

# The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-FIRST YEAR

VICTORIA BRITISH COLUMBIA THURSDAY FEBRUARY 17 '98

VOLUME XLI. NO. 21

## C. P. R. BUYS SMELTER.

Deal With Mr. Heinz Completed and Now Ores Will Be Treated at Cost.

Low Grade Properties at Rossland Expected to Thrive in Consequence.

MONTREAL, Feb. 15.—(Special)—At the close of the C.P.R. directors' meeting yesterday Vice President Shaughnessy announced that the deal with Mr. Heinz for transfer of his railroad and smelting interests in the Kootenay district to the C.P.R. had been completed. The C.P.R., he said, was not going into the smelting business to make money out of it. The company realized that in order to make the mining of lower grade ores abundant in Kootenay district profitable it would be necessary to give miners much cheaper means of getting out ore. It would therefore provide facilities for miners at what they cost.

The Star says: It is understood that the C.P.R. will make a smelting rate of \$7.00 and freight rate of 50 cents, or \$7.50 in all, for the treatment at Trail of Rossland ore.

## ATLANTIC MAIL SERVICE.

The Petersons Still Insist That They Can Carry Out Their Contract.

MONTREAL, Feb. 15.—(Special)—The Messrs. Peterson still stoutly deny the suggestion that they may not be able to carry out the fast mail contract. They say they have fulfilled all the government's preliminary conditions and have every detail of the specifications to proceed at a moment's notice with the ships so as to be ready by contract time, June 1, 1899, and two others by June 1, 1900. If this be so, people are asking why, if all be ready, the sailing has not commenced. The ships are to be turret ships as originally proposed.

## MANITOBA AND NORTHWEST.

A School Agitator Won Over—The Disputed Accounts End of the Curbing.

MONTREAL, Feb. 15.—(Special)—The Winnipeg curling trophy closed to-day. The New York Life heard challenge event was won by H. Dunbar of the Winnipeg Thistles, with McDiarmid of the Granites, Winnipeg, second. Dunbar also won the Royal Caledonian tankard, with Smith of Regina second. The Dolje international was won by Pele of the Winnipeg Thistles, with Grassie, of Portage la Prairie, second. Dunbar played 22 games during the week and won 21.

An Ottawa dispatch published here says that Nicholas Bawlf, a prominent Liberal and leader in the Manitoba school question agitation, may be offered the vacant senatorship in Manitoba.

Treasurer McMillan has again left for Ottawa in connection with Manitoba's claim for a settlement of the disputed accounts.

J. Harris, of Silver Creek, was struck by a falling tree and killed.

## SHOOTING IN KOOTENAY.

A Cold-Blooded Crime the Perpetrator of Which is Still at Large.

NELSON, Feb. 15.—(Special)—The steamer Nelson on Monday brought the body of a man named Connors, who had been foully murdered at Kuskonong, formerly Armstrong's Landing, at the head of Kootenay lake, by J. Doyle, alias Sullivan, on Sunday. Connors, who was in the contractor's employ, was sitting in the bar room of Ericson's hotel on Sunday evening at 11:30, when Doyle, a laborer, entered and going up to Connors said: "Dig up or I'll shoot." Connors replied: "Fire away." Doyle fired and Connors died without a groan. The murderer fled. Policeman Forbes arrived within a few minutes, and search was made, but the murderer is still at large. An inquest opened here to-day, and was adjourned until tomorrow noon. Forbes accompanied the body here, and brought Kyle and Ericson, who were in the bar-room, and Thomas Smith as witnesses.

## COWICHAN COUNCIL.

Budget of Important Business Disposed of at Last Session.

SOMEONE, B.C., Feb. 10.—The municipal council held their second meeting on Saturday, the 5th inst. A memorial from a public meeting held in Chemainus on the previous evening was read, protesting against the expenditure of municipal funds on opening up a road to the Mount Sicker mines. The council then took into consideration a letter from Messrs. Crease & Crease, giving the grounds for the just decision in the appeal case. "The Corporation vs. H. O. Wellburn," and a resolution was passed which, while admitting the verdict as final and a correct interpretation of the law, declared that the municipality had serious grievances, which it is incumbent on the council to endeavor to have removed. The road inspector, Mr. D. Evans, was reappointed at his former salary. A number of bills and the treasurer's statement of account were referred by the reeve to the finance committee, whose report was afterwards received and adopted. The road inspector presented a report on the survey, by himself and Mr. Hugh Egan of a line of road to Mt. Sicker, with an estimate of the cost; a resolution was passed postponing further action until fuller particulars were obtained. Councillor W. Herd gave notice that he would at the next meeting of the council introduce a

## MANITOBA AND NORTHWEST.

Political Flavor in Penitentiary Religion—Importing Superior Domestic Servants.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 14.—(Special)—It is understood that on March 1, J. W. Goulding, Protestant chaplain at Stony Mountain penitentiary for the last twenty years, will be succeeded by Rev. A. M. Finn of Portage la Prairie. Mr. Goulding is a clergyman of the Church of England and Mr. Finn is a Methodist. A Tribune reporter was told that it is likely a special meeting of the executive committee of the diocese of Rupert's Land will be called to formulate a protest against the change, which is for political reasons only.

A party of seventy-five Klondikers passed through the city from the East on Saturday. A. C. Fraser, member of the legislature for Brandon, joined the Klondikers yesterday.

Mrs. Livingstone, of this city, has received an appointment from the department of the interior to take charge of the immigration of a superior class of domestic servants from Great Britain to Manitoba and the Territories.

Dunbar, of the Winnipeg curling trophy, his first loss in the Winnipeg curling bonspiel this morning from Vermer, of the Granites, in the semi-finals of the Walkerville event. The bonspiel was concluded tonight, with the exception of the final for the Challenger and Goldonian events. Dunbar of the Winnipeg Thistles is in with finals, meeting McDiarmid of the Granites in the former, and Smith of Regina in the latter event. The Dolje international is between Pele of the Winnipeg Thistles and Grassie of Portage la Prairie, and is being played to-night. The Walkerville was won by Vermer of the Winnipeg Granites, with Ewart second and Dunbar third. The Peterson consolation was won by Smith of Regina, the Tuckett trophy by the Morden rinks and the Galt cup by Regina.

A BANKING DEAL.

Senator Cox Reported to Have Patented Klondike for His Insurance.

MONTREAL, Feb. 15.—(Special)—It is stated here that Hon. George A. Cox has been able to strike a good bargain with the government, and one that will bring a good round sum into the coffers of the Bank of Commerce. It is said that the Smith of Regina has made a deal with the Bank of Commerce in some way regarding the handling of the gold output of the Yukon.

## MR. MULLOCK'S COMPANY.

Gross Mismanagement and Fraud Have Proceeded Unchecked for Years.

MONTREAL, Feb. 15.—(Special)—At a meeting of the Farmers' Loan Company shareholders this afternoon J. W. Langmuir, president of the Toronto General Trust Company, which is liquidator of the concern, charged the officials of the company, three of the principal of whom have absconded with the grossest mismanagement and fraud, and the auditors with the gravest incapacity. The mismanagement and fraud had proceeded unchecked for years. The assets, he said, consisted chiefly of worthless securities and valueless lands.

## THE KLONDIKE RUSH.

Making Its Presence Felt on the Great Atlantic Lines—One Hundred a Day Through Montreal.

MONTREAL, Feb. 14.—(Special)—The Klondike rush from here is setting in in good shape. Over seventy left on Saturday for the West bound for the gold fields. Eight were from the State of Maine. The average number is about one hundred men each day.

Mr. C. Rutherford, a mining engineer of Burlington, Massachusetts, South Africa, was here yesterday en route to Ottawa. He stated that his mission is to examine the Lake of the Woods and Kootenay gold fields. Mr. Rutherford said that there were fifty Klondikers on the Galia, the steamer on which he crossed the Atlantic.

## CANADA'S LATEST PEER.

The High Commissioner Formally Introduced in the House of Lords.

MONTREAL, Feb. 15.—(Special)—A Star cable from London says: Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal took the oath and his seat in the House of Lords this afternoon. He was introduced by Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Secretary of State for Scotland, and Lord Bagot, who was side-by-side to the Marquis of Lorne, when he was Governor-General of Canada, and nephew of Lord Bagot, formerly Governor of Canada.

Most newly fledged peers make visits preparatory to the ordeal, but Lord Strathcona entered the House of Lords for the first time in his life when he took the formal oath and was introduced to the Lord Chancellor.

