

VOL. 87

VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1909.

No. 15

### CONDITIONS OF LIFE IN ENGLAND

#### SERIOUS DISCLOSURES BY ROYAL COMMISSION

##### Influence of Big Cities—Alarming Decrease in Birth Rate.

New York, Feb. 18.—A special to the Times from London says:

The royal commission, which for the last three years has been studying the condition of the English poor under existing laws, has issued a report of 1,200 pages.

Lord George Hamilton, chairman of the commission, says the serious feature of the report is the deliberate statement that the conditions of life in London and other big cities are such as produce a degenerate, morally and physically enfeebled class of people.

Last year the poor of England and Wales received public relief to the amount of £14,000,000.

Yesterday also the registrar-general issued his quarterly report which showed that the birth rate of England and Wales for the last quarter of 1908 was 24.6 per annum per 1,000. This is 2.4 below the mean birth rate of the preceding four quarters, and the lowest ever recorded for a corresponding quarter.

#### DENIES COMPLICITY IN BILL MINER'S ESCAPE

##### C. P. R. Detective Says Story of Missing Bonds Is a Fake.

(Special to the Times.)

Vancouver, Feb. 18.—Chief Detective Bullock of the Canadian Pacific railway today issued a specific denial to the charges made in the Commons yesterday that he had held out inducements of probable escape to the train robber, Bill Miner, if the latter would give up the secret hiding place of several hundred thousands of dollars worth of bonds said to have been stolen in the Mission hold-up. Mr. Bullock says that not only did he not discuss any plan for Miner's liberation, but he knows that the story of the missing bonds was a fake invented on behalf of the train robber by Miner himself or his friends. Bullock says positively that no bonds were ever stolen.

#### GOOD PROGRESS MADE ON STREET WORK

##### Force of Men at Prince Rupert Is Being Increased.

(Special Correspondence.)

Prince Rupert, Feb. 17.—Good progress is being made with the street planking by contractor Sol Cameron and his force of over 180 men. Mud sills are now laid along First and Third streets east and west of McBride street, formerly called Main; chutes have been built at the foot of McBride street for landing the heavy planking lumber, which is expected to arrive within a few days. Eight cuts have been opened up for street grading, and the trestles for a bridge across Hayes creek in the eastern end is well advanced. Boarding houses and bunk houses for the men have been erected and the force is being increased almost daily.

J. H. Rogers, of Seattle, formerly traffic manager of the White Pass & Yukon route, has arrived, and will make his home in Prince Rupert. It is reported Mr. Rogers will look after the interests of the Union Pacific Steamship Company in this district, and will also represent the Alaska Pacific Express, with which he was connected while a resident of Dawson, Y. T.

#### MAURETANIA BREAKING ATLANTIC RECORD

##### Fleet Cunarder Nearing New York Travelling at 26-Knot Clip.

Newport, R. I., Feb. 18.—A new west-bound trans-Atlantic record seemed within the grasp of the big Cunarder liner Mauretania today, when at 2 a. m. she was reported by wireless as approaching Nantucket lightship in the weather and tranquil seas, and with New York about ten hours steaming distance away.

Previous wireless reports have showed that the ship has averaged about 25 knots an hour on her westward run and to-day's messages indicated that she was maintaining her swift pace.

#### RAILWAY VICTIMS.

One Killed and One Injured When Struck by C. P. R. Train.

St. John, N. B., Feb. 18.—Jos. MacNeill, of South Sydney, and Walter Murphy, of Limerick, Ireland, were struck by a train on the C. P. R. between McAdam and Vancorbore on Tuesday night. MacNeill was killed and Murphy injured.

#### RED RIVER SETTLER DEAD.

(Special to the Times.)

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 18.—Victor Beaupre, who came to Red River 29 years ago from Quebec, built the first government buildings here, and was the first usher of the Black Rod in the Manitoba parliament, died yesterday at Gleichen, Alberta, near where he ranched.

#### POLICE FOIL SUFFRAGETTES

##### TWENTY ARRESTS IN LONDON DEMONSTRATION

##### Militant Propaganda to Be Continued by Woman's Freedom League.

London, Feb. 18.—The suffragettes failed today in their attempt to present Premier Asquith with the resolution adopted at yesterday's meeting of the Women's Freedom League, which declared for a continuation of the militant propaganda for suffrage. They first attempted to march in procession, but their line was broken up by the police. The police had completely blocked all entrances to the thoroughfare, and twenty of the more militant suffragettes who tried to break through the lines were arrested, charged with interfering with the police.

For a time there was a scene of disorder, women time and again throwing themselves valiantly against the double line of police, only to be thrown back, or if they were unusually persistent to be handed over to constables who marched them off to the police station amid cheers, hoots and hisses from the throng. The police finally cleared the street, and the women who were not arrested returned to their hall, where they were addressed by the leaders.

The women who were taken into custody were later arraigned in a police court. They refused to pay the fines imposed, and all were sent to prison for terms varying from a fortnight to a month.

The Women's Freedom League held a large meeting in London last night, and adopted resolutions to continue the militant campaign for suffrage. Mrs. Despard was delegated to carry the resolution to Premier Asquith today, forty members in the audience volunteering to form an escort. Two suffragettes repeated the tactics employed in the ladies' gallery of the House of Commons some time ago by chaining themselves to a balcony in the Gaiety restaurant last night in order to interrupt Augustine Birrell, chief secretary for Ireland, who was to speak at a dinner. The two women were gagged, however, while they were brought and the chains cut. They were then expelled from the restaurant.

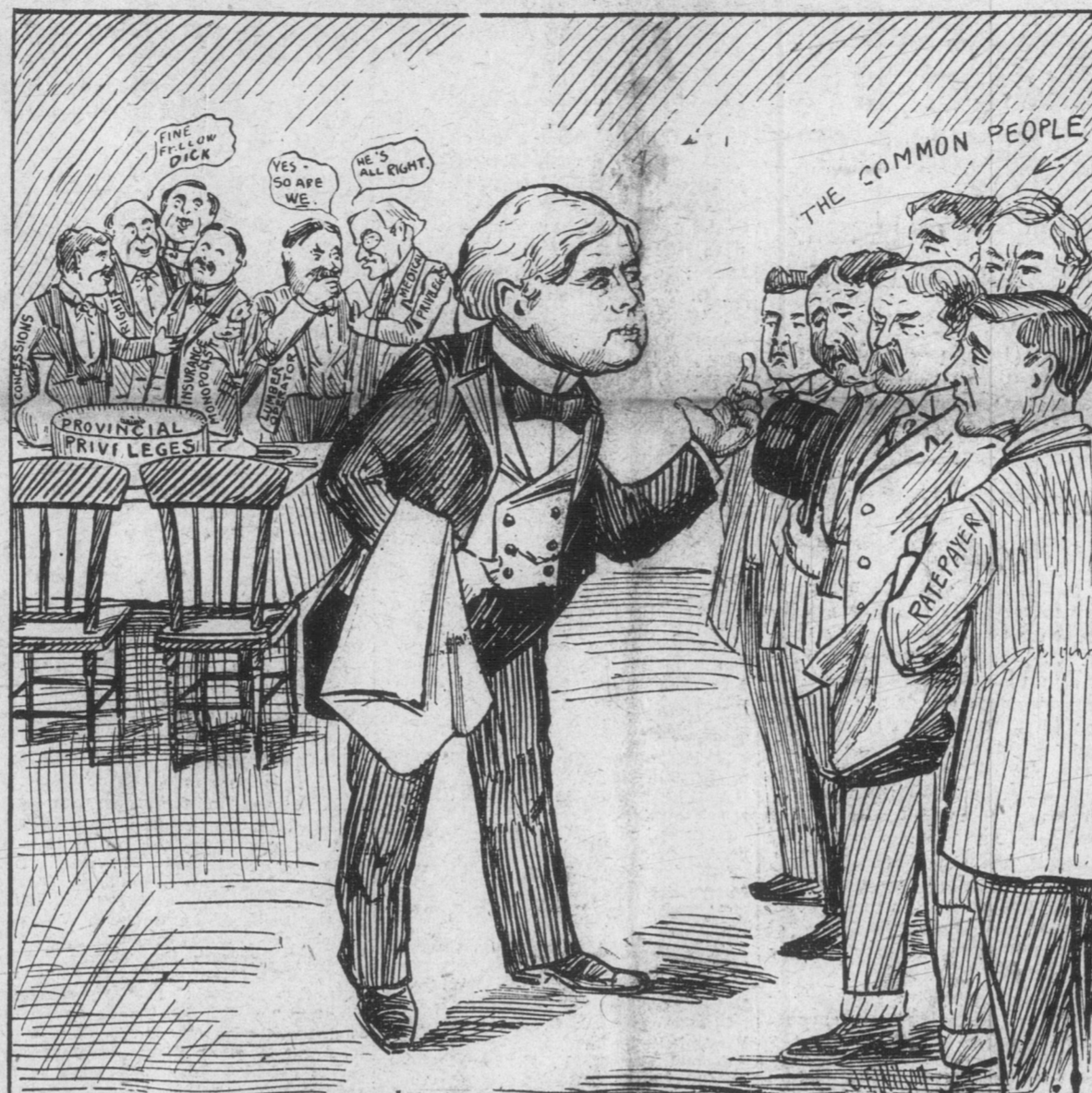
#### SURRENDER OF SANTIAGO IN SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

##### Publication of General Blanco's Cablegrams Gives Rise to Controversy.

Madrid, Feb. 18.—The bitter controversy aroused last week by the publication here of some cablegrams exchanged between General Blanco, at Havana, and the government at Madrid regarding the surrender of the city of Santiago de Cuba to General Shafter on July 17, 1898, has been further envenomed by the appearance of a fresh batch of messages which demonstrate that the government, when it found that General Blanco was unalterably opposed to surrender, com-municated directly with General Toral, the commander at Santiago, giving him a free hand to make terms.

General Blanco on July 13th telegraphed to General Toral that he would try to relieve Santiago, and instructing him to insist that General Shafter allow the Spanish garrison to retire to Holguin, or return to Spain on Spanish ships, as otherwise Spain would continue the defence. "Regarding your suggestion," Gen. Blanco said further to Gen. Toral, "that some one must be found to assume the responsibility for this situation, I repeat that I am responsible for everything that has occurred in Cuba since October 1st last."

The same day Gen. Blanco cabled Madrid that the junction of the third army corps with the Santiago garrison had become impossible, but that Gen. Toral must not surrender except on honorable conditions. Madrid thereupon authorized Gen. Toral to act independently of Gen. Blanco, but Gen. Blanco, ascertaining this, sent a telegraphic warning to Gen. Toral that he could not include the entire fourth army corps in the surrender, as the other garrisons were capable of holding out. Nevertheless, Gen. Toral on July 17th surrendered the whole army corps with its war materials.



#### A RUSH FOR THE FIRST TABLE

Head Steward—I'll try and keep something for you at the second table, but you see I must be hospitable to these good friends of mine.

#### STILL VOTING FOR TORONTO'S NEW BISHOP

##### Choice Rests Between Canon Cody and Bishop Thorneloe.

(Special to the Times.)

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 18.—The third vote by the synod of Toronto today resulted in a change of but one vote gained by the laymen from the second ballot taken last night for the Bishop of Toronto. Neither Bishop Thorneloe nor Canon Cody have the majority required, and the synod will go on voting. Rev. Canon Henry John Cody is one of the outstanding figures of the English church in Ontario and in all Canada for that matter. He was born in Embro, Ont., and was ordained by the late Archbishop Sweetman at Toronto in 1893. He is now rector of St. Paul's church, Toronto, and is one of the church's leading controversialists.

#### DR. W. W. OGDEN ILL.

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 18.—Dr. W. W. Ogden, who was chairman of the board of education last year, is critically ill.

#### WILL SELL \$2,000,000 WORTH OF CHURCH LANDS

##### Deal Between Archbishop of Boniface and Manitoba Government.

(Special to the Times.)

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 18.—The Archbishop of St. Boniface is about to sell to the Manitoba government two million dollars' worth of church lands in Eastern Manitoba, enabling him to pay for the new six hundred thousand dollar cathedral, to found a seminary and to establish other church works. These lands will be transferred to certain railroad corporations who desire them in connection with big operations.

#### SMALLPOX ON DOMINION CRUISER.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 17.—Seven of the crew of the Dominion cruiser Canada have been sent to the quarantine hospital suffering from smallpox, and the remainder of the crew have been vaccinated and confined to the dockyard.

#### BERLIN FIEND COMMITS FOUR MORE ASSAULTS

Berlin, Feb. 18.—Four more women and girls were stabbed late yesterday afternoon by the unknown criminal, who has now committed twenty-nine assaults with a knife in the suburbs of Berlin in the last few days. The wounds inflicted were not severe. In one instance the stabbing occurred on the stairway of a house in which there is a police station. Many arrests have been made but the men have been released, after proving alibis.

#### HUNDRED DEAD IN ENGLISH COLLIERY

Newcastle, Eng., Feb. 18.—All hope is now abandoned of rescuing the 100 or more miners crumpled by the explosion in a colliery at West Stanley.

#### EARTH UNREST IN ASIATIC TURKEY

##### HUNDREDS OF HOUSES FALL; 30 PERSONS DEAD

##### Sivas Centre of Seismic Disturbance—Shocks Continue To-day.

Sivas, Asiatic Turkey, Feb. 18.—An earthquake that visited this district on February 16th did much damage to buildings but the loss of life was not great. Thirty persons were killed according to the most reliable estimate. Four hundred and thirty buildings were entirely destroyed and 442 were partially damaged. Slight shocks continue to-day throughout the vilayet and in the district of Suseiri.

