The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-SECOND YEAR. THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST MONDAY, DECEMBER 19. 1898. VOLUME XLIII—NO. 3

GOLDEN SILENCE.

Britain's Premier Diplomatically Avoids Discussion of the Foreign Situation.

A Word to Those Who Criticize the Government Without the Key to Conduct.

London, Dec. 16.—The Marquis of Salisbury, the premier, at a banquet given this evening in his honor at the Constitutional Club, devoted his speech in reply to the toast of his health to home affairs, and to the general principles for the conduct of foreign policy, without direct reference to any particular question.

Dwelling upon the necessity for discussion, Lord Salisbury said it would be a relief if he could discuss and explain certain matters that had been and were being grotesquely misrepresented, and that he could not do so without betraying his duty.

"The government," he continued, "should be judged not on individual items, but on the success of its policy as a whole. If a minister goes to war on a trivial matter, he might find himself without the support of the people. This should be considered when people of war some secondary differences.

"Before condemning us for not going to war they should be sure there are no other complications in view compelling us to economize the force at the government's disposal.

"This is a matter of business-like calculation. The more the Empire extends the more necessary to judge matters from this standpoint. It is dangerous to let rhapsody take the place of calculation."

NOTES OF THE DOMINION.

Minerve On the Bye-Elections—Superannuation for Col. Scott.

Montreal, Dec. 16.—La Minerve, the French Conservative organ, referring to the result of the Bagot election, says: "The fate of arms has been against us, and we must promptly admit that the loss of Bagot is specially painful." The article then goes on to say that with such adversaries as those whom the Conservatives have to fight, Mr. Marcil's election is a national disaster. However, this must be considered as a mere temporary defeat, for the Liberals will not always be able to invade the counties in hordes, sending as many as twelve, and even more representatives into each single parish. Everybody knows, it says, that the election is synonymous with corruption, the Liberals and their leader, Tarte, knowing that his downfall will date from the moment when he ceases to gain elections, for his new allies are bound to carry such elections by all means under penalty of political death.

Montreal, Dec. 16.—General Manager Hays, of the G.T.R., has not yet returned to the city, so the proposed conference with the telegraphers this afternoon has been postponed until to-morrow.

Toronto, Dec. 16.—Alexander Grant, registrar of the Court of Appeals for Ontario from the time of its inception, died yesterday after a hsort illness, in his 86th year.

Winnipeg, Dec. 16—The Western Milling Co.'s elevator at Pense, Assa., was destroyed by fire last night, together with 15,000 bushels of wheat.

Calgary, Dec. 16.—Albert Head was fatally injured this morning by an explosion of acetylene gas, dying of his wounds this afternoon.

Winnipeg, Dec. 16.—It is reported that Col. Scott, customs collector for Winnipeg, is to be superannuated.

THE MAINLAND CITIES.

Spontaneous Combustion a Cause of Fire Loss—Westminster Women's Hospital.

Vancouver, Dec. 16—Burglars are once again operating in this city, an unsuccessful attempt at the wholesale house of Oppenheimer Bros. having been made last night.

A. J. Spear, of the Empress of India's crew, has been left $5,000 by an uncle in Lancaster, England.

It has been ascertained that the Sheasgreen fire was caused by spontaneous combustion. An oiled rag, a loose piece of paper under a lead-jointed gaspipe. The heat from the furnace did the rest.

The opera house under Manager Jamieson is being tremendously patronized of late. McEwen, the hypnotist, had three packed houses in succession, and Mr. Mayo's excellent performance drew another bumper house, while tonight McEwen again demonstrated his powers to fill chairs.

The management of the women's hospital has been handed over to the Local Council of Women at New Westminster.

John Bell, a native of England, who came to British Columbia in 1864 and mined for many years in Cariboo, died at New Westminster yesterday, aged 66 years.

THE END OF A DREAM.

Hudson's Bay Route Can Never Become a Factor in Handling Manitoba's Products.

Winnipeg, Dec. 16.—James Fisher, M.P.P., who accompanied the Dominion government expedition on the steamer Diana to Hudson's Bay last year, has presented his report to the Manitoba government. His conclusion is that the Hudson's Bay route can never be a factor in competing for the traffic of Manitoba excepting possibly the very northwesterly portion. The report is very exhaustive, comprising 40,000 words. Mr. Fisher says: "If we had a route by Hudson's Bay to-morrow, it would not be a factor in transporting the products of Manitoba and the West."

Pain from indigestion, dyspepsia, and too hearty eating, is relieved at once by taking one of Carter's Little Liver Pills immediately after dinner. Don't forget this. *

POLICING HAVANA.

An Army of a Thousand Officers to Safeguard the Cuban City.

Havana, Dec. 16.—Capt. McCullough, the former chief of police of New York, has reported to General Green his plan for the policing of Havana. The force will amount to one thousand men.

THE ASPOSTLE OF PURITY.

Anthony Comstock Would Now Save the Telegraph Wires From Pollution.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The house judiciary committee gave a hearing to-day on the Gillett bill, to prohibit the use of telegraph and telephone lines for the purpose of lotteries and horse-race gambling. Anthony Comstock and Dr. Wilbur Crafts appeared before the committee, the former saying that he had information of the seizure by the post office authorities of over 1,500,000 lottery blanks, demonstrating that lotteries were in existence. He claimed their business was carried on through telegraph and telephone companies. Dr. Crafts, as general representative of religious and reform organizations, gave the measure his hearty endorsement.

ITALY AND FRANCE.

Their Recent Treaty Does Not Signify Any Change of Foreign Policy.

Rome, Dec. 15.—During the debate on the budget in the Italian chamber of deputies to-day Admiral Canevaro, minister of foreign affairs, referring to Italy's foreign relations, said that there had been no change of policy with regard to alliances, and that the relations of Italy with other nations had never ben so friendly as at the present time.

"The government is particularly gratified," he declared, "at the conclusion of the Franco-Italian treaty, which makes us confident of the ability of Italy to dispel the last traces of misunderstanding with France and to establish mutual cordiality and friendship."

MONTREAL HELPS KITCHENER.

Lord Strathcona Stirs Up Board of Trade to Aid Soudan College Project.

Montreal, Dec. 17.—(Special)—Citizens of Montreal will raise a fund in aid of the Gordon memorial college at Khartoum. This was decided upon at a meeting held in the council room of the board of trade, at which Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal presided. Lord Strathcona, in opening the meeting, referred to the growing intimate character of "our relations with the mother country," and was sure that Canadians would wish to be identified with a movement so British and Imperial in character.

After a number of citizens had expressed their approval of the idea, the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that an opportunity be given to citizens of Montreal to mark their appreciation of the memory of General Gordon, and the efforts of General Lord Kitchener, the Sirdar, in establishing a college in the Soudan; and that the district officer commanding and commanding officers of militia be requested to organize a committee for the purpose of securing such subscriptions as may be offered for this noble purpose."

SILK WORKERS STRIKE.

Fifteen Thousand of Then Out of Work in the Rhine District.

Kerfold, Germany, Dec. 15.—About 15,000 silk workers in the Rhine district have gone on strike. The trouble began in the factory of Englador & Co., and spread to all the silk manufactories. The authorities are investigating and will try to settle the difficulties.

THE RIPPER REVIVED.

Five Women Killed in Brussels and Mutilated After His Fashion.

Brussels, Dec. 15.—Madame Grunn, a well known demi-monde, was choked and stabbed to death in the street last night. The body had been mutilated afterwards. Five women were murdered in a similar fashion in Amsterdam recently, evidently by the work of a Jack-the Ripper. The police suspect that the original Ripper is now doing business in Belgium.

IRON TO GLASGOW.

Thousand Tons of Shipplates From Virginia in an American Vessel.

Glasgow, Dec. 15.—A thousand tons of ship plates have just been landed from Norfolk, Va. The event was more notable by the fact that the ship which brought them was flying the American flag, which is itself a rare sight in the Clyde.