## Klondike Mission.

TORONTO, Feb. 15.—(Special)—Dr. Warden, treasurer of the Presbyterian church, has received \$800 additional in subscriptions towards the special Klondike mission fund of \$10,000 recently started.

## THE RAILWAY BARGAIN.

Contractor Mackenzie Confident It Will Be Carried Out—Runmored Million Loan.

OTTAWA, Feb. 15.—(Special)—It was reported here that Mackenzie and Mann had borrowed a million dollars from the Sun Life here to construct the Yukon railway. Mr. Mackenzie was here today on his way to England. He says the contract with the government is bound to be carried out. He denies that his firm is negotiating with the Sun Life.

TORONTO, Feb. 15.—The Globe's Ottawa correspondent discusses the seriousness of the legislation now pending at Washington, the object and effect of which will be to block the proposed Sitkinne river railway by making it impossible or difficult for the transportation of passengers and freight by ocean and river steamers at the mouth of the river, which lies in United States territory, the free navigation right possessed by the British people not obstructing the right of the United States to impose conditions in such a case.

The Globe's correspondent says plans may be radically altered, and it may be necessary to build from Fort Simpson or Observatory Inlet, which would make the route free of all connection with the United States. This, however, would entail an additional railway of 180 miles, the distance from Observatory Inlet to St. Johns, where the Teslin Lake railway starts. This could not be done until September, 1899.

In the meantime," asks the correspondent, suggestively, "what is to be done with Klondike? If the Americans boycott us at Wrangle, and prevent us from going in that way, shall we nevertheless permit them to swarm in by their routes and help themselves to what is there, or can we place some restriction upon their entering until we ourselves are ready to take a hand?" This pertinent question is doubtless receiving the attention of the government.

TORONTO, Feb. 15.—(Special)—The Mail's Ottawa correspondent says: "The announcement that the minister of railways' agreement with the C.P.R. for running rates over the Intercolonial railway from St. John to Halifax would not be renewed next year has earned for Mr. Blair the antagonism of the Canadian press, and the attention of the legislature of the Drummond County bill has lost him the powerful influence of the G. T. R., and his well known adversary for the Yukon railway policy this session has stirred up against him a powerful combination which may eventually culminate in his being forced to tender his resignation to the Premier, should the thing be pushed to this pass, the government will find that Andrew G. Blair is not a man who will meekly take such treatment. The minister of railways' withdrawal from the government, if it does take place, will be followed by sensational developments.

## CHINESE IN TEXAS.

Manager of the Van Anda Fined for Employing Them Underground.

NANAMU, Feb. 15.—(Special)—Elisha Read, manager of the Van Anda metalliferous mine on Texas island, charged with employing Chinese underground in the mine in contravention of the mines inspection act, pleaded guilty today before Messrs. Bate and Hilbert, Justices of the peace, and was fined including costs \$49.90.

Robt. Kilpatrick, Sr., aged 89 years, died at Wellington today.

## NAVAL COAL SCANDAL.

Russian Officers Accused of Conspiring to Defraud the Government.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—A despatch to the Daily News from Odessa says that a secret police enquiry, undertaken at the instigation of the minister of marine, has revealed a highly sensational scandal in connection with the Black Sea fleet. The Russian admiral paid for 60,000 tons of coal which was never delivered. Accused with the contractor, who is a Jew, are several naval officers at Sebastopol, one of them being the senior admiral.

## CUBAN PEACE PROPOSITION.

Better Terms Offered by the Colonial Government to the Insurgents.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Autonomy is a failure. This is the meat of a voluminous report which Consul-General Lee is said to have forwarded from Havana to the state department. And, as if to prepare the people for action by this government, Senator Joseph E. Fossaker, of Ohio, was granted an interview, of which the most pregnant sentence was: "The whole chapter, as it is now being written on the island of Cuba, is one of horror, shocking to civilization, and of such a nature that intervention should be resorted to, if necessary, to put an end to it."

HAVANA, Feb. 14.—The following propositions have been formally tendered to the insurgents by the colonial government: "First, the volunteers will be dissolved and a Cuban militia formed.

"Second, the insurgent colonels and generals will be recognized.

"Third, Cuba will be called on to pay only \$100,000,000 out of the \$600,000,000 indebtedness due for both wars.

"Fourth, Cuba will pay \$2,000,000 a year for the crown list.

"Fifth, Cuba will make her own treaties without interference by the Madrid government.

## SEATTLE AT OTTAWA!

Petitioning the Government to Have Miners' Licenses Issued in the States.

OTTAWA, Feb. 14.—Congressman Lewis of Seattle arrived from Washington today armed with letters of introduction from Sir Julian Panncofet, his object being to endeavor to induce the government to permit British consuls and vice-consuls in the United States to issue free miners' certificates, and one, at the very least, at Lake Tagish. Mr. Lewis is sanguine he will secure this latter concession. He will see Mr. Sifton tomorrow, as he is here at the instance of Seattle business men and the chamber of commerce of that city.

Wm. Mackenzie is here and a new deal regarding the railway contract is said to be under way. The government, desiring to be wholly independent of the States, will endeavor to make arrangements for the speedy construction of a railway from Alice Arm to Glenora, there to connect with the Teslin road.

The Hamilton Smith, representative of the Rothschilds, is here and has not yet abandoned all hopes of securing a charter for a railway via the Dalton trail.

Newman and Weston, representatives of the Alaska Commercial Company, are here to urge the government to withdraw the customs regulations issued last week requiring Canadian goods for Yukon to be carried in British bottoms, otherwise to pay full duty.

A remarkable incident of to-day is an attack on the terms of the Yukon bargain by Senator O'Donoghue, a Liberal. Mr. O'Donoghue will introduce a bill to increase the Chinese immigration tax from \$50 to \$500 per head.

Sixty-one questions were on the order paper to-day, most of which were answered by Mr. Laurier, who said that Commissioner Walsh's salary is \$5,000, Registrar Wade's \$2,000. At present 184 police are in the Yukon or are on the way.

Other questions were on the order paper, including the cost of the force in the Yukon has been approximately \$130,000.

Premier Laurier told Mr. Foster that a territory 2 1/2 by 1 1/2 miles, has been granted to R. Anderson for \$500 per annum and a royalty of 10 per cent of the output over \$1,000.

## A. O. U. W. IN KLONDIKE.

Affort to Prevent the Fraternal Insurance Holding Good There.

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## CHINESE FINANCES.

Holland Now Offering a Loan—Plan for Increasing Military Defence Force.

SHANGHAI, Feb. 14.—It is reported that Dr. Knobel, the Dutch minister at Peking, is trying to arrange a five per cent loan of \$4,000,000 to be secured by a portion of the customs revenue.

Local mandarin asserts that China has offered, instead of Tientsin, two free ports in the province of Hohnan, one being the capital. They also state that a general will be appointed and empowered to raise sixty thousand men, with headquarters at Ping Yang, province of Shanxi, operating with the Peking force if the Imperial capital should be threatened.

## THE KLONDIKE'S WEALTH.

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H. H. Little, Campbellford, writes: "About one year ago I had a severe attack of typhoid fever and it left my system in a very weak and nervous condition. In fact, so badly that I despaired of recovery. I was induced to try South American Nervine. In a remarkably short time my health improved, and when I had taken a few bottles I was completely cured and have better health since than for years before."

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## NEWS OF THE CAPITAL.

Terms of Two Other Offers to Give Communication With Klondike.

Bank of Commerce to Open at Dawson and Handle Government Business.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Feb. 15.—The papers relating to the Yukon railway offers were submitted to parliament to-day.

The Kersey syndicate wanted \$1,000 a mile for a wagon road from the Stikine to the Yukon, and \$6,000 a mile for a railway, and blocks of land of 1,500 acres at Fort Selkirk and other points for stores, etc. The offer was withdrawn January 23, as the syndicate would not accept a land grant alone nor build the line by September 1.

J. Wesley Allison, of Montreal, offered for a British syndicate to build a railroad from Dyea or Skagway to Dawson. The syndicate asked was alternate sections of land 24 miles square for each ten miles of railway.

Arrangements have been made with the government to establish a Branch of the Bank of Commerce in Yukon for the handling of bullion and transaction of federal government business. Mr. Wells, manager of the Orangeville branch of the Bank of Commerce, will represent the bank at Dawson. He is a brother of Dr. Wells, until recently physician to the mounted police in Yukon.

Vice-President Shaughnessy says that the two big vessels bought by C.P.R., the Tartar and Athenian, which have left Southampton and will reach Victoria by the end of March, will ply solely to the month of the Klondike.

