



TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1905.

FORTS AND DOCKS DESTROYED

Russian Midshipman Says Fortress and Town Were Almost Completely Wrecked When He Left Port Arthur--Majority of Survivors of Siege Are Sick or Wounded--Officers and Officials Will Be Permitted to Return to Russia on Parole--Stoessel Criticised for Blowing Up the Warships.

Tokio, Jan. 3.—The Russian and Japanese commissioners appointed to arrange the terms of the capitulation of the Russian forces at Port Arthur signed the compact of surrender at 9.45 o'clock last night.

CONDITIONS ACCEPTED BY THE RUSSIANS.

Tokio, Jan. 2, 10 p. m.—The text of Gen. Nogi's telegram announcing the capitulation of the Russian forces at Port Arthur is as follows: "The plenipotentiaries of both parties concluded their negotiations to-day at 4 o'clock. The Russian commissioners accepted on the whole the conditions stipulated by us and consented to capitulate. The document has been prepared and signed by both parties."

STOESSEL'S LETTER.

Tokio, Jan. 2, 10.30 a.m.—General Nogi's telegram announcing that General Stoessel was prepared to discuss terms of capitulation reached Tokio early this morning but was not made public until late last night.

The news is just reaching the general public and it is expected that the day will bring ample evidence of popular joy. Gen. Nogi, commanding the forces before Port Arthur, reports as follows: "At 5 o'clock on the afternoon of January 1st the enemy's bearer of a flag of truce came into the front line of our position south of Shushihing and handed a letter to our officers. The same reached me at 9 o'clock at night. The letter is as follows: "Judging by the general condition of the whole line of hostile positions held by you, I find further resistance at Port Arthur useless, and for the purpose of preventing needless sacrifice of lives I propose to hold negotiations with reference to capitulation. Should you consent to the same you will please appoint commissioners to discuss the order and conditions regarding capitulation, and also appoint a place for such commissioners to meet the same appointed by me."

"I take this opportunity to convey to your Excellency assurances of my respect. (Signed) STOESSEL."

"Shortly after dawn to-day I will dispatch our bearer of a flag of truce with the following reply addressed to Stoessel: "I have the honor to reply to your proposal to hold negotiations regarding the conditions and order of capitulation. For this purpose I have appointed as commissioner Major Gen. Iijichi, chief of staff of my army. He will be accompanied by some staff officers and civil officials. They will meet your commissioners January 2nd, noon, at Shushihing. The commissioners of both parties will be empowered to sign a convention for the capitulation without waiting for ratification, and the same shall be exchanged by the respective commissioners."

"I avail myself of this opportunity to convey to your Excellency assurances of my respect. (Signed) NOGI."

REACHED LIMIT OF HUMAN ENDURANCE.

Chefoo, Jan. 3.—Midnight—Commander Kartov of the Russian torpedo boat destroyer Vlastik in an interview with the Associated Press correspondent to-night said: "Port Arthur falls of exhaustion—exhaustion not only of the men, but of men. The remainder of the garrison left had been doing the work of heroes for five days and five nights, but yesterday they reached the limit of human endurance. In the casemates of the forts, one saw everywhere faces black with starvation, exhaustion and nerve strain. You spoke to them, but they did not give any answer, only staring dumbly. The lack of ammunition would not have suggested the seeking of terms. Scant ammunition had long been common in the fortress, and during the past month many of the forts had nothing with which to return the fire of the enemy."

"The Russians sat in the casemates firing not more than once to the two hundred shots sent by the Japanese. When the assault came they repulsed

the enemy with bayonets. But the men themselves having existed for three months on reduced rations, were so worn that it is marvellous they stood the final strain so long."

"Yesterday Gen. Stoessel would fight. His wound, which was received early in the siege, had been bothering him, but his determination to fight while one man stood had not been diminished."

"But we cannot fight," said his generals. "Our men cannot move. They keep standing. They cannot see the bayonets at their breasts. We can order, but they cannot obey."

"Then you generals fight," said Stoessel, closing his fists. "He seemed fanatical on the subject, but finally he was brought to see reason by the insistence of his subordinates, who sometimes with broken voices urged the step which all dreaded so long."

"It is expected that the Japanese army will enter the city of Port Arthur tomorrow."

"The greatest loss suffered by Port Arthur occurred a fortnight ago, when Major-General Kondratiev was killed. He was a man of high rank and his death became known the emotion of the soldiers was plainly noticeable."

"Gen. Nogi has taken Port Arthur with his artillery and his tunnels. His rifle bullets were seldom found to be of any use. We constantly endured a bombardment fiercer than was ever before seen. We, who came here to-day, do not know the terms of surrender suggested by Gen. Stoessel to Nogi, nor the general conditions of the Japanese army even before the messenger had been dispatched."

"The general impression is that Gen. Stoessel has proposed that the army shall go free and that he alone should remain a prisoner."

"By made the prisoner. Even this concession seemed to wrench the sturdy man's heart."

"We still have some ammunition and some guns on Lioai mountain, but that mountain is not adapted for the best defence from the land side, and the Japanese would find its capture easier than the other tasks they have attempted. Tiger's Tail peninsula has to be similarly given up, and Golden Hill has been without ammunition for three months."

"It is a simple story. Had the ammunition held out, the fortress would have been held indefinitely. For months we held Port Arthur by bayonets alone, until flesh and blood could do no more. When men fell there were no others to replace them. This the garrison was not able to do. The Japanese hill after hill cost us 5,000 men. The capture of that hill was the beginning of the end."

"In personal combat the Japanese are greatly inferior to the Muscovites. One Russian could take care of three Japanese in a bayonet fight, and some of our soldiers have records vastly higher than this. The Japanese are good, brave soldiers, although I have little liking for them."

"I cost the Japanese 80,000 men to take the fortress, while some say they have lost over a hundred thousand. The number of our own dead is not known even to the high officials."

"The fighting has been merciless. When Bilung mountain was taken, 500 men were not able to emerge, so fast came the Japanese. The Russians tried to emerge by the use of their bayonets in the face of the guns—by bayonets alone. The Japanese did not give them a chance to become prisoners, but the men would have preferred death anyway."

"One peculiar incident of the siege was fort No. 3, where for three months the Japanese occupied one part of the fort while the Russians occupied the other. They fought ceaselessly, assaulting each other and mining and counter-mining."

TORPEDO BOATS HAVE REACHED CHEFOO. Chefoo, Jan. 2.—6 p. m.—The Russian torpedo boats, Stral, Vlastik and Scuditz, now in port, have been dismantled, and the Japanese destroyers which followed them in have left the harbor. It is reported that there are 15,000 sick and wounded at Port Arthur, and that five thousand ambled convalescents man the forts."

The Russians on the torpedo boats admit that Gen. Stoessel ordered the white flag yesterday (Sunday), and suggested that negotiations be opened for the surrender of the fortress."

A dispatch received here from Tsingtau, dated 5 o'clock in the evening, says that the Russian destroyers Smirli and Boiki and a merchantman with 800 soldiers on board have just arrived there. Besides the vessels mentioned, it was learned later in the day that the torpedo boat destroyers Smirli and Boiki, and a transport left Port Arthur last night, the latter carrying 800 wounded soldiers, and according to the dispatch from Tsingtau, succeeded in reaching that port."

The departure of the ships was decided upon at the council of war, at which it was determined to disarm the surrender of the fortress. Rear-Admiral Wren asked Gen. Stoessel's permission to save the destroyers, which was readily granted. The Russian crews, the transport and the launch crept out of the harbor between ten and eleven o'clock last night without encountering the Japanese. It was determined to disarm the four destroyers, which lashed themselves together. In the absence of a Chinese warship, the commissioner of customs took charge of the Russian craft."

The latter ordered the crews of the torpedo boat destroyers and a number of Russian soldiers who were on board of them to go to the Chinese fort, where quarters for them are available. Tonight the customs men and details from the guardship are preventing foreigners from going on board of the Russian vessels."

WAREHOUSES, DOCKS AND EVERYTHING VALUABLE.

When I left Port Arthur the fortress and the town were almost completely wrecked. The warships died hard. Several explosions were necessary. To complete the Wrecking of Them. The Sevastopol after catching fire exploded and turned turtle. The harbor entrance is blocked with sunken ships. The only navigable craft now at Port Arthur are the hospital ships Kassan and Monaldi."

"You need expect no more ships from Port Arthur, as these were unable to leave on account of the blocking of the harbor."

Col. Reiss represented Gen. Stoessel in the negotiations for surrender. A table was spread with wine and food at the Eagle's Nest, and the envoys treated each other with great courtesy, which quickly melted into informal good fellowship. Each complimented the other on the bravery of their forces."

"The news that Gen. Stoessel was prepared to treat for surrender was received at the Japanese headquarters with feelings of utmost relief."

For the past month severe wounds had been gladly received by the soldiers because they were allowed to rest. When the men were not fighting they were tunnelling on half rations. The bombardment of the last day was so terrific. Everybody remarked that even Gen. Stoessel must see the futility of further resistance when our guns were unable to reply."

"We might have surrendered a month ago with the highest honor. That resistance has continued effectively since it scarcely leads to any advantage. It is a mere manifold of broken men who surrendered and a debris-strewn desert, which the Japanese gain. Not one of Port Arthur's magnificent public parks remains."

"The feeling when Gen. Stoessel took the unwelcome step was generally one of relief. The soldiers for whom one year's service has cost them their lives are rejoicing that they will soon see their families."

GENERAL STOESSEL SHARPLY CRITICIZED. Tokio, Jan. 3.—9 a. m.—Gen. Stoessel is being sharply criticized for destroying the Russian warships, attempting to sink the torpedoes, and dispatching the torpedo boat destroyers to Chefoo subsequently to his offer to surrender the fortress. The Nichi Nichi says that while Gen. Stoessel made a gallant defence, his action in blowing up the ships after he had offered to surrender leaves a lasting blot on his military reputation. His action, it is said, was a sacrifice and leaves no room for an extension of the treatment of his action commensurate with the reputation won by the bravery and gallantry of his defence. The Russian officers who are to be sent to the Japanese are to be sent to the Japanese as prisoners of war. The Emperor is directing that full military honors be paid with that of Gen. Stoessel."