PICKED UP AT SEA.

Allan Liner Brings in Three Survivors of Lost Nova Scotian Schooner.

Glasgow, Dec. 15.—The Allan line steamer Sarmatian, Captain Johnston, which has arrived here from Portland, Me., rescued and brought to port three members of the crew of the Nova Scotian schooner Annia G., which sailed from Brighton, N.S., for New York, and was previously reported sighted abandoned. The men were taken off the wreck on December 1. Three men and a seaman had been washed overboard and drowned previous to the rescue.

BONDING SMALL SHIPMENTS.

Facilities for This Purpose Provided by United States Treasury.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The ways and means committee to-day authorized a favorable report upon a bill to remove the restrictions which at present prevent the shipment of goods in bond to interior points in less than carloads. Under the terms of the bill goods can be shipped in less than carloads under regulations prescribed by the treasury.

Will positively cure sick headache and prevent its return—Carter's Little Liver Pills. This is not talk, but truth. One pill a dose. See advertisement. Small pill, small dose, small price. *

HELD TO HIS WORDS

The Philippine Insurgent Leader Quotes McKinley's Ante-Bellum Proclamation.

Before the War America Repudiated Any Proposed Extension of Territory.

Paris, Dec. 16.—The United States ambassador, General Horace Porter, and the other officials of the United States embassy, the representatives of the French foreign office, and the members of the American colony in this city bade farewell to the American peace commissioners at the railroad station this evening, as they started homeward. A special saloon car had been provided by the railroad for the use of the commissioners, and the friends of the departing commissioners gave three cheers and waved their hats and handkerchiefs as the train started. The party sail for New York to-morrow by the American line steamer St. Louis.

Agonicillo, the representative of Aguinaldo, the Filipino leader, lodged a strongly worded protest with the commission, which thus becomes part of the records. It begins with saying that the very noble and gallant General Aguinaldo, president of the Philippine republic, had honored him with the post of official representative to the very honorable President of the United States.

Agoncillo then reviews the case at length, saying at the time of "imploring the armed co-operation of Aguinaldo and other Philippine chiefs," both the commander of the Petrel, Capt. Wood, in Hongkong, before the declaration of war, and American Consul-General Pratt in Singapore, Wildman at Hongkong, and Williams at Cavite, acting as the international agents of the great American nation at a moment of great anxiety, offered to recognize the independence of the Filipino nation as soon as its triumph was attained.

The protest recites how Admiral Dewey, by numerous acts, is alleged to have recognized the autonomist sovereignty of the Filipinos, and in picturesque language calls for the fulfilment of these promises and a fulfilment of the solemn declarations made by the illustrious William McKinley that on going to war he was not guided by intention of expansion of territory, but only by the principles of humanity, by the duty of liberating tyrannized people, and by the desire to proclaim the inalienable rights, with their sovereignty, of the countries released from the yoke of Spain.

A despatch from Madrid quotes as follows from a just-issued official note: "As the American senate must ratify the treaty of peace, our government should wait for this ratification, and not have to cede territory which the United States senate may not accept."

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

Returned Packages and How They Are to Secure Free Entry.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Dec. 16.—The customs department today issued additional regulations regarding the return of packages, bags, barrels, baskets, boxes, casks, crates, cylinders, and other coverings which have been used in the transportation of goods to and from Canada. These, when again returned to Canada within three years, without allowance of drawback and without having been advanced in value or improved in condition by any process of manufacture or other means, may be entered free of duty if identified to the satisfaction of the customs officer upon oath of the importer or his agent. Collectors are instructed to take special precautions for the identification of returned packages admitted free under this regulation, insisting as far as possible upon the articles being marked for identification when exported outwards, and observing that the coverings for which entry is claimed have been used and are not new. The collector may require proof by affidavit or in other form for identifying to their satisfaction package coverings returned free as aforesaid.

The government organs say that Hon. Mr. Mulock will not become High Commissioner, but that Lord Strathcona will continue to hold the office.

Mr. Foster lectured to-night before the Lindsay Collegiate Institute on the Canadian outlook.

Dr. Borden and family go to Washington next week.

THIS TRUST IS BUST.

Minnesota Millers Decline to Enter the McIntyre Consolidation.

Minneapolis, Dec. 16.—The flour trust scheme is dead as far as Minneapolis mills are concerned. At a meeting of the representatives of the three leading mills, the Pillsbury-Washington Flour Mill Co., the Northwest Consolidated Co. and the Washburn-Crosby Co., it was unanimously agreed that none of the Minneapolis mills should go into the McIntyre consolidated scheme and that no further attention should be given to the matter. The mills at Milwaukee and Duluth will, in all probability, follow the lead of the Minneapolis millers.

EX-GOVERNOR RICE DEAD.

Passes Away at His Home in Boston at Advanced Age of 82 Years.

Boston, Dec. 15.—Henry A. Rice, ex-Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and formerly a member of the firm of Denny Rice & Co., commission merchants of this city, died at his home here to-day, aged 82 years.

BARON NEWTON DEAD.

London, Dec. 15.—The death is announced of Wm. John Leigh, Baron Newton, in his 70th year.

INDO-CHINA RAILWAYS.

French Chamber of Deputies Authorizes Large Loan for Their Construction

Paris, Dec. 15.—The chamber of deputies to-day almost unanimously adopted a bill loaning 200,000,000 francs for the construction of railroads in Indo-China guaranteed by the governments of Indo-China.

LITTLE BOY DROWNED.

Toronto, Dec. 17.—Near Broughton, Willie, the 5-year-old son of Robert Defoe, lost his life by falling into a cistern.

A NARROW MARGIN.

Candidate With But One Vote Majority Stands for Re-election in West Elgin.

Dutton, Dec. 17.—(Special)—West Elgin Conservatives yesterday re-nominated F. G. Macdiarmid as candidate at the approaching bye-election for the legislature. The election will probably take place early in January. Mr. Macdiarmid secured the seat by one vote, polling 3,101 to 3,100 for his opponent.

MR. SIFTON IN MANITOBA.

Guest at Premier Greenway's Home in Crystal City.

Crystal City, Dec. 17.—Mr. Sifton, minister of the interior, arrived here today, and will remain over as the guest of Mr. Greenway, premier.

MOLSON'S AT WINNIPEG.

Confirmation of Report of New Management—Mr. Phepoe Transferred.

Winnipeg, Dec. 17.—(Special)—Inspector Durnford, of Molson's Bank, confirms the report that E. F. Kohl, of Brockville, Ont., has been appointed manager of the Winnipeg branch. Mr. Phepoe, the present manager, will be transferred to another office. No other changes have been made for the present in the local staff.

NORTHWEST SETTLEMENT.

Twice as Many Homesteads Established This Year as Last.

Winnipeg, Dec. 17.—During eleven months in 1898, 4,622 homesteads were entered for in Manitoba and the Territories, as compared with 2,383 in 1897. This year city real estate men report largely increased sales of land to settlers. In many cases individual dealers have more than doubled their business in this direction. One sold 5,300 acres last year and 13,120 this year. Another disposed of 21,160 acres during 11 months of the current year.

REBELS OF ARABIA.

Turkey Has Now a Formidable Native Insurrection Upon Her Hands.

The Outbreak Similar to That Which Culminated in Gordon's Death.

Cairo, Dec. 16.—The native rebellion against the Turks in Yemen, a chief division of Arabia, is becoming formidable. Thirty thousand Turkish troops have been mobilized in the district. Mahdi Dinin, the insurgent chief, is said to resemble the Mahdi, the Mohammedan warrior-prophet, in religious fanaticism, and rules his followers despotically. It was a similar outbreak fifteen years ago under the Mahdi that swept the Soudan and ended in the massacre of Gordon at Khartoum. Aden, the chief town of Yemen, is English.

ALAS POOR CAESAR.