#### PRIVY COUNCIL RULING ON TWO CENT RATE

##### Appeal in Case of Robertson vs. Grand Trunk Railway Is Dismissed.

London, Feb. 18.—The case of Robertson vs. the Grand Trunk railway, to compel the Grand Trunk to grant a two-cent a mile third class passenger rate between Montreal and Toronto, after running through the Canadian courts, has been decided by the privy council in favor of the plaintiff, Robertson.

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#### "FILIAL DEVOTION."

Hamilton, Ont., Feb. 18.—Because of a squabble between his sons and daughters as to who should settle for his keeping, Wm. Atkinson, 84 years of age, has been taken to the police cells.

#### STEFFANSON WRITES FROM POINT BARROW

##### Confirms Report of Safety of Captain Mogg and Crew.

New York, Feb. 18.—Herman C. Bumpus, director of the American Museum of Natural History, received a letter yesterday from V. Steffanson who with Dr. R. M. Anderson left Edmonton, Alberta, on May 2, 1908, on a trip up the Mackenzie river to the Arctic ocean to explore the eastern islands for ethnological and zoological data. Mr. Steffanson wrote from the whaling schooner Olga, in command of Capt. Wm. Mogg, who left Port Townsend, Wash., in June 1907, on a whaling trip through the unexplored regions of the Arctic. Mr. Steffanson writes under the date of September 28, 1908, that Capt. Mogg and his crew are safe, but that he will have to abandon his ship which is frozen in the ice three miles off Halkett near Point Barrow, Alaska.

#### CARLETON BY-ELECTION.

Ottawa, Feb. 18.—Edward Klond, ex-M. P., carried the Carleton Conservative convention at Siltville on Tuesday by a majority of sixteen over W. E. Garland, after three ballots had been cast.

#### U. S. SENATE HOLDS UP WATERWAYS TREATY

##### Protracted Debate Likely to Ensnare at Next Session.

New York, Feb. 18.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says: "It was formally announced in the executive session of the senate yesterday afternoon that the Canadian boundary waterways treaty should be permitted to remain on the calendar until next session." This of course is due to the opposition of Senator Smith, of Michigan, and to the feeling that now the only thing that remains is for a protracted debate on the convention, but that Senator Root will be able to defend it against amendment better than any one now in the senate.

#### OPIUM CONFERENCE IN SESSION AT SHANGHAI

Shanghai, Feb. 18.—The International opium conference, which opened in this city on February 1st at the instance of the United States, is making satisfactory progress in the discussion of the limitation and control of the opium traffic. Reports from various countries have been received and debated, and the conference will now take up the matter of resolutions.

#### GOWGANDA FATALITIES.

Two Men Frozen to Death in Mad Rush for Wealth.

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 18.—Two mining prospectors have been frozen to death in the Gowganda silver district as a result of being unprepared for the weather conditions in the mad rush for riches.

#### RESPONSIBILITY FOR WRECK.

Guelph, Ont., Feb. 18.—Warrants have been issued for the arrest of Fireman Lane, James Braken, Jackson and Alexander in connection with the fatal collision near Harrison on Jan. 14th. They will probably be committed for trial at the assizes next week, along with Conductor Fleming and Engineer Kennedy.

#### CITY CAN HAVE CONTROLLERS

##### REQUEST OF VICTORIA FOR POWER IS GRANTED

##### Mayor and Two Others Form Board—Equalization of Assessment.

The request of Victoria for power to establish a board of control was granted by the municipal committee this morning. As soon as the bill has been assented to it will be competent for any city working under the Municipal Clauses Act to have its affairs managed by such a board, consisting of a mayor and two controllers, upon the ratepayers expressing their desire for this. Mayor Hall was present to support the request and to ask for a slight change in the bill as presented. The union of municipalities, he said, agreed on the principle of establishing boards of control. Such a board relieved the council of a mass of detail work, but he asked that the board be composed of the mayor of the city and two controllers, instead of three, as suggested in the bill. He pointed out that this would not affect Vancouver, which worked under a special act. The committee altered the bill as suggested. The sections dealing with the nomination and election of controllers and of the mayor were passed as submitted. Good progress was made with the bill before adjournment.

A deputation from the municipality of Point Gray, consisting of Councillors Foreman and Stewart, waited on the committee to urge the matter of equalization of assessments. Mr. Foreman stated that at Point Gray, along the north shore of the north arm of the Fraser river, there was a tract of some one thousand acres, and the municipality wished the power to assess this as agricultural instead of as residential land. He explained that the land in question could never be used for residential purposes. In the matter of assessments generally, Mr. Foreman asked if there could be no means of relief to prevent speculators getting in and cutting up property into small lots. The municipality was in an unfortunate position owing to the action of some owners. "It has worked out most unfairly," added Councillor Stewart, "One man will put up a fine residence on his lot and the next man will build a row of shacks." He recognized that the question was difficult of solution, but the committee promised the usual "serious consideration."

#### ELECTRIC REFINING IN U. S. STEEL PLANTS

##### Instalment of 15-ton Furnaces—European Methods to Be Copied.

New York, Feb. 18.—The Iron Age says to-day: "The United States Steel Corporation has decided to introduce the Heroult electric furnace and steel process, after its engineers have made a close study of the subject, extending over two years, and have made a number of visits to the localities abroad where electric furnaces and methods are in operation. The outcome of these investigations is that it has been decided to put up one 15-ton Heroult furnace at the Washburn and Moen plant, at Worcester, of the American Steel & Wire Company."

#### THREE MEN PROBABLY LOST THEIR LIVES

##### Have Not Been Seen Since They Left Porchen Island in Small Boat.

Prince Rupert, Feb. 17.—There now seems to be but little doubt that the three settlers, Cameron, Dobbins and Yenoff, who sailed from Forcher island for the mainland on January 24th and have since been missing, were caught in a storm and met a watery grave. The provincial police with their gasolene patrol launch have made a diligent search of the coast line, and all the islands in the vicinity, without finding any trace of the missing men. The men started out in a Columbia river boat, and were known to have but one pair of light oars. On the 26th two light oars were picked up on the shore of Lucy island by the keeper of the lighthouse at that point, who reported to the police, but there was no trace of the boat or the missing men. Axel Hansen, the light-tender, reports a strong southeast wind and blinding snowstorms on nights of 24th and 25th, during which the unfortunate men may have lost their bearings and been blown out to sea, in which case they must all have perished as the weather has since been bitterly cold.

#### BANK OF ENGLAND.

London, Feb. 18.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes: Total reserves, increase, £1,161,000; circulation, decrease, £231,000; bullion, increase, £789,000; other securities, increase, £238,000; other deposits, decrease, £214,000; public deposits, increase, £1,550,000; notes reserve, increase, £1,188,000; government securities, decrease, £70,000. The proportion of the bank's reserve to its liability this week is 69.39 per cent; last week it was 69.72 per cent.

#### VAST ACREAGE NEAR THIS CITY

##### BIG FRUIT AREA AWAITING SETTLERS

##### Inspector Cunningham Says There Are 50,000 Acres Tributary to Victoria.

There are fifty thousand acres of unexcelled fruit lands tributary to the city of Victoria. This is the statement of Thomas Cunningham, British Columbia's veteran fruit inspector, who is now in the city. Mr. Cunningham does not include in this estimate the islands of the Gulf, nor does he carry the boundaries of the district mentioned, further north than the district of Cowichan. Without referring to its capacity for the cultivation of small fruits, this land he declares is the pear land, par excellence, of the northwest. This territory will support, when cleared, planted and in bearing, a population of fifty thousand people, directly dependent on the product of the soil alone, not to mention the additional population made necessary by trade and subsidiary industries.

He expresses the greatest surprise that the people of the district do not have a livelier appreciation of the possibilities which lie in the settling of their lands with a horticultural population. "Vancouver Island," he says, "is further behind than any other district in British Columbia in the matter of pushing its fruit lands, notwithstanding the fact that it was among the earliest to be planted."

"Never mind the tourists," he says, "they never leave a dollar or two with you, but their coming is by no means an unmixed blessing. On the other hand, wherever in British Columbia we have planted an intensive colony of horticulturists, they have rapidly pushed back the undesirable features of our pioneer life; the mails are crowded with letters and periodicals, indicating the quickened intellectual life which they have stimulated, and the moral tone of the whole community has been raised."

Mr. Cunningham says fruit land near Victoria is worth \$500 an acre. He also explains the fallacy that fruit trees are short lived in this province. On this point his opinion is of particular value, for he himself planted one of the first orchards to be set out on the mainland and other orchards which were set out fifty years ago are still bearing well. The value of the orchards of British Columbia he places at \$15,000,000, and so rapid is the process of planting going on at present that this he believes will be doubled next year.

While he deprecates the tardiness of the settlers on Vancouver Island in setting out orchards and following modern methods of cultivation, the veteran inspector intends to give special attention in his declining days to endeavoring to better these conditions. Mr. Cunningham's remarks, coming as they do from one who speaks with great authority, will be full of suggestion to all in this city and on this island, who are at the present time co-operating to make its resources and potential wealth better known.

#### TWENTY-FOUR CASUALTIES.

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 18.—An official report to the Illinois Central railroad gives the number of dead in the wreck near Carbondale as four and the injured as twenty. The train wrecked was a local. The accident was caused by a broken rail. The engine and express car passed over safely, but the remaining four cars tumbled over. A special train with doctors and nurses left for the scene of the wreck.

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At an elevation of 2,000 feet, the Alpine air in Switzerland is free from microbes. The Swedish mile is the longest mile in the world. Its liability this week is 69.39 per cent; last week it was 69.72 per cent.

'QUAKE ENGULFS PERSIAN VILLAGES; OVER 5,000 PERISH

Ten Thousand Head of Cattle Killed--Location and Appalling Results of "Unknown" Disturbance at Last Come to Light.

Tehran, Persia, Feb. 17.—News was received here to-day showing that the violent earthquake recorded on January 13th on almost every scientific observatory in the world were seismographs are installed, had its location in the province of Luristan, Western Persia. Sixty villages in that district were wholly or partially destroyed, and the resultant loss of life is placed at between 5,000 and 6,000 people.

This information was conveyed in detailed reports just received by the government, in the districts of Burukurd and Selghoria, Luristan province, the shocks were of the greatest violence, and here the heaviest casualties occurred.

Several villages are reported to have been completely engulfed. The losses would have been very much greater were it not for the fact that this district is sparsely populated. The destitute survivors are flocking into the town of Burukurd, whence appeals for assistance are now reaching the government.

The peasantry lost all their herds, and it is estimated that from 10,000 to 12,000 head of cattle perished.

This is the first accurate location of the violent earthquake shock of January 13th, it having been supposed up to to-day that the disturbance had centered in Western Asia, in Asiatic Russia, or even in the waters of the Indian ocean.

The records showed that the tremors were practically of the same force as those of December 23rd, which converted the coast regions of Sicily and Calabria into a scene of desolation and ruin. The shocks in question were recorded in London, Berlin, Hamburg, Goettingen, Vienna, Stuttgart, Washington, etc., and even in far off Cape Colony.

The province of Luristan is very mountainous and sparsely settled. It is about 300 miles southwest of Tehran, and the only communication with the Persian capital is by courier. The inhabitants are chiefly Baktyaris, an offshoot of the Iranian people.

PIT DISASTER IN ENGLAND

EXPLOSIONS ENTOMB NEARLY 150 MINERS

Only 37 Men Are Recovered Alive From Blazing Property.

Newcastle-on-Tyne this morning. Stanley, a small village from here, in which it is feared over a hundred lives have been lost.

There were two explosions at 4 o'clock in the afternoon in the West Stanley colliery, which employs four hundred men. Nearly two hundred men were in the pit at the time.

Almost immediately after the explosion, flames burst through the shaft, scorching the workers at the pit head and blowing out the fencing and apparatus at the entrance.

The flames spread rapidly, and it was impossible for the rescuing party to descend to the workings. Thousands of anxious persons gathered at the mouth of the pit, but for hours the fire burned furiously.

After rescue work had progressed all night the mine was cleared as far as the second level, where 32 men were found alive this morning. Most of them, however, were severely injured.

The force of the explosion was so terrific, that although the upper level where it occurred is 840 feet deep, flames leaped fifty feet above the pit mouth on the surface.

The rescuers reached bottom level of the mine this afternoon without finding any further signs of life, but they did discover the bodies of a score of men who apparently had succumbed to asphyxiation, only 27 men having been brought up alive out of a total of 147.

An explosion involving the loss of twelve lives occurred at the same colliery in 1882.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 17.—A workmen's compensation act, drafted in accordance with the wishes of the trades and labor council, is to be introduced in the legislature this session by J. F. Mitchell, M. P. for North Winnipeg. A measure of this character was submitted last year, but it was one of the slighted innocents at the close of the session.

Advertisement for Steedman's Sooting Powders, featuring a logo and text: 'To make children Healthy & Healthy. STEEDMAN'S SOOTING POWDERS contain no poison. They prevent the cold, convulsions, and relieve the throat. STEEDMAN'S YOUR GUARANTEE.'

48 MILLIONS SO FAR SPENT ON G. T. P.

(Special to the Times). Ottawa, Feb. 17.—The total expenditure by the government on the construction of the National Transcontinental railway to the 15th inst., has been \$48,265,129. During the past twelve months the expenditures were \$26,010,547.

HOLOCAUST IN MEXICAN CITY

FEARFUL STRUGGLE FOR LIFE AT BURNING THEATRE

Further Details of Acapulco Horror—Death List Over 200.