The Ijichi characterizes Gen. Stoessel's action as mean and unlawful, and says that it should deprive him of any military honors at the hands of his captors. The Ijichi also revives the charges of Red Cross violation at Port Arthur, and declares that no treatment would be too severe in fixing the terms of surrender. The Ijichi compares the action of the Emperor of Japan with that of Gen. Stoessel."

SAYS RUSSIANS WILL RETAKE PORT ARTHUR. Paris, Jan. 3.—According to the semi-official advice received by the foreign office regarding the terms for capitulation of Port Arthur signed last night, the Russian officers will be permitted to return to Russia on parole, but this is not positive. The Russian officials strongly incline to the view that the will go on without reference to Port Arthur. The naval attaché says the mission of the Russian second Pacific squadron was to save Port Arthur. Therefore since this mission cannot be accomplished, the squadron probably will wait until reinforced by a third and probably a fourth squadron. He believes Russia will retake Port Arthur by assaults by land and sea. This will require time for adequate naval and military concentration, thus prolonging the war one or two years. The attaché adds that mediation is impossible until Russia win a decisive victory."

Capt. Epanchine, one of the Russian naval officers who will appear as a witness before the international commission which is to inquire into the North Sea incident, says that Russia will retake Port Arthur. He declares peace will come only when Russia imposes it. Stoessel and the determination of the Japanese to give honorable terms to the surrendered garrison will soften the blow to Russia and create an opening for the discussion of the question of peace."

The United States, Great Britain and France are named as possible direct or indirect intermediaries, though it is probable that Japan will broach the subject directly."

The fall of Port Arthur immensely strengthens the hand of Japan. In the official contact of the war Port Arthur has been a stumbling block to Japan,

RUSSIANS STUNNED BY NEWS OF SURRENDER.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 3.—The public seems stunned by the announcement of the fall of Port Arthur, which the government authorized this morning in the shape of the publication of foreign telegrams. Little had been done to prepare the people, and the impression produced, despite the heroic nature of the defence, was almost stupefaction."

What will be the immediate effect of the announcement on the internal situation is hard to say, although it is fully expected to be followed by big demonstrations on the part of the elements, which spare nothing to embarrass the government."

The authorities, with heads lowered for the blow, accepted it with dogged Russian courage and the stubborn resolve that the end was a long way off. Nevertheless, although this moment had been anticipated and discounted, it remained for the actual event to bring home a full realization of the great change produced in the military situation by the release of the men and guns at Port Arthur for the reinforcement of Field Marshal Oyama, and the indefinite prolongation of the war and appreciation that no decisive victory is even then possible without control of the sea."

It is affirmed, although positively denied at the admiralty, that it has been decided that the government cannot now take any chances with Admiral Rojestvenski's squadron in order to insure superiority over Admiral Togo."

In view of the situation Emperor Nicholas is now on his way to St. Petersburg, where he probably will have an immediate consultation with his advisers, but both the war office and admiralty all talk of the possibility of peace at such a time meets with nothing but expressions of indignation."

THE SUPPLIES OF AMMUNITION EXHAUSTED.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 3.—Gen. Stoessel's dispatches by way of Chefoo to the general staff relate how the powder in the fortress of Port Arthur gradually became less safe and more critical, the ravages of scurvy increasing enormously, and the casualty lists, already considerable from the Japanese assaults and bombardments."

Towards the end of the year the supplies of ammunition completely gave out, there was 14,000 sick and wounded in the hospitals and 8,000 fresh casualties coming in daily. The general reports state that at the end of the siege he had only 10,000 men under arms, the remainder of the original garrison having been killed or disabled."

KNOWS NOTHING OF THE PEACE RUMORS.

London, Jan. 3.—The Associated Press is informed by the foreign office that the British government has heard nothing officially of the intention of Japan to propose peace to Russia through the American government. The foreign office added that it was very recently officially informed that Russia would not consider any proposals for peace at present. It was quite evident that the British government continues skeptical regarding the prospects of an early peace. The official read the suggestion contained in the Washington cable dispatches with much interest, but announce their conviction that the time was not yet ripe for mediation."

RUSSIAN TROOPS IN GERMAN PORT.

Berlin, Jan. 3.—The arrival at Tsingtau, Shantung peninsula, China, from Port Arthur of two Russian torpedo boats and a transport, with Russian troops on board, is officially confirmed. The governor of Tsingtau, in pursuance of his permanent instructions, will require the vessels to disarm or leave Tsingtau within twenty-four hours. The crews and troops will remain in the German district until the end of the war, or an arrangement regarding them is reached with Japan."

WILL STRENGTHEN THE HANDS OF OYAMA.

Tokio, Jan. 3.—Some of the foreign diplomats here believe that there will be an early renewal of efforts looking to the securing of peace. Outwardly the Japanese government gives no indication of its desires in that direction, but it is known that it is prepared to discuss the question and to make terms which are characterized as reasonable."

Those who predict that the government is for peace declare that the Japanese Emperor's commendations of Gen. Stoessel and the determination of the Japanese to give honorable terms to the surrendered garrison will soften the blow to Russia and create an opening for the discussion of the question of peace."

The United States, Great Britain and France are named as possible direct or indirect intermediaries, though it is probable that Japan will broach the subject directly."

The fall of Port Arthur immensely strengthens the hand of Japan. In the official contact of the war Port Arthur has been a stumbling block to Japan,

WHICH FOR SIX MONTHS HAS ENGAGED THERE OVER 100,000 TROOPS.

The capture of Port Arthur, which engaged there over 100,000 troops, and practically her entire navy. This fact compelled Field Marshal Oyama to fight the decisive battle of Liaoyang. Now the entire navy is free to prepare to meet the Russian second Pacific squadron, and to attend to the Vladivostok squadron. A heavy force of troops will be immediately available for service in Manchuria, and this possibly will allow the undertaking of the independent enterprises."

Tokio, Jan. 3.—A telegram from Gen. Nogi giving the text of the capitulation convention was received this afternoon. It is as follows: "Article 1—All Russian soldiers, marines, volunteers, also government officials at the garrison and harbor of Port Arthur are taken prisoners."

"Article 2—All forts, batteries, warships, other ships and boats, arms, ammunition, horses, all materials for hostile use, government buildings and all articles belonging to the Russian government shall be transferred to the Japanese army in their present condition."

"Article 3—On the preceding two conditions being assented to, as a guarantee for fulfillment thereof, the men garrisoning the forts and batteries on Dose mountain, Sunshu mountain, Antei mountain, and the line of eminences southeast of these, shall be removed by noon of January 3rd, and the same shall be transferred to the Japanese army."

"Article 4—Should Russian military or naval men be deemed to have destroyed objects named in article 2, or to have caused alteration in any way, the terms of this compact and negotiations shall be annulled, and the Japanese army will take free action."

"Article 5—The Russian military and naval authorities shall prepare and transfer to the Japanese army a table showing the fortifications of Port Arthur, and their respective positions, and maps showing the location of mines, underground and submarine, and all other dangerous objects; also a table showing the composition and system of the army and naval services at Port Arthur; a list of army and navy officers, with names, ranks and duties of said officers; a list of army transports, warships and other ships, with the number of their respective crews; a list of civilians, showing the number of men and women, their race and occupations."

"Article 6—Arms, including those carried on the person, ammunition, war material, government buildings; objects owned by the government, horses, warships and other ships, including their contents, excepting private property, shall be left in charge of the Russian and Japanese armies shall decide upon the method of their transfer."

"Article 7—The Japanese army, considering the gallant resistance offered by the Russian army, as being honorable, will permit the officers of the Russian army and navy, as well as those belonging thereto, to carry swords, and to take with them private property directly necessary for the maintenance of life. The previously mentioned officers, officials and volunteers who will sign a written parole pledging that they will not take up arms and in no wise take action contrary to the interests of the Japanese army until the close of the war, will receive the consent of the Japanese army to return to their country. Each army and navy officer will be allowed one servant, and such servant will be specially recruited on signing the parole."

"Article 8—Non-commissioned officers and privates of both army and navy, and volunteers shall wear their uniforms and make up their tents and necessary private property, and commanded by their respective officers shall assemble at such places as may be indicated by the Japanese army and navy. The Japanese commissioners will indicate the necessary details thereof."

"Article 9—The sanitary corps and the accountants belonging to the Russian army and navy shall be required by the Japanese while their services are required for the caring of sick and wounded prisoners during such time; such corps shall be required to render service to the Japanese army."

"Article 10—The treatment to be accorded to the residents, the transfer of bonds and documents relating to mutual rights and claims, and the detailed files for the enforcement of this compact will be embodied in a supplementary compact."

"Article 11—One copy each of this compact shall be prepared for the Japanese and Russian armies and it shall have immediate effect upon signature hereof."

RUSSIAN LOSSES DURING THE SIEGE.

Chefoo, Jan. 3.—Some interesting statistics concerning the defence of Port Arthur have reached here. Originally the army numbered 35,000. Eleven thousand have been killed, 16,000 are wounded or sick, and 8,000 remained in the forts, of which over 2,000 were unable to fight."

"During the siege 26.5 per cent. of the garrison were put out of action. This remarkable loss was due to wounded men returning to the front. Cases have been recorded where men have gone to the hospital four times, returning convalescent to the front."

"The number of officers killed was proportionally greater than in any battle known in history. The Russians estimate that the taking of the fortress cost Japan \$100,000,000."

Gen. Stoessel thought his determination not to surrender Port Arthur, realized the gravity of the situation following the capture of 203-Metre fort. The sailor boat which came through a storm on December 16th with half-frozen men, was rescued by Commander Mizoguchi, carried, among others, two important dispatches. One of these was addressed to St. Petersburg asking what was the prospect of the arrival of the Russian second Pacific squadron, and the other went to Gen. Kouropatkin asking for relief from the Manchurian army. Both dispatches stated that, after another month, Port Arthur's last defender would have fallen. The authorities at St. Petersburg gave the required information, and stated to Gen. Stoessel that he had won the confidence of the government, and that whatever he did would be accepted as being for the best. Gen. Kouropatkin answered to the effect that he had his hands full and was not able to promise early relief. The replies were entrusted to a messenger, who is personally known to the correspondent of the Associated Press. It is highly probable that the findings he brought weighed heavily with Gen. Stoessel when he acquiesced in the wishes of his generals when they proposed the surrender of the fortress."

TRANSFER OF WAR MATERIAL TO JAPANESE.