Ashes of the Man Who Ruled the World the Object of a Day's Astonishment.

Rome, Dec. 16.—Ashes supposed to be those of Julius Caesar were unearthed at the base of a column in the Roman Forum to-day. The column marked the spot where Caesar's body was cremated.

THE KHEDIVE CONTRIBUTES.

Five Hundred Dollars Toward the College at Khartoum.

Cairo, Dec. 16.—The Khedive has headed the local subscription for the Gordon memorial college at Khartoum, giving $500 for the purpose.

RATIFICATION POSTPONED.

Six Months' Delay in the Completion of the Niger Convention.

Paris, Dec. 16.—An official note issued by the foreign office states that the ratification of the Niger convention between Egypt and France has been postponed for six months from December 8.

UNDERGROUND NEW YORK.

Private Capital Will Undertake Subterranean Railway Building on Manhattan Island.

New York, Dec. 16.—Interest in the subject of a tunnel to give rapid transit throughout the length of Manhattan island is revived by the publication to-day of an interview with Richard Croker, in which it is asserted that work on such tunnel will be begun within a year. Mr. Croker is further quoted as saying that the enterprise will be undertaken by private capital, "which will meet with every proper encouragement from the present city government and from Tammany."

Mr. Croker says the city has neither the money nor the credit under law to build such a tunnel, which, he estimates, will cost $50,000,000.

RUSSIAN TALLOW HELPS.

To Give Another of Britain's War Dogs to its Natural Element.

London, Dec. 16.—The first class battleship Irresistible was successfully launched from the dock yards at Chatham yesterday. She was named by Princess Christian.

The launching cradle weighed 300 tons and seven tons of Russian tallow and soft soap, besides a large quantity of train oil, were used in lubricating the ways. A great crowd witnessed the launching, including Princess Christian, Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, Mr. Goschen, first lord of the admiralty, and many other notable persons.

WILL PRESENT TREATY.

Commissioners at Washington Have Made Bargains on All Points Save Reciprocity.

Canadian Representatives Most Concerned About Lumber and Farm Produce.

By Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The meeting of the Canadian joint commission on Monday will be the last before January 5th, when the commissioners will re-assemble in Washington to conclude whatever treaty they are able to agree upon for presentation to their respective governments.

It may be definitely stated that a treaty covering practically all the points under consideration except that of reciprocity will be signed. It is almost sure that some matters of reciprocal trade relations will be adjusted and that these will be fewer in number than the Canadian commissioners had hoped in opening negotiations. A more definite statement than this, it is said upon good authority, would be speculative. Both sides of the commission adhere to their policy of silence on the chances of ratifying whatever features of the treaty have been agreed upon.

It may be said, however, that lumber and agricultural products are the two stumbling blocks to full reciprocity. The Canadian commissioners have presented a very full statement covering the lumber trade, the gist of which is that forest products are so large a percentage of Canada's exports and yet are relatively so small compared with the United States total product, that liberal concessions on this point are essential to satisfy public sentiment in Canada and could be made without serious detriment to the United States. Practically the same statement has been presented concerning agricultural products.

The Canadian commission has urged that Canada is a larger consumer per capita of American manufactures than the whole western hemisphere south of the United States. Further, it is stated that last year Canada gave the United States a $40,000,000 free list and in view of these facts, some essential concessions must be made to the Canadian farmers, it being represented that agrarian sentiment is fully as important to the Dominion government as it is to the United States.

TOLSTOI A DISTURBER.

His Teachings Making Trouble in Russia, He Will Be Expelled.

Vienna, Dec. 15.—The Tageblatt hears that Count Tolstoi, the novelist, is shortly to be expelled from Russia because of social disturbances which have been attributed to his teachings.

SPAIN'S TROUBLE AT HOME.

Madrid, via Bordeaux, Dec. 16.—The government is considering the question of arresting the principal Carlists. The most rigorous censorship of telegrams is maintained, and all messages relative to Carlist movements are stopped. Accounts of the recent disturbances in Havana are strictly prohibited.

The army is being slowly mobilized in Navarre and the Basque provinces as a check to Carlist movements. These provinces are in northern Spain, bordering on the French frontier.

ITALY WARNS THE CHURCH.

Confiscation of Property to Follow Neglect of Duty to the State.

Rome, Dec. 15.—Minister of agriculture Fortis last evening in the senate affirmed the right of the crown to sequester church property and to revoke exequaturs, both for moral and political reasons, whenever the ecclesiastical power forgets its duty to the country. The position of the government is likely to increase the tension between the church and state.

CHASING DON CARLOS.

Spanish Government Plucking Up Courage with Weakening of Carlist Movement at Home.

Rome, Dec. 15.—The Carlist movement in Spain is evidently beginning to lose ground. As a result the Spanish government has become more aggressive. It is now endeavoring to locate Don Carlos, who has slid out of view since his reported appearance in Europe.

Spain has asked the Italian government to prove its friendship by watching for Don Carlos in Italy.

CUBAN RAILWAY PURCHASE.

Stock Acquired by Syndicate Representing United States, Canadian and English Capital.

Havana, Dec. 15.—At a general meeting of the stockholders of the Ferro Carillo Urbano yesterday, the sale of the entire stock, amounting to $1,600,000, was authorized at 92. Half of the amount was taken by Mr. George H. Young, president of the U. S. Mortgage and Trust Co, Senator Smith of New Jersey, Percival Farquhar, F. S. Pierson, Colonel C. E. M. Harvey, and Hanson Bros. of Montreal. The other was taken by Buffe and Sons and T. W. Todd, bankers of London.

Captain-General Castellanos has issued an order stopping work on the railway concessions, without prejudice to the rights of the parties interested, until the Americans can control here. This prevents the American Indies Co. from beginning construction under a disputed concession.

JOHN McKENNA DEAD.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 16.—Col. John McKenna, who 30 years ago was one of the best known Irish nationalists in the United States, died at his home in this city to-day, aged 56 years.

THE CHAMBER OF DISCORD.

Allegations of Election Corruption Provoke Threats of Ministerial Resignations.

Paris, Dec. 16.—A stormy debate took place in the chamber of deputies to-day on the corruption that characterized the recent election at Narbonne, said to have been practised by a candidate who was a protege of the Meline cabinet. The discussion nearly led to a ministerial crisis, M. Guillane, minister for the colonies, and M. Deloncle, minister for commerce, both of whom were identified with the Meline cabinet, threatening to resign. Mr. Dupuy, the premier, after an interview with the incensed ministers, succeeded in mollifying them, and the chamber dropped the matter, but the discussion revealed friction that is likely to come up on some future occasion.

THE CALL DECLINED.

Toronto, Dec. 16.—The session of St. Andrew's church received to-day a cablegram from Dr. Connell from Amoy, China, declining the call to the pastorate of that church.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

Little Hope of Agreement on the Reciprocity Clause—A Short Post-Holiday Session.

Wishington, Dec. 16.—The American and Canadian commisioners held a very brief joint session to-day, after which both sides held long separate meetings. It is now understood that the holiday adjournment will not be later than Monday or Tuesday of next week, and the commission will resume its meetings the first or second week in January. It is generally understood that there is no present hope of any arrangement on the reciprocity clause, and whatever has been tentatively arranged will have to be in a measure recast in case a treaty covering the other points of dispute is signed. It is the signature of this measure which will bring the commissioners together after the holidays. It is thought that the post-holiday session will be a brief one on account of the approaching session of the Dominion parliament. Mr. Dingley said to-day after the adjournment of the high commissioners that no motion had been made as yet to adjourn over the holidays and that sessions of the commission were being held daily.

EXPLOSION OF GAS.

Poughkeepsie, Dec. 16.—There was a terrible explosion in the generating and purifying departments of the Poughkeepsie gas works this evening. A gigantic tongue of flame leaped high into the air. The timbers, sticks and bricks were showered upon the neighboring streets, and houses and windows were broken blocks away from the explosion. One man was killed instantly and another fatally injured, while a third had his leg broken and was badly burned and bruised but will recover. The city's gas supply was seriously reduced but not entirely cut off.