Mexico City, Feb. 17.—Late dispatches from Acapulco, where the Flores theatre was burned on Sunday night, when the structure was crowded at a gala performance given in honor of Governor Damian, bring varying estimates of the loss of life from the holocaust. They agree in declaring, however, that the dead will exceed 200, while some place the figures at 350.

Most of the dead were charred and buried beyond recognition, so that it will take probably several days to secure an accurate list of the victims.

Acapulco is in mourning over the catastrophe. All business in the city has ceased, the shops having closed, and the people are crowding the churches, where masses are being celebrated throughout the state of Guerrero and at Mexico City for the sufferers.

The fire, which spread with incredible rapidity through the immense wooden and adobe structure, was due to the carelessness and inexperience of the operator of the moving picture machine. There was an explosion, a burst of flames, which communicated to the building used for decorative purposes, and in a few minutes the entire structure was a mass of fire.

The flames started practically over the main entrance. The exits were all in the front part of the building, which was almost immediately turned into a wall of fire, so that the people were unable to escape.

In a frenzied panic tried to scurry out of the flames, but were crushed, scores of others perished. As nearly always in catastrophes of this kind, the women and children suffered the most, making up the majority of the dead.

The search of the ruins which has now been going on for some days has thus far revealed no recognizable human forms. Charred bodies from which legs and arms have been burned, together with many dismembered limbs, have been taken from the ruins, and as there was no chance of identification the remains have all been buried in a common trench by the municipal authorities.

The greatest loss of life was occasioned, according to survivors, by the fall of the roof, which crashed down on the entrapped people in what seemed an incredibly short time after the blaze was discovered. Previous to this the entrapped people had fought like demons, striking down women and children in their efforts to escape. The falling of the roof, however, stilled the screams of the panic-stricken audience.

The firemen and the crowds on the outside who had been attracted to the scene could do nothing to help the people in the burning building, and were compelled to stand helpless and watch the theatre, with its human contents, burn. After the first five or ten minutes there were no cries heard, and there was no noise save that made by the spurting and crackling flames.

Latest reports indicate that no American lives were lost, although several earlier dispatches had said that several were killed. The American consul, Mr. Moorehead, had been invited from his performance, but pressing business made it impossible for him to attend, and this probably saved his life. Many of those who escaped were injured in the panic or severely burned, and many of the houses near the scene were transformed into hospitals to take care of these people.

The Merry was bound from Boston to Newport News, Va., and was unloaded. When first sighted by the life-savers she was between the beach and a sand bar, lying off shore, and was sailing along the shore, her officers apparently unaware of their danger, although the vessel was then in very shallow water and the weather was clear, but dark. Soon after the vessel struck on the beach only a short distance from the life-saving station. Riding light she drove high upon the beach before a strong westerly wind.

The sea was running high and the vessel pounded heavily, but did not spring a leak. The Moriches life-saving crew were on the beach within a few minutes after she stranded. So near was the vessel to the dry land that the life-savers were able to use heavy life-saving gear which is commonly used in practice. A line was quickly shot through her rigging, and Capt. J. O. Farrow, of Saco, Maine, and 11 men composing the crew, were quickly taken ashore on the presheer buoy, without even being wet by the sea.

Capt. Farrow immediately sent an appeal for assistance to the revenue cutter Mohawk, lying in New York harbor, and notified J. F. Winslow, of Portland, Maine, the owner of the stranded vessel.

The Miles M. Merry stranded at high water, and although she is unloaded there will be considerable difficulty in floating her. Otherwise the vessel is not in a dangerous position.

Portland, Maine, Feb. 17.—A dispatch from Capt. Farrow, of the schooner Miles M. Merry, ashore at Moriches, L. I., to the owners J. S. Winslow & Company, received to-day, states that the vessel had blown high up on the beach, and will probably prove a total loss.

The Merry sailed from Boston on the 11th inst. for Newport News. Captain Farrow was in charge temporarily owing to the illness of Capt. Fleckett, the regular master. The Merry was built at Bath, Maine, in 1901, and is valued at \$38,000.

EXTRA SESSION OF CONGRESS.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 17.—The extra session of congress will be convened on March 15th. This date was definitely settled to-day, and President-Elect Taft authorized the announcement.

CHILD'S FATAL SWALLOW.

Hamilton, Ont., Feb. 17.—Myrtle Olive Merritt, aged two years and seven months, swallowed an iron washer last Thursday. The obstacle stuck in her throat, causing her death yesterday.

LETHBRIDGE PUBLICITY SCHEME.

Lethbridge, Alta., Feb. 17.—At the annual meeting of the board of trade it was decided to hold monthly meetings in the future at one o'clock. The board will have a luncheon these meetings, and so far as practicable. The president already has the authority to divide the fleet, but the amendment was made to give expression to the opinion of congress in favor of such action.

CALL TO WINNIPEG CHURCH.

Barrie, Ont., Feb. 17.—Rev. W. E. Barrett, vicar of Trinity church here, has been called to St. Luke's church, Winnipeg. He will likely accept.

RUSSIAN GRAND DUKE DEAD.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 17.—Grand Duke Vladimir Alexandevitch died here at 8 o'clock this evening.

ORANGE LODGE STARTS BUSINESS

OFFICERS FOR BLACK CHAPTER ARE ELECTED

O. of T. R. B. Officials Chosen Yesterday Afternoon.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

The Provincial Grand Orange Lodge of British Columbia commenced its nineteenth annual session this morning in the A. O. U. W. hall, when addresses were read by R. W. G. M., D. C. McLaren; R. W. G. S., W. H. Brett; R. W. G. T., E. J. Clark, and R. W. G. O., W. J. Whiteley. The election of committees was proceeded with, after which the convention adjourned for lunch.

A formal welcome by the Mayor will be given the visiting delegates this afternoon. With the Grand Master and other officers on the platform this morning were R. W. P. G. M.'s, J. Wallace, Victoria; T. Cunningham, Vancouver; and H. T. Thrift, Hazelton.

The Grand Black Chapter of B. C. Royal Black Knights of Ireland concluded the fifth annual session yesterday afternoon in the A. O. U. W. hall, with the election of officers, which resulted as follows:

P. G. Master, Sir Kt. W. S. Jago, Vancouver. D. G. Master, Sir Kt. W. H. Dunmore, Vancouver. A. D. G. Master, Sir Kt. G. S. Grimason, Victoria. G. Chap., Rev. W. H. Brett, Vancouver.

G. Registrar, J. J. Tulk, Vancouver. G. Treasurer, R. Fawcett, Vancouver. G. Lecturer, A. Armstrong, Cumberland. D. G. Lecturer, J. H. Armstrong, Revelstoke.

First Censor, R. C. Patterson, New Westminster. Second Censor, F. E. Packingham, Mission City. First St. Bearer, John Walsh, Victoria. Second St. Bearer, N. S. McDonald, New Westminster.

First Pursuivant, L. T. Smith, Vancouver. D. G. Registrar, C. Elliott, Vancouver. D. G. Treasurer, H. Wilkinson, Kamloops. G. Registrar, John Wallace, Victoria. Committee—Sir Knights Jas. Sopley, Victoria; R. J. Surgeon, Saanich; E. Langille, Vancouver; G. A. Boothroyd, Surrey Center; D. E. Stevens, Rossland; J. Braden, Victoria; G. McDonald, Victoria.

O. of T. R. B. Officers.

The largest attended annual meeting of the O. of T. R. B. was held yesterday afternoon in the A. O. U. W. hall, when the annual election of officers took place. The election, resulted as follows, the names being known only to members of the order.

G. P. Y. Lovvatney, Vancouver, B.C. R. G. P. E. Husbinel, Miner City, B.C. R. S. Kulthorn, Vancouver, B.C. C. B. P. Makledry, Miner City, B.C. C. M. T. Selsch, Vancouver, B.C. K. J. Crown, A. Reston, New Westminster. R. W. S. Kordeirovsk, New Westminster, B.C. P. T. G. O. Gaultmias, Vancouver, B.C. E. N. Haywecta, Victoria, B.C. R. A. for Ontario, A. Settmase, Toronto, Ont. R. A. for Winnipeg, B. Dexterton, Winnipeg, Man.

R. A. for Montreal, D. Dogley, Montreal, Que. R. A. for Hamilton, Ont., J. Farberp, Hamilton, Ont. The Royal Brown Minstrels gave an entertainment last night at the hall, which was largely attended and greatly appreciated, this being their first appearance in Victoria. The next annual meeting it was decided will be held at Kamloops.

LADYSMITH HAS BRANCH OF DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE

Public Meeting Will Be Held to Discuss Plans for Future.

Ladysmith, Feb. 16.—Mayor Nicholson presided at a meeting in the city hall of those interested in the formation of the Vancouver Island Development League. The mayor explained the object of the meeting and G. E. Wilson read a communication from the secretary of the league at Victoria, dealing with the formation of the league, and asking for views and writing matter relating to the city and its surroundings.

On motion of John Stewart, seconded by Mr. Earle, it was decided to form a branch of the Vancouver Island Development League. John Stewart was elected president and Geo. R. Wilson secretary. The executive committee will consist of those present at the meeting.

The best methods of advancing the objects of the league were discussed, and it was decided to call a public meeting at an early date to perfect organization and consider plans for the future.

GERMAN BANK RATE.

Berlin, Feb. 16.—The rate of discount of the Imperial Bank of Germany was reduced to-day from 4 to 3½ per cent. This is the first change in the rate since June 18th, 1908, when it was lowered from 4½ to 4 per cent.

FLOOR COLLAPSES; 83 CASUALTIES

Valencia, Spain, Feb. 17.—Five persons were killed to-day, and 78 were injured, 28 seriously, by the collapse of a floor in a hall where lots were being drawn for conscription.

WEIRD LEAGUE OF SELF DESTRUCTION

NEURASTHENIA CLAIMS VICTIMS IN RUSSIA

Suicide Clubs Where Death is Found in Many Strange Ways.

London, Feb. 17.—The Daily Mail's St. Petersburg correspondent declares that neurasthenia is claiming an ever-increasing number of people in all sections of St. Petersburg society.

A number of people, tired of life, seek death by various methods. Persons of fashionable society journey to Finland and fling themselves into the romantic Imatra Rapids.

Strange clubs and societies are in existence. One of these is styled the "Tiger and Hunter." Two members draw lots and decide who will be the "tiger" and who the "hunter." A silver bell is hung around the "tiger's" neck and the "hunter" is given a loaded revolver. Both enter large rooms and the spectators take refuge in safe corners. The hunt begins. The "hunter's" eyes are bound. He is allowed six shots, guided by the sound of the bell. If he fails to hit the "tiger" the rules are reversed, and the "hunter" becomes the "tiger." This continues until blood flows.

Another society has "champagne evenings" where one among 20 bottles is drugged with morphine. Sometimes in a single night there are numerous secret suicides for which there is no plausible explanation, giving rise, says the Mail's correspondent, to the suspicion that the victims belong to the same league of self destruction.

DOCTOR'S FORTITUDE DURING OPERATION

Refuses Ethical Objections, Appendix Removed—Wonderfully Rapid Recovery.

New York, Feb. 17.—Dr. Edward K. Robbins, a veterinary surgeon of Bayshore, Long Island, refused to take either when he had his appendix removed last week. He remained quiet throughout the operation and just four days after he drove five miles to his home. The following day he was attending to his practice. The case is believed to be without a parallel.

Dr. Robbins drove over to the sanatorium of Dr. Wm. H. Ross, at Brentwood, five miles from his own home. Dr. Ross and Dr. Haven prepared to operate and as the nurse approached the patient with the ether cone, he calmly waved her aside.

"There's nothing the matter with your heart, old man," Dr. Ross, who is an old friend, assured him. "I know it, but I'm going to cut the ether because I want to see the operation," said Dr. Robbins. "You may palp on a little cocaine if you wish."

This was done and the operation proceeded steadily without interruption from the patient, whose head was propped up so that he could see every move of the surgeons.

MURDER AND SUICIDE IN A TAXICAB

Telephone Inspector Kills Young Girl and Ends His Own Life.

Reading, Pa., Feb. 17.—While speeding along in a taxicab here early to-day Stella Rock Tassel, aged 18, was shot and killed, and her companion, Geo. E. Kraut, 20 years old, after directing the chauffeur to hurry to a hospital, turned the revolver that killed the girl, upon himself and sent a bullet into his own heart, dying almost instantly.

The couple engaged the taxicab in the business section of the town shortly before 2 o'clock this morning, and when the vicinity of the young woman's home was reached, the chauffeur, Levin Becker, was startled by the report of a shot inside the cab. A moment later, Becker declares, the man in the cab yelled to him excitedly to drive to the hospital, and just as he entered the Reading hospital grounds he said he heard a second shot inside the cab. Halting at the hospital door, the young woman was found dead in a heap on the seat of the cab with a bullet wound in her head. The hurried examination of the man showed that he, too, was dead, having shot himself through the heart.

Kraut was a police inspector. The authorities believe it is a case of murder and suicide.

COCKFIGHTING AT BUFFALO.

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 17.—William Pembroke, whose place was raided recently on the occasion of a big cockfight yesterday pleaded guilty in the Supreme court to an indictment charging him with witnessing a cockfight and was fined \$500, which he paid.

ABORTIVE NATAL ACT IS FINALLY BURIED

Order in Council of Federal Government Disallowing Measure Prevents Attorney-General Bowser From Carrying Appeal Before Privy Council.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, Feb. 17.—A special issue of the Canada Gazette announces the passing of an order-in-council on Monday disallowing the Natal Act passed by the British Columbia legislature on February 11th, last. The disallowance of the act within a year of its receipt at Ottawa on the 18th of last February prevents the possibility of the British Columbia government taking an appeal to the Privy Council from the decision of the provincial courts, declaring the act ultra vires.