Tokio, Jan. 4.—Gen. Nogi reports to the army department that on January 3rd the commissioners of both the Japanese and Russian armies concluded their conference, and that from the morning of January 4th the actual transfer of war materials at Port Arthur as property of the Japanese government commenced."

The Japanese captured 25,000 prisoners at Port Arthur. The total number of inhabitants is 35,000, of whom 20,000 are sick."

The Jiji discussing the capture of Port Arthur reviews the price paid in lives, and says: "We ought to keep Port Arthur in our hands so long as our Empire exists. Port Arthur is the key to the peace in the Far East, and it is our duty to keep the key in our hands."

The Emperor of Russia has cabled to Gen. Stoessel saying that the giving of his parole or the alternative of imprisonment is optional with the officers."

RUSSIANS WILL LEAVE PORT ARTHUR TOMORROW.

Headquarters of the third Japanese army, via Pusan, Jan. 4.—The request of the Russians for food, medicines and physicians for their sick and wounded has been granted."

Tsao, Ontar and Tsingkot forts were taken over by the Japanese at noon to-day."

The date on which the Russian prisoners of war will be marched out has been delayed until January 7th."

TERRIBLE SUFFERINGS OF BESIEGED SOLDIERS.

London, Jan. 4.—The Daily Mail Chefoo correspondent says that Russian officers, who have arrived there, bring descriptions of the terrible conditions existing in the hospital at Port Arthur, which they say were worse than those of the battlefield. They relate how the Sisters of Charity, accustomed as they are to such ordeals, sickened under their posts because of lack of nourishment."

The expected patients toward the end complained bitterly of what they called the heartlessness of the Sisters of Charity, who grew so accustomed to human suffering that they seemed to lose all sympathy for the victims."

The correspondent adds: "Medicine and doctors were scarce, and the shrieks and groans of the wounded, mingled with the curses and yells of men who were undergoing operations without anaesthetics, made it a perfect inferno."

AN OBJECT LESSON TO BOTH ARMIES.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 4.—The press here contains absolutely no additional news of the war, but the papers with one accord praise the heroic work of the Port Arthur garrison, and say its record furnishes an object lesson to both Russia and Japan."

After bestowing a tribute on the defender the Novoye Vremya says: "The unpreparedness of the fortress, which now stands confessed before the world, reads as a lesson on what Russia must do and how she must change her method to achieve victory. It also shows Japan what she has undertaken when such enormous losses are entailed in capturing even a small empty-handed garrison, driven to the last ditch. Russia has had eleven months of hard but valuable experience in the art of war under the new conditions imposed by modern technical requirements. It has been costly training, but will be valuable."

As an even more strongly worded article the Russ says: "Had the Japanese been able to cut off the last train which reached Port Arthur the blockade would have found the fortress even worse prepared. Well may those reminding heroes say: 'We have done our duty, but you people of St. Petersburg and of Russia, have you done all you could and should have done?'"

The Russ concludes: "Russia cannot afford to quit during a losing fight. The time has now come for every one to put a shoulder to the wheel and redouble our efforts in the Far East." The paper

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SEEL. R. Prefontaine, heries. sh from Ottawa. Hon. Raymond...

THE INVENTOR OF THE FAMOUS JAP GUN

ARRIVED HERE ON THE KANAGAWA MARU

With New Ordnance Russian Casemates Were Smashed and Ships in Harbor Destroyed.

(From Thursday's Daily.) The man who indirectly deserves no small credit for compelling the Russians...

DEATH OF JAMES BYRN

Passed Away Early This Morning After Lingering Illness.

(From Thursday's Daily.) After a gallant struggle which lasted right up to the end, James S. Byrn, one of Victoria's most popular young men...

FEW CHANGES IN THE CITY MARKETS

PRICE OF SUGAR IS ADVANCED A LITTLE

The local markets show very little change from the prices quoted last week. The supply of apples being received is equal to the demand upon it...

ANNUAL ADDRESS TO UNION WORKERS AND LABOR COUNCIL

READ BEFORE TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

The Victoria Trades and Labor Council met last evening, with the president, G. S. Coldwell, in the chair. Nelson C. Brown, of the Leather Workers, J. E. B. Tyson, from the machinists, and E. Keown and M. Meis, of the cigarmakers, presented their credentials.

EMBEZZLERS RUN TO EARTH HERE

SENSATIONAL ARREST IN A LOCAL HOTEL

(From Thursday's Daily.) The long stern chase of Lewis P. Oligher and J. E. Zimmerman, president and managing director of the Wooster National bank, was dramatically terminated in the Dominion hotel shortly before 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon...

FRUIT-TIVES

"PURELY VEGETABLE" Look out for these "purely vegetable" medicines. Aconite, Belladonna, Digitalis, Morphine, Strychnine—all violent poisons—are vegetable in origin. You see the term means nothing, as regards safety.

Apples, oranges, figs and prunes make them. The juices are combined by our secret process, which intensifies their medicinal action, and speeds them into tablets. These are "FRUIT-TIVES"—nature's tonic and laxative—the only certain cure for indigestion, headaches, constipation, liver and kidney troubles.

WAGNER'S

Apply to Superior Court to Void Probate of Alexander Dunsmuir's Will.

The Dunsmuir will case is assuming new features. It is being carried in the Superior Court of California and may be fought out in the courts of that state before further proceedings are taken in the present in British Columbia.

INSURANCE TROUBLES

Affairs Respecting Underwriting Business in Province Are Still in Chaotic Condition.

The question of whether there shall be an amalgamation of the Vancouver Island and Mainland Boards of Underwriters is still a subject of negotiation. It is understood, however, that representatives in this city towards initiating a rate war, but some of the agents are of the opinion that unless the situation changes materially that will ensue.

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PORT ARTHUR AND AFTER.

General Stoessel made a gallant defence of Port Arthur. All the portion of the world entitled to speak with authority is agreed upon that. But the heroic commander of a still more heroic garrison did not keep his pledge that the fortress would be his tomb. His dramatic farewell to the world was therefore just a trifle premature. A live general who knows his business and has profited by such experience as Stoessel has had will be of much more service to Russia than a dead one. There is a strong probability that the military history of Port Arthur is but begun. The Japanese took it once before and had to give it up at the dictation of powers which did not realise the military potentialities of the new nation that had arisen in the East. It is hinted that an attempt will be made to repeat the programme that was performed after the defeat of China. The Russians evidently indulge in that hope. The French hint that when the final international adjustment which must follow the conclusion of the present misunderstanding takes place the question of the future of the key to Manchuria must be considered. To any impartial authority it must be clear that the status of Port Arthur became fixed when the Japanese garrison marched out and the Russian battalions took possession. The greatest of Asiatic powers have twice taken possession of the fortress. Japan will not march out again at the dictation of any power or any combination of powers upon earth.

Russia will not be satisfied, of course. She is defeated and humiliated. Her available sea forces have been destroyed. Her effective land forces have been repeatedly defeated, and will be more helpless than ever to achieve results against the augmented, victorious and jubilant armies of the Mikado. The fall of Port Arthur may convince the directors-general of Russian diplomacy that for the present the prolongation of the war would but invite further humiliations and be the prelude to disasters that would be more disastrous than the losses of prestige that have already been sustained. Admiral Togo has nothing to occupy his mind now but the conclusion of preparations for the reception of Rojstvensky's fleets. If the Muscovitish admiral be permitted to prosecute his journey the inevitable end must be the destruction of the remains of Russia's modern navy.

A review of the situation, notwithstanding the bold declarations of the Russian press, must confirm the belief that the end of the war, for the present, is at hand. That the defeated nation will bide her time, construct a new fleet with all possible speed, strengthen herself where her position in Asia has shown weakness, and strike when she again deems the time opportune, there is little reason to doubt. Nor will the fact that Japan has had sympathisers in her struggle pass hurriedly from the recollection of the nation that is determined not to rest until she has seated herself upon the Bosphorus, the Persian Gulf, the Indian Ocean, or upon an ice-free port on the Pacific Coast. Not by any means. Russia will gather herself together, make allies after the manner of her enemies, and await developments. Events have proven to her that such fleets as she can construct and maintain in her locked-up European waters will be of little use against the overwhelming forces of rival nations. Her greatest opportunities for aggrandizement lie in Eastern Asia and upon the Pacific Coast. It is therefore reasonable to presume that in that quarter all her recuperative energies will be concentrated. The Pacific will be the theatre of the most interesting events of the year. After peace has been declared there will be great rivalry between Japan and Russia, in anticipation of the greater struggle to follow.

CIVIC AFFAIRS.

A correspondent wants to know why so little interest appears to be taken in the municipal elections. We cannot tell him. There is certainly sufficient reason why the public should be interested in civic matters. Very important works have been carried on during the past year. Still more important undertakings will have to be considered during the current term. The policy at the present time appears to be to keep the public in ignorance of all negotiations and discussions with reference to such matters. We must speak low! Interested parties have their ears to the ground and are ready to take advantage of any information that may be given out. To surround all proceedings with a vaporous mystery is the fashion of the day. Why this system of doing things has been brought into vogue we know not. We confess to the indulgence of a hope that some vigorous municipal iconoclast will arise, tear aside the veil with ruthless hand, and let the public see exactly and clearly what is going on. If there are any discussions that would enlighten the public if published, they are carried on behind closed doors in committee of the whole council. This deliberative or legislative assembly, we understand, is called the Streets and Bridges Committee. Now the council is not elected to carry on its proceedings in secret. There may be disadvantages in open discussions. It may not

always be advisable to publish details. But the public has a right to the fullest knowledge of every detail in connection with civic transactions. Secrecy has been known to foster abuses and scandals. It cannot be said that there is any suspicion of wrongdoing attached to anything that has been done during the past year. The council, it is believed, has done good work with very little fuss. No doubt every alderman who seeks re-election will be prepared to give the fullest account of what he has done and to defend his course. We hope some strong, representative men will yet come out and force a submission of details and advocate reforms in the aldermanic methods of doing business.

ANOTHER DEFICIT—HIGHER TAXES.