LEGAL HUMOR.

The Lord Chief Justice Relates a Joke —Unfortunate Mr. A. D. Litem.

It is not often that a really good joke appears in the formal law report of an argument, but in XV Times Law Reports at p. 26 in the report of the argument before the Court of Crown Cases reserved consisting of Lord Russell of Killowen, C.J., Hawkins, Wills, Wright and Bruce, J.J., of The Queen v. Gardiner, which was a "case reserved" by the sessions on the question of the right of prosecuting counsel to sum up and comment upon evidence given by a prisoner on his own behalf under the Criminal Evidence act, 1898, a really fine example of humor is found. The following is taken from the report of the argument:

Mr. Turrell for the prisoner—I take it that the reason for not allowing such comment is because there is no right of reply.

The Lord Chief Justice—That does not seem to me to be right.

Mr. Justice Wills—It depends on the facts of each case. I have myself stopped counsel from that class of comments and in other cases I have allowed it.

The Lord Chief Justice.—Is it not the custom for counsel to refer to the statement of the prisoner made before the magistrate?

Mr. Turrell—Yes, but even that is not done where the statement refers to a previous conviction.

The Lord Chief Justice—I remember a case in which a very innocent remark of my own elicited the fact of a previous conviction. A prisoner was addressing the jury, very effectively as I thought on his own behalf. But he spoke in a low tone, and not hearing some part of his observations, I said:

"What did you say? What was your last sentence?"

"Six months, my lord," he replied.

"Redtape" writes the Colonist as follows in connection with something nearer home: "As an illustration of the errors into which ignorance of the commonest legal terms will lead a newspaperman, I might refer you to a despatch in the Times of Tuesday evening, in which it was stated that a certain ward had obtained a large sum in damages against his guardian, A. D. Liten. Of course this should have been printed "ad litem," but it reminds me of the man who is supposed to have gone into the Notre Dame cathedral in Montreal, and noticing the French sign "A Louer (to let) on a great number of the pews, he asked: 'Who is this man A. Loner, who seems to have such a tremendous family?'"

AN AMERICAN ADVANTAGE.

Britain's Prime Minister Envys Uncle Sam His Foreign Relations Committee.

London, Dec. 16.—Referring to the difficulty of taking the people into a government's confidence in the matter of foreign policy, the Marquis of Salisbury to-night said: "I have often felt the want of such an institution as the United States foreign relations committee. It is impossible here, but it must be a great advantage for a minister to be able to meet persons not of his own political opinion, and to explain to them the reasons for his actions."

ROYAL Baking Powder

Made from pure cream of tartar.

Safeguards the food against alum.

Alum baking powders are the greatest menacers to health of the present day.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

A TACIT TREATY.

Between Italy and Great Britain for the Maintenance of the Status Quo.

London, Dec. 17.—The Rome correspondent of the Daily Mail says that in the chamber of deputies to-day Signor del Baono asserted the existence of an agreement equivalent to a formal treaty between Italy and Great Britain for the maintenance of the status quo in Africa along the Red Sea and the Mediterranean and in the Hinterlands of Tripoli and Raheita as well as in the Soudan. It is noteworthy that his statement was not contradicted by the government.

SIR SANFORD'S SCHEME.

State-Owned Cables Would Reduce Transmission Costs and Effectively Unite the Empire.

London, Dec. 16.—The morning newspapers print a letter addressed to the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, by Sir Sanford Fleming, chancellor of Queen's University, Canada, and a leading expert in telegraphic communication and the unification of the time reckoner throughout the world, advocating the adoption of a system of state-owned cables connecting every British possession, and all great Britain's naval coaling stations. Sir Sanford Fleming proposes three sections of cables, in the Pacific, Indian and Atlantic oceans, and estimates their cost at six million pounds. The first step he suggests is a state-owned Pacific cable. He contends that if his proposals were carried out the cost of cabling would be enormously cheapened.

UNDER FALSE COLORS.

Freedom Lovers of France Are Not Deceived by a Palpable Effort to Mislead Them.

Paris, Dec. 16.—A committee describing itself as representing the "royalist youth of France" placarded the streets with a manifesto to-day expressing the indignation of the royalists at the attack being made upon the army by the partizans of Dreyfus revision. The manifesto has fallen absolutely flat.

AN EMPTY TREASURY.

Spanish Officials Have Evidently Profited by the Misfortunes of Pinar del Rio.

Washington, Dec. 16.—In a report to the war department dated December 14, General Davies, in charge of the United States forces at Pinar del Rio, states that he found the Spanish treasury at that place empty, even after the people had been taxed to the verge of confiscation. General Davies describes the country as one of great fertility but ravaged almost to the destruction of responsible citizens. In view of this, El Heraldo urges an equitable reduction in the interest on the debts.

TARIFF FOR HAWAII.

United States System to Be Extended to the Islands in Near Future.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Assistant Secretary Howell of the treasury was heard by the house ways and means committee to-day on the extending of the tariff laws to Hawaii as soon as possible. The committee agreed to the immediate extension proposed, and Hawaii will be established as one customs district, with three subports of entry, Hilo, Mahukana and Kahului. The collector of customs will have headquarters at Honolulu and will receive a salary of $4,000.

COMMITTED TO PRISON.

Rome, Dec. 16.—The trial of Signor Favilla, formerly manager of the Bologna Bank, for misappropriation of the bank's funds, ended at Bologna to-day in the conviction of the accused, who was sentenced to two years' and three months' imprisonment. The case was connected with the Bank of Naples scandal, of which the political enemies of ex-Prime Minister Crispi took advantage in their efforts to ruin him.

NOT ONE ESCAPED.

New York, Dec. 16.—A wagon containing eight persons was struck by a Pennsylvania railroad train at Ellenwood, N. J., this afternoon, and four were killed, two fatally hurt, and the other two badly injured.

HAWAIIAN LAWS APPROVED.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The bill to incorporate the International American Bank was buried by an overwhelming majority of the house to-day. The vote by which the bill was defeated stood 103 yeas to 148 nays. The bill to extend the customs and revenue laws of the United States over the Hawaiian islands was passed without opposition.

DROWNED IN LAKE ERIE.

Brantford, Dec. 16.—An old man named Francis and his son, a lad of eighteen, are believed to have been drowned in Lake Erie, by the capsizing of their row boat.

DOMINION DESPATCHES

Disabled Steamer Towed Into Halifax After Many Days Drifting With Broken Shaft.

Quebec Woman Sentenced to Hang —Toronto Further Investing in Rossland Mines.

Brandon Offers Natural Congratulations on Mr. Sifton's Generous Yukon Policy.

Special to the Colonist.

A BROKEN SHAFT.

Halifax, Dec. 15.—The freight steamer Atlantic, which sailed from Swansea a month ago, bound to Delaware breakwater, was towed in here this morning by the steamer Elton, of Baltimore, for Queenstown 15 days ago. During a heavy gale the Atlantic broke her propeller shaft, and thus disabled she drifted about almost completely at the mercy of the winds and sea till two days ago, when 400 miles from Halifax the Elton fell in with her.

WOMAN TO HANG.

Saint Scholastique, Dec. 15.—At 7:45 p. m. Judge Taschereau pronounced the sentence of death of Cordelia Viau, to be hanged on the 10th day of March, 1899.

NEW STEAMER.

Montreal, Dec. 15.—The Elder-Dempster company have received a cablegram stating that their first twin-screw passenger steamer, the Monteyle, was launched yesterday and will be ready for the Canadian trade at the opening of the season.

ARGONAUTS FOR HENLEY.

Toronto, Dec. 15.—The Argonauts will in all probability send an eight-oared crew to compete at the Henley regatta.

BUYING THE JUMBO.