The federal government thought the surest way to prevent any chance of complications arising should the appeal be taken, although there was only the remotest possibility of its being sustained, would be to disallow

the act as in the two previous cases when the act was passed. Disallowance was permissible only within a year of the notification of its being passed, hence action had to be taken by the government before the 18th inst.

The government is satisfied that the question of Asiatic immigration as evidenced by the very small arrivals in the number of Japanese and Hindus during the past year is now settled, and is anxious to prevent any possibility of further action by the McBride government which is seeking to re-open the question for political purposes, regardless of all considerations of treaty or imperial obligations and the future welfare of the province in the matter of developing trade with the Orient.

OHIO CITY ISOLATED BY BIG SLEET STORM

Business at Standstill in Sandusky—Devastation in Season's Crop.

Sandusky, Ohio, Feb. 17.—This city has been beyond the reach of the outside world by wire since 6 o'clock on Sunday night, when the last telegraph line between here and Cleveland went down as a result of the heavy sleet storm. The systems of both telephone companies, local and long distance, are out of commission. There is no light at night except from lamps, candles, or gas jets. The gas supply is low. Miles of wires are lying in the streets and alleys throughout the city, and hundreds of poles are lying on the ground. If communication is re-established within a week those who have full knowledge of the situation say they will be satisfied. Business is at a standstill.

The storm was the worst in the history of the city. No estimate of the damage done can be made. Thousands of fruit trees have been ruined, and the effects of the devastation will be apparent in the coming season's crop. There is said to be absolutely no hope for peaches throughout the entire famous Lake Erie peach belt.

CHEMAINUS HOSPITAL IN GRATIFYING CONDITION

Reports for Past Year Were Very Satisfactory.

The tenth annual meeting of the Chemainus General Hospital Association was held in the Chemainus hall recently.

The report of Dr. H. B. Rogers, resident physician, showed that the total number of hospital days during 1908 amounted to 2,854, as compared to 3,758 in 1907, this very considerable decrease being accounted for by the fact that the logging camps of the Victoria Lumber & Manufacturing Co. and the Crofton smelter were closed down during the entire year, and that the hospital did the amount of work set forth by Dr. Rogers' report is a matter for surprise and is ample evidence of its growing popularity in the district.

Dr. Rogers reminded the board of the urgent need of a maternity ward and nurses' home, and it is the intention to make these additions just as soon as finances will permit.

In view of the decrease in hospital work during the past year, the report of the secretary was most gratifying, accounts in 1908 having been met and the large balance due on heating plant installed in 1907 having been wiped out. On motion a vote of thanks was passed to his honor the lieutenant-governor for the supply of coal during the year; to the Women's Auxiliary, Mr. Lewis G. Hill and Dr. Frost, for their kind assistance in many ways; to the employees of the Victoria Lumber & Manufacturing Co. and the stevedores of Chemainus, who, after a period of six months, doubled their monthly subscriptions to the hospital. Had it not been for this timely assistance mentioned, there is little doubt but that the statement for 1908 would have shown a serious deficit.

PRAIRIE TRAGEDY.

Homesteader's Wife Frozen to Death While Bringing Home Provisions.

Lockwood, Sask., Feb. 17.—Mrs. Andrew Evandson, aged about 34, wife of a Swedish homesteader living about two and a half miles east of here, was frozen to death on Saturday night three miles east of the village.

The family, consisting of the deceased, her husband and five small children, the oldest of whom is only 8 years of age, in straitened circumstances. The husband had been working at the hotel here. Mrs. Evandson had purchased about fifty pounds of provisions for the house, left with them about six o'clock Saturday evening to walk against a cold wind, and evidently wandered from the road.

LEGATION MURDER CASE.

Herr Beckert to Be Tried Under the Laws of Chili.

Santiago, Chili, Feb. 17.—Herr Beckert, the former chancellor of the German legation here, who is charged with having killed an employee of the legation office, is to be tried under the laws of Chili. This announcement was made to the Chilean authorities to-day by Baron Von Vodman, the German minister who acted on orders received from his government. The fact that Beckert once belonged to the German legation is to be entirely ignored.

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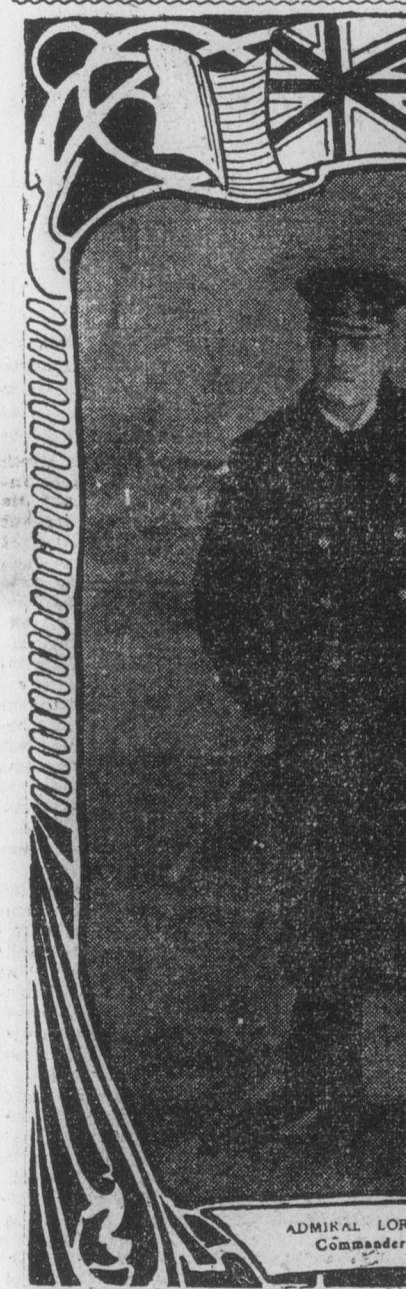
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STATE CEREMONY AT WESTMINSTER

KING EDWARD OPENS BRITISH PARLIAMENT Amicable Anglo-German Relations Alluded to in Speech From the Throne.

London, Feb. 16.—A greater crowd than usual gathered at Westminster today for the state opening of parliament by King Edward, who was accompanied to the throne by Queen Alexandra, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and other members of the Royal family.

Within the chambers the members of the two houses and a select few who had been invited to witness the actual ceremony expectedly awaited the reading of the King's speech.



ADMIRAL LORD CHARLES BERESFORD, K.C.B. Commander-in-Chief of the Channel Fleet.

Opera star puts out fire in theatre Mme. Eames extinguishes flames without breaking off her singing.

New York, Feb. 16.—Madame Eames made her farewell appearance at the Metropolitan opera house last night in "Tosca," and signaled the event by extinguishing a fire on the stage that might have extended to the scenery.

waterways adjacent to the international boundary between Canada and the United States, has been arranged, and this question being one of special Canadian interest, the advice of the Dominion government was sought and followed throughout.

C. P. R. SECRET SERVICE. Company to Practically Abolish System—Only Two Men in West.

HON. W. S. FIELDING RETURNS. Halifax, N.S., Feb. 16.—Hon. W. S. Fielding arrived from Liverpool on Sunday. He is highly pleased with the success of his mission to France and England.



AN UNINVITING PLUNGE. A. J. B.—"Excuse me, Herbert, but don't you think the water will be rather warm for you?"

RESIGNS COMMAND OF CHANNEL FLEET

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD TO HAUL DOWN HIS FLAG Orders From Admiralty Said to Be Outcome of Naval Feud.

London, Eng., Feb. 16.—Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, who is announced to have resigned the post of commander-in-chief of the Channel fleet, to take effect on March 24th, was seen yesterday regarding this statement. He declined to discuss the action of the admiralty.

Berlin, Feb. 16.—Five more attacks were made upon women late yesterday afternoon and evening in the eastern suburbs, which brought the day's total up to seven and the aggregate to twenty since the beginning of these vicious assaults a few days ago.

BERLIN'S 'JACK THE RIPPER' IS STILL AT LARGE

More Women Brutally Attacked, One Being Seriously Injured.

Violating Lord's Day Act. Montreal, Que., Feb. 16.—The attorney-general has notified the provincial police to take out summonses for the proprietors of moving picture shows in Montreal for keeping their places open on Sunday, January 21st.

LAKE VESSEL OWNERS TO SAFEGUARD SHIPPING

Association Will Lower Present Rates of Marine Insurance.

New York, Feb. 16.—Representatives of the lake steam vessel owners and underwriters met yesterday and formed an organization to safeguard lake navigation and put into operation a plan of inter-insurance.

RECRUITING FOR TERRITORIAL ARMY

New York, Feb. 16.—One thousand and twenty-five recruits for the Territorial army were enlisted in London last night, according to a special cable dispatch to the New York Times.

EARTHQUAKE IN ASIATIC TURKEY

Constantinople, Feb. 16.—A number of houses and government buildings in Sivas, the capital of the vilayet of the same name, in Asiatic Turkey, collapsed to-day, as the result of an earthquake.

BUILDINGS COLLAPSE, NUMBER OF CASUALTIES

Inhabitants of Hungary Districts Flee in Terror to Country.

NEWFOUNDLAND'S PENNY POSTAGE WITH U. S. A.

Reform Effective on March 1st Largely Due to Dr. Wilfrid Grenfell.

ST. JOHNS, Nfld., Feb. 16.—A two-cent letter postage between the United States and Newfoundland will become a reality on March 1st, the Washington cabinet having agreed to the reduction.

MYSTERIOUS DISEASE AFFLICTS POPULATION

Montreal, Que., Feb. 16.—With two dead at least, one more dying, and almost ten per cent. of the population afflicted with a terrible unknown disease, the town of Leptrairik, on the south side of the St. Lawrence, is far from being a place of gaiety.

VESSELS COLLIDE, BOTH FOUNDER

THIRTY LIVES LOST IN MEDITERRANEAN WATERS Ten Survivors From S.S. Australia Are Landed at Algiers.

OTTAWA, Feb. 16.—Thirty lives were lost when an unknown sailing vessel rammed the Belgian steamer, Australia during a storm on February 12th, near Alboran island, in the Mediterranean, a hundred miles from Gibraltar, and both vessels foundered.

OTTAWA, Feb. 16.—Private cables from Glasgow, Scotland, say that a big sensation has been created there by the arrest of the manager and directors of the Mutual Bank on charges of alleged fraud and imposition, committed between 1902 and 1903.

PAVEMENT SUICIDE

New York Woman Jumps to Death From Fifth Floor of Boston Structure.

MANIAC PASSENGERS

Fourteen Lunatics Going to New York to Be Deported.

LEGATION EMPLOYEE CONFESSES TO CRIME

Santiago Mystery Cleared Up—Chancellor Beckert to Answer Charge.

Santiago, Chile, Feb. 16.—Herr Beckert, the chancellor of the German legation here, who was arrested at Ghil-lan last week, has confessed to the killing of the servant of the legation, whose body was found ten days ago in the ruins of the legation after the destruction of the building by fire.

FATAL PRACTICAL JOKE

Montreal, Que., Feb. 16.—Mrs. Ethelboth Courchesne, 53 years old, is dead as the result of some practical joking rapping on the windows of her residence. The same thing had occurred before, and when it was repeated on Sunday night, Madame Courchesne, considerably alarmed, procured a revolver and going to the window at which the noise was being made, threatened to shoot the parties outside if they did not desist. Hardly had she spoken when the old lady expired from heart failure brought on by fright.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

Discovery and Exploration of Fraser River Subject of Lecture.

It was found impossible to complete the lecture on the Discovery and Exploration of the Fraser river, which E. O. S. Scholefield commenced before the Natural History Society Monday. Mr. Scholefield told of Sir Alexander Mac-tomah's trip across the continent showing where the first discovery of the big river was made in the upper reaches. He then traced the journey of Simon Fraser down the river, showing the objects of the expedition and the trials and difficulties encountered as they entered the hitherto unexplored regions.

BREWERY COMBINE.

Montreal, Que., Feb. 16.—An amalgamation of the breweries in the province of Quebec, which may later be extended to take in all the breweries in Canada seems to be an accomplished fact. A large accumulation of capital will be represented in the new association. Arrangements so far, however, are rather indefinite. A meeting is being held to discuss the conditions under which each separate firm will enter the association. The objects of the combination is to regulate trade.

INVOKED LEMIEUX ACT.

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 16.—The Teamsters' Union of Winnipeg, whose members have been locked out by the Winnipeg Cartage Company, have formally invoked the procedure of the Lemieux Act. The department of labor at Ottawa has accepted the application, and has taken the necessary steps to constitute a board of arbitration. The local union named J. J. O'Donohue, of Toronto, as its representative on the board, but Mr. O'Donohue has declined to act.

ALBERTA CONSERVATIVES.

Ottawa, Feb. 16.—Asked yesterday what he had to say regarding the proffered leadership of the Alberta Conservatives, M. S. McCarthy, M. P. for Calgary, said it had been impossible as yet to arrive at any decision. He was awaiting the arrival of a communication from the Conservative Association.

SCOTTISH SENSATION.

Manager and Directors of Mutual Bank Under Arrest.

CONTINENT WALKERS REACH THE COAST

Marchant and Clark Are in Victoria After Long Tramp.

(From Tuesday's Daily.) E. N. Clark, former editor of the Manxmouthshire Advertiser, and Leo Marchant, at one time on the staff of the Capetown Argus, are spending a few days in the city, having arrived on Sunday night from Vancouver. Messrs. Clark and Marchant have just completed the journey from Quebec to Vancouver on foot, with the object of obtaining matter for articles to Pearson's Magazine.

