Bay for London in the latter part of September. It is reported that the ship had encountered heavy ice in Hudson's Strait, and the captain, finding winter setting in, decided to return.

Second-hand Piano for Sale—\$135. This instrument has been used by the late Mr. J. H. Lewis, and is in excellent condition. Will be delivered free to any wharf or railway station in the city. Price, \$135. Piano Co., 88 Government Street, Victoria; 125 Hastings Street, Vancouver. We have others. Write us for catalogue.

WANTED—Timber lands, large or small tracts, for sale. Write to the undersigned, particulars to "Agent," Times Office, P.O. Box 406, city.

London, March 3. The Japanese are still in possession of the city of Mukden, and are reported to be fighting a rear guard action. Reports from the front, says the same morning leaving only a few stragglers, and that there are no surrenders, not only but of recently arrived. They relate what the Japanese are doing in the interior troubles in the city. Confirmed officially, KOUROPATKIN'S DETAIL.

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A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES. Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Druggists refund money if PAIN-O-MENTURE fails to cure. Any sufferer of how long standing, 16 to 14 days. First bottle cures. Second bottle cures. If your druggist hasn't it, send 50c. in stamps and it will be forwarded post-paid by Paris Medicine Co., St. Louis, Mo.

Chas. W. Hills and others applied for two lights on Haywood avenue. Referred to the streets committee.

Herbert Cuthbert expressed his appreciation of the excellent treatment received by his child while at the Isolation hospital, and paid a high tribute to the efficiency of the nurse in charge. Referred to the streets committee.

Will Revises Laws. Russian Measures for Dealing With Jews and Agitators Are Not Satisfactory. St. Petersburg, Feb. 28.—Count Alexis Ignatieff, a member of the council of the Empire, has been appointed president of a special conference for the revision of the special laws designed for safeguarding public order. The committee of ministers has come to the conclusion that the restrictive laws, the method of dealing with political agitators and similar special measures do not effect the desired results. With the approval of the Emperor, a revision has been decided upon.

Another Robbery. There seems to have been quite a series of robberies in the city lately, and the detectives have been kept pretty well on the move. Tuesday afternoon some person entered the residence of J. Stevens on Alfred street and stole \$90 from a drawer in one of the bedrooms. The money was in a purse. Strangely enough there was a considerable amount of jewellery in the same drawer, but none of it was taken. The robber had no difficulty in entering the house, accord-

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