Toronto, Dec. 15.—It is reported that Senator Cox and other Toronto capitalists have secured an option on the controlling interest in the Jumbo mine at Rossland.

A DOCTOR'S MISTAKE.

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—Dr. Frank Goulding, of Grafton, N. D., an ex-Winnipeger, was accidentally poisoned last night by swallowing acid, and died in an hour. The deceased was a promising young man and brother of T. W. Goulding, of Vancouver.

MR. SIFTON AT HOME.

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—The reception tendered Hon. Mr. Sifton, minister of the interior, by the Liberals of Brandon last night was a success. The meeting was held in the city hall, and over 1,000 attended. An address presented by Western Liberals congratulated the minister on his course, and was replied to at length by Mr. Sifton, who defended the government's policy in respect to the Yukon and other important issues. Speeches were also made by D. C. Fraser, M. P., and others.

MOLSON'S AT WINNIPEG.

Brockville, Dec. 15.—The management of the Winnipeg branch of the Molson's Bank have been assigned to W. E. F. Kohl, who for the past five years has successfully managed the branch in this town. He is a great favorite in the business community. Mr. Kohl leaves for Winnipeg on Saturday. K. D. Forbes, cashier of the same bank, goes to Vancouver to become accountant.

MRS. ALLISON DEAD.

Amherst, N. S., Dec. 15.—Mrs. Allison, wife of the president of Mount Allison university, died at Sackville yesterday.

GRAND TRUNK TROUBLES.

Montreal, Dec. 15.—A drop of nearly 30 points in Grand Trunk stock in London shows the apprehension felt there as to the impending telegraphers' strike. The directors have wired Manager Hays asking him if a strike is really pending. Mr. Hays' reply was that he hoped to overcome the danger of a labor struggle in an extreme stage.

VANCOUVER AFFAIRS.

Italian Laborers Bound For Hawaii—Turkeys For Victoria's Christmas Trade.

Vancouver, Dec. 15.—C. P. Benton leaves for Hawaii by the Miowera, with 18 laborers. Planters of Hawaii commissioned him to secure 1,000 Italian farm hands. The government of Italy heard of it, and refused to allow Italians to leave the country in such large numbers. Twenty was the limit they would permit.

To-day Griffen & Co. shipped a large consignment of turkeys to Victoria for the Christmas trade. It is the biggest single shipment ever sent to Victoria from here.

McEwen performed to tremendous business during his three days here.

LIEUT.-GOVERNOR PATTERSON.

His Honor Says the Many Rumors About His Plans Are Without Any Authority.

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—(Special)—Charles Patterson, private secretary of Lieutenant-Governor Patterson, sends the following letter to the Winnipeg press today:

"To the Editor: Having brought to the Lieutenant-Governor's notice the succession of newspaper rumors and telegrams affecting him, he has instructed me, departing from his usual custom in this one instance, to contradict them as being unauthorized and uninspired by those around him who might be in a position to speak for him.

"I have further to say that press comments on some remarks made by His Honor at a recent public dinner at Toronto, seem to imply that the Lieutenant-Governor differed in opinion from Sir Charles Tupper upon questions arising out of incidents connected with the retirement of the late government from office. Nothing could be further from his thought. The subject was not even in his mind. No allusion to, and still less any criticism of Sir Charles was intended.

"The Lieutenant-Governor is quite aware of the impropriety of one in his official position taking part in the discussion of political questions which are live issues between parties."

THE TANK COLLAPSE.

New York, Dec. 14.—Two more bodies, those of Gustave Wincke, 17 years old, of Brooklyn, and Geo. Brenner, were found in a house at 21st street and avenue A this afternoon.

North Bay, Dec. 13.—Charles L. Lamarche has been nominated as the Conservative candidate for the provincial election on the 29th.

FORTY KILLED AND EATEN.

Four Belgian Traders Already Reported on Only a Tithe of the Cannibals' Feast.

Brussels, Dec. 14.—Advices received here from the governor of the Upper Congo confirm the news that four Belgian traders have been killed and eaten by the natives of Upper Ubanghi.

The governor adds that the traders' escort of thirty soldiers were also massacred and that another detachment of soldiers in charge of two white officers who were proceeding to the assistance of the traders were surprised by the natives and put to death.

ANTONIO TERRY DEAD.

He Was One of Six Children Left a Fortune of Many Millions Each.

Paris, Dec. 14.—Antonio E. Terry, formerly of New York, died here to-day, of liver complaint. He was twice married, his second wife being Sybil Sanderson, the opera singer. Terry was one of the sons of Senor Tomasso Terry, who left a fortune, at his death in 1886 estimated to amount to from $25,000,000 to $60,000,000, to be divided among his six surviving children.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.

A Tribute to Conservative Legislation—Jubilee Postage Stamps Worked Off on Newspapers.

Ottawa, Dec. 15.—The customs department issued to-day the first of a series of advisory bulletins for the information of collectors and appraisers in regard to the true values for duty of goods entered and the proper duty to be levied on imported goods under the customs laws of Canada.

The flag was half-masted on the parliament buildings to-day in honor to the memory of the late Senior Macfarlane.

The government is going to use up the higher denominations of the jubilee stamps for newspaper postage.

The Free Press says the government has no special legislation to bring forward at the coming session.

TURNING TO ROSEBERY

National Liberal Federation Favor His Resumption of the Party Leadership.

Other Prominent Liberals Would Prevail on Harcourt to Withdraw Resignation.

By Associated Press.

London, Dec. 15.—The members of the Reform and National Liberal clubs are busy discussing the matter of the withdrawal of Sir William Vernon Harcourt from the leadership of the Liberal party in the House of Commons. A majority of them are of the opinion that he has been ill-treated, but a number of the influential members are in favor of giving no heed to his letter of resignation.

The National Liberal Federation is regarded as working in the interests of Lord Rosebery's return to the leadership of the party, with former home secretary Asquith as the leader of the Liberals in the House of Commons.

LORD MINTO IN TORONTO.

His Excellency on Friendly Intercourse With Public Men of the United States.

Toronto, Dec. 15.—(Special)—Lord Minto was banqueted at the Hunt Club last evening. Lord Stratheona was present. Lord Minto made a capital speech, greatly impressing those present. He referred to the future of the Dominion, saying: "It is not in my opinion in the results of the Washington commission we should search for omens of the future. I think the future depends on the sympathetic exchange of ideas with our neighbors over the border, in friendly intercourse between leading men of the two great nations, which I believe will lay the foundation of a friendship which will grow between the two empires, and I believe that friendship will not diminish with the growing strength or rising individuality of Canada. I envy the men destined to take the lead in making your future, the men who will open up your wonderful international waterways (applause), who will improve your ocean steamers, who will lower your rates of transport (applause), increase your trade, increase your immigration, and increase your wealth."

Lord Strathcona also spoke and was received with enthusiasm.

REGISTRY OF WRECKS.

Senator Says Proposed Measure Is an Incentive to Wrecking for Profit.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The senate this afternoon discussed the bill providing regulations for the registration of foreign built vessels wrecked on the American coast and repaired in the United States.

Mr. Kaffery spoke in opposition to it, saying that under its provisions vessels would be wrecked in order to secure American registry. He attacked the navigation and tariff laws of the United States, saying they had practically driven our merchant marine from the seas. He contended that the bill was prohibitive in its terms, and intended to remove the last vestige of competition in the matter of shipbuilding. There was no necessity for it under present conditions.

"We may hold the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico," he said, "but if we adopt the contractive policy of this measure our balloon will be soon collapsed and our expansion policy comes to an end."

The bill was in absolute inhibition against the importation of a ship, making that the only article that could not be imported. He thought the bill in the interests of monopoly. At the close of Mr. Kaffery's remarks the bill went over till to-morrow.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION RECOMMEND DR. A. W. CHASE'S OINTMENT.