At 11.30 the guests proceeded to the dining hall, where a dainty repast had been arranged by Mrs. Cunningham, Belanger, Misses Needham, Steiner and Routh. On the table was placed a large beautifully decorated cake lettered with the words, "A pleasant trip and safe return," also dated 1893-1903. A nicely worded address was read by Lou O'Leary, followed by the presentation of a purse of gold. Speeches and toasts were given by Messrs. Forbes and Critchley, which the reverend gentleman happily replied to. Many friends were unavoidably absent, regrets being received from Messrs. McPhillips, H. D. Helmcken, McLachlin, of the Indian department, and others. Besides the reverend gentleman's many Victoria friends present, were: Mrs. White-Birch, Mr. and Mrs. Cantwell, Mr. Critchley (Sidney), Mr. Verdi. As the gathering broke up it expressed its sentiments towards the reverend gentleman in the words "Acht Wiedersehen!" (good-bye until we meet again).

HUNDREDS DEAD IN THEATRE BLAZE

ROASTED ALIVE IN ACAPULCO STRUCTURE

Panic Stricken Persons Block Up Exits Cutting Off Escape.

Mexico, Feb. 16.—Between 250 and 400 persons were burned to death and many injured in a fire which destroyed the Flores theatre in the city of Acapulco on Sunday night. The news of the disaster reached the capital yesterday afternoon, telegraphic communication having been interrupted owing to the fact that the telegraph office adjoining the theatre was burned and all the wires put out of commission.

The Flores theatre was a wooden structure, and on Sunday night over 1,000 people crowded into it to witness a special performance given in honor of Governor Flores, of the state of Guerrero, who was visiting the city at the time. One of the numbers of the programme consisted of a series of moving pictures. While the operator was exhibiting these a film caught fire and the blaze was quickly communicated to some booking which had been used for decoration purposes.

In an incredibly short time the flames spread to all parts of the structure. There were but three narrow exits, and the panic-stricken audience rushed to them, many falling to be crushed to death, their bodies choking the way of escape to others. The screams of those imprisoned were terrific, owing to the rapidity with which the fire spread and its intense heat. It was impossible to attempt rescue work, and those imprisoned were literally roasted alive, as the fire burned with little smoke and few were suffocated. The efforts of the fire department were confined to attempting to save the adjoining buildings, and they succeeded so that the property loss was small. The telegraph office, post office and custom house were damaged, but all of the government records and registered mail was saved. Yesterday pitiable scenes of grief were being enacted on the streets of the little west coast port. Men, women and children are wandering from place to place hunting for relatives or friends. Many of the dead are from the first families of the state, the affair at the theatre being a social event of considerable importance, and calling out the wealthiest and oldest families for miles around. In some instances whole families were wiped out of existence. The municipal authorities yesterday caused large trenches to be dug, and into these the remains of the dead were laid. According to telegrams received from there, recognition of the dead has been an impossibility, owing to the fact that bodies were burned in most cases to a crisp. Telegrams sent to the American consul at Acapulco by the Associated Press asking for the names of Americans dead as a result of the catastrophe have as yet not been replied to. Acapulco is on the west coast of the state of Guerrero, and is one of the three important ports of the Pacific coast of Mexico.

FAREWELL TAKEN OF FATHER VULLINGHS

His Many Friends in City Bid Him Good-bye.

Monday a reception, followed by a banquet, was given by the Victoria friends of his by his Victoria friends at Miss Steiner's residence, Gorge road. Upwards of one hundred guests were present to say farewell to the reverend gentleman ere his departure for Europe, which trip he contemplates taking this present week. An enjoyable evening was spent, the first hours given to music. Prof. Bantley accompanied many of the solos, while Miss Griffiths also assisted as accompanist. Local selections were given by Mrs. O'Leary, Miss Lily Griffith, Messrs. Cantwell, Evans, Critchley and Mr. and Mrs. Gelger. Mr. and Mrs. Morrison rendered German duets. Earl Newman gave a whistling solo, accompanied by Mrs. Stealy on the piano. Mr. Sheratt rendered a cornet solo and Miss Bessie Forbes and Mr. W. Bryce violin selections.

SUICIDE BY HANGING. North Augusta, Ont., Feb. 15.—Mrs. Joseph Lower committed suicide by hanging herself in an outhouse on Sunday. Her mind has been unbalanced for a year, but she was supposed to have partially recovered as a result of treatment at Brockville asylum.

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ment Disallow- General Bowser Privy Council.

the two previous cases was passed. Disallow- missible only within a notification of its being action had to be taken ment before the 18th.

AGAINST RANCE BILL

Operating in British at Present Handi- by \$300 Tax.

considerable interest recently been overlooked with the opposition sloped against the pro- bill, has been brought of the Times. A great aid about the Globe In- ny, of Regina, and its the losses arising out of these policies, it had only been written weeks before the out- out covered being \$55- p assumption, if it can- definitely that no polid had been taken out of the Globe com- persued the sufferers his concern. The con- follows from this, that the obvious loss was only the amount paid in premiums, have been more than possibly was con-

tion of the present bill plea is, along the lines at, characterized as al- It is stated that will hang a million- ers of British Colum- or a board of insur- whose agents receive mission yearly of about the premiums paid. companies now oper- province complain that heavily enough hand- to pay a fax of y can get a foothold, self is enough to stiff- the rates have neces- to meet this extra- ish Columbia. In the social calamity, such as when the local gov- vote funds to tide over who have not got their savings insured, it ne- that the insurers in- ing for the losses of uninsured. This, it is an altogether anom- affairs, and as a conse- ing opposition against legislation is discovering of interest which the bill probably never

WIFE FROZEN TO DEATH

Wife Frozen to Death Home Provisions.

Feb. 12.—Mrs. Andrew about 24, wife of a Swe- living about two and a of here, was frozen to y night three miles east of the deceased, five small children, the is only 6 years, was in instances. The husband at the hotel here. Mrs. purchased about fifty ons for the house, left six o'clock Saturday against a cold wind, ndered from the road.

Advertisement for DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS, featuring a circular logo and text describing the medicine's benefits for kidney health.







BY TIMBERMEN URGED TO TAKE ACTION

Body is Now in City Making Legislation

Wednesday's Daily. Members of timber licenses in earnest in their efforts to bring in legislation...

Mr. Ker, Esq., Victoria, B. C. Dear Sir—Referring to the Fire Insurance Bill, which the underwriters...

ALIST MME. NORDICA

Singer Predicts Future for Miss Muriel Hall.

Miss Nordica returned to New York from her latest tour of Victoria, Interior, of that city, referred to Miss Muriel Hall during the performance...

ST FRUIT RATES. Fruit growers in British Columbia are preparing to demand a 45 per cent. increase...

WILL NOT OPPOSE INSURANCE BILL DETERMINATION AT BOARD OF TRADE MEETING

Lengthy Discussion for and Against Proposed Provincial Measure.

The meeting of the board of Trade called yesterday for the purpose of opposing the proposed insurance legislation...

Mr. Palmer's Letter. In support of the resolution Mr. Ker read a letter which he had received from E. J. Palmer, manager of the Victoria Lumber Company...

Mr. Ker, Esq., Victoria, B. C. Dear Sir—Referring to the Fire Insurance Bill, which the underwriters are trying to have the government accept...

Mr. Bodwell, as a good lawyer, puts the matter in a very plausible light, but you may not be satisfied with such a statement...

Why except Canadian mutual companies? Is not our colored friend in evidence—there are so few Canadian mutual companies they do not much figure with the board companies as competitors...

Mr. Bodwell makes no mention of the amount of insurance in force in B. C., the number of foreign companies affected, the number of losses met by such companies...

There are not a sufficient number of plants in B. C. to warrant such a company forming to operate here, nor are there even enough still-burns in Columbia to encourage these companies.

Two or six mills, especially when they are in a position to select risks from all parts of the United States...

There are numerous companies making a specialty of insuring plants installed with automatic sprinklers. These companies also select risks, make a very low premium rate...

When the meeting was called to order by President Lesler the secretary read a somewhat lengthy report which had been made by a committee to the council of the board...

Another thing, the policy of large companies is to underwrite their risk through a broker amongst a large number of companies...

It will give a further monopoly to a few of the big firms. To know that the "board" companies are not in need of protection...

As a matter of good politics, I think that the government would hesitate about passing such legislation. As the matter stands now, the public before placing insurance, naturally investigates the company...

Two visiting members of the Vancouver Board of Trade who had come on a special invitation from the Victoria board, were called upon to address the gathering. These members were E. H. Heaps, a prominent lumber man, and R. P. McLennan, of the hardware firm of McLennan, McFadyen & Co.

large manufacturing concern could not get along without placing a good deal of insurance outside. At one time his firm paid ten per cent. By giving the business to outside companies they had reduced their rates to less than two per cent.

There were nothing but foreign companies being business in Victoria. These were these were asked to protect. The agents here had no money invested in the business, whereas he had \$100,000 of an investment.

It was explained that the committee had been appointed by the council and had reported to them. On that account it could not be considered by the meeting.

President Lesler was asked for a ruling on the point and he decided in favor of the resolution. An appeal was taken from his ruling but the result was never known.

Continuing he said that higher rates would follow. Any company would have a chance to come in and do business under the new legislation.

He then referred to the loss at the Fernie fire, when a number of the sufferers were unable to recover any insurance abroad. Owing to the unfair situation at present the firms doing business had to pay one per cent. to the government while the outside firms had nothing to pay.

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done in the banking business. All they asked for was legitimate competition. H. F. Bullen said their rate had been raised in Esquimalt because the city had no water supply...

Only Foreign Companies Here. D. R. Ker thought there was an organized effort to vote them down here. The bill was so manifestly absurd that he did not think it would be carried through.

In regard to the Fernie fire the company was a local one started a few days previous to the fire in Regina. A live agent had quickly resulted in \$30,000 or \$40,000 being written.

Mr. Drury said he was not directly interested, but he thought it wrong that some company should pay 1 per cent. on the business and others be allowed to come in free.

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MANY REPORTS BEFORE COUNCIL COMMITTEES APPEAR TO BE VERY BUSY

Routine Matters Disposed of at Last Night's Sitting.

Last evening's sitting of the city council called forth considerable routine work. Most of the subjects dealt with, however, provoked only a limited amount of discussion...

Chinese Laundry Dispute. Peters & Wilson were on behalf of Chinese clients relative to establishing a laundry on the Finlayson estate. The history of the negotiations was given upon which the property was purchased.

Electric Inspection. An appeal was read from the International Brotherhood of Electric Workers complaining that the by-law was not being enforced relative to the licensing of those who strung wires in the city.

Local Improvements. The following works of local improvement were reported upon by the city engineer and estimates of cost given.

Permanent sidewalks on both sides of Pine street, between Craigflower road and Dominion road. Total cost \$4,641, city's share \$1,547.

Permanent sidewalk on the north side of Pembroke street, between Chambers and Cook streets. Total cost \$1,188, city's share \$396.

It was decided to prepare by-laws. The committee in legislation reported as follows: "Gentlemen—We, your committee on legislation, desire to make report on the following matters submitted to us:

as to what was being done in the matter of Sunday closing. His Worship stated that it had been thought best to seek the city barrister's opinion on some points.

Reports on various permanent sidewalks and boulevards proposed were received and ordered to be advertised. These were as follows:

Permanent sidewalks on both sides of Pine street, between Craigflower road and Dominion road at a cost of \$4,641; permanent sidewalk on north side of Garbally road from Gorge road to western boundary line of Lot A1, at a cost of \$1,188; boulevards, including maintenance with curbs and gutters on both sides of John street, between Government street and Pleasant street, at a cost of \$8,147; permanent sidewalks on the south side of Queen's avenue between Blanchard avenue and Quadra street, at a cost of \$1,188; permanent sidewalks on the north side of Queen's avenue between John street and Pleasant street, at a cost of \$8,147.

Permanent sidewalk on the north side of Pembroke street, between Chambers and Cook streets. Total cost \$1,188, city's share \$396.

Boulevards (including maintenance), with curbs and gutter on both sides of John street, between Government street and Pleasant street. Total cost \$8,147, city's share \$2,049.

Permanent sidewalk on the south side of Queen's avenue between Blanchard avenue and Quadra street. Cost \$90, city's share \$29.

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improvement work, property fronting on Beacon Hill park. Regarding communication of W. H. Duncan, re condition of May street, from Adelaide road to Dallas road, and complaining of a nuisance caused by sewage matter flowing on May street from adjacent property.

Recommended that the city engineer be instructed to notify the Tramway Company that it is the desire of the council that they remove the rock left on Mackay street forthwith, and that the writer be informed that the sewerage nuisance complained of has been referred to the sanitary inspector to abate same.

Cost of Boulevards. On motion of A. Turner, various by-laws for local improvements were ordered to be prepared. These were as follows: To grade, macadamize and drain Toronto street, from Menzies street to Esplanade Hill park and to construct permanent sidewalk, with gutter, on the south side from Menzies to the park; to improve Pembroke street between Haughton street and Shakespeare street, by blasting out the rock thereon and grading and constructing permanent sidewalks on the north side from Haughton to Shakespeare streets and on the south side from the end of the street to Shakespeare street; to construct permanent sidewalks on Boyd street, from Niagara street to Dallas road.

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Work in Progress on Structure Which Will Cost \$60,000.

New Westminster, Feb. 15.—The construction of the \$60,000 steel bridge to replace the present frame bridge across the north arm to Lulu Island, will be in full swing this morning, it is reported by the agent of the property where the blocking up of the main has taken place, that the nuisance will be abated.