Congressman Lewis has not yet received an answer about the issue of miners' licenses at Tagish. British Columbia members are actively opposing the request.

The debate on the Yukon railway bill commenced in the Commons to-day. Mr. Blair moving the second reading. Sir Charles Tupper strongly opposed the conditions granted to the contractors, and severely condemned the government for their delay in dealing with Yukon matters. He said the government had wholly failed to show that they were justified in awarding the contract without tender. Mr. Sifton spoke in reply and will continue the debate to-morrow.

## Legislative Councilor Deans.

MONTREAL, Feb. 16.—(Special)—Hon. Wilfrid Provost, a prominent Liberal member of the Legislative Council of Quebec, died yesterday at St. Jerome, aged 65 years.

## Buffalo, Feb. 16.—Fred Pedlar, 24 years old, who has for some time driven one of the mail wagons, was discharged to-day. It was brought to the attention of the authorities last Saturday that he was an alien, and the United States does not allow foreigners to drive mail wagons or hold any government position. Pedlar was hired by the local livestock man who has the contract for the wagon service. In order to get the job he had to take the oath of office and swear he was a United States citizen, which he did, although he was a Canadian and had been in this country only five months. Affidavits showing his identity and his length of residence in the United States were brought to the notice of Postmaster Baker to-day, and Pedlar's discharge quickly followed. The matter may not rest there, however, as the question as to whether Pedlar committed perjury in taking the oath of office is to be brought to the attention of United States District Attorney Close.

## Battleship Ashore.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—Advices from Port Said report that the British battleship Victoria, which sailed from Malta February 11 for China, went ashore outside the bar while entering that port.





DEBATE CONTINUED.

Interesting Addresses in the Legislature on the Speech From the Throne.

Standing Committees for the Session—Important Questions Answered.

The continuation of the debate upon the speech from the throne occupied all yesterday afternoon in the local legislature, the remarks of the several members being listened to with interest by a changing crowd in the visitors' gallery.

Mr. Speaker Higgins informed the house that two important matters had arisen, on which he asked the advice of the house. There had been standing objection to the presence of a number of gentlemen not members of officers of the legislature within the limits of the assembly hall.

Mr. Turner in reply regretted that the acoustics of the chamber had been found unsatisfactory, and while admitting the importance of affording every facility to the press, held with the Speaker that the general public should not be admitted to the floor of the house.

Mr. Kennedy (New Westminster) directed the Speaker's attention to still another matter requiring his attention. The intrusion of men in the gallery designed for the special accommodation of the ladies.

This subject had already been brought to his notice, Mr. Speaker said, and cause for complaint should not again arise.

Mr. Walkem, (South Nanaimo), with reference to the accommodation of the press representatives, doubted if the change made would be for the better. He asked Mr. Speaker to contrast today's treatment of the reporters in the legislature with the treatment accorded himself (Dr. Walkem) and Mr. Speaker when they first reported the proceedings of the local parliament, and were glad to find a place in the gallery and hold their note books while they chronicled the proceedings.

Mr. Speaker suggested that a committee on orders assist him in the preservation of the privileges of the floor and lobby of the house.

The following petitions were received and referred to the standing committees interested: J. D. Sibbald and other ratepayers of Revelstoke, re speedy incorporation of the City of Revelstoke.

Sir Charles J. Hibbert, Tupper and others, for private bill re Argentina Dawson-Duncan Railway Company.

E. T. Williams, to incorporate "The South-East Kootenay Railway Company."

"The Nanaimo Electric Light, Power and Heat Company," for extended powers.

Wm. McKenzie, to incorporate "The North Star and Arrow Lake Railway Company."

A. B. Cotton, to incorporate "The Revelstoke and Cassiar Railway Company."

Harry Abbott and others, to incorporate "The Mountain Tramway and Electric Company."

Edward George Villiers and others, to incorporate "The Omineca Railway Company."

C. W. D. Clifford, to incorporate "The Kitimat Railway Company."

PETITIONS PRESENTED. Mr. Huff—From Mr. McGregor, F. W. Vincent and others, for a private bill incorporating a railway company to build from Alice Arm to Teslin Lake.

Mr. Helmecken—With permission withdrew the petition standing in the name of C. W. D. Clifford re Kitimat railway, and substituted a petition to the same tenor and effect standing in the name of Maitland-Kersey and associates.

THE DEBATE ON THE SPEECH. Hon. Mr. Martin (North Yale) continuing his remarks on the motion for reply to the speech of His Honor, first referred to the statement of the member for Vancouver (Mr. Williams) that in the matter of the crown grant to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway, the government had gone beyond the authority of the act and the intention of the legislature.

On the contrary he declared there had been strict compliance with both the statute and the legislature's wish. The grant had been made under the express instruction of the act that where the land was not to be taken by prior occupation or otherwise, it might be selected in any other part of the West Kootenay district. The member for Vancouver had also gone out of his way to criticize the absence of the Attorney-General, which afforded one reason for the delay in the initiation of the session.

As a fact, the Attorney-General had been obliged through illness to leave the province for a time, and he thought that under these circumstances the remarks of the honorable member for Vancouver were both un-

called for and unkind. In connection with the absence of the Attorney-General, it might be noted that a chief reason was that the new buildings could not be completed earlier—had weather preventing the arrival of necessary materials. As to the location of the buildings, still harped on by certain members of the opposition, he would once more say that he had not voted for the construction of the buildings at Victoria, this having been one of the few questions of policy in which he had found himself as a representative of the people of Yale, obliged to vote against his colleagues. But when the majority of the house decided that the time had come to build a new home for the parliament of British Columbia and to build it at Victoria, he felt it his duty to bow to the decision of the majority, and as Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to do all in his power to carry out the thus expressed wishes of the people as economically and expeditiously as possible.

The opposition had grumbled at the construction of the new buildings at Victoria, they grumbled when they grumbled because suitable premises had been secured. They would always grumble, but he felt that he had done his duty and the country would be the better for it. He had made a good bargain. With reference to the remarks of the member of the opposition, he was glad to see that the honorable member for Cariboo recognized the desirability of immediately opening up a line of communication between the district which he represents and the Teslin Lake country. He could assure that honorable member that the government was not ignorant of the importance of the matter, and he had indeed already communicated with the government agents at Lillooet and other places, asking that they report to the department of lands and works as to the cost of building such a road as the honorable member suggested from Quesselle mouth to Telegraph Creek. He did not think anything else in the speeches of honorable gentlemen opposite called for explanation by him.

Mr. Kennedy again took the ground that the abstract resolution constituted the proper procedure to reach the end which he had in view. The question had been brought forward by the member of the opposition, and he had been Premier, and now the member for New Westminster was endeavoring to introduce the opinion of a London journal into the debate. He would be preferable to consider the matter in the house.

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Mr. Forster took the other ground, holding that the opinion of the Province and the language in which it was expressed, and the fact that the members of the assembly had been brought forward by the member of the opposition, and he had been Premier, and now the member for New Westminster was endeavoring to introduce the opinion of a London journal into the debate. He would be preferable to consider the matter in the house.

Mr. Smith (Lillooet) congratulated the mover and seconder of the reply. Some had spoken of theirs as a very ordinary duty, but on the contrary he was certainly convinced that all would agree the two members had performed that duty pleasantly and ably. He was also pleased to congratulate the government and the country on the completion of the new building, the construction of which all concerned had done well. The completed result was good value for the money expended and a credit to British Columbia.