Dr. C. M. Harlan, writing in the American Journal of Health, February 10th, says: — "Among the proprietary medicines deserving recognition is Dr. Chase's Ointment as a remedy for piles, eczematic skin eruptions of all kinds, for which it has been used with marked success and has effected remarkable cures in many obstinate cases which seem to baffle the skillful medical attendant."

MANAUENSE IS SEIZED.

Marshal Takes Possession of the Steamer to Satisfy Claim of Mortgagees.

Albion Iron Works and Marine Railway Put in Claims for Repairs Just Completed

A marshal was yesterday placed in possession of the steamship Manauense, now lying in the harbor of Esquimalt. The steamer has only lately been launched from the Esquimalt marine railroad, where work to the value of several thousand dollars had been done on her, preparatory to fitting her for the British Columbia-San Francisco route. The bill for this presented by the Albion Iron Works amounts to $45,000. In addition there are the claims of the Esquimalt Marine Railroad Company for $5,000 and of the mortgagees, R. Williamson & Son, of Workington, Eng., amounting to about $40,000. Capt. S. Hendy, representing the mortgagees and Lloyds' underwriters, arrived from England a few days ago and at once took action to protect the interests he represent.

At 1 o'clock yesterday he ordered the marshal to take possession, whereupon the Esquimalt Marine Railway Company secured themselves.

"The whole matter," said Capt. Hendy last night, "can be arranged I think in a few days. The vessel will not be tied up if I can help it."

A compromise will be made between the several claimants if possible.

Capt. Edwards is the registered owner of the ship. He brought her out from England less than a year ago to enter the Klondike trade. In this service she was employed until a few months since and now it is proposed to place her in the coasting trade as stated. She was on the Esquimalt marine slip for over a month. Her repairs were somewhat extensive, including the removal of several plates on her bottom.

AGAIN IN TROUBLE.

When the steamer Danube was passing through Wrangel narrows on her way south, the steamer Excelsior was on the rocks. The Excelsior made a spurt to keep ahead of the Danube, and suddenly was brought to a stop by a rock. She was not badly damaged, and as the water was low when she struck, she probably floated at the next high tide.

MARINE NOTES.

Steamer Oscar is due in from the Fraser to-day with a full load of hay and grain.

The Sister group of islands, off the west coast of Lasqueti island, has been reserved by the Dominion government for lighthouse purposes.

REGULATING THE SAMOANS.

German and British Sailors Make a Display in Order to Preserve Peace.

Apia, Samoa, Nov. 26, via San Francisco, Dec. 14.—Considerable excitement was created here November 10 by a landing party of bluejackets from the British and German warships. While no serious trouble is anticipated at present, the representatives of the powers thought it wise to make a demonstration, owing to the number of natives who have congregated at Mulinuu, so as to show that the powers were determined to protect the white residents.

The party landed at Mautu and marched through the town, headed by a German band from the Buzzard, with drum and fife corps from H. M. S. Porpoise. After making a display to the natives, both parties returned to their respective ships.

Chiefs supporting Mataafa have notified the Chief Justice that they have elected Mataafa as King of Samoa, and that a protest has been lodged by certain other chiefs, who dispute the election. High Chief Tamasase has been nominated for the vacant throne by the opposition, and the whole matter has been referred to the Chief Justice. Upon the decision of that official will depend the selection of the new king of Samoa.

JAW-BREAKER ENDS FIGHT.

Williams, of Australia, Floored and Counted Out in Baltimore.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 15.—The star attraction at the boxing bout here tonight was a 25-round go between Janney of Baltimore and Tom Williams, of Australia.

In the third round a stiff left-hand hook on the jaw floored Williams, and he had to be carried to his corner after being counted out.

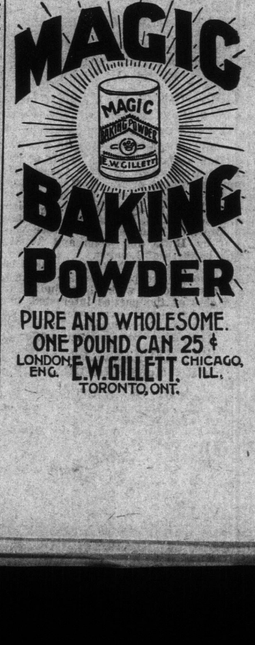
TERRIBLE TURK FLOORED.

Duncan Ross Surprised Him in One Bout but Was Then Simply Crushed.

Indianapolis, Dec. 15.—Hali Adali, "the Terrible Turk," got a surprise tonight. Duncan Ross pulled him over in the collar and elbow bout and got the fall. Adali, however, got the next two, simply crushing his man to the mat in both falls.

CREW SAFE IN PORT.

New York, Dec. 14. — Capt. E. W. Shackford and vrew of eight men belonging to the lost schooner Johanna Swan, which was abandoned at sea on December 2, arrived safely in port to day.



STOCKS, METALS AND PRODUCE.

Strength of the Grain Market a Feature in New York—Stocks Strong on Active Buying.

New York, Dec. 15.—The Commercial Advertiser's financial cable from London says: "The markets were quiet and good to-day. Americans were heavy till the middle of the day, when there was a sudden spurt in them on ragged buying from the Continent and provinces. New York sold, causing a relapse. A final rally carried prices half a point above the worst. Money was hard, and there was big borrowing at the bank. There was less demand for gold at 77⅞."

New York, Dec. 15.—Many stocks gained about a point to-day, and the market left off strong, with a good buying movement in progress. Perhaps the most potent influence on sentiment was the government's foreign trade statement, showing exports for November valued at nearly $130,000,000, which was nearly $78,000,000 in excess of the imports, and the excess over imports for the five months of the fiscal year was above the enormous sum of $242,000,000. Then, the strength of the grain markets to-day seemed to indicate a continuance in demand for American products. Alternating firmness and weakness rendered the market irregular during the forenoon.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

	Dec. 14.	Dec. 15.
Amn. Cotton Oil	34	34
Amn. Tob	141	141¼
Amn. Sugar	126	*124⅝
Amn. Sugar pfd	..	*111
Amn. Spirits	12⅞	13
Atchison, all paid	18⅞	19¼
Atchison pfd	51⅝	51⅝
Baltimore & Ohio	60¾	61
Bay State Gas	5⅝	..
Canada Southern	55½	57¼
Ches. & Ohio	25⅝	..
Chicago, B. & Q	121½	122¼
Chicago Gas	..	108⅞
Chicago & N. W	142⅞	142¾
C. R. I. & Pac	106⅝	106⅝
C. M. & St. P	116⅝	116⅝
Cons. Gas, N. Y	192	190
C. C. C. & St. L	44	44½
Del. & Hudson	107	107
Den., Lac. & West	100	..
Denver & Rio G. pfd	64⅝	65⅝
General Electric	93	93½
Hocking Valley	4⅝	..
Jersey Central	96	93
Lake Erie & Western	14½	16⅝
Lake Erie & Western pfd	63½	65½
Louisville & Nashville	64½	64¼
Man. Elev	99⅝	99⅝
Michigan Central	..	118
Mo. Pac	45⅝	44¾
National Lead	37½	37½
North American Co	6⅞	..
Nor. Pac. comn. new	41½	43¼
Nor. Pac. pfd	76⅝	76⅞
N. Y. C. & H	121⅝	124⅛
N. Y. L. E. & W	14⅝	14½
N. Y. L. E. & W. pfd	37⅞	38½
N. Y. Ont. & W	17⅝	17⅝
Omaha com	90½	..
Pac. Mail	43½	..
Phil. & Reading, all paid	19⅞	..
Pullman	151½	149
Standard Rope & Twine	7⅞	8¼
Southern Railway com	10½	10¼
Southern Railway pfd	42½	42½
Tenn. Coal & Iron	34½	..
Texas & Pacific	16⅞	16¼
U. S. Leather	6⅞	6¾
U. S. Leather pfd	70⅞	*69⅝
U. S. Rubber com	46⅝	44⅝
U. S. Rubber pfd	112	111¼
Union Pacific receipts	38⅝	38⅝
Union Pacific pfd	71	70½
Wabash	..	8¼
Wabash pfd	23½	23⅝
Western Union	95½	94⅝
W. & L. E. pfd	27⅞	27⅝
Met. St. Ry	191½	192
Brooklyn Rapid Transit	72⅞	..
C.P.R. in London	87⅞	88
Com. Cable in Montreal	186	186

*Ex dividend.