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FIVE STREETS IN SIX MILES

J. A. MACDONALD ON PRINCE RUPERT PLANS

Second Reading of Water Act—Opposition to Goat River Power Bill.

Legislative Press Gallery, Feb. 15.

The House started the week well, getting to work on time and keeping at it until well on to six o'clock.

Several new points were brought out by the leader of the opposition in criticizing the latest agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific in regard to Prince Rupert townsite.

These included the failure to provide for street ends running to the water front except by overhead bridges at the public expense, the shutting up of two sections of the city by the grant of additional blocks of land at the mouths of Hays creek and Morse creek, the taking of two blocks of water front for the province on land which ran down sheer from a height of sixty feet into the water, and the fact that the water deepens so rapidly that it will be almost impossible to put in wharves outside the right-of-way, which is below high water mark along the entire front of the city.

In view of the fact that members have little knowledge of the facts, and that there are many things which the plan filed by the railway and townsite companies and approved of by the commissioner of lands does not show, Mr. Macdonald moved for the reference of the bill to a small select committee, which could take evidence in one way or another for the information of the House.

The Water Clauses Consolidation Act, the biggest piece of government legislation this session, was explained at considerable length on the second reading by the commissioner of lands, who has it in charge. The minister spoke for over an hour on the bill, going into details on some of the more important features of it, and inviting the House to assist him in making it the perfect measure its importance demands.

A hint was given this afternoon that the Goat River Power Company's bill is not going to get through. The company, promoted by Victoria people, is a wild power and opposition developed to some of these in the committee stage.

Rev. Percival Jenks read prayers today. Criticized Agreement.

"I was glad to hear the attorney-general speaking in high terms of the G. T. P.," said J. A. Macdonald in resuming the debate on the townsite agreement. "He can hardly appreciate any more sincerely than I do what that great railway has accomplished and what it will accomplish in the future for British Columbia, as well as the balance of this great Dominion. There was a different note the other day in the debate to that which was noted some four or five years ago when the G. T. P. was first promoted by the present government at Ottawa, when gentlemen opposite were perhaps not so convinced that another great transcontinental railway was required across the continent. They are at one to-day with the Liberals here and elsewhere as to the desirability for the construction of that railway at the earliest possible moment."

The premier had spoken of the railway being retarded and delayed by government, and it was to be taken that this bill was genuinely intended to facilitate as far as possible the operations of the company. Something had been said about future concessions; that the government had made some and received some in return for the province. The difficulty he or any critic had, looking at the act, the order-in-council and the plans submitted by the government, was that the data supplied to the House was not sufficient to enable any member, without special knowledge, to understand just what was proposed by this legislation.

If he was not mistaken in his notion of the meaning of the subdivision of the town site was that, so far as the water front was concerned, extending for over a mile, something like six miles, no provision was made for the water front except by overhead bridges. The first session gentlemen opposite had heard talking of the difficulties which had arisen in Vancouver by reason of no provision having been made in early legislation which would protect the public interest with regard to access to the sea. He would not make the statement that there was not a single street going to the sea on the level. There was possibly one, but no one looking at the plan would be able to decide whether there was a single street. Two or three were provided for overhead bridges but only one street, in Block E, gave access to the sea on the level, no, from the plan, would tell where one single street end came down to the sea on the level in the whole long six miles of the water front.

"If that is the real state of affairs I submit that the agreement which the House is asked to confirm is one which should not pass," declared Mr. Macdonald.

Cut Off From the Sea.

This was not the only question he wished to discuss, he continued. He desired to refer to something else which was as important as the failure of the government to provide access to the sea. Block F, fifteen hundred feet in length, as far as he could make out and from what he could learn from those who knew the town, was the only block cut off from the sea by a high wall of water, which was of any real benefit to the province. It was the only block which came down to the sea on even ground. Blocks D and H were on high bluffs,

some sixty feet above deep water, to which the land ran down perpendicularly. So far as these two blocks were concerned they were of no value to the province. Block F was said to be a fair way from the peninsula as good as part of Block E, given to the railway company. Block E, 6,440 feet long, right opposite the centre of the city, was, he understood, the best of all. Block F, if he understood the plan aright, was rendered absolutely useless by reason that the railway track cut it off from access to the sea. The right-of-way ran along the front of it and every other block covered part of the water front, even below low water, for nearly half the distance of the frontage, and the whole water front below high water. It was also to be remembered that at this particular place the water from the harbor was deep. One hundred feet into the water was seven fathoms in depth, going down almost perpendicularly from the shore. There would be no possibility of any wharves at any distance out from low water mark. Even where wharves could be placed they would have to be filled in and brought up to a level with the railway track. If the premier would explain how access was to be given to wharves either on the level or by an overhead bridge sufficiently high to allow locomotives to pass under, it would be giving the House information which could not be gleaned from the plan. If the plan was right, so far as Block F was concerned, the only piece of water front the province got which was worth having, would be worthless to the future city. He proposed later on to move for the referring of the bill to a select committee for the purpose of obtaining evidence as to matters affected by the bill, so that members would be in a position to set at the exact facts as to the water front in the exact manner in which the order-in-council would deal with the rights of the province.

Cutting Town in Two.

Taking up the old act, Mr. Macdonald said that it conveyed 2,000 acres to a subsidiary company to lay out a townsite as corollary to a grant of fourteen thousand acres to the province, the plan to be subject to the approval of the lieutenant-governor-in-council, the necessary land to be allowed for railway purposes and the water front to be divided into blocks.

John Oliver asked the following questions: (1) Was the storm at C. D. Morris, at Eagle Pass, searched for liquor in June, 1928, by the provincial police? (2) If so, did the police act upon information charging the said C. D. Morris with being in possession of liquor contrary to law? (3) If so, who laid the information upon which the police acted?

The attorney-general replied: "(1) Yes. (2) The police acted on information which it is not in the province of the administration of justice to give, has always been considered, and will hereafter be officially known, as the industrial school on the mainland. Reasons for Rejection.

The private bills committee reported through its chairman, W. R. Ross, K. C., the reasons which led it to refuse to pass the bill incorporating the Shuswap & Thompson River Boom Co. The committee pointed out that the applicants had already secured a bill of incorporation from the Dominion parliament which gave it all the privileges now sought for. Doubt was expressed as to whether this was sufficient for the purposes of the company, but the committee was of opinion that the provisions of the British Columbia Rivers and Steamers Act afforded ample facilities for the successful operation of logging. No evidence had been given on behalf of the applicants to show that these were inadequate to its purposes. Besides the area over which the company asked jurisdiction was approximately 18,000 square miles, and the granting of this would be virtually surrendering the rights of the province. If the company found it could not carry on its operations under its federal charter it could apply again and a commission be appointed to inquire into the facts.

The report was adopted.

On Hon. Thomas Taylor's bill to amend the Highways Traffic Act the House went into committee for a short time. The minister conferred with Messrs. Oliver, Yorston and Eagleson, who have amendments to propose, and agreed to let the bill stand a few days. The amendment he desired to make extends to the whole province a law in force from 1893 to 1922 so far as affected vest of the Cascades, that loads weighing over 2,000 pounds must be drawn on wagons with tires at least four inches. In 1922 the law was altered to a graduated scale.

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John Yorston (Cariboo), for the protection of merchants having stocks on hand will move that the new provisions, whatever they are made, shall not come into force until May 1st, 1930.

The Industrial School.

The attorney-general, in moving the second reading of his bill to alter the name of the juvenile reformatory in Vancouver to the Industrial School, gave some facts as to what has been done since the institution was opened on February 1st, 1925. There had been one hundred boys committed to it, the charges against them being: Theft, 52; housebreaking, 6; housebreaking and wilful destruction, 2; receiving stolen money, 1; vagrancy, 2; forgery, 1; obtaining money under false pretences, 1; incorrigible, 24. There had been 17 boys admitted in 1925, 26 in 1926, 32 in 1927, and 31 last year. At present there are 89 boys in the institution.

The charges which had led to these boys being incarcerated were largely lack of proper home training, religious instruction, education and school discipline. Out of those who had been received 24 could not read or were in the primary class, 47 in the first grade, 21 in the second and the others in the third.

The superintendent and his wife, who was the matron, and the other officials tried to make the institution a home and not a prison, and inculcated in the boys a love of better things and tried to get them to take a different view

of life to that which they were brought up to, and become useful and honorable young men. This was sought to be accomplished by industrial occupation, by physical training, by manual training, and by moral and religious instruction. All these were compulsory. Manual training was in charge of a young man from Ontario. Two days a week had to be given by each boy to this work, which was very popular among them. Most of the useful articles in carpentry required at the institution were made by them. The physical training was under the charge of a former member of the Seaford Highlanders.

In school classes the usual public school curriculum was followed. A fifty-three acre farm attached to the institution gave opportunity for teaching the boys something of agriculture, horticulture and gardening, and many of the boys had their own industrial gardens, in charge of an experienced gardener. They were given religious service during the week and on Sundays the boys were taken to the various churches in Fairview, but the church-going was not compulsory, so that Roman Catholic boys did not have to go to Protestant churches.

Boys Like the School.

That the home was in a splendid situation and the boys were carefully looked after was evidenced by the fact that since it was opened \$32 only has been spent on medical fees. This, combined with education, physical and manual training, proved to be wholesome for the boys. Superintendent of its food and the people in 1925, to establish reserves of coal lands in the interests of the people of the province. The government and its followers have voted down that principle since and no doubt will do it again, but it was one of those followers, Dr. McGuire of Vancouver, who brought the matter of excessive price before the House to-day, as he did last session.

The discussion arose over a proposal to place in a bill which a Vancouver Island company had before the House a provision that it should not charge British Columbia consumers more than agents or customers outside the province. This was opposed by the premier, and led to a reference by John Oliver to the record of the Conservative party in this province in regard to the matter.

The premier, in his reply, virtually announced the abandonment of the pledge given six years ago, as he put the date for a possible putting of it into effect far off in the future. The discussion was an animated one throughout, and ended in the withdrawing by Dr. McGuire of his amendment.

A very interesting statement was made to the House earlier in the afternoon by Attorney-General Bowers regarding the work being done in what has always been considered, and will hereafter be officially known, as the industrial school on the mainland.

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The report was adopted.

On Hon. Thomas Taylor's bill to amend the Highways Traffic Act the House went into committee for a short time. The minister conferred with Messrs. Oliver, Yorston and Eagleson, who have amendments to propose, and agreed to let the bill stand a few days. The amendment he desired to make extends to the whole province a law in force from 1893 to 1922 so far as affected vest of the Cascades, that loads weighing over 2,000 pounds must be drawn on wagons with tires at least four inches. In 1922 the law was altered to a graduated scale.

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John Yorston (Cariboo), for the protection of merchants having stocks on hand will move that the new provisions, whatever they are made, shall not come into force until May 1st, 1930.

The Industrial School.

The attorney-general, in moving the second reading of his bill to alter the name of the juvenile reformatory in Vancouver to the Industrial School, gave some facts as to what has been done since the institution was opened on February 1st, 1925. There had been one hundred boys committed to it, the charges against them being: Theft, 52; housebreaking, 6; housebreaking and wilful destruction, 2; receiving stolen money, 1; vagrancy, 2; forgery, 1; obtaining money under false pretences, 1; incorrigible, 24. There had been 17 boys admitted in 1925, 26 in 1926, 32 in 1927, and 31 last year. At present there are 89 boys in the institution.

The charges which had led to these boys being incarcerated were largely lack of proper home training, religious instruction, education and school discipline. Out of those who had been received 24 could not read or were in the primary class, 47 in the first grade, 21 in the second and the others in the third.

The superintendent and his wife, who was the matron, and the other officials tried to make the institution a home and not a prison, and inculcated in the boys a love of better things and tried to get them to take a different view

LEGISLATURE DISCUSSES COAL

GOVERNMENT AND ITS PLEDGE OF RESERVES

This Is Virtually Abandoned—Work of the Industrial School.

Legislative Press Gallery, Feb. 16.

The price of coal is a matter that touches the man in the street, even though in British Columbia the householder has not to lay in the large stock that his less favored brother in the east has to. The fact that within a few miles of some of the biggest mines in the world, and in a province which is so rich in coal, the consumer has to pay as high a price for his fuel as is exacted anywhere is not a comforting thought.

To-day was not the first time that the subject was discussed in the legislature, nor was it the first time that the government was reminded of its pledge, given to the people in 1925, to establish reserves of coal lands in the interests of the people of the province. The government and its followers have voted down that principle since and no doubt will do it again, but it was one of those followers, Dr. McGuire of Vancouver, who brought the matter of excessive price before the House to-day, as he did last session.

The discussion arose over a proposal to place in a bill which a Vancouver Island company had before the House a provision that it should not charge British Columbia consumers more than agents or customers outside the province. This was opposed by the premier, and led to a reference by John Oliver to the record of the Conservative party in this province in regard to the matter.

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The superintendent and his wife, who was the matron, and the other officials tried to make the institution a home and not a prison, and inculcated in the boys a love of better things and tried to get them to take a different view

of life to that which they were brought up to, and become useful and honorable young men. This was sought to be accomplished by industrial occupation, by physical training, by manual training, and by moral and religious instruction. All these were compulsory. Manual training was in charge of a young man from Ontario. Two days a week had to be given by each boy to this work, which was very popular among them. Most of the useful articles in carpentry required at the institution were made by them. The physical training was under the charge of a former member of the Seaford Highlanders.

In school classes the usual public school curriculum was followed. A fifty-three acre farm attached to the institution gave opportunity for teaching the boys something of agriculture, horticulture and gardening, and many of the boys had their own industrial gardens, in charge of an experienced gardener. They were given religious service during the week and on Sundays the boys were taken to the various churches in Fairview, but the church-going was not compulsory, so that Roman Catholic boys did not have to go to Protestant churches.