After all the boastings of the Colonist about what the statesmen in the McBride government had done to restore an equilibrium between provincial revenue and expenditure—after leading the public to believe that the year's operations would leave a surplus—possibly small, but still a substantial surplus—in the treasury—it is now stated that when the House meets the members will be confronted with the usual deficit. This notwithstanding the enormous increase in the load of taxation the public has been called upon to carry. It seems the assessment commission has been created, not for the purpose of discovering what can be done to apportion the burdens more equitably, but as a consequence of the threatened shortage in funds and to devise means of increasing the revenue. If the state of the finances had been satisfactory it is extremely probable there would have been no assessment commission. The Finance Minister discovered the necessity for it on his return from an enjoyable jaunt to the home of his fathers. Of course the responsibility for the threatened shortage must rest upon the objectionable federal government, whose candidates the discredited and disgraced McBride coterie opposed so bitterly during the late campaign. It is not due to present or past extravagance, nor is it a consequence of the enormous fixed charges the province is called upon to meet as a result of the criminal recklessness of past administrations of true Tory type. No; it is all the fault of the Laurier government, which imposed a tax of five hundred dollars on Chinamen coming into the province and thus cut off a revenue of about three hundred thousand dollars a year. And we are told the deficits must continue unless the condemned federal administration extend its aid. We have little doubt the obduracy and injustice of the Laurier government will be urged as a reason for the abandonment of the comprehensive policy of development the Premier announced a month or so ago, would be brought down. The opposition of the socialist members, without whose support the government can do nothing, will not be admitted as having any bearing upon the regular annual collapse.

It is now quite apparent the Legislature will meet and for the second time in its history adjourn without accomplishing anything of importance for the province. The government will simply manoeuvre to sustain itself in power. If the members who are really desirous to see the province progressive and prosperous and to carry out the obvious wishes of their constituents could be prevailed upon to act and vote patriotically, the McBride government would not last a week beyond the opening day of the session.

MUNICIPAL APATHY.

The citizens of Victoria have evidently been affected by the spirit which for several years has dominated the City Council. They want municipal affairs to run smoothly; they do not desire to listen to the complaints of squeaking wheels or to be annoyed with the noises of jangling machinery. Everything appears to be going all right. The individual who would break into the pleasant meetings of the amiable Aldermanic Board with the avowed intention of stirring up animosities and recriminations, let him be anathema. It is true there are suggestions of enormous expenditures that must be incurred in the not remote future for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of public services on pain of a general increase in insurance rates as a consequence of dallying; but there will be plenty of time to consider these disagreeable matters when details are available. So long as there is no suggestion of a present increase in the rate of taxation let us have peace within our council. Why bother about the details of the past year's administration? There are always agitators going about and casting forth miserable innuendos about corporate influences and corporation graft. That is one of the weaknesses of our municipal and general political system in this democratic age.

We must confess to some astonishment at the palpable fact of the listlessness of municipal ratepayers of all grades. If there were any general dissatisfaction there would doubtless have been plenty of evidence of it in a large registration and a spontaneous and bountiful crop of candidates. As it is there is now little doubt that the great majority of the retiring council will be paid the compliment of having but little serious op-

position. The Times must be permitted to hope that there will be one or two changes, and that the new blood will be instrumental in living municipal politics up a bit and in lifting the veil of secrecy which can have been maintained for no other purpose than darkening the public understanding.

A NEW DOCK NECESSARY.

If general anticipations be realized the surrender of Port Arthur will be the prelude to the signing of a treaty of peace between Japan and Russia. If other anticipations be not astray the declaration of the end of the war will be followed by a transfer of the energies of the combatants into other fields of activity. Does anyone suppose that Russia will rest under the burden of humiliation the Asiatic, owing to an infortuitous combination of circumstances, has heap upon her? The first thing that the Muscovite statesman will think about will be the overcoming of the circumstances that have resulted in the temporary frustration of his plans and the blasting of his hopes. It has been demonstrated to him that his fleet was not strong enough for the accomplishment of the object he had in view. But he relinquishes plans with just as little readiness as his fighting men give up fortresses. The Russian is tenacious above all things and desperately headstrong. The first thing he will do will be to proceed about the work of gathering together a fleet that he believes will be powerful enough to accomplish anything he may desire. If he believes the most convenient road to an ocean port that is at all times free from ice is through Manchuria rather than through Turkey, through Persia, or by way of India, he will in the course of a very few years have more than the mere nucleus of a fleet in Pacific waters. That is the reason there is likely to be developed a new form of competition between Russia and Japan—not altogether a new form of competition either, because the conflict has been going on ever since the day when the Japanese were not in a position to resist the demands of Germany and France and Russia with reverence to the possession of a much coveted part. Russians underrated the fighting ability, the strategic skill and the seamanship of the Japanese. They have been taught a lesson. When they again essay to force their diplomatic wiles and indomitable wills upon China, they will be prepared to whatever extent they believe necessary to supplement their demands with force against any power or powers that may interpose.

And there will be some significance for Canada in the feverish competition that will ensue in view of the proposed abandonment of Great Britain of her one port of naval refuge on this coast. Taking all things and circumstances and possibilities into consideration, no time should be lost in reaching an understanding about the condition of the dry dock at Esquimalt. That institution has long since passed its period of practical utility. Ships have been accommodated at hand more cheaply and more quickly on the modern marine railway. The dock is not wide enough for the fighting ships of the present day. It is not long enough for the merchant steamers that are coming into fashion. There is no dock accommodation here for a battleship; the present C. P. R. liners cannot still farther beyond its capacity. The Great Northern steamers are but a sample of the ships that in the future will be ploughing the waters of the Pacific. To think of them in connection with the Esquimalt dock is to create laughter and expressions of derision. The obvious fact therefore is that the dry dock is as obsolete as the type of warships it was built to accommodate.

The first thing that should receive consideration by the federal and imperial authorities when they proceed to discuss the readjustment of relationships is the construction of a new dry dock. The matter should be taken up by the Dominion government without delay.

The following resolution passed by the reeves of Lower Mainland municipalities in convention assembled furnishes unmistakable proof of the silent political influence that dominates our agricultural districts: "That the convention recommend the government to pass such a law as will entitle a woman to an indivisible half interest of all real property owned by her husband at the time of marriage, or of any which he may become the owner of subsequently; and that any conveyance or mortgage or charge against any local property by a man with a living wife must have the voluntary consent of his wife." Being discreet men, the reeves refrained from discussing the resolution. They passed it without a dissentient voice. It is now up to Premier McBride and his socialist masters to act.

Seattle is one of the most progressive cities in the United States. It is well to the front in all departments of human activity. The Post-Intelligencer says: "The records of the auditor's office show that during the year marriage licenses to the number of 1,827 have been issued in this county. During the same period, according to the reports of the county clerk, divorce cases have been commenced in the Superior Court of this county to the number of 746, and divorce decrees have been granted in 517 cases, with 195 cases still pending. This would indicate that rather more than one

couple out of every three concludes that marriage is a failure, at least with the partners then had."

The Toronto Globe, forgetting for a moment the calamities that are being heaped upon Premier Ross of Ontario, eulogizes hockey on the ice as the king of all sports and the most effective developer of sturdy Canadian manhood. Not having ice, the young man of this portion of Canada is compelled to do the best he can for his physique upon the green sward, with an occasional soft place to roll in and make himself look interesting. If hockey with skating and hard knocks thrown in be a more effective builder of strong bodies, quick and resourceful minds and keen eyes than the various forms of football that are played by the young men of Victoria, there are great hopes for the future of Canada. It is true the more advanced in years on the coast are denied the enjoyments of curling, but is not golf a very fair substitute? It is the winter sport of all classes in this climate. And it is becoming so popular that links have been laid out in all the vacant spaces of Oak Bay by youngsters who have caught the spirit of the game.

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Customs returns for the port of Victoria appear to indicate that British Columbia is working towards the point at which she will be more independent of outside sources for the necessities and luxuries of life. Post Office statistics show that business has greatly increased. The natural inference therefore is that as a community we are not paying so much tribute as formerly to the federal exchequer and foreign producers. We are doing more business with ourselves. Agriculturists, horticulturists and dairymen are taking great advantage of their opportunities and feeding the people.

A resident of Shawinigan Lake complains of the inconvenience and loss to which residents and cottagers in the district are subjected annually by the rise in the level of the waters at that popular resort. He suggests that the government should make an appropriation for the deepening of the outlet, a work in which he promises the residents of the district will lend their assistance. The proper procedure would be to call the attention of the member for the constituency to the evil complained of and ask his assistance in obtaining its abatement.

To the electors of the municipality of Victoria: Ladies and Gentlemen—You are at present in a state of lethargy, and indifferent in regard to matters of administration which concern you very seriously. But the time will come soon—now it is at hand—when you will be thoroughly aroused and feverishly anxious for information about every detail of city government.

THREE FUNERALS.

Remains of Henry Charles Lawson Laid at Rest on Sunday.

There was a large attendance at the funeral on Sunday afternoon of Henry Charles Lawson, whose death occurred on Friday at the family residence, Johnson street. It took place at 2:45 o'clock from the residence, and at 2 o'clock at Christ Church cathedral. Rt. Rev. Bishop Perrin conducted impressive services. Members of one of the local Odd Fellows lodges attended in a body. There were many floral tributes. The following acted as pallbearers: Wm. Rockett, A. L. Brownlee, J. McEwen, Capt. McCrosbie, J. A. Heritage and A. Graham. Mr. Lawson was well known to many Victorians. He was employed on many vessels plying in British Columbia waters as an engineer. Arriving in British Columbia in 1862 he became identified first with the O. R. & N., and later with the C. P. N. and C. P. R. companies. He served as engineer on the steamers Thames, Sir James Douglas, Isabel, Otter, North Pacific, George E. P. Bithet and Olympian. Deceased was a native of Denmark, 71 years of age, and leaves to mourn his loss three sons and three daughters residing in Victoria, namely, Henry D. D., Richard W. and Charles Alfred Lawson; Anna Selma and Beatrice Ester Lawson and Mrs. D. R. Young.

The remains of Mrs. Sarah Emille Mason were laid at rest on Sunday afternoon, the funeral taking place from the residence of her son-in-law, J. W. Ambury. Religious services were conducted by Rev. Canon Beaudais at Christ Church cathedral. Appropriate hymns were sung by the surplice choir, which was in attendance. There was a large number of floral tributes. The following acted as pallbearers: D. M. Eberts, K. C. Hon. A. Martin, C. W. Rhodes, G. A. Taylor, A. S. Robertson and H. B. Robertson. Monday morning the remains of the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Atkinson, of Stanley avenue, were laid at rest. Rev. E. G. Miller conducted funeral services.

A pedlar named Fojtk set fire to a barn belonging to a farmer at Mitokechit, in Alaska, and then hanged himself from a beam in the roof. The charred body was found among the ruins.