New York, Dec. 15.—Money on call steady at 2¾ to 3 per cent; last loan, 2½ per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 3 to 4 per cent. Sterling exchange, irregular at $4.84½ to $4.84⅝ for demand, and at $4.81¼ to $4.81⅝ for sixty days. Posted rates, $4.82¼ and $4.85½. Commercial bills, $4.80½ to $4.81.

New York, Dec. 15.—Silver certificates, 59½ to 60½c.; bar silver, 59½c.; Mexican dollars, 47c.

Copper, steady; brokers, $12.75; exchange, $12.75 to $12.90.

Lead, strong; brokers, $3.50; exchange, $3.75 to $3.87½.

Tin, dull; straits, $17.90 to $18; plates, quiet.

Spelter, quiet; domestic, $5.35.

Turpentine, steady. Rosin, steady.

Pig iron, dull: Southern, $10.25 to $11.25; Northern, $10.25 to $11.75.

New York, Dec. 15.—Wheat closed: March, 74½c.; May, 71⅝c.; Dec., 72⅞c.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Wheat closed: Dec., 66⅞c.; May, 69¼ to 69c.; July, 69⅝c.

Corn—Dec., 34⅝c.; May, 34⅞c. to 35c.; July, 35⅝c. to 36½c.

Oats—Dec., 26⅝c.; May, 26¾c.

ARMENIAN SORROWS.

Widows and Orphans Who Survived Massacre Now Facing Starvation.

Constantinople, Dec. 14.—According to advices received here the outrages by the Moslems on the Christians in Armenia are increasing. In addition there is great distress among the Armenians, who in many places are starving. Unless aid is brought them soon the widows and orphans who survived the massacre will be wiped out.

Why does not the Dominion government take up the Pacific cable project in a manner which will show that it appreciates its importance? The whole responsibility for delay in construction is said to rest with Canada, and this ought not to be. There is not the least room for doubt that if the Conservatives had remained in power, the cable would have been on a fair way to completion.

FIRE ALARM BOXES.

To ring in an alarm break the glass covering the key, open the door and pull down the hook on the inner door once and let it go; remain at the box to direct the firemen.

All the fire halls are connected with telephone 538.

3—Birdcage Walk and Superior street, James Bay.
4—Cadar and Simcoe streets, James Bay.
5—Michigan and Menzies streets, James Bay.
6—Menzies and Niagara streets, James Bay.
7—Montreal and Kingston streets, James Bay.
8—Montreal and Simcoe streets, James Bay.
9—Dallas road and Simcoe street, James Bay.
14—Vancouver and Burdette avenue.
15—Douglas and Humboldt streets.
16—Humboldt and Rupert streets.
23—Fort and Government streets.
24—Yates and Wharf streets.
25—Johnson and Government streets.
26—Douglas st. between Fort and View.
27—No. 1 Fire Hall, Pandora street.
31—View and Blanchard streets.
32—Fort and Quadra streets.
34—Yates and Cook streets.
35—Yates and Fernwood streets.
36—Junction Oak Bay and Cadboro roads.
37—Cadboro and Richmond roads.
41—Quadra and Pandora streets.
42—Chatham and Blanchard streets.
43—Caledonia and Cook streets.
45—Spring Ridge.
51—Douglas and Discovery streets.
52—Government and Princess streets.
53—Kings road and Second street.
54—Fountain, Douglas street and Hillside avenue.
56—Oaklands Fire Hall.
61—Cormorant and Store streets.
62—Discovery and Store streets.
63—John and Bridge streets.
64—Catherine street, Victoria West.
65—Springfield ave. and Esquimalt road.
71—Douglas street and Burnside road.

VICTORIA AND VICINITY.—A portfolio of six beautiful water-color photographs—the best Xmas card you can send your friends. Ask for it at the bookstores or this office. Price, 75 cents.

NEWS OF THE GAZETTE.

Bennett Lake and Atlin Mining Divisions Defined—Captain Rant Recorder.

William P. Robinson Succeeds Sheriff Redgrave—New Companies.

By proclamation in yesterday's issue of the British Columbia Gazette, the boundaries of the Bennett lake and Atlin mining divisions are officially defined by the provincial secretary and minister of mines, Hon. J. Fred Hume, while the appointment of Joseph D. Graham as gold commissioner for both these divisions is confirmed and gazetted, his appointments including also those of stipendiary magistrate for Nanaimo county and notary public for the province. Capt. Rant is to be the recorder for Bennett lake division. Elsewhere in the gazette the chief commissioner of lands and works gives notice that all crown lands in the Bennett lake division are reserved from sale or pre-emption until further notice, excepting such parcels as may be offered at public auction.

Another announced is that of William P. Robinson, of Nelson, to succeed S. R. Redgrave as sheriff of Slocan, Nelson and Rossland ridings of West Kootenay and of the south riding of East Kootenay. C. B. Jones and Harry Rhodes are made notaries public and H. O. Wellburn is formally proclaimed returning officer for the Cowichan election.

The incorporation is noted, among others, of the Castle Mining Co., Ltd., non-personal liability, capitalized at $100,000, and with offices in Rossland; it has a fifty-year term of corporate life, and has been formed to acquire and operate the Lost Horse and Great Divide claims in West Kootenay. The Canada Western Gold Mining & Exploration Co., Ltd., is a second Rossland company, with stock of $1,000,000; and the Rossland Golden Gate Development and Gold Mining Co., Ltd., a third. The latter is now capitalized at $1,000,000; while the British Columbia Produce Society, Ltd., of which the Vancouver Island Fruit Growers' Association was the foundation and nucleus, has its head offices here and a capital stock of $50,000.

S. Perry Mills, as judge of the Court of Revision and Appeal, gives notice of the sittings of that court as follows: For Victoria city, at the Small Debts court, law courts, on Friday, the 30th, and Saturday, the 31st December, at 11 o'clock a.m.; for South Victoria, at Royal Oak, January 7, at 11:30 a.m.; and at John Camp's, South Saanich, on January 14, at 12 o'clock noon; for North Saanich, at Sidney hotel, Sidney, on January 13, at 12 o'clock noon; for Esquimalt, at Henry Prices's, Esquimalt Bridge, December 29, at 11 o'clock a.m.; for Coast, Rupert, Sayward and Quatsino districts, at law court, Victoria, on January 6, at 11 o'clock, and for Barclay, Clayoquot and Renfrew, at the same place on January 6, at 2 o'clock. At interior points, courts of revision will be held as follows: Yale, December 28; Lytton, December 29; Spence's Bridge, December 30; Ashcroft, December 31; Osoyoos, January 5; Midway, January 7, and Grand Forks, January 9.

F. C. Gamble, C.E., as inspector of dykes, is inviting sealed tenders for the completion of certain works on the Matsqui dyke; and Thomas Lewis, clerk of the commission, gives notice that the plan and memorandum of the assessment roll of the Glen Valley Dyking Works have been filed in the land registry office at New Westminster.

The shareholders of the Western Dredging Co., Ltd., are to hold a special and important meeting at Vancouver on January 10, and those of the Golden Cache Mining and Milling Co. on January 16 at Kaslo.

At the approaching session of the legislature the British Columbia Electric Supply Co. will apply for incorporation by special charter.

Marshall Bray, government agent at Nanaimo, is inviting tenders for Nanaimo gaol's supplies during 1899.

ATLIN GOLD FIELDS BROADEN.