Boys Like the School.

That the home was in a splendid situation and the boys were carefully looked after was evidenced by the fact that since it was opened \$32 only has been spent on medical fees. This, combined with education, physical and manual training, proved to be wholesome for the boys. Superintendent of its food and the people in 1925, to establish reserves of coal lands in the interests of the people of the province. The government and its followers have voted down that principle since and no doubt will do it again, but it was one of those followers, Dr. McGuire of Vancouver, who brought the matter of excessive price before the House to-day, as he did last session.

The discussion arose over a proposal to place in a bill which a Vancouver Island company had before the House a provision that it should not charge British Columbia consumers more than agents or customers outside the province. This was opposed by the premier, and led to a reference by John Oliver to the record of the Conservative party in this province in regard to the matter.

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The Industrial School.



LOCAL CEMENT FOR THE STREETS

HOME INDUSTRIES RECEIVE SUPPORT

City Council Decides in Favor of Tod Creek Product.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

The tender for cement for city work was awarded to R. P. Rithet & Co., agents for the Vancouver brand, made at Tod Creek.

The report on the prices from the city engineer and purchasing agent showed the following prices: R. P. Rithet & Co., lowest price, \$2.85 per barrel; Bostock & Co., lowest price, \$2.84 per barrel delivered at Smith's Hill and \$2.41 1/2 per barrel delivered elsewhere in the city.

The report stated that while Bostock & Co.'s tender is the lowest, it is difficult to see how it can be accepted as the tender for the home industry.

Ald. Stewart said he did not see that they could do anything else than accept the tender of R. P. Rithet & Co.

Ald. Turner wanted to know if there was a penalty for non-delivery. There had been complaints of delay in delivery of the cement.

His Worship said that he understood that Rithet & Co. wanted to supply all or none of the cement.

Ald. Ross thought the tenders were practically the same. He did not believe in going back on an old firm like Ward & Co.

Ald. Henderson thought that the city should take steps to prevent being held up by the local company.

Fullerton wanted to see the contract divided. It would be safer to have a division of the supply after last year's shortage.

Ald. Mable thought there had been a lot made out of the shortage of last year. It had been made too much of.

The motion to have the contract awarded to Rithet & Co., at the lowest tender, was carried on the following vote: Ayes—Aldermen Henderson, Mable, McKewen, Stewart, Turner and Raymond.

Nays—Aldermen Fullerton, Ross, Bishop and Humber.

Supper and Social Entertainment at the Sir William Wallace Hall on March 1st.

At a committee meeting held at the residence of A. Peitch, 572 Michigan street, on Monday, it was decided to celebrate St. David's day by having a supper and social entertainment at the Sir William Wallace hall, on Monday evening, March 1st.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE RAILROAD COMMISSION

Hon. J. P. Mabee Admirably Fitted by Ability and Legal Training for Position.

The fact that a list of nearly sixty complaints and applications, comprising many intricate questions between railroad and patron, between the rights of corporations and the rights of citizens, were disposed of in less than one week by the Dominion board of railway commissioners here, is due, as is generally admitted by those who have had opportunity of knowing, to the decisiveness, capability and fair-mindedness of the chairman, the Hon. J. P. Mabee, of the Winnipeg Free Press.

The session just closed was Hon. Mr. Mabee's second visit to Winnipeg as chairman of the railway commission. He was here with the board for a brief time in September, but at that time Winnipeg had nothing like the opportunity to size up the man and his methods that it had this time.

His report on the prices from the city engineer and purchasing agent showed the following prices: R. P. Rithet & Co., lowest price, \$2.85 per barrel; Bostock & Co., lowest price, \$2.84 per barrel delivered at Smith's Hill and \$2.41 1/2 per barrel delivered elsewhere in the city.

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WATER BOARD FOR DISTRICT

PROPOSITION IN LINE WITH BRITISH PRACTICE

Councillor Oliver, of Oak Bay, Puts Forward New Plan.

At the meeting of the Oak Bay council on Monday Councillor Oliver put forth a new view of the water question as it affects Victoria and the surrounding districts. Councillor Oliver while in the old water board apparently, but went fully into the question of water administration there. He has returned with the fullest information on the subject, and copies of the statutes and regulations have been brought back by him.

His report on the prices from the city engineer and purchasing agent showed the following prices: R. P. Rithet & Co., lowest price, \$2.85 per barrel; Bostock & Co., lowest price, \$2.84 per barrel delivered at Smith's Hill and \$2.41 1/2 per barrel delivered elsewhere in the city.

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DISPUTES POWERS OF PARKS BOARD

Hon. J. S. Helmcken on Constitutional Question Respecting Beacon Hill.

Hon. J. S. Helmcken takes exception to the powers delegated to the parks board in administering the Beacon Hill and Cedar Hill parks, which were handed over to the council. He refers in a letter written to the city council Monday that the council cannot delegate any powers it has in administering these parks.

His report on the prices from the city engineer and purchasing agent showed the following prices: R. P. Rithet & Co., lowest price, \$2.85 per barrel; Bostock & Co., lowest price, \$2.84 per barrel delivered at Smith's Hill and \$2.41 1/2 per barrel delivered elsewhere in the city.

The report stated that while Bostock & Co.'s tender is the lowest, it is difficult to see how it can be accepted as the tender for the home industry.

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Ald. Henderson thought that the city should take steps to prevent being held up by the local company.

Fullerton wanted to see the contract divided. It would be safer to have a division of the supply after last year's shortage.

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NO GRAVEL FROM SPRING RIDGE

RESIDENTS PROTEST AGAINST BUNKERS

Strong Delegation From That District Aims Its Grievances.

Residents of Spring Ridge are again protesting against the proposed gravel from Spring Ridge. A delegation of residents met on Monday night and presented their view on the question.

His report on the prices from the city engineer and purchasing agent showed the following prices: R. P. Rithet & Co., lowest price, \$2.85 per barrel; Bostock & Co., lowest price, \$2.84 per barrel delivered at Smith's Hill and \$2.41 1/2 per barrel delivered elsewhere in the city.

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Ald. Henderson thought that the city should take steps to prevent being held up by the local company.

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CITY COUNCIL REJECTS WATER COMMITTEE

Ald. Turner's Motion Lost at Last Night's Meeting.

The city council will not at present call in a committee of citizens to assist in the water question. This plan was proposed by Ald. Turner at last evening's sitting of the council, but found only four supporters.

His report on the prices from the city engineer and purchasing agent showed the following prices: R. P. Rithet & Co., lowest price, \$2.85 per barrel; Bostock & Co., lowest price, \$2.84 per barrel delivered at Smith's Hill and \$2.41 1/2 per barrel delivered elsewhere in the city.

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Ald. Henderson thought that the city should take steps to prevent being held up by the local company.

Fullerton wanted to see the contract divided. It would be safer to have a division of the supply after last year's shortage.

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COASTING BUSINESS STEADILY INCREASING

Princess May Will Make Three Trips a Month—Other Changes.

The opening of spring will see a number of changes on the C. P. R. coasting service, which will be made in order to cope with the growing business with the northern coast of British Columbia and Alaska.

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## CANADIAN CLUB REVIEWS YEAR

### FLAG QUESTION COMES UP FOR DISCUSSION

Officers Elected for the Ensuing Term at Annual Gathering.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

Officers of the Canadian Club were elected last night at the annual general meeting and arrangements for the coming year were discussed. The gathering was an enthusiastic one. It was decided to endeavor to have more frequent meetings during the year. The place can be secured for the coming year, and when outside speakers call to have local speakers address the club.

The officers elected were mostly new men to the positions, but in the case of the president, Judge Lampman, the following is the list: Honorary president, Hon. James Dunsmyth; president, A. E. McPhillips; first vice-president, Rev. Canon Beaulieu; second vice-president, Dr. T. J. Jones; secretary-treasurer, Frank I. Clark; literary secretary, A. E. Starr; committee, T. D. Veitch, Harold Robertson, L. H. Har- die, T. H. Slater, A. E. Fraser, Jr.; W. J. Sutton, M. E. J. K. Worsfold; Auditors, James Forman and Hilton Keith.

Votes of thanks were accorded the retiring officers who were complimented on the work done during the past year. There was a good attendance when the meeting was called to order by the retiring president, Judge Lampman. The secretary, Frank I. Clark, then read his report, which showed that there were now 341 members, a gain of 85 over the year before. The record was given of the year before. The record was given of the year before. The record was given of the year before.

The committee appointed in 1907 to take action towards securing the use of a British uniform by the city police were successful in their efforts, and we are pleased to inform you that the police of Victoria are now equipped with the neat and serviceable pattern of uniform worn by the police of Great Britain and the eastern provinces of Canada.

In answer to the appeal of the National Battlefields commission your executive opened up the city police were successful in their efforts, and we are pleased to inform you that the police of Victoria are now equipped with the neat and serviceable pattern of uniform worn by the police of Great Britain and the eastern provinces of Canada.

Your executive have had considerable difficulty in securing a suitable room in which to hold the luncheon. The Poodle Dog and the Balmoral dining rooms were found to be too small, and in the case of the latter, the management found it impossible to accommodate the number of guests. It was decided to hold the luncheon in the dining room of the hotel. The Driad has ample room but will not provide luncheons for less than 75c per plate. It has been suggested that a good opening in Victoria for a centrally located hall with a kitchen and dining room in connection which would be available for public meetings, concerts, lectures, dances and other entertainments, and we recommend that the police of Victoria should take this matter into consideration and endeavor to enlist capital in such a scheme.

It is our sad duty to record the death of one of our members, Capt. J. G. Cox, who took an active interest in the club, and whose loss was keenly felt by his fellow members as well as by citizens of Victoria generally.

We cannot close this report without expressing our thanks and appreciation of many acts of courtesy extended to the club by sister clubs in other parts of the Dominion.

The financial statement for the year ending February 4, 1909, showed a satisfactory amount to the credit of the club. It was as follows:

Cash balance from last year	\$199.89
Members' fees	\$140.00
Lunch tickets sold	\$58.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$397.89</b>
Payments:	
Paid for lunches	\$687.00
Paid for Quebec Battlefields association (supplementing the members' personal subscriptions)	100.00
Printing and stationery	138.20
Honorarium to secretary	100.00
Sundries	65.74
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,088.94</b>

Balance in bank \$ 262.75  
In commenting on the report, W. J. Blakmore drew attention to the fact that the most successful gathering held last year was the one at which the flag was addressed by a local man. For this reason he thought that when no distinguished visitor came this way at a suitable time there would be a number of local speakers who might be enlisted. He mentioned the matter of the flying of the flag at the public schools, and expressed regret that so far Victoria was not using all the flags provided by the council of public instruction for use at the schools.

Later in the evening Mr. Blakmore moved a resolution, which was passed unanimously, that the incoming executive be asked to make arrangements for more frequent meetings of the club, either with or without luncheons.

A. W. McCurdy announced that in all probability A. C. Flumerfelt would address the club in the near future, some arrangements having been made by the retiring executive in that direction.

A. B. McNeill endorsed the movement in favor of flying the flag over every school in the city. They had the flag, but at present there were not

suitable poles at every school. There was no difference of opinion as to which flag they should fly—the Union Jack or the Canadian flag. Personally he favored the latter.

This brought Rev. Canon Beaulieu to his feet to explain that in reality Canada had no flag, as the red ensign had no business to be used, and meant nothing. It was simply the flag of the mercantile marine, and no one else has any right to be flying it. Another objection to the so-called Canadian flag was the fact that the coat of arms of British Columbia was omitted from it. He thought something might be done in the way of preparing a Canadian flag which would use it. It had been suggested that the Union Jack with the coat of arms in the centre would be a suitable design. Until such a suitable flag was chosen he preferred the Union Jack.

Mr. McCurdy thought this would be a very suitable subject for the club to take up.

The president said the executive would like to have had more frequent meetings of the club, but there had been the difficulty of a meeting place. Unless the members were prepared to pay the extra price he could not at present see any way out of the difficulty.

A letter from the Imperial Service Club was read asking the members of the club to attend a meeting in the theatre on Paarderey Day.

It was decided, on motion of B. C. Mess, seconded by A. W. McCurdy, that the accounts of the club in future be made up to the end of the year.

Judge Lampman then retired from the chair, and the new president, A. E. McPhillips, took his place. The latter acknowledged the compliment that had been paid him in electing him to the position. He said he was a Canadian by birth, but he did not consider himself any better than Canadian on that account than those British subjects who had made Canada their adopted home.

Canon Beaulieu thanked the club for electing him to the position of first vice-president, saying that while he was a native born in Canada he had spent half his life in Canada.

The president announced that R. A. Jackson had presented the club with a picture of the heroes of Waterloo. It was a valuable memento, and had been framed and hung temporarily in the legislative buildings across the bay. The thanks of the club were tendered him.

The honorarium of \$100 was again voted to the secretary, Frank I. Clark, for the coming year.

It was suggested by H. D. Helmeke that some sort of a Paarderey celebration should be again held this year, but the matter was left with the new executive to use their best judgment, especially as it was so difficult to obtain a suitable banqueting hall.

The following new members were elected: T. I. Leeming, E. Graham, Williams, James Virtue, Harry Hemming and Dr. G. A. E. Hall.

Mr. McNeill moved that the executive take up the matter of a new flag for Canada, a gentleman, whom he could not at present name, was providing a flag pole to stand in front of the Victoria college. No definite action was taken on the matter of the new flag.