NEW SPEAKER FOR THE COMMONS

R. F. SUTHERLAND HAS BEEN NOMINATED

R. Redford is Chairman of Transportation Commission—No Naval Cruiser This Winter.

Ottawa, Jan. 4.—R. F. Sutherland, M. P., North Essex, has been nominated for Speaker of the House of Commons.

New Chairman. Robert Redford has been appointed chairman of the transportation commission, and J. H. Ashdown, Winnipeg, a member of the commission.

No Cruise This Winter. There will be no naval school cruise on the Canada this winter. Hon. Raymond Prefontaine has received a letter from Admiral D. H. Boscaquet, on board His Majesty's ship Ariadne at Bermuda, stating that he cannot make arrangements for the Canada joining his squadron this season. The letter is written from on board the Ariadne at Bermuda, and says the vice-admiral and commander-in-chief regret that owing to the North Atlantic West Indian squadron being in a transitional state at present, he could not avail himself of the services of the Canada in the West Indian waters this season, but next year, if he could meet the wishes of Mr. Prefontaine, he would let him know in time.

Reported Disqualified.

E. M. Lewis, Conservative, who was elected in West Huron for the Dominion House, is said to be disqualified. If he takes his seat he will be liable to a penalty of \$200 every day that he occupies it. In 1902 Thos. Gundry, Ontario, made contract with the post office department for the carriage of mails. His guarantors are E. M. Lewis and A. M. Polley. Mr. Lewis is still a party to this contract, and under the Independence of Parliament Act is disqualified from sitting as a member. Mr. Holmes was the Liberal candidate.

HUNGARIAN DIET

Dissolved By the Emperor—Speech Deals With the Parliamentary Situation.

Buda Pest, Hungary, Jan. 4.—Emperor Francis Joseph formerly dissolved the Diet this morning in a speech from the throne, dealing with the parliamentary situation. The speech said: "The experience of the recent past determined a large part of the Chamber of Deputies to place on the order of the day the question of a reform in the existing orders. The conflicts arising therefrom, however, created a situation of such a critical character that we can no longer hope for the re-establishment of the working capabilities of the present Diet. In view of this fact, we consider our constitutional duty to afford the nation an opportunity for declaring its attitude. We do so with full confidence in the devotion of the nation to its constitutional rights and its wisdom. The harmony between the King and the nation and their mutual confidence have established conditions of undisturbed constitutional life, and the undisturbed success of the work of the free institutions have in the past rendered a beneficent period of peaceful development possible. If now the working of these institutions encounters obstacles, it is incumbent upon the nation to manifest its will. For these reasons we have, on the proposal of our government, decided upon the dissolution of the Diet before the expiry of the parliamentary term."

ORE SAMPLES.

King Solomon Mine Output Runs Higher in Copper Than Anticipated. J. S. Matson has received from the King Solomon mine near Cowichan two large samples of ore, which are on exhibition in his office. The mine continues to show up well. One assay of the ore made by Fred. Young of the Crofton smelter gives 19 per cent. in copper. It was anticipated that the ore would yield 15 per cent., but it is now proved that this was a low estimate. The samples of ore now on exhibition in the office of Matson & Coles have been examined by mining experts, and they declare the ore as the equal of any ever found on Vancouver Island. There are such immense showings on the surface that even without depth the mine will prove a very remunerative one.

DEMAND MORE PAY.

Deputation Waited on Capt. Grant on Tuesday With Request For Increased Remuneration.

The white seal hunters are asking for an increase in remuneration from the Interior Sealing Company. A deputation representing the men waited upon Capt. Grant, manager of the company, on Tuesday. They asked that the wages should be increased to \$4 a skin. They contend that the seals are becoming scarcer, and that therefore this increase is necessary. At the same time a corresponding increase was asked for the boat pullers.

LIVERYMAN'S SUICIDE.

After Wounding Wife He Ended His Life in Sight of Several Hundred People.

Kansas City, Jan. 1.—After attempting the life of his wife, Mrs. Lizzie Gleeson, and in the belief that he had succeeded in his efforts to kill her, George Gleeson, a liveryman of St. Joseph, Mo., leaped far out of the second story window of his mother-in-law's home here to-day and cut his throat with a razor from ear to ear in sight of several hundred persons who had been attracted by Mrs. Gleeson's screams.

There was no witness to the first part of the tragedy except the young wife, who is now dying in the city hospital. Mrs. Gleeson was terribly wounded. Her throat and face were slashed and her hands and arms were badly cut while she struggled with the desperate man. After cutting his throat, Gleeson knocked down Mrs. Roller, his mother-in-law, who tried to interfere, and rushing outside, was chased two blocks by the crowd before he was exhausted and succumbed to his wounds. The couple had been separated, and Gleeson had followed his wife here in an endeavor to effect a reconciliation. Gleeson was 25 years of age, and his wife 18.

DIED OF HYDROPHOBIA.

Tragic Circumstances Surrounding Death of James B. Colvin.

James B. Colvin, for years proprietor of the Clyde shipyards here, passed away at the Jubilee hospital on Sunday morning under peculiarly distressing and tragic circumstances. His death was directly due to hydrophobia contracted through the bite of a wolf at White Horse several months ago. It appears that in the latter part of September Mr. Colvin and his wife were aroused by the whining of their dog. The former went out to investigate, and was attacked by a wolf, which lacerated one of his hands. His wife and several members of the Northwest Mounted Police hastened to his rescue, and drove the wolf away. After being treated at White Horse Mr. Colvin came to this city, and was attended by Dr. Frank Hall. Last week unmistakable symptoms of hydrophobia developed, and on Saturday night he was sent to the Jubilee hospital, where he died four hours later. As is always the case with rabies the patient could not resist the sight of water, which would send him into spasms.

Dr. Hall says this is the first case of the kind on record in British Columbia, Washington or Oregon. Mr. Colvin came to Victoria from Shetland Islands about thirty years ago. He engaged in shipbuilding, and in 1897 went to the Klondike and constructed a number of the river steamers plying on the Yukon. He was fifty-one years of age, and leaves a widow, the daughter of Sergeant Hawton, Pandora avenue, and two sons. The funeral took place this afternoon.

TOLSTOI'S LETTER

Was Written to the Emperor Three Years Ago—Suggests Reforms.

London, Jan. 3.—The Times to-day publishes a letter written by Count Leo Tolstoy to Emperor Nicholas some three years ago, when Tolstoy believed himself dying. The letter, which deals with the internal conditions of Russia, commences: "Dear brothers," and refers to the universal dissatisfaction at that time manifested towards the government. It suggests a number of reforms, some of which have been recently granted. Count Tolstoy blames the Emperor's advisers. He says the entire country joins with him in condemning the Emperor's government which, "May answer the demands of a people somewhat in Central Africa, but not the demands of the Russian people, who are growing more enlightened by the enlightenment common to the whole world."

Count Tolstoy sets forth the desires of the people: "First, the working people desire to be delivered from special laws, which place them in the position of a parish deprived of all the rights of other citizens; second, they desire freedom of removal from place to place, freedom of education, freedom of conscience, and above all freedom in the use of land." Count Tolstoy urges the Emperor to consider his duty to God, who will do it that good will be done to man. The letter devotes the greatest attention to the alleged need for the abolition of the right of private property in land. Count Tolstoy thinks this reform would destroy all socialistic revolutionary agitation and replace the Russian people on a high plane of independence, welfare and contentment.

REBUILDING RUSSIAN NAVY.

Beyond Sanctioning Expenditure of Eighty Millions By Czar Nothing Definite Has Been Decided.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 1.—With reference to the reports published in the United States under a Petersburg date that Emperor Nicholas has sanctioned the expenditure of \$80,000,000 for rebuilding the navy, the fact is that Russia's naval programme has not yet been definitely decided or promulgated. All that is positively known is that the plans cover a long period of years. The absolute necessity of a sea power is one of Russia's latest lessons of the present war, and will probably result in the complete destruction of the Port Arthur fleet. The government is determined not only on filling the gap but on building up a fleet which will keep Russia fully abreast of other first class powers.

The press has unanimously supported the plans for the regeneration and reorganization of the navy, and to this end it has been determined to build up great ship yards at home. The figures given, however, are not confirmed. The Russian office of Matson & Coles have been examined by mining experts, and they declare the ore as the equal of any ever found on Vancouver Island. There are such immense showings on the surface that even without depth the mine will prove a very remunerative one.

TRAGEDY AT DANCE.

Logansport, Ind., Jan. 2.—Florence Mitchell shot and killed Edie Swisher during a dance at a roadside house three miles from here. Both are young women belonging to respectable families, and were on a slumming expedition. Miss Swisher had danced repeatedly with C. L. Morgan, and as she led the dance kissed him. As she did so, Miss Mitchell drew a revolver and fired at the girl, one bullet striking Miss Swisher in the head. Miss Mitchell escaped and took a train toward Chicago, but was arrested and brought back here.

"His foot would always indicate changes of weather," said a doctor in the Southwark County court, referring to a man's broken ankle. "Then it will never be perfect in this country," said counsel. "Anyhow, he will know when to knock off work," commented the judge.

FISHERIES ON THE PACIFIC COAST

THE PROPOSAL TO HOLD INVESTIGATION

Senator Templeman Intervenes Minister Regarding Appointment of an International Commission.

Ottawa, Jan. 4.—Senator Templeman, who arrived here yesterday, had an interview with the former minister of fisheries regarding the appointment of an international commission to look into the fisheries on the Pacific coast. When in the west the minister of marine and fisheries said that such a commission would be appointed in response to a proposition which came from the United States government. It is expected that this commission would provide for joint regulations which would aid in preserving the fisheries.

CANADIAN DISPATCHES.

Two Brothers Suffocated in Their Dwelling—Missionary's Sudden Death.

Montreal, Jan. 3.—News comes from St. Andrew's East, Quebec, that the wooden dwelling occupied by Dugal and Donald Cameron, brothers, both over 80 years of age, was destroyed by fire Saturday night. Both men were suffocated before being rescued.

Killed By Train. Montreal, Jan. 3.—Charles Thilant, of Waterloo, Que., a well-known politician 20 years ago from one end of Canada to the other, was killed last night while crossing the tracks of the Canadian Pacific railway at Sutton, Que.