Nuggets in Plenty Discovered in a Stream Twenty Miles from Pine Creek.

A letter received by Mr. Geo. Marsden, the newsdealer, from Mr. Thos. Tugwell, of this city, tells of a new discovery in the Atlin country. Mr. Tugwell is now proprietor of the British hotel at Log Cabin, and he writes under date of the 2nd of December as follows:

"There has been a very rich creek struck about twenty miles southwest from Pine creek, on Atlin lake; very coarse gold and lots of it. Two men came in from there a few days ago and recorded claims and showed the gold, all good sized nuggets. It will rival the Klondike. Give the information to your friends; it is reliable."

GREAT PROFITS IN IRON.

Seven Millions Clandestinely Accumulated Bring Trouble to German Concern.

London, Dec. 14.—The Vienna correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says: "The announcement of a meeting of shareholders of the Prager Eisen Industrio Gesellschaft, one of the most powerful iron concerns on the continent, with a view to the distribution of a reserve fund of seven millions, clandestinely accumulated in the course of years and never appearing in the balance sheet, has led the government to interfere on the ground that the directors are guilty of stock jobbery.

"As the result of the order, the president of the concern has resigned and his resignation has been followed by that of two directors of the Credit Anstalt who have also been directors of the iron company. The scandal has caused an outcry for a reduction in the iron duties, which have enabled the company to make these enormous profits."

ALBERNI FAVORS NEILL.

The Town Practically Repeats Its Vote of the General Election—Districts Not Heard From.

Alberni, Dec. 15.—(Special)—The election for the legislature made necessary by the resignation of Mr. Neill, took place to-day. The vote in the town was very similar to that at the general election, standing 80 for Neill and 57 for Ward, as compared with 86 for Neill and 58 for Huff in July. Neill had majorities at Clayoquot and Ucluelet at last polling, and the returns from there which cannot be received until to-morrow are therefore not expected to affect the result.

A WOMAN BURGLAR.

Discovered Hidden Under a Bed She Makes Tearful Confession.

New Work, Dec. 14.—At last the tables have been turned, a woman burglar has been found under a man's bed. When Emil Marx entered his flat in Brooklyn last night, he saw a pair of legs disappear under his bed. He ordered the intruder to come forth and when the latter obeyed Marx found himself gazing into the penitent eyes of a young woman, who said she was Mrs. Pauline Bergman.

Upon investigation Marx found that the pretty burglar had packed up all his valuables. The woman was arrested. She told a pitiful story of desertion by her husband. She said her two children were starving and she had to steal. The police found and cared for the children.

GOVERNOR OF HAVANA.

General Lee Expected Only the Military Command and Is Correspondingly Pleased.

Havana, Dec. 14.—The United States transport Panana with General Fitzhugh Lee and his staff on board entered the harbor this morning. General Lee was informed by a correspondent of the Associated Press of his appointment as governor of the province of Havana. He said he was much gratified but had only wished for the military command. The General added that he is simply in command of his soldiers, that his duty is to preserve life and property and that he proposed to do so with equal justice to all nationalities. General Lee added that he had nothing to do with the establishment of any sore of government and that his duties were confined to flying the flag of peace and order.

The headquarters of the General will be established at Quemado Camp, Marianao. Many prominent personal friends called on the General when he arrived here.

TO IMPROVE HARBOR.

Mr. Sorby Explains His Scheme to the Members of the City Council.

What He Expects From the City and Dominion—Estimated Cost.

Mr. T. C. Sorby yesterday appeared before the members of the city council, by invitation and gave a very exhaustive explanation of his proposed harbor improvement scheme. He had with him complete plans of the work it is proposed to undertake and was able to give the aldermen information on the most minute details. First he explained what help he expected from the city, which is:

1. That they should guarantee the repayment of the loan and the semi-annual payment of the interest on the bonds. For this they would be amply secured by the existing and contingent harbor dues and privileges, together with rents receivable from the land and premises purchased and land reclaimed by the expenditure of the loan,—the capital value of which, as an asset, would be about double the amount of the loan, and constantly augmented by the expenditure of all surplus revenue on the further development of the harbor—together with the further addition of about 100 acres of first-class commercial taxable property, a valuable asset to the city and a constant source of increase to its annual revenue.

2. That the city should convey to the harbor commissioners the James Bay mud flats, to be filled in and reclaimed by the commissioners and converted into useful property from which a revenue can be obtained.

3. That the reclaimed land and all improvements thereon shall be free from taxation until the year 1905.

The proposition before the Dominion government is:

4. That they should incorporate a harbor commission for Victoria, on the general lines of the Montreal harbor commissioners' act of 1894, 57, 58 Vic., Chap. 48.

5. That they should increase the present annual appropriation of $10,000 to $30,000 for a limited period of five years, that is, during the infancy of the undertaking, to give it a fair start in public usefulness.

6. That they should endorse the guarantee of the city for the repayment of the loan and the interest on the bonds as before stated in item 1.

Mr. Sorby also submitted a statement of the estimated cost and the estimated revenue made out in complete detail.

Mr. Sorby explained that the harbor would not be closed as soon as the work was undertaken but that considerable dredging would be done by means of pumps, the mud thus taken out of the harbor being used to fill in the James Bay mud flats. When the harbor was closed it would take about ten days to pump out the water, and the soft mud having previously been removed by the pumps, the work of excavating and blasting could be immediately commenced. About 3,000 men would be put to wark, working night and day. All the rock and dirt removed would be used in building the walls and reclaiming the land, so that nothing but the coping stones would have to be brought from a distance. A canal would be built from the head of Victoria arm to Esquimalt harbor so as to keep the upper harbor filled with water while the work was proceeding. Then when the work was completed this canal being kept open would improve the Arm and Gorge as there would always be a current to carry the debris out to sea. A bridge would be built across the harbor from the foot of Cormorant street, another across Rock Bay and still another at Point Ellice. The James Bay bridge of course would be done away with entirely.

Mr. Sorby explained that he had been promised the money at 3¼ per cent. and all that was necessary was the acceptance of the proposition by the Dominion and city. The Dominion authorities, he said, favored it, but action had been delayed by the destruction of the plans in the Ottawa fire. The work would be carried out and the harbor managed by commissioners to be appointed by the Dominion, the council, the board of trade and the shipping interests.

In answer to Ald. Humber, he said that the Dominion act would empower the commissioners to expropriate the land around the water front, and if they could not come to an agreement as to the price to be paid the question would be referred to a jury. The wharves would be free to all ships, but should any company wish to reserve a particular wharf for their steamers, a yearly rental would be charged.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Sorby for attending.

PRIESTS GIVE TROUBLE

Porto Ricans Warned to Hold Aloof From Protestants and Spurn Their Presents.

Marriages Performed by Others Than Themselves Are Denounced as Illegal.

Military Commander Promptly Resents and Forbids This Boycott of Americans.

By Associated Press.

San Juan, Dec. 15.—The Roman Catholic priests at Ponce have issued a proclamation directing their people not to go near Protestants nor to receive presents from them, and forbidding them to enter the houses of Protestants. The priests denounce as illegal marriages performed by others than themselves.

General Henry, the military commander of the island, has notified the alcalde of Ponce to inform the priests that they must stop issuing such disquieting proclamations, and that the denouncing of religious denominations will not be tolerated.

The alcalde is further instructed to tell the priests that if the action complained of is persisted in, the military will put an end to it.

(From Daily Colonist, Friday, Dec. 16.)

THE CITY

Lucky Numbers.—The case of dolls, the sleeping beauty and her attendants, was won by ticket No. 71, the holder of which can get the dolls from Mrs. Hasell. The court lady was won by Mrs. Farrer.

On the Sick List.—Gaoler Allen, of the city lock-up, has been on the sick list for several days. During his absence Constable Abel is acting as night gaoler, with Constable Carter as assistant, while Constable Redgrave