A long discussion then took place as to the manner in which officers should be nominated. W. J. Hanna proving an able champion of the open nomination system. Objection was taken, however, to the constitution being amended except in the regular way. Before the vote was given to have the section of the constitution providing for a nominating committee struck out of the constitution. The meeting then adjourned.

PORT TOWNSEND'S SOLDIER THUGS  
Policemen Are Beaten for Arresting a Drunken Man.

Port Townsend, Feb. 16.—Chief of Police A. R. Barkley and Officer Chas. Wiggins were beaten with clubs held in the hands of soldiers last evening. The two officers had to be assisted to their homes.

The trouble arose over the arrest of a drunken soldier by Wiggins. The officer and his prisoner were followed by more than 200 other soldiers. After the soldier was lodged in jail, the soldiers caught Wiggins and his chief of police and clubbed them. The trouble was sent to Port Ward. Capt. Russel P. Reeder immediately ordered a provost guard to hasten to Port Townsend. Before the guard was sent, however, peace had been restored by deputies sworn in by the mayor.

INDICTMENTS IN PANAMA LABEL CASE

Washington, D. C., Feb. 17.—The federal grand jury today returned indictments against the Press Publishing Company, of New York, and Joseph Pulitzer, Caleb M. Vanhamm and Robert H. Lyman, editors of the New York Journal, and John W. Sullivan, editor of the Indianapolis News, Delevan Smith and Charles R. Williams, charging libel in these publications in connection with the purchase of the Panama canal.

FOR PRINCE RUPERT.

Seattle to Run in Northern Waters and Tug Tartar to Take Her Place.

Owing to the large increase in passengers and cargo traffic the Sechelt Steamship Company, of Vancouver, has taken over the tug Tartar. The steamer is being fitted out for passenger accommodations and the Albin Iron Works has the contract for iron alterations. The wood work will be completed by the Vancouver Shipyard Company. When these fittings are finished the vessel is to take the run of the coast, which will probably be removed to Prince Rupert, where she will make connections with Port Essington. Other alterations are anticipated in the company's sailings, but will be decided on later.



THE TROUBLE LIES HERE

LIFE IS NOT WORTH LIVING

Tired every morning and unable to sleep at night, weak and nervous, your head aches. No wonder you say "Life is not worth living." Your kidneys are to blame and you need DR. ROOT'S KIDNEY AND LIVER PILLS to tone them up, to drive out the uric acid poisons and purify the blood. They are just the medicine for you. Try them and prove our statement that LIFE IS WORTH LIVING!

Send for a sample to-day of our DR. ROOT'S KIDNEY AND LIVER PILLS. Put up in Tin Boxes and sold by all Druggists and stores for 25c or postpaid from the DR. ROOT CO., Spadina Avenue, Toronto. 6 boxes for \$1.25.

SEEKS ANOTHER GRANT FROM GOVERNMENT

North Saanich Council Will Interview Member for Islands.

At the last meeting of the North Saanich municipal council held in the city of Sidney, the council and the councillors were present. J. E. Smart wrote to the council offering to design and supply the corporation with a new and complete set of books of accounts for \$150. Councillors McDonald and Horth moved that the communication be laid on the table for future consideration. This carried.

The council reported that he was unable to obtain an estimate of cost from the daily papers for advertising the district, and recommended that the matter be taken up at the next meeting.

A communication was received from J. Critchley, J. P., secretary of the Conservative Association, written by A. E. McPhillips, M.P.P., to that body regarding the expenditure of a balance of \$250 of last year's government appropriation to the corporation for the improving of more trunk roads. Councillor McDonald moved, seconded by councillor Herbert, that the clerk write the government and ascertain in what manner they intend to spend the balance due the municipality. This carried.

Councillor Hewitt moved, seconded by Councillor McDonald, that the whole council meet Mr. McPhillips and ask him to endeavor to secure a similar grant to that of last year, and that in the event of being successful that he pay the money paid into the municipal treasury to be expended by the council. This carried.

Mr. Critchley, secretary of the North Saanich Conservative Club, wrote asking the council to allow that body the use of the court house for their meetings. Councillor Hewitt moved, seconded by Councillor Horth, that leave be granted them or any other club which may desire its use. This was adopted.

E. Blackburn wrote requesting the council to erect a culvert across the ditch in front of his property. Councillor Hewitt moved that the request be complied with. Councillor McDonald opposed the motion, and at the same time admitted that a former council, of which he was a member, had erected a culvert approaching private property and had been subject to severe criticism. He was now of the opinion that the council were right. No councillor seemed to agree with the mover and the motion was lost. A. J. McKenzie made a similar request and it met the same fate. Councillor Hewitt only supporting it.

R. S. Griffin was granted permission to cut trees along the road fronting on his property.

Mr. Blackburn wrote complaining of the reckless shooting by boys. Referred to the constable.

W. J. Taylor, K.C., wrote asking the names of the fence viewers, and the clerk was instructed to furnish the same.

A petition was received from Fletcher North and several others resident on Fourth street, north of Beacon avenue, asking that the council grade the street on the local improvement plan. Councillor Hewitt moved, seconded by Councillor Horth, that in the event of all the property holders along the street agreeing mutually to pay two-thirds of the cost of the proposed work, the council will pay one-third of the cost. This carried.

The school board submitted their estimates amounting to \$2,645, which were accepted upon motion of Councillors Hewitt and Horth.

W. R. Armstrong, J. P., and F. G. Norris were appointed assessors for the present year, and they will be instructed to return the roll by the 20th March.

MEETS DEATH UNMOVED.

Dansmor, N. Y., Feb. 17.—Apparently unconscious he was found in a fruit grower's orchard, which was reported to the police. He was found in a fruit grower's orchard, which was reported to the police. He was found in a fruit grower's orchard, which was reported to the police.

## BUDGET SPEECH MADE YESTERDAY

(Continued from page 11.)

cal market is still supplied to a very large extent from outside. These imports last year included 11,400 head of cattle, 14,275 hogs and 35,000 to 40,000 sheep. There are also large quantities of dressed meats and poultry. Fifteen thousand carcasses of mutton were received from Australia alone and forty car-loads of poultry from Eastern Canada. The value of poultry and eggs imported was liberally over one million dollars, besides ham, bacon, pork, lard, butter, cheese, canned fruit, jams and jellies, and other products of the farm, the exact quantities and values of which are not available. As to the statistics are compiled at Ottawa and will not be available until March 21st. There is no reason to doubt, however, that when the figures have been tallied up the picture will be fairly, if not quite, as large an amount of money was sent out of the province for these commodities as in 1907, when the value of agricultural imports was over six million dollars.

Increase in Pre-emption.

A gratifying feature was the increase in pre-emption permits. No less than 160,000 acres having been taken up, while crown grants for another 41,500 acres were issued to pre-emptors who had performed their settlement duties. This would indicate a very large increase of the population living on pre-empted lands. Judging from the many inquiries made from Mr. Palmer, Mr. Scott and myself while in England last year, it is not surprising that the number of inquiries received by the land and agricultural departments and the bureau of information, this is only the advance guard of the new settlement.

The figures of timber cut on provincial lands in 1908 show a total of 364,550 feet. The quantity cut on Dominion lands in the railway belt and on the E. & N. lands on Vancouver Island are not yet available, but assuming that they are up to the average the total cut will not equal that of 1907. At the close of that year there was estimated to be 170,000,000 feet of logs in the water and 100,000,000 in the woods, while at the end of 1908 the supply was only 70,000,000 feet. The log-scaling returns for 1908 show a total of 403,273,539 feet, more than one hundred million less than in 1907.

Preservation of Forests.

The government has been criticised in some quarters for making the life of a timber licensee twenty-one years, it being argued that this policy will have the effect of destroying the forests, as it will encourage loggers to cut only the big trees, and that in the interests of forest preservation the license should be made renewable for twice the period or perpetually. The government is most desirous of perpetuating the forests and its earnest wish is to devise some plan which will accomplish that end. The question is a grave one, and it is the ambition of the government to inaugurate a system which will meet the requirements of the future as well as the present. I feel confident every member will consider it a privilege to assist the government in the adjustment of this question will be the most important item of legislation ever enacted by a British Columbia legislature.

The law must be so framed that existing interests of forestry will be protected, while operating under regulations which will insure the preservation and perpetuation of our forest wealth. Forest preservation has become a world problem which the future will be solving. The importance of which is being felt by the whole human race. It would be idle to assume that the government on this house can solve it offhand. The time is almost upon us, however, for the organization of a department of forestry, with trained officials who would guard the forests against waste and attend to the work of reforestation, and it is in this connection that a sum has been placed in the estimates for the expense of a commission to investigate the existing conditions.

The Fisheries.

The big event of the year in the fishing industry was the very large catch of herrings, the importance of which may be grasped from the fact that 20,600 tons were caught at Nanaimo alone. If the contention of old country experts that the inshore fishing followed on this coast is bad is correct measures must be taken to encourage deep sea fishing. The catch has increased from nine million pounds in 1906 to forty million pounds in 1908, and over \$500,000 was added to the value of our fisheries output. Compliments are made that the regulations with regard to nets, etc., are being violated by the Japanese fishermen who, it is alleged, are driving the whites out of the business through their illegal practices. No doubt the grievance, if any exists, will be remedied upon proper representations to the Dominion fisheries officials.

The salmon pack, which 1908 was not a big year, totalled 542,226 cases as against 547,459 in 1907, a decrease made up for by the increase in the quantities of frozen, salt and pickled for export and the better prices obtained for the canned fish. If the traditions of our salmon fisheries are not astray 1909 will be a record year.

The halibut and whale fisheries have had a prosperous year though, owing to the fall in price for whale oil, the latter was not up to expectations. The announcement that the Dominion will provide additional cruisers to protect the halibut and other deep sea fisheries is welcome news, as a rigid enforcement of the law will turn a large amount of money annually to Canada, which now helps to enrich our enterprising but aggressive neighbors. When 15,000,000 pounds a year 38,000,000 pounds of halibut, a large percentage of which was caught in British Columbia waters, were landed at Seattle and 13,000,000 pounds at Vancouver, it is not surprising that the desirability of enforcing the law with as little loss of time as possible.

Trade in General.

The revival in every department of industry is strongly reflected upon the affairs of British Columbia, so that with us the march of events is rapid. New enterprises no longer hang fire for want of capital. The demands for lands of all sorts are more numerous than ever, promising a large increase

growers when the day of over-production dawned, but that day is far distant. I have mentioned the inadequacy of our orchards to meet the demands, and you will recognize the fallacy of the contention when I tell you that barely ten per cent. of the fruit entering the prairie provinces goes from this province.

The Mineral Output.

The depression which followed close in the wake of the financial panic had a damaging effect upon the mining industry, so that the value of the production was reduced from \$25,822,560 in 1907, to \$24,829,252 in 1908, although the tonnage of ore mined and smelted was considerably greater than in former years, the increase in copper being over seven million pounds.

Lumber Trade Improving.

With regard to the lumber industry, we are all aware that the short crop of 1907, coincident with the financial panic in the United States and over-production in logging and manufacture, brought on a period of dullness from which the industry is but now emerging. Contrary to all expectation the year was one of the most satisfactory in the history of the lumber business. The situation on the coast was relieved by the demand from abroad, but the mountain mills suffered considerable loss. The outlook for the coming spring and summer is very encouraging, and it is expected the splendid crops and rapid increase of settlement east of the mountains will speedily restore the industry to a satisfactory standing. The imposition of a duty on rough lumber imported from the United States would help our lumbermen materially and the advisability of amending the tariff in that respect is being strongly urged on the Dominion government. The demand in the United States for Canadian lumber is persistent and if congress removes the duty it will lead many United States capitalists holding timber in the province to establish saw mills and factories on this side.

The figures of timber cut on provincial lands in 1908 show a total of 364,550 feet. The quantity cut on Dominion lands in the railway belt and on the E. & N. lands on Vancouver Island are not yet available, but assuming that they are up to the average the total cut will not equal that of 1907. At the close of that year there was estimated to be 170,000,000 feet of logs in the water and 100,000,000 in the woods, while at the end of 1908 the supply was only 70,000,000 feet. The log-scaling returns for 1908 show a total of 403,273,539 feet, more than one hundred million less than in 1907.

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The depression which followed close in the wake of the financial panic had a damaging effect upon the mining industry, so that the value of the production was reduced from \$25,822,560 in 1907, to \$24,829,252 in 1908, although the tonnage of ore mined and smelted was considerably greater than in former years, the increase in copper being over seven million pounds.

Lumber Trade Improving.

With regard to the lumber industry, we are all aware that the short crop of 1907, coincident with the financial panic in the United States and over-production in logging and manufacture, brought on a period of dullness from which the industry is but now emerging. Contrary to all expectation the year was one of the most satisfactory in the history of the lumber business. The situation on the coast was relieved by the demand from abroad, but the mountain mills suffered considerable loss. The outlook for the coming spring and summer is very encouraging, and it is expected the splendid crops and rapid increase of settlement east of the mountains will speedily restore the industry to a satisfactory standing. The imposition of a duty on rough lumber imported from the United States would help our lumbermen materially and the advisability of amending the tariff in that respect is being strongly urged on the Dominion government. The demand in the United States for Canadian lumber is persistent and if congress removes the duty it will lead many United States capitalists holding timber in the province to establish saw mills and factories on this side.

The figures of timber cut on provincial lands in 1908 show a total of 364,550 feet. The quantity cut on Dominion lands in the railway belt and on the E. & N. lands on Vancouver Island are not yet available, but assuming that they are up to the average the total cut will not equal that of 1907. At the close of that year there was estimated to be 170,000,000 feet of logs in the water and 100,000,000 in the woods, while at the end of 1908 the supply was only 70,000