He had voted for the buildings when they were decided upon, because he knew new offices for the departments to be necessary, although he was at the time a little apprehensive as to the cost. Now, however, no one could assert that the work had been done in a haphazard way, and he was glad to see that the government had taken place in the building of the new buildings, and he hoped that Lillooet in this connection would not escape the attention of the government. The question of the new buildings, which only required assistance in opening up. Rich discoveries of gold, silver and other metals were being made in all parts of the province, and in regard to these too much credit could not be given the honorable member, who did more than any other man to promote the advancement of the country. Many obstacles, he regretted to see, were thrown in the way of the miner and prospector, and these he hoped the government would minimize as much as possible. As an instance of the peculiar views some people held with regard to miners and their conditions, the member for Lillooet quoted the province in its remarks recently on the subject of miners' licenses. In this article it was said: "The question of miners' licenses will probably form the subject of discussion at the forthcoming session of the legislature. The miners have been agitating for some time past to have the licenses removed, not so much apparently because they feel the burden of \$5 a year—for that with the great majority of them is neither here nor there—but because the men who work in coal mines are not taxed also. It is, however, a question of whether in the interests of the men themselves the licensing system should not be retained, and in fairness extended so as to include coal mines. It is a question of public safety of character. A man who has one in a sense guaranteed by the government. If he misbehaves himself his license is cancelled, and he cannot get work in the mines of this country at any rate. This was to the member for

Lillooet something new and original. He had never before heard of the government being supposed to cancel the miner's license, nor had he before heard it spoken of as a certificate of good character. Personally he differed with the opinion expressed in the quotation he had read, favoring the abolition of the licenses for miners working for wages, even if the cost of the new buildings involved it were necessary to increase the cost of records. He referred also to a report in the Critic of a meeting of mining engineers held recently in the city of Vancouver, in which the member for that city was quoted as having said that "in the past he had had to fight legislation detrimental to mining, and as a result had had the doors of a legislative committee shut in his face. This (the member for Lillooet) could only take as a reference to the mining committee of the house, of which he was chairman, and say that he had never known such a thing to have occurred. He had never heard of it. He regretted that the member for Vancouver (Williams) was not in his place, as he should have much appreciated some explanation from him. Taking up in detail the wants and conditions of his district, he said that the government had presented forcibly the claims it had upon the government for public works, particularly in the nature of roads to give an outlet to the produce of the district, as well as to open up and make productive the lands of the district which were being carried on, the member showed how in the fiscal year ending 30th June last there had been a surplus of revenue of \$718,000. The total revenue for 1897, having been \$27,000,000 and the expenditure but little more than \$16,000,000. It still more recent figures were desired, he might say that in the year ending 31st January last the revenue for the province had been \$27,000,000, expenditure \$11,500,000, or a balance of the credit of the net riding of \$15,500,000, or more than half the revenue unexpended. No doubt the eastern part of the district would make an equally favorable showing. He would be glad to see the government in setting apart a fair sum in the estimates for the construction of the roads and trails required for the development of the district. He took exception to the opinions expressed by the member for Vancouver, who was aimed at the feeling of the people toward the government, and thought the approaching election would demonstrate quite conclusively as to the last that the present management of the affairs of the province, which, indeed, he thought were the people of British Columbia. All the prophecies of reverses to the government were based by their opponents on the hope of office, and as in years gone by, were not to be counted for anything. He would be glad to see the government directed entirely to the new arrivals in the province, who had not seen how the provincial business was mismanaged when the present opposition got it in their hands, and if the newcomers would study the history of the province, and with the veterans of the province, would take good care that the experiment should never again be tried. As to the payment of jurors he had spoken at an early date, as he had never been able to understand the justice of taking one man sixty miles from his work to be a grand juror, and another to be a petit juror, and paying the one and not the other, and he thought the government should be careful to see that this matter could be trusted to the province, and he hoped that such increased public works would be provided for as would materially advance the prosperity and progress of the province. He would be glad to see the government directed to the province, and he hoped that such increased public works would be provided for as would materially advance the prosperity and progress of the province.

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SKAGWAY A HOT TOWN.

Dr. Trebeck Just Arrived From the North Tels of Shootings and Hold-Ups.

The Notorious "Soapy" Smith May Be Mayor—Miners Frozen in the Passes.

Dr. Alfred O. Trebeck, who arrived on the Islander from Skagway yesterday morning and who is at present a guest at the Victoria, has some interesting facts to relate concerning that town and the recent stirring events that have occurred there. Dr. Trebeck went to Skagway on Jan. 3 of this year and has since been following his profession in northern gateway of the gold fields. He describes Skagway as the roughest camp he has ever seen, and he has spent some years in the mining camps of Australia. Law and order are unknown names in Skagway, he says, and vice rampant in every quarter of the town.

One of the interesting items of news Dr. Trebeck brings down is that the notorious "Soapy" Smith, with about fifty "boasters" at his back, is running the town, and that he is likely soon to be elected mayor. Under the regime of this man it is not safe for respectable people to venture out after dark as hold-ups and robberies are occurring so frequently and so outrageously.

When the last crowds from the Islander and other steamers arrived at Skagway they were afraid to venture on the streets after nightfall, and when the doctor left he was making speedy preparations to leave the town. Dr. Trebeck gives perhaps the first reliable information regarding the recent shooting scrapes in Skagway. He thinks that Fay, who killed Deputy Marshal Rowan and McGrath, is at large now, and it was reported that he would shortly return to Skagway. The doctor, who was an eye-witness, gives the following graphic account of the affair: "The shooting occurred in Rice's Place, a notorious saloon," he said. McGrath was crazy with Skagway whiskey, and accused Rice of swindling him. The latter struck him on the back of the head with a jimmy. When McGrath returned to the saloon, he was met by Rice and the latter fired at him. Rice was shot and the doctor was also shot. Rice was shot and the doctor was also shot.

Another shooting occurred a few minutes after. Night watchman Jones, hearing the shooting, said, "If there is a shooting in progress, I will go out and see what is going on." He went out and fired promiscuously into the street. One of his shots struck a habitue of the saloon in the knee and severely injured him. Next day Jones was told to get out of town, and he is now in the hands of the law. The doctor, who was an eye-witness, gives the following graphic account of the affair: "The shooting occurred in Rice's Place, a notorious saloon," he said. McGrath was crazy with Skagway whiskey, and accused Rice of swindling him. The latter struck him on the back of the head with a jimmy. When McGrath returned to the saloon, he was met by Rice and the latter fired at him. Rice was shot and the doctor was also shot.

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THE SPEECH

Mr. Macpherson of the Batches the Addressable

Ministers Resent Opposition Members' Questions

All yesterday afternoon the legislature was taken up with the reply to the speech from the throne, the speaker, Mr. Rogers, Graham, Huff and the last of whom was wards of two hours, the debate when the day. The third day of the session's program marked for lively part member for Vancouver, Mr. Macpherson, some instances being usual in parliamentary Speaker took the chair yesterday and in the afternoon he addressed the business of the day.

Mr. Hunter—For the Kootenay & North West Co. Mr. Kellie—For the company to construct Arrow and... Major Muttter, Lumber Co., Ltd., to connect Cowichan river, and also way to the mouth of the... PETITIONS REFERRED TO THE PROPER OFFICERS. Mr. McGreggor and other to construct a railway from Teslin Lake.

H. Maitland-Kersey an incorporation of the Kootenay & North West Co. THE DEBATE ON THE SPEECH. Mr. Rogers (Cariboo) took the chair at 10 o'clock and read the speech from the throne, which was the first of British Columbia and the variety of the province's... phrasing the necessity of... ment doing all possible to... construction of these respo... adopted in the making of... ter and cheese. Much more... being sent abroad for the... which might well be retail... province, as much would... kept at home when the sci... should receive every assist... government, and the vexat... at present hampering... member took particular ex... imposition of mining royal... might, he said—no matter... eventually kill the goose... supporting the motion for... individual was perfect, and... present administration had... satisfied the people of the... he was therefore justified in... the government in the... cordial approval. While no... felt himself in honor bound... to suggest improvements... thought there was room for... able changes. In one in... believe that the most seri... is brought down by the doctor. According to his diary, on January 14 a barber who was travelling through to Lake Bennett to open a shop was frozen to death at the summit. In January 23 a white man, name unknown, was caught in a blizzard and frozen to death. On February 5 four white packers met death in a blizzard on the Chilcot Pass. They were Americans, but their names were never learned. The most serious disaster occurred on February 7, when three Indian packers were frozen to death on the Chilcot Pass and two white men met a similar fate on the White Pass.

The remains of all the unfortunate men were buried in Skagway and placed in rough boxes. They were then removed the cemetery on dog sleighs and deposited on the ground where they will remain until the spring, when they will be taken to the White Pass.

Dr. Trebeck said, "In calm weather, the Chilcot passes are all right, but God help the man caught in them during a blizzard. The chances are one hundred to one against a man being able to get through a blizzard. Speaking of the blizzard that befell the Clara Nevada, Dr. Trebeck said that he talked with people at Juneau who came north on the steamer, and they pronounced her unseaworthy. They pointed out that on the trip up they were caught with a storm, and that the steamer was obliged to tie up in order to repair her boilers.

To show the spirit of ruffianism in Skagway, Dr. Trebeck tells of a case that came before his notice. A newly arrived miner accidentally bumped against one of the "boasters" on the street, and of the next morning the latter faced him with a revolver. The stranger fell on his knees and begged for his life, and no doubt his abject attitude saved him, for with a kick the ruffian left him, telling him to be careful where he went in future.