Sudden Death. Toronto, Jan. 3.—Rev. Davidson Macdonald, M. D., who for many years was head of the Canadian Methodist missions in Japan, and who returned last summer on furlough, dropped dead today at his residence in this city while reading a newspaper.

Land Sales.

Winnipeg, Jan. 3.—The sales of the N. W. Company during 1904 amounted to 49,000 acres, resulting in \$24,000, or \$63.60 per acre. The sale of town lots by the company totalled \$83,000. A Divisional Point. Edmonton, Jan. 3.—This city received assurances of being a division point on the Grand Trunk Pacific with terminal facilities.

CASE HAS COLLAPSED.

Presentment Against Bishop Talbot to Be Withdrawn—New One May Be Prepared.

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 2.—The developments to-day in the controversy between Dr. Irvine, the deposed priest of the Episcopal church, and Bishop Talbot, of the diocese of central Pennsylvania, indicate that the case of Dr. Irvine against the bishop has entirely collapsed. J. Frederick Jenkinson, of Philadelphia, assistant counsel, with Herbert W. Noble, of New York, for the presenters, is said to be on his way to Philadelphia with a statement from Bishop Tuttle, presiding bishop of the Episcopal church, asking leave to withdraw the presentment, and requesting permission to make a new presentment. The vestment of St. John's church, Huntington, Pa., held a meeting to-night and unanimously passed a resolution affirming confidence in Bishop Talbot. A statement signed by the six vestment, whose names appear in the Irving presentment, was forwarded to Dr. W. B. Bodine at Philadelphia. The new presentment will, it is declared, allege against Bishop Talbot all of the charges of the collapsed document. Besides these charges others will be included which will, it is said, be based upon another letter, equally as denunciatory of Dr. Irvine as the Ujohuri letter.

SAILING DELAYED.

Steamer Which Carries Torpedo Boat, Supposed to Be For Russia, Still in Port.

Newport News, Va., Jan. 3.—The German steamship Adria, with a submarine torpedo boat, supposed to be destined for Russia, lashed to her decks, and a pilot on board, was scheduled to sail yesterday, but she is delayed at the shipyard. The report of government interference is current, but cannot be confirmed. Just after a pilot had boarded the steamer, which was scheduled to sail at 4 o'clock, a stranger, whose identity cannot be learned, appeared at the shipyard, and a few minutes later it was announced that the vessel would not sail. Information as to the cause of the change of programme, the destination of the submarine and the identity of the messenger is refused.

HOW THE WAS

HOLIDAY FOR OBS

Noisy Demonstration—Appropriate Callers on

(From The Year ninety an established fact have passed since the world is still the same old stand. That seldom, if noisier New Year toria. The anti-year was allowed in and finally with not a sing and the new one joyous abandon ed the cockles of Father Time. Firecrackers and advances, tin horns, tools—and pocket essential parts in Langley gravely that he was going presiding man. He found that a policy of his chief and his small boy is still and full of the en an able bodied maps that is why to explode, the first merry fusillade, at the inception of this in one unholly, de after midnight. Watchlight seen number of the cl congregation. At vicies, in the main which had been h ly appropriate t are always impr contrast to the s streets. Devotion appropriate were churches on Sund Yesterday the h served here. Re various institution performances were while in the afte large crowd beha the Vancouver. A accompaniment of nothing. The gro Year calls was ob as in the past, a therefore marked people than on C sentially a home A considerable t added to the plac of the city. Port Arthur. Vied an unusually d since the first gu all the many ph investment was t their sympathies of the Japanese th surrender of the av characterized by the most sincere s His Honor the His Worship the number of callers, called at Govern hows: Bishop Be Beaumont Boggs, Cuthbert Holmes, Russ Clarke, Edw Clarke, Geo. Jay Wilkinson, John B. Wolfenden, W. jr., S. Tims, A. Abraham E. Smit Spencer, J. W. Spencer, T. H. W. Major Philip G. Rev. A. Ewing, Dr. A. J. Jones, J. McKilligan, Dr. Col. Holmes, Rev. Baugh Allen, Ne Pooler, P. G. Ve Beaver, C. C. Pe W. Northcott, T. Riddel, S. W. Ed Chas. Hayward, Grahm Geo. W. E. E. Wootton, Campbell, W. G. H. A. S. Morley, McTavish, S. J. H. Fletcher, H. Anderson, Lieut Cockburn, R. G. R. G. A., A. G. M. L. S. Eaton, J. Cuthbert, W. H. H. Pabb, Thos. dore J. C. Goodr Parry, Command Secretary Leonard toulah, J. Mitch Gaudin, J. R. P. B. Gregory, H. E. Roy W. Troup, E. Capt. Watts, A. Callum, A. G. H. Holden, J. D. H. Edward Dickson, E. Campbell, R. Longfield, Jesse Yates, Major H. O. H. Topp, Dr. Farquhar, S. Y. J. W. Church, O'Reilly, Lindley Reid, H. S. Cro son, R. N. Rev Yeades, T. J. La lating, L. McLes Arthur Beauland A. J. O'Reilly, N. Robertson, W. M. Wm. Fleet Rol Jas. Simson, D. Lamford, W. A. A. C. Flumerfelt, Brite, Hon. R. Phillips, Lieut- Forman, R. H.

WEEKLY WEATHER SYNOPSIS.

Victoria Meteorological Office. 28th December to 3rd January, 1905. The weather during this week has been unusually overcast and rainy, and in this vicinity the total amount of bright sunshine was only six hours, and rain to a greater or less extent fell upon every day of the week. On Wednesday, 28th, an ocean storm with a centre of 28.89 inches at Port Simpson gradually spread inland across the province, accompanied by abnormally heavy rains both on this island and the Lower Mainland, while on the Coast a heavy southerly gale prevailed for some hours. At the mouth of the Columbia river the hourly wind velocity reached a maximum of 68 miles. This disturbance spread over the Territories and Manitoba, where it caused comparatively mild weather. From this date to the close of the month the barometer remained abnormally low over the continent from the North Pacific Coast to the Great Lakes. On Sunday, 1st, a moderate southerly gale with heavy rain set in over the Straits and Sound, while on the Coast a strong southerly gale was reported from Cape Flattery to the mouth of the Columbia river. This disturbance crossed Vancouver Island on the night of the 2nd, it caused a moderately westerly gale on the Straits and some fresh snow on the Sooke hills. The weather has been comparatively mild in the Territories and Manitoba until the morning of the 3rd when zero temperatures became general, and in Manitoba the temperature fell to 28 below zero. Victoria—Amount of bright sunshine recorded was 6 hours; rain, 1.64 inches; highest temperature, 55.6 on 20th; and lowest, 35.0 on 1st. New Westminster—Rain, 4.18 inches; highest temperature, 52 on 20th; lowest, 34 on 1st. Kamloops—Rain, 3.33 inches; highest temperature, 44 on 20th; lowest, 28 on 1st. Barkerville—Snow, 0 inches; highest temperature, 36 on 2nd; lowest, 6 on 1st.

Local News.

On Friday evening next Far West lodge, K. of P., will install officers for the ensuing term. A social will be held at the conclusion of the regular business. The amended tonorial tariff is now in operation. Neck shaves and moustache curling are now charged five cents each extra. The majority of the barber shop proprietors having accepted the demands of the union. At a meeting of the Victoria Stationary Engineers' Association, held on Thursday evening in their rooms, five Sisters held, the following officers were elected for 1905: President, M. Hutchison; vice-president, T. Watson; secretary, A. M. Aitken; treasurer, G. Barragouin; conductors, L. Heuther. J. B. H. Rickaby, of this city, has received his commission as vice-consul for Mexico for this province. It came from the Mexican consul-general, for Canada at Montreal. The consul-general is imminent inauguration of the Canadian-Mexican steamship service this appointment will prove of the greatest importance. News came from Port Angeles Tuesday that the steamer "Mithras" had with coal from one of the Island collieries, put back there on Tuesday with her cargo shifted. Terribly stormy weather prevails outside, and the Edith was but a short time in it when she was overtaken by the tumbling about she received she listed, and was obliged to return up the Straits for shelter. The same dispatch chronicling her arrival reports a loaded barque coming up the Straits. As no vessel of this kind is due, it is feared that the vessel is another victim of the fury of the elements. Vancouver, 6; Nanaimo, 0. This was the result of Monday's British game on the cricket field, and while the score shows a decisive beating for the home team, the playing throughout, except during the last 15 minutes, was of the evenest possible description. Nanaimo could not be said to be actually fallen to pieces, but the players were apparently winded, while Vancouver boys, as always, proved good results of faithful practice by playing a strong game right up to the end and had lots of steam in them when the game was completed. Nanaimo Herald. Monday evening there were united in marriage Mr. J. R. Stark, of Vancouver, and Miss Olive E. daughter of Mr. Wm. Souden, of this city. The wedding, which took place at the residence of the bride's father, Amelia street, was a quiet one, to which only the immediate friends of the bride and groom were invited. Rev. G. K. B. Adams performed the ceremony. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Edna Souden, while Mr. Geo. J. Jones, of Nanaimo, supported the groom. Mr. Stark was formerly a resident of this city, and both he and the bride are well known to Victorians. They left last night for Vancouver, where they take up their residence. During the past year the health department of the city has had to deal with only 56 cases, but little more than a third of the number that came to the attention of the authorities last year, when the total was 194, or thereabouts. This reflects two gratifying conditions—the vigilance of the officials and the improved sanitary state of the place. Undoubtedly the sewer extension operations which have been carried on pretty elaborately are exercising a very beneficial effect upon the health of the city, and with a continuance of this work, according to the programme outlined for next year, the work of the health officers in keeping Victoria free from infectious and contagious diseases will be further facilitated. On the Kosmos liner Saxonia, which sailed south Monday after spending a couple of days in port, the Sayward Sawmill Company, of Victoria, shipped what is probably the first consignment of lumber to Mexico, in the consignment there were in the neighborhood of 200,

000 feet of prime manufacture. As a starter in Victoria's commercial relationship with Mexico this is a cheerful augury, and it is hoped that as soon as the new steamship line between this city and that country has been established regular shipments will be made. In the list of Christmas donations to the Old Men's Home two omissions were made. These were the gift of a turkey and newspapers from Mrs. L. G. Quagliotti, and illustrated papers and tobacco from Mrs. B. W. Pearse. Old Wm. Keller, a character well-known about the city, was struck by a Douglas street tram car on Monday sustaining a broken collar bone and a rib. He was removed to the Jubilee hospital in the police patrol ambulance. The torpedo boat destroyer Paul Jones, of the United States navy, departed for the Sound on Monday after an extended stay in port. The Paul Jones came here from Port Angeles, and will be making a round of many ports on the Sound. The Hibben cup has been withdrawn by the school board. It was offered for the school securing the highest percentage in the High school entrance examination. It is not unlikely that the cup will be awarded for attendance. There was great deal of excitement in connection with the drawing at The Westside on Saturday evening. A good number of coupon holders were present. The winning numbers were: First, 4,106; second, 3,372 and third, 1,250. Further donations from Barkerville towards the Protestant Orphanage have been received through Mrs. Brown, of the Cottage. The money was collected by Mrs. Kelly, and consisted of the following sums: Mrs. Geo. Clark, \$1; Mrs. H. Flynn, \$1; Mrs. Hodgkinson, 50 cents; Dr. Callanau, \$2. Total, \$4.50. The sacred cantata "Lost Gip" given in St. Barnabas's church on Sunday afternoon was very much enjoyed by a large attendance. It is a story of life among the poor in England and the various chapters were read by the rector, Rev. E. G. Miller, between the different solos and anthems included in the cantata. There was an excellent choir, led by Rev. Mr. Miller. E. Brain, of the mechanical staff of the B. C. Electric Railway Company, has been in the city introducing his patent automatic switch. This invention, which is proving popular in street railway systems, is worked by the motorman without his quitting his place on the car. A swinging grip does the work, and has proved very satisfactory even when snow is encountered. Dr. Lewis Hall, who is running for aldermanic honors in North Ward, will start the municipal contest with a meeting in Spring Ridge on Friday night. He is arranging for the Old Fellows' hall, and says all candidates in the ward as well as aspirants for positions on the school board will be given a chance to speak. Dr. Hall is out with a progressive platform for municipal improvement, one of the principal planks of which will be the question of water supply and water rates. The police returns for the month are as follows: Assault, 6; aggravated assault, 1; burglary, 1; conspiracy, 1; cruelty and disturbance, 1; cutting and wounding, 1; inflicting civic by-laws, 1; drunk, 20; frequenting a bawdy house, 1; indecent exposure, 1; infraction of provisions relating to tax, 12; malicious damage to property, 1; in possession of an air gun, 1; prevention of cruelty to children, 1; perjury, 2; supplying intoxicants to Indians, 1; stealing, 5; using threatening language, 1; safe keeping, 31; vagrancy, 2; a total of 101. Nell Grant, the boy from the Orphans' Home, who was sent up to Vancouver to undergo an operation and treatment for his eyesight, has been brought back to Victoria. His eyesight has slightly improved, but this is not Nell's only affliction at present. He has developed consumption, and it has been decided to bring him down here for the best treatment. His case will be in the hands of Dr. Fagan, secretary of the provincial board of health. The tent which was erected on the grounds surrounding those of the Orphans' Home. Considerable interest is being manifested by those interested in sporting events in the big wrestling match that will take place in the opera house next Saturday night between Dan McLeod, ex-champion of the world, and Bob Watson, Nanaimo's favorite son," says the Nanaimo Herald. "The terms of the match are not an even break, but McLeod has agreed to throw Swanson three times in an hour or lose the stake money. The two men met before last spring in Nanaimo and McLeod's contract then was to throw Swanson five times in an hour, but he failed to do it, but succeeded in putting the Nanaimo man's shoulders to the mat three times in fifty-five minutes. At the meeting of Columbia Royal Arch Chapter on Tuesday a very pleasing ceremony was performed by Comp. A. McKeown, on behalf of the members, in presenting Comp. Arthur J. Graylen in appropriate terms referred to the many excellent qualities of the recipient, and expressed the sorrow of the chapter in losing such a painstaking and popular member. Comp. Graylen replied, regretting greatly having to leave Victoria, a city to which he had become very much attached. Comp. A. J. Graylen is leaving for England, and his many friends trust he will have a safe journey, and that at some future time he will be a resident of the city again. The jewel was manufactured by Challoner & Mitchell, the Government street jewellers. The funeral of James Burgess Colvin took place Tuesday afternoon from the residence of Secretariat Hawton, 151 Pandora street, at 2 o'clock, and later from St. John's church. The services were conducted by Rev. A. J. Stanley A.R.C. In addition to a large attendance of friends the A. O. F. lodge attended in a body,

and also the ship carpenters' union. The pallbearers were: M. Maciver, D. Stewart, E. Mercer, J. O. Williams, T. Wheelan and W. H. Price. Mr. J. T. McIlroy, holder of coupon No. 100, won the gold watch drawn for at W. B. Shakespeare's Jewellery store New Year's eve. At Tuesday's meeting of the National History Society the subject of forestry was discussed. A paper on the subject by Mr. Anderson served as an introduction. The honorary treasurer of the Provincial Public hospital has received a donation of \$25. The donor's name was not given, but the letter was signed F. W. P. All arrangements are now completed for the L. O. O. F. masquerade ball to be held in the A. O. F. hall on the 19th instant. The supper is in the hands of well known caterers, and with good music and an excellent floor a good time is assured. The Victoria intermediate football team to play at Macaulay Point tomorrow is as follows: Goal, Sargison; full-backs, McArthur and P. Haslam; half-backs, Jameson, Blackburn and Gibson; forwards, Wilson, McDougall, Belyea and Kinloch. The annual treat to the Sunday school children attending services in the Temperance hall, Pandora street, was given on Thursday evening being a large number in attendance. Presents were distributed, and a lengthy programme was furnished with very pleasing results. Albert Lawrence, window trimmer at Spencer's Arcade, who was the victim of a painful accident last Wednesday morning, is progressing favorably. He will be confined to the house for some weeks with a broken wrist and other injuries received as a result of a fall from a ladder while at work on the day mentioned. A PLEASANT DUTY.—"When I know anything worthy of recommendation, I consider it my duty to tell it," says Rev. Jas. Murdoch, of Hamburg, Pa. "Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder has cured me of Catarrh of 16 years' standing. It is certainly superior in its effect. The first application benefited me in 15 minutes. 50 cts."—6. Petitions for the incorporation of the Victoria and other districts into municipalities have been very favorably received and numerous signed. It had been hoped to introduce the measure in the latter section are said to be adverse to this, and are striving to secure a separate municipality, believing that this is the best way to improve them, which they now desire could be more expeditiously effected. (From Thursday's Daily) Parents in whose families there is whooping cough are reminded that not only the children who have the disease, but their contacts have not been kept home until a doctor's certificate that there is no danger of spreading the contagion can be obtained. It is said that Trustee Huggert, in response to a resolution passed, has decided to offer for re-election. Some time ago he expressed his intention to retire from the board in order to give more attention to matters of private interest, but his anxiety to make certain improvements in the school has led him to reconsider his decision. In the account of the council's proceedings in last evening's Times an impression was conveyed by the reported remarks of the Mayor and board of aldermen that the increased donation to the Tourist Association, that \$3,000 had previously been granted by the council this year. Ald. Graham's statement was to the effect that the \$2,000 had been granted previously, and that the \$1,000 additional brought the year's donation up to \$3,000—a sum similar to that of the year preceding. Word has been received of the sudden death of Mrs. Frederick Matland-Douglas, of Duncan, last week, in New York. Mrs. Matland-Douglas was the founder of the British Columbia branch of the International Order of the "Knights of the Ku Klux Klan," and her way to her old home in Savannah, Georgia, and was to have been joined in New York by her husband and daughter. Unfortunately her death occurred before their arrival. The interment took place in Florida. The grand lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars have arranged for a course of lectures to be delivered throughout the year's holidays, next Wednesday evening. On this occasion His Lordship Bishop Perrin will deliver an address on "English Cathedralism," and those who attend, can enjoy on a profitable and pleasant evening, "A Trip to the Far East" will be the subject of a discourse by Rev. Archibald Ewing on the following Wednesday, the 19th inst. His discourse will be illustrated with 100 views of scenery in China and Japan. A nominal fee of 10 cents will be charged adults, all children being admitted free. These lectures will be continued throughout the winter months, and every one will be well worth attending. The Friendly Help Association held its regular meeting on Tuesday. The honorary treasurer acknowledged the receipt of \$125 in cash for the Christmas treat. Mrs. Baker, formerly president of the society, sent a beautiful calendar from Italy. The theme of the society will be sent to Mrs. Baker. Mrs. McMichael, Mrs. Gould and Miss Lawson were accorded a vote of thanks for their services in connection with the Christmas boxes. Votes of thanks were extended to the schools and the friends who so kindly had the schools' donations sent to the rooms. The following donations of clothing were thankfully acknowledged: Mrs. R. Jones, Mrs. McKittrick, Mrs. O'Connor, Mrs. J. Christie, Mrs. (Dr.) Fagan, Mrs. W. Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. A. G. Sargison, Mrs. (Capt.) Hickey, Mrs. Durick, Mrs. F. S. Hussey, Mrs. I. Braverman, Mrs. Green, Mrs. J. York, Mrs. Duff, A. Friend,

ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM will positively cure deep-seated COUGHS, COLDS, BRONCHITIS, CROUP. A 25c. Bottle for a Simple Cold. A 50c. Bottle for a Heavy Cold. A \$1.00 Bottle for a Deep-seated Cough. Sold by all Druggists.