Dr. Trebeck says he has enough of all to go to Dawson City, and he has been through the negligence of the postmaster at Skagway Dr. Trebeck says he lost drafts aggregating \$500 at that place.

A PAIN CRIPPLE. Tortured and Tormented with Rheumatism and Sciatica—South American Rheumatic Cure works the wonder. Care works the wonder. Woodstock, N. B., writes: "I had been suffering for over three years with muscular rheumatism and on one occasion I had a very acute attack of sciatica. For several weeks I was unable to walk or attend to my household duties. I tried several remedies, but all failed to give me relief. I saw South American Rheumatic Cure advertised and bought a bottle. It did me a wonderful lot of good. Four bottles effected a perfect permanent cure."

For sale by Dean & Hiscock and Hall & Co.

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AWARDED HIGHEST HONORS—WORLD'S DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER MOST PERFECT MA... pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powd... from Ammonia, Alum or any other... 40 YEARS THE STANDARD



The Colonist.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1898.

THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

The first day's debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne was remarkable for nothing so much as the mildness of the opposition attack. We have been hearing all summer long about the terrible wickedness of the government, and the Colonist has frequently expressed the opinion that when the house met it would be seen to be the case of the mountain in labor once again. The result of it all has been a very small mouse indeed, so small indeed that it almost escaped observation. There was not in all that the leader of the opposition had to say a single word to show that he is in the smallest degree in sympathy with the gross and wanton attacks that have been made upon the ministry by a certain section of the press. What little he had to say was promptly and satisfactorily met by the premier. Mr. Williams had little to add to his leader's observations, and it may be said with all fairness that the debate, as far as it has gone, has developed nothing new and nothing old which need in any way disturb the serenity of the ministry and its friends.

The mover and seconder of the address were happy in their remarks, and made a very good impression. The premier spoke with much more than his usual force. He took up the several points made by Mr. Semlin, and explained them in a highly satisfactory manner. He was very emphatic in his references to the attacks made upon himself and Hon. Mr. Pooley. Hon. G. B. Martin was speaking when the house adjourned, and had made some good points. The tone of the debate, so far as it has gone, shows the government to be full of vigor and confidence, and its opponents to be in the same rut they were in a year ago.

THE PRESS AND THE LEGISLATURE.

It is well that the members of the legislature should understand that unless better provision is made for reporting the proceedings of the house it will be quite useless for them to expect anything more than a scrappy sort of narrative of the proceedings. Synoptic reports of speeches will be impossible, and even anything like a connected account of what takes place will be out of the question. This appeared likely to be the case from the experience on opening day; but some of those spoken to on the subject thought that possibly when the room was less crowded things would be more satisfactory. Yesterday afternoon proved this hope to be groundless, and it is now established that a reporter cannot follow what the members say from a seat in the gallery. The reporters' notes show whole speeches left out because inaudible, and even in those that were audible blanks left where the speaker by lowering his voice or changing the direction in which he spoke rendered it impossible for the reporter to catch what he said.

We need not tell members that this puts some of them at an extreme disadvantage. All men are not blessed with a capacity to speak *ex tempore*, and perhaps the present legislature is noteworthy because so many of those who constitute it have not accustomed themselves to speaking so as to be heard in as large a room as the legislative hall. Those to whom this observation applies are at a most unfair disadvantage. It is impossible for a reporter to catch what they say, and absurd to make it necessary for him to go and hunt up the member and ask him what he said. In illustration, it may be mentioned that the remarks of Mr. Williams as to why the house should not take up the address could not be heard by the reporters. Mr. Semlin could be heard fairly well; Hon. Mr. Turner very well; Major Muter only with great difficulty, and so on. It is absolutely impossible, under such circumstances, to do justice to all the members, and the newspapers will have to give up trying to, for otherwise their reports will be manifestly unfair to the house and to their readers.

The government was ready to remedy the matter by providing seats for reporters on the floor of the house. To this Mr. Speaker very strenuously objected, and as technically he has control of the room, subject, of course, to the direction of the house, nothing could be done. To him it can make very little difference. What he has to say he can put in writing and hand to the representatives of the press. The member who is not gifted with the faculty of speaking with a full tone is not so happily situated.

There is no reason why reporters should not be given seats on the floor of the house. We recall now two precedents. One is the case of the Canadian senate, which provides seats for reporters within the hall; the other is the case of the New Brunswick legislature, which gave the reporters seats on the floor when it was found that their gallery was practically useless for their purposes. But if there were no precedent, the dignity of the legislature of British Columbia is not so frail that it would be demolished by the presence of a few newspaper men. An ex-reporter occupies the Speaker's chair, and at least one ex-reporter sits in a member's seat. If the reporters must sit in the gallery then we say that they should be pro-

vided with better accommodation. Will it be credited that in all that spacious room the only place they can call theirs is between two of the pillars, where there are three seats, in front of which a tea-tray board has been propped up, at so low an elevation that an ordinary sized man must bend himself nearly double in order to write upon it? There is no privacy, no place to put books, no place to keep MS., no convenience of any kind whatever. The top rail of a pasture fence would be perfection itself compared with what has been provided.

If the legislature has so small an appreciation of the services of the press, the only thing that remains for the papers to do is to treat that body accordingly. The lack of accommodation for those who go to the house to report the proceedings may be properly construed into an intimation that reports are not wanted, and if the newspapers act upon this idea, the members will have only themselves to blame. The members of the house have the matter in their own hands, and if they do not see that a remedy is provided they will have themselves to blame for the consequences.

If any member of the house wants to know what the reporters ought to have, we will tell them. They ought to have comfortable desks and chairs in such a position that they can hear and see what is going on. They have to work long hours and should have a place fit to work in. Besides this they ought to have a room set apart for them somewhere in the building. This is not needed particularly by the Victoria papers, but it is by reporters from other places. This room ought to be provided with a table with locked drawers, so that each reporter could have one for himself; and all the essential papers should be filed in it as soon as they are laid on the tables of the house. Here the reporters of out-of-town papers could repair to write up their matter. We have dealt with this subject at some length, because it is really serious, for when we say that it will be necessary for the papers to decline to report the proceedings of the house, except in the most desultory way, if better accommodation is not provided, we only say what anyone who looks into the matter will say is right.

OUR TOO CLEVER COMPETITORS.

It has been sent out from Washington that the reason why the United States government might not be willing to grant transshipping facilities at Wrangell is that it wishes to secure the right of carrying goods on steamers of United States registry, which it appears to think can be done by routes terminating at Dyea or Skagway, but not to a route terminating on the Stikine. We have almost grown weary of trying to pound the facts of the case into the heads of Eastern people; but must keep at it unprofitably as the labor seems to be.

We are told that the agitation against Wrangell is in the interest of United States transportation companies. It must therefore be predicated upon the supposition that United States transportation companies have some rights at the head of Lynn Canal which they have not at Wrangell. As a matter of fact their position is just the same at both places. If anything, their position at Wrangell is the stronger, for no one has as yet claimed that Wrangell is not properly in possession of the United States, while, as everyone knows, there is grave doubt as to the right of that country to occupy Dyea and Skagway. Moreover, under the Washington treaty and according to the law of nations, there is no reason why steamers flying the flag of the United States may not navigate the Stikine river as far as Glenora, that is the terminus of the railway to Teelin lake. It is true that they cannot carry Canadian goods up the Stikine; but they could have done this in previous years, and it was only because the transportation people overreached themselves and brought pressure upon their own government, to compel them to put the navigation laws in force against Canadian steamers on the northwest coast, that the Canadian government adopted precisely a similar regulation as to United States vessels carrying Canadian goods. It was a case wherein the biter got very badly bitten. As the law now stands, if an American bottom carries Canadian goods North, duty must be paid upon them when they reach the Yukon frontier, and it will not make a particle of difference whether they are sent in over the Passes or by way of the Stikine.

In his despatch to Senator Mason, printed in Sunday's COLONIST, Mr. Percy D. Whitehead, of Chicago, said that the commerce of Puget Sound would be ruined if the United States Treasury persisted in its present policy. This is very clear. The people everywhere are becoming informed as to the disadvantage of buying outfits in the United States. Soon all who go North will buy their outfits in Canada so as to save duties, if for no other reason. Until a few days ago it did not make any difference how these outfits went North. If they were carried in an American bottom to the head of Lynn Canal they were allowed to pass into the Yukon without paying duty, as a matter of course, because they were the produce of Canada. The very-much-too-clever people who are fighting Victoria were not content with this. They found that some Victoria shipping concerns

were bidding successfully for a part of the northern traffic. There was more than all engaged in the business could do, but this made no difference. Nothing but a dog-in-the-manger policy would suit these people, and so they called upon the treasury officials to remain in abeyance in the hope thereby to prevent our transportation lines from getting a share of the business. They succeeded. It was formally published that goods sent from one American port to another on a British bottom would be subject to confiscation. It is true that this did not touch the case of goods sent to Dyea or any other Alaska port in transit to the Yukon, but it served the purpose of Seattle and gave ground for some anti-Victoria talk. When this came to the ears of the Ottawa ministry a coating regulation was forthwith issued providing that Canadian goods carried North in United States bottoms would be dutiable on the Yukon frontier. It follows from this state of facts that every man buying Canadian goods will send them North in Canadian bottoms, which will be an exceedingly severe blow to the transportation lines running out of Puget Sound. Nor will the case of the United States companies be helped by the construction of a railway from Lynn Canal. In point of fact it would be made worse, for the company operating the railway would be bound to hold freight at the frontier until all duties were paid on all foreign goods or Canadian goods carried in other than British bottoms. While the confusion of transportation over the Passes prevails, it is possible to convince ignorant people that no duties will be collected, but when transportation is moving along with regularity there will be no more chance to deceive people about the actual facts than there is now in regard to the importation of goods into Kootenay or San Francisco.

The truth is that our United States friends are playing a losing game, and they are beginning to realize it.

NABOTH'S VINEYARD.

Was ever a great nation placed in such a humiliating position before the world as the United States is being put by those people who seem to have the guidance of its policy in regard to matters touching the northbound trade to the Yukon? That piece of Canadian territory drained by the Yukon, although not more than half as large as the adjoining territory of Alaska, and smaller than many of the states of the Union, is so big in the eyes of certain United States pettifoggling politicians that they appear to be lying awake at night to discover ways of getting exceptional privileges there. To what use is it that the flag of the Union floats over half a continent, if United States citizens cannot have all the good things to be found in this comparatively small corner?

Some of the demands made are appalling in their unreasonableness. For the permission of transshipping goods at Wrangell, one member of congress wants to have it stipulated that Canada shall permit every miner who goes into the Yukon from the United States to carry 2,500 pounds of goods with him without paying any duty. It is hard to surpass this as a specimen of monumental impudence. If this becomes the law of the United States, we are very sure that the verdict of the people of the province of British Columbia will be to accept no privileges on such terms, but to declare that the Yukon country is closed to alien immigration, at least until such time as a line of railway has been built from some point on the British Columbia coast. We all of us are anxious to see the Yukon developed. Nearly every person has made some calculation upon the prosperity likely to follow from it; but we will all be content to wait rather than that the Yukon should be thus handed over to a foreign nation. We do not believe that even the congress of the United States will pass so impudent a measure; but if wrong counsels prevail at Washington, and anything so derogatory to the dignity of Canada finds a place on the statute book, there is only one course for Canada to take, and that is to declare that no alien shall be permitted to hold a mining claim in the Yukon, and that no line of railway shall be built into the country except through territory in the undisputed possession of the British crown.

Canada has acted towards her neighbor with extraordinary generosity. She is being repaid with the blackest ingratitude. It is time to give notice that there is a limit beyond which the people of Canada cannot be pressed, and that this limit has been reached. The position of the Dominion government is attended with some difficulty, but we are glad to believe the intention to be to take a firm stand upon the right of Canada to enjoy the advantages resulting from the development of her great wealth. Speaking in the House of Commons last week, Sir Richard Cartwright said that it was the intention of the government to protect every right possessed by the Dominion. We hope they will discover a way of doing so and of checking the plans of our envious and unreasonable neighbors.

FREE SPEECH GUARANTEED.

The attempt was made yesterday to shut off debate on the action of Hon. Messrs. Turner and Pooley in accepting seats on a London directorate; but Mr. Speaker receded from his position and the discussion went on. The incident emphasized the fact that the government wants the question ventilated. In order that there may be no misapprehension of the point involved, we may mention that there is no intention on the part of any one to debate whether or not any of the newspapers were guilty of a libel. Under the rules of the house such a discussion would be ruled out of order and could not be carried on unless the decision of Mr. Speaker was overruled by a vote of the house.

We trust that the public now see the entire reasonableness of the COLONIST's position in this matter. How very absurd it would have been if a matter affecting the standing of two members of the ministry would have to be omitted from the discussions of the legislature, because some over-ardent newspaper man chose to make references to the subject in language that led to prosecutions for libel. There were some people who really believed the COLONIST was taking a most incendiary position, was setting the law at defiance, and placing itself where it could be punished summarily by the courts, while all the time it was only insisting upon the right of free discussion in the house and in the press. This is the stand which the COLONIST always will take. If it knows anything at all, it is as to what its rights are in the way of freely treating all subjects of public interest, and it does not propose to be stopped from exercising those rights, nor to sit by and allow other papers to be refused the right of free discussion, or, what amounts to the same thing, to be advised that they have no right of free discussion, and that their mouths can be closed by prosecution. It also thinks it understands what the rights of the legislature are, and these it proposes to contend for. It feels very certain that even its most hostile critics will concede that it has been on the right side in this matter.

Now that the discussion, so far as it relates to the freedom of the press and the legislature is at an end, we may add our regret that on one occasion an opinion was expressed in these columns as to the guilt of one of the defendants. If the government of the United States would make up its mind at once to settle the Cuban trouble and get in and do it, the rest of the world would hardly have a word to say in protest. What worries every one is the senseless and profitless bluster that is engaged in. No other country in the world permits irresponsible legislators to drag it to the verge of war two or three times a year.

The public have learned with great regret of the intention of Mr. W. A. Carleton to resign his post of provincial minister. He has been a very valuable officer and it will not be easy to replace him.

Leather coats with sheepskin lining, made specially for the Yukon country. B. Williams & Co.

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When will contemporaries stop reading into COLONIST articles things that the COLONIST never dreamed of? The other day this paper said that the numerical smallness of the legislature was one reason why the sessions were long, which leads the Kootenay Mail to think this foreshadowed an intention on the part of the government to increase the membership. It foreshadowed nothing, but was merely an expression of opinion on the subject discussed. The trouble with some of the COLONIST's critics is that they never by any accident have an original idea, and therefore nose around among COLONIST editorials for something to write about, and the last thing they credit anyone with is frankness. If the COLONIST should say that two and two are four, some opposition paper would at once proceed to write an editorial to show that this meant either that the representation of Equinamit is to be doubled, or that the government has some secret design of doubling the possessions of the Danumuir-Rithet-Cohen-Heinze, etc., etc., combination.

COL. JAMES HAMILTON LEWIS, of Seattle, a member of the United States House of Representatives and a generally irrepressible personage, is now in Ottawa interceding for all manner of things in behalf of his beloved city. It is hard to refuse anything to so charming a person as the gallant colonel, who wears a beautiful smile and really very elegant clothes; but we fear that he will find the plain-going folk at the Canadian capital deaf to his mellifluous entreaties. We venture to suggest that, if he is invited to Rideau Hall and shown a little deserted attention, he will have a first-rate time, even if he must return to Washington empty-handed.

The Seattle Times has made a not unnatural error about the particular Beggs whose railway charter a New York paper alleges Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann have bought. Mr. Beggs is not a newspaper man. He is not the Alexander Beggs who started the Seattle Telegraph. This gentleman died a few months ago. Alexander Beggs, who with some associates secured a railway charter from Glenora to Teelin Lake, is a man who has been conspicuous in British Columbia for his agitation of crofter immigration.

Mr. COTTON has two notices on the motion paper. One is that the double taxation involved in the present system of taxing mortgages is an injustice. The other is that men working in mines ought not to be required to take out a miner's license. We commend to Mr. Cotton's perusal page 252, vol. 1 of Parliamentary Government in England, by Alphons Todd. Here abstract resolutions are strongly condemned, and it is stated that "the most eminent statesmen have united in condemning them."

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The movement to establish a school lacrosse league is an excellent one and deserves success. The idea is to teach boys to put up a good, clean game of lacrosse. The teachers are taking a lively interest in it. This is as it ought to be, for many games, conducted in the right spirit, are of inestimable value to young lads. They teach courage and self-reliance.