IMPORTANT SUBJECTS DISCUSSED TO-DAY Council of Board of Trade Disposed of Considerable Business This Morning. (From Thursday's Daily) The council of the board of trade met this morning with nearly every member who was in the city in attendance. The meeting began half an hour earlier than usual in order to allow of the disposal of the business which had accumulated. On the subject of halibut fishing the fisheries committee, through its chairman, Beaumont Boggs, reported as follows: Gentlemen—Your fisheries committee beg to report that the evidence of Mr. Batson, a fisherman lately employed by the New England Co., which has been taken at the request of the council, is clearly to the effect that fishing in Heate Strait and Queen Charlotte Sound is continually being carried on by American vessels within the three mile limit, also that Canadian harbors are being used in the preparation to fish. The committee recommends that strong representations should be made to the Dominion government to prevent this and to protect Canadian interests which otherwise must be prejudiced by the special privileges granted to an alien company. It was decided to incorporate this with the resolution proposed to be sent to Ottawa. A communication was read from Turner, Beeton & Co. as follows: F. Elworthy, Esq., Secretary Board of Trade, Victoria, B. C.: Be Titmation Commission. Dear Sir:—Owing to the heavy taxation on stocks, etc., which shareholders in B. C. are subjected to under the present assessment Act, we write this to bring before the notice of your board a particular hardship on the wholesale liquor interests. Clause 59 of the Liquor License Act, 1903, sets forth that commercial travellers representing houses and firms who carry on business outside the province of British Columbia shall pay \$200 a year for transacting business within the province, and you will notice, according to the enclosed correspondence with the surveyor of taxes, that not one of these license fees have been collected, which certainly militates against the British Columbia merchant, who has to pay his taxes and compete with firms from outside who contribute nothing to the government. Taking a wider view of this matter, your board might see the advisability of representing to the commission in conjunction with Vancouver and other boards the fairness of the government putting a tax on all commercial travellers doing business in the province for houses not carrying stock in British Columbia, and having fixed this tax, taking care it is rightly enforced. Yours faithfully, TURNER, BEETON & CO., LTD., HENRY B. THOMSON.

The subject will be taken up with the government. S. J. Pitts, as chairman of the committee, reported that the city council had been invited upon, and asked for information respecting terminal railway matters. His Worship the Mayor had stated that a proposal had been received from the Terminal Railway people advising that they intend to discontinue their passenger service, but are prepared to continue the delivery of freight in cars when offering, conditional upon the city giving the present terminal. In the opinion of His Worship the Mayor and board of aldermen this proposal was not satisfactory, and a contra proposition has been made, particulars of which His Worship was not prepared to make public at this juncture. An acknowledgment has been received from the Great Northern Railway Company, in which it was stated that Mr. Hendry's return to the coast he will communicate their views, and they hoped that a mutually satisfactory arrangement would eventually be arrived at. The following letter was read from the department of marine and fisheries, Ottawa: Dear Sir:—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, in regard to the board's recommendation to affording greater facilities for the shipment of crews for ocean-going vessels in British Columbia, and in reply I beg to say that this matter engaged the attention of the department during last session, and will be again taken up for consideration during the approaching session of parliament. I may state, for your information, that the respective system will require legislative authority. Yours faithfully, F. GOURDEAU. A letter was read from the Geo. Carter Co., in which attention was called to the fact that "breast post" from the Orient destined for Victoria was taken on to Vancouver by the Empress lines, and from there sent back to Victoria causing considerable inconvenience. Fares post for the Orient was also sent to Vancouver making it necessary to mail it here two days before the Empress sailed. A committee consisting of Geo. Carter, W. H. Bone and J. Porman was appointed to take this matter up. The president was authorized to appoint a committee to appear before the commission, which is to take up the subject of the Provincial Assessment Act. It was also decided to wait upon the provincial government with respect to the question of an exhibit from British Columbia at the Portland fair next year. This was done upon the information being received that the Dominion government was not contemplating making an exhibit. The meeting then adjourned.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. Dr. W. Groves' signature is on each box, 25c. Charles Vedder, a farmer living in Glenview, and George Cookington, his hired man, on Wednesday were instantly killed by being struck by a trolley car at Hardline crossing, about three miles from Schenectady, N. Y., as they were driving across with a sleigh.

BLANKETS, UMBRELLAS, UNDERWEAR, GLOVES, ETC. are SEASONABLE GOODS Sort up From Our Stock. J. PIERCY & CO., Wholesale Dry Goods. Victoria, B. C.

The Finest of Canned Fruits—"Griffin's Extras" Peaches . . . 25c a tin Apricots . . . 25c a tin Pears . . . 30c a tin We have just received from the Goldstream Ranch a fine lot of Golden Russett Apples.

DIXIE H. ROSS & CO. The Independent Cash Grocers. Tea blending is an art understood only by a few. We invite you to judge of results by trying our Rajah, Ram Lal's or Kalambu. These delicious Teas with our high grade Coffee, are being appreciated by the people of Victoria. Our Grocers' supplies are of the highest quality. RAJAH OR GOLDEN TIPPED CEYLON, per lb. . . . \$.50 RAM LAL'S, a pure Indian, per lb. 50 KALAMBU, Choice Ceylon, per lb. 40 OUR SPECIAL BLEND CEYLON, 5 lbs. for. 1.50

THE SAUNDERS GROCERY CO., LIMITED, 39 AND 41 JOHNSON STREET. THE WEST END GROCERY CO., LIMITED, 42 GOVERNMENT STREET. ENTERAINED BY EMPEROR. The Mikado Gives Luncheon to Foreign Ministers and Elder Statesmen. Tokio, Jan. 5.—The Emperor to-day gave a New Year's luncheon to the members of the diplomatic corps, the elder statesmen, ministers and high officials. The Emperor welcomed them with the usual compliments of the season, and greeted the respective sovereigns represented at his court. Baron Danethan, the Belgian minister, and dean of the diplomatic corps, replied in behalf of the corps. Premier Katsura, on behalf of the Japanese nation, offered the customary hopes for the imperial and national prosperity. RELIC OF OCLALLAM. An interesting relic, the ensign of the ill-fated Oclallam, has been added to the collection in the possession of Steamboat Inspectors Edwards and Fuller, states a report from Portland. The flag, the original colors of which are almost gone, was picked up on Dungeness sand spit by J. C. LeBrette, the assistant light-house-keeper at Dungeness. It was found soon after the disaster, and as the light house man was transferred to Alaska, he took it with him there, but believing the inspectors' office a better place for it, he forwarded it to Captain Edwards. The Oclallam founders' in the great storm of a year ago while crossing the Straits from Port Townsend to Victoria, many lives being lost. RECEIVED BY THE POPE. Canadian Minister of Finance in Audience With His Holiness at Rome. Rome, Jan. 5.—The Pope to-day received in private audience in his study Hon. W. S. Fielding, the Canadian minister of finance, and the latter's wife and daughter, Miss Zillah Fielding. They were presented by the Most Rev. Paul Bruchési, archbishop of Montreal. The Pontiff greeted the visitors in the most cordial manner. ANOTHER FIERCE GALE. Vessel and Ten Men Lost Off Coast of Yorkshire—Steamer Ashore. London, Dec. 30.—A fierce gale from the Atlantic swept over the United Kingdom this morning. Mountainous seas are reported along the coasts. At Stornoway, outer Hebrides, the Danish steamer Alabama dragged her anchors this morning in a northerly gale and stranded on Peninsula point. Her engine room and the stoke hold sections are flooded. She is leaning forward and is likely to starboard. A small vessel with a crew of ten men foundered during the gale off Flann-

CHEERFUL FOR THE HEARD LATES STON Vessel Reached Oscar and at

There was great Nippon Yusen Kaisha Maru which was captured by Pilot Cox. The ship was over the coast that Port Arthur gale would occur in the were taken some near the good news steerage passenger was indulged in to the Kanagawa shipping agent. The ship was in a little over 1 tons of general cargo, 2,700 tons for the number nine in the intermediate and 6 Japanese passenger Seattle and two for the list is as follows: F. Pate, Y. Nagai, Cullen, Misses E. berry, K. Nagai, and Erastus L. Day a rather excited about the ship ed on the upper deck there until a aloft and brought fought desperate the ship's pretty bad shape greatly interested strangers. When the deck there was red about the ship. The birds are where they are

On her 60th morning M.S. Empress of morning a day of pestrous weather Asiatic side of the brought 14 saloon 29 steered past coasted 27188 cargo of silk goods of Chinese tea, the ment of the new come across the T. Bieber, W. E. Cornabe, Hamilton, Lieut. Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Grayson, Mr. H. C. Thacker, 1. Capt. H. C. Canadian attached army. He is st in the home of the in Japan a embark for to Ottawa.

Capt. Thacker's disposal. Several minor shipping accidents have also been reported. Much damage was done inland. Telegraph and telephone lines are down and communications are interrupted with the provinces and some parts of the continent. A number of accidents in London, due to flying debris, have been reported. FINANCIAL EXPERT DEAD. Henry V. Poor Passed Away at His Home in Brooklyn. Boston, Mass., Jan. 5.—Henry V. Poor, known for many years as a railroad authority and expert on financial affairs, is dead at his home in Brooklyn. Mr. Poor fell on the ice and broke an ankle three weeks ago, and the shock to his system eventually affected his heart. He was born in Andover, Maine, in 1818. For many years he lived in New York city, where he published a railroad book and many others on financial subjects. He was one of the founders of the New York Geological Society.

FOR WAR FUND. Russian Government Decides to Issue Picture Post Cards. St. Petersburg, Jan. 5.—The government has decided to issue a new set of stamps for foreign and domestic postage in denominations from one to ten kopecks, bearing pictures of the Kremlin, Plevna, Peter the Great's statue in St. Petersburg, etc., these stamps to be sold for three kopecks above the face value, the surplus going to aid widows and orphans of the war.

DEATH OF BELLE COLE. London, Jan. 5.—Belle Cole, the American singer, whose illness was reported yesterday, died this morning at half-past five o'clock. BORN. GILLIAM—On Jan. 2nd, the wife of E. Gilliam, of a daughter. WILSON—At Nelson, on Dec. 31st, the wife of D. C. Wilson, of a son. MARRIED. AUSTIN-McDONALD—A Rev. Stokely, on Dec. 28th, by Rev. W. C. Calder, Edward Everett Austin and Ida McDonald. McDIARMID-PECK—At New Westminster, on Jan. 3rd, by Rev. F. W. Auvaiche, Hugh Duncan McDiarmid and Miss S. A. Peck. ARNOLD-HANNA—At Vancouver, on Jan. 2nd, by Rev. W. E. Foscoff, William H. Arnold and Miss Laura B. Hanna. MENNIE-EMERY—At Vancouver, on Dec. 31st, by Rev. J. K. Wright, John Dumm Menzie and Miss Rosa Elizabeth Emery.

DIED. BURN—At the family residence, Niagara street, on the 31st inst., James Semple Burn, a native of Victoria, B. C., aged 29 years. KIRKLAND—At New Westminster, on Jan. 2nd, Mrs. H. J. Kirkland, aged 82 years.

The hull of the steamer San Diego was allowed to be dispatched. The most historic story of early was dismantled ago, and the hull was destroyed by the fire. The hull, still ton, was put Sunnyside of jammed short from the sea together in a crushed guard of the Sarah, and was together in its damage value.