The objection of Mr. Williams that the address ought not to be proceeded with until all questions had been answered, was a strange one. The practice in some legislatures, and we think it is the correct practice, is not to allow any business to be transacted until the address has been passed. There is perhaps no fixed law of parliament on this point, but the practice is as we have stated.

The request of the United States government to be allowed to send fish in bond through the Maritime Provinces in exchange for bonding facilities at Wrangell is not a very serious affair. We can see no reason why the two countries should not give each other the privilege of entering across corners.

BY WAY OF VARIETY. Frayed Eugin—So de woman cried out "Welcome," an' ye waltzed right in? Chewed Chauncey (groaning)—I did—an' oh, Lord!—Welcome wuzn't a t'ing but de dance on her English bulldog.—Judge. "You can't," said the philosophical boarder, "estimate the value of a dog by its bark."

"No," replied the star boarder, "and you can't estimate the strength of the butter by the color of its hair."—Cleveland Leader. Wilhelm's Fleety—The Emperor of China—And all this trouble results from the attack on the German missionaries? Li Hung Chang—Apparently. As soon as Kaiser Wilhelm heard of the attack on the missionaries he got religion.

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REACHING FOR Congress Devising Schemes to Favor States Ships Bill Specifically Framed Case on the Atlantic Coast. It Aims at Denying Craft the Trade of Gold Fields.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Committee on merchant fisheries held a meeting over proposed changes in laws to remove troubles arising in Alaskan commerce. The committee have reported to the house the provisions for several amendments to the navigation laws. The amendments were framed to meet new conditions created by the gold on the Yukon river and its effects are explained in a report made to the committee by Gage. It strengthens explicit the laws regarding policy of the government in trade, including the trade rest of the United States, shall be reserved to American vessels covers more explicitly than

NOTHING LIKE LEA So Thought Absconder Tebbitt Started His Trip from B.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—The state to-day issued the police Inspector Watts, of secure the possession of Abbits, of Boston, now under extradition at Regina, N. charge of larceny of the amount \$25,000. It is alleged that Tebbitt's delivery of large quantities of a dock in Boston, representative of the firm of Tebbitt reports, is a matter of concern. Selling leading for the leather he escapes the country.

A WAR COMING. Costa Rica and Nicaragua—British Ships Looking

NEW YORK, Feb.—The H. respondent at Managua says: ish warships are now in waters and more are expected these now in Nicaragua is a and the other is at San Juan. The Herald's Washington correspondent says: There is a general sentiment among pan-American here that Costa Rica and Nicaragua are very near war. Both governments assumed belligerent attitude in which has reached the Herald, and is the extreme Central Americans in this. President Zelaya will demand avowal of Costa Rica's responsibility for the revolution. Juan del Sar. Whether the of Costa Rica would comply with Zelaya's demand, and Nicaragua would have port of Salvador and Hon case of war, are questions pan-American are asking of Those in touch with the Costa, tion in this city express the that the government will not with the prospective demand Nicaraguan president, and in the war is likely to follow.

BRITISH INDIAN POL Occupation of Chitral Alleged as of the Frontier Trouble

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The hon. discussed the amendment of son Walton, Liberal member Leeds, to the address in re speech from the throne, and a question of the government frontier policy. Mr. Walton from a Liberal standpoint dis of the occupation of Chitral as source of the present troubles, ing the government not to tal the independence of the front who, he said, were "the ne work of India."

Lord George Hamilton, se state for India, replied. He is impossible to evacuate Chitral impairing a prestige of Great B the tranquillity of those in present trouble, he continue that the occupation of Chitral come, and he warmly repelle that the government had been "breach of faith with the local continuing the occupation. Sir Henry Hartley Fowler, member for East Wolves secretary of state for India in Liberal cabinet, rebutted t that the Liberal government to a permanent occup Chitral. The future, howe be more important, t than the past, which had been blunder and the Liberals w the forward tendency of the party in India. He urged th dian council should have son of the expenditures, as the ere ger which threatened the frontier was "a policy of agraritarianism."

Trade With Abyssinia LONDON, Feb. 14.—The pub the treaties with Abyssinia sensational. The rumors of concessions are groundle Britain secures another open most favored nation treat respect to imports and local ta

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SALE OF THE TRAIL SMELTER.

The official announcement of the purchase of the Trail smelter by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and that it is to be operated at a small margin...

Whether this sale means the withdrawal of Mr. Heine from the British Columbia field we do not know, but it is not inappropriate at this time to speak of the great good accomplished by him during the few years he has been engaged in business in the province...

HON. ROBERT BEAVEN'S LETTER

In the interest of free discussion we print the letter of Hon. Robert Beaven in regard to the contract with Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann for the construction of the Stikine-Teelin railway.

TIME FOR ACTION.

With such unmistakable indications as are before us of the determination of our American neighbors to deprive us, by fair means or foul—preferably the latter—of the benefits resulting from the opening of the Canadian gold fields...

the 60th parallel would be clearly beyond the jurisdiction of the local house. There is no doubt as to the authority of the local legislature to incorporate a company to build a line from the Stikine river to Teelin lake...

Mr. Beaven thinks that the urgency plea will not stand investigation. This is very different to what we used to hear. It is only a few weeks since the COLONIST was daily besieged by those who urged that an emergency of the worst kind existed...

That they are not justified under the treaty of Washington in taking the action proposed is beyond question. But so little have the administration at Washington regarded, in the past, any treaty, if antagonistic to the accomplishment of their ends...

It may be found that the regulation issued by the Dominion government in regard to the carriage of Canadian goods in American bottoms will have to be altered so far as they relate to river navigation. In the case of the trading companies doing business on the upper Yukon and desiring to send in Canadian goods by way of St. Michael's...

Although no one can object to our American cousins taking advantage of every legitimate means to secure to themselves such of the Klondike trade as is possible, it is deplorable that they should resort to the very questionable, and even dishonest methods, of which we have daily evidence.

tion, "Yankee sharp practice," for the universal one of "Yankee shrewdness!" A fair sample of what we in British Columbia must expect at the hands of American railroads is found in the following letter: A traveler through the Eastern States recently wrote to the Northern Pacific Railway Company for information concerning this route to Klondike...

The latest fool is the fellow who has started from Denver to walk to Dawson City. He had only ten cents in his pocket. If he succeeds he is to get \$25,000, so he says. He claims that he will get there by June. He will do nothing of the kind. No man can walk to Dawson City from Denver in four and a half months...

There seems to be a prospect of a lively anti-gambling fight in Seattle. The gambling element is said to be planning to capture the city government. It tried to do the same thing six years ago, and was badly snowed under. There are thousands of decent people in Seattle, and when they make up their minds to smash the vicious element they do it.

Two of the most efficient policemen in Victoria have resigned because they can get better pay at some other work. It is said that Victoria pays her police less than either Vancouver or Nanaimo. There is no reason for this. We want the best men available on the police force at the present time, and the city must expect to pay a living wage.

The Columbian has discovered that the references of the COLONIST to redistribution in its brief forecast of the speech is the argument "of admitted cowardice, dishonesty and incompetence." The folly of using language like this consists in the fact that it is so ridiculously exaggerated that no one believes it to be seriously intended.

The Inland Sentinel says the reason we do not have better roads in this province is because the building of them is entrusted to men who do not understand the work. This is the excuse that is made all the world over, almost; and there is some foundation for it, because in point of fact good road makers are exceedingly scarce anywhere.

The Roseland Miner notes with great satisfaction that the Merchant's Bank of Halifax and the Bank of Montreal have decided to build brick blocks in that city. It certainly is an excellent certificate of the substantial character of Roseland's progress that two such monetary institutions have determined to invest in permanent offices there.

In his speech on the address in the House of Commons Sir Richard Cartwright expressed his belief that when the next Dominion loan falls due they can be retired with a new issue at 2 1/2 per cent, without any provision for sinking fund. If this is done the saving to the taxpayer will be very great.

The silver agitation seems to be losing none of its force in the United States. The property promised as the result of President McKinley's election has not materialized. The whole industrial and financial atmosphere seemed surcharged with the elements of a storm.

It is to be hoped that the most rigid inspection of every steamer sailing North will be made. So far as British Columbia is concerned, we feel sure that every vessel sailing from this province will be seaworthy. What we protest against is the fitting up of old, worn-out craft as passenger boats.

liberty would be mere vagaries of an idle hour compared with the crime of having by implication broken up innumerable happy homes; for certainly the man who promises to provide wives for a whole constituency, and fails to do it, is the champion wrecker of domestic bliss. We hope the genial Colonel will take an early opportunity to show either that Mr. McPherson is mistaken or that he "done his level best" to make his rash promise good.

This blowing up of the battleship Maine in Havana harbor is an event of intense interest. Very naturally the suspicion has been aroused that the explosion is the result of foul play, but in view of the fact that similar explosions have occurred in British men-of-war under circumstances precluding any suspicion of this, we think it would be a mistake to attribute the terrible affair to anything less than accident.

The Curious Heavens—"Your religion," asked the intelligent heathen, "commands you to love your neighbor as yourself?" "Exactly," answered the missionary. "I do not err, then, in presuming that you have invented all those long-range, rapid-firing guns to prevent the obnoxious stranger from approaching close enough to be deemed a neighbor."

"The modern drama," said the Cornfed Philosopher, "is like a mustard plaster. The hotter it is the better it draws." "In-dianapolis Journal."

"It's a beautiful rural play, with real chickens, a real cow, a real horse, real— That's enough. I see it is acted, then, by a real live stock company."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Tornado Tom—So Ike's gone to visit his father, has he? That must have been his uncle then that we lynched year after last for horse-stealing. Sheriff of Tombstone—Oh, no; that was his father. That's the fellow he's gone ter visit.—Judge.

An Embarrassing subject—Eh!—Why didn't you attend Prof. Dump's lecture on the Cycles of Time? It was very interesting. Maude—The subject of the lecture was embarrassing to me. You know, dear, I bought my wheel on the installment plan. The Nicest Girl Living—Ada—Jack says he wouldn't marry the nicest girl living. Dolly—Pshaw! As if I'd have him!

WRECK STORY CONFIRMED.

Details of the "Clara Nevada" Disaster Brought on the "Queen." NANAIMO, Feb. 16.—(Special)—The steamer Queen, from the North, arrived here at 6 o'clock this evening. She brought confirmation and complete details of the story of the wreck of the Clara Nevada.

Free Trial To Any Honest Man The Foremost Medical Company in the World in the Cure of Weak Men Makes this Offer.

HEALTH AND ENERGY ASSURED. HAPPY MARRIAGE, GOOD TEMPER, LONG LIFE.

In all the world to-day—in all the history of the world—no doctor nor institution has treated and restored so many men as has the famous ERIC'S TRI-TRIA. This is due to the fact that the company controls some inventions and discoveries which have no equal in the whole range of medical science.

SCIENCE TRIMMING THE LAMP OF LIFE.

So much deception has been practiced in advertising that the mind of the consumer is now for the first time making this startling offer: "I will send you a bottle of my Tri-Tria, a really and magnificently effective medicine, and a whole month's course of restorative remedies, positively on trial without expense to any honest and reliable man. Not a dollar need be advanced—not a penny paid—until results are known to and acknowledged by the patient."

The Eric Medical Company's appliance and remedies have been talked about and written about all over the world, till every man has heard of them. They restore or create strength, vigor, healthy tissue and new life. They stop daily straining on the system that saps the energy. They cure nervousness, despondency and all the effects of evil habits, excesses, overwork, etc. They give full strength, development and tone to every portion and organ of the body. Failure is impossible and age is no barrier.

Too Late.—Driver (as he runs over cyclist)—Look out there. Cyclist (before fainting)—Why? Coming back this way?

DR. WALKER objected to reporters being seated on the floor of the house, saying that when he and Mr. Speaker were reporters they had to do their work in the galleries on their knees. If the Doctor and the Speaker would do a little more work nowadays on their knees we don't suppose it would hurt them.

The debate on the address so far has disclosed nothing new. Each opposition speaker when he sits down, after delivering himself of what he has to say, only proves the COLONIST's proposition that when the house met the opposition would be found without anything to justify the assaults made upon the government during the recess.

MR. COTTON is a cautious person. He reserves his libellous epithets for an occasion when they are protected by the privileges of parliament.

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

An Unwarranted Arrest.—Magistrate—You say the officer arrested you while you were quietly minding your own business? Prisoner—Yes, your worship. Magistrate—You were quietly attending to your own business, making no noise or disturbance of any kind? Prisoner—None whatever, sir. Magistrate—It seems very strange. What is your business? Prisoner—I'm a burglar.

Undoubtedly.—Jasper—What do you think the doctor meant when he spoke about one of his characters being a "hen-minded" woman? Jumpuppuce—Oh, I guess he meant that she never thought about anything else except her own set.

The Curious Heavens—"Your religion," asked the intelligent heathen, "commands you to love your neighbor as yourself?" "Exactly," answered the missionary. "I do not err, then, in presuming that you have invented all those long-range, rapid-firing guns to prevent the obnoxious stranger from approaching close enough to be deemed a neighbor."

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Klondyke Outfits PRICE LISTS NOW READY B. WILLIAMS & CO., CLOTHIERS and HATTERS, 97 and 99 Johnson Street, Victoria, B.C.

R. P. RITHET & CO. WHOLESALE MERCHANTS, Wharf Street, Victoria, B.C. Groceries, Wines and Liquors KLONDIKE OUTFITTERS & MARINE UNDERWRITERS Agents for the Pacific Coast Steamship Company's Direct Steamers to all Klondike Ports.

THE PRESENT ISSUE OF THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST SEVEN COLUMNS. EIGHT PAGES. INCLUDING FULL REPORTS OF ALL THE LATEST INFORMATION FROM THE YUKON GOLD FIELDS.

If you want to keep your friends informed, you cannot do better than send them THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST.

PRICE 5 CENTS PER COPY. PER ANNUM \$1.50

THE RETAIL MARKETS. Trade Reported Generally Good in Groceries During the Week. The market this week has no features specially worthy of mention. Trade is reported good by grocers, but the showing is not so satisfactory among fruit dealers. The current retail prices are as follows:

Wheat, per ton, 35 00; Rye, per ton, 30 00; Oats, per ton, 25 00; Corn, whole, per ton, 25 00; Potatoes, per 100 lbs., 90¢; Apples, per box, 1 50; Lemons, California, per doz., 20¢; Bananas, per doz., 35¢; Pineapples, per doz., 50¢; Cranberries, per lb. (local), 10¢; Salmon, per lb., 10¢; Kippers, per lb., 10¢; Halibut, per lb., 10¢; Rock Cod, per lb., 10¢; Smelts, per lb., 6¢; Flounders, per lb., 6¢; Kippers, per lb., 10¢; Finnan Haddies, per lb., 12¢.

To THE EDITOR:—Will you allow me a small space in which to draw the attention of the corporation to the state of James Bay bridge, the surface of which is at present covered with a thick coat of "muck." Not so very long ago, and while the Point Ellice bridge disaster was still fresh in the minds of the public, this bridge was given an extensive, and I might add, expensive overhauling, fresh plank was laid down, and the bridge put into good condition for traffic. It is now thickly covered with mud and dirt, under which the planks lie rotting, without a chance of drying. Now as a citizen and taxpayer, I would like to suggest to the corporation the advisability of immediately having the surface of the bridge well scraped, thereby giving the planks a chance to dry, and greatly prolonging their term of usefulness. ALLEN MINERS.

Forty-Five NEWS OF THE Extension of Time For... Mr. Corbin Booming Spok... River Tramway

Mr. Corbin Booming Spoke... River Tramway... Extension of Time For... facilitates Peddling... Dredging Leases

Mr. Davin called attention that dredging leases were being around Ottawa. He thought... Mr. Morrison introduced a bill of incorporation of the Lewis River Company. The proposed incorporators are E. E. Tilton, G. C. Shaw, Ashland. They desire to build ways to the Miles canyon and Horse rapids.

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Ottawa proposes to abolish the by-law which has proved a... Archibishop Bruchet's embargo Catholics joining the Young Christian Association will be... RAILWAY RATE WAR

ROSSLAND'S CARNIVAL The Winter Sports Attract Many Results in Curling and Ski Run

MINING LAW AMENDMENT Mr. Carlyle's Suggestion Protested

KASLO, Feb. 14.—(Special)—Mr. Carlyle attended public meeting convened in Kaslo, was the meeting which was hastily called last evening to discuss the amendment proposed by Provincial Minister Carlyle to the mining laws. The attack was principally by Sandon by a score of 11 to 3. The ski races for the champion Canada, down Red Mountain a mile and a half, with a 2,000 feet, was won by O. Jeldne carried away the magnificent trophy presented by C. H. Mac

Burnt to Death. BOTHWELL, Feb. 16.—(Special)—Mrs. Bloom and one of her children were burnt to death in their dwelling early this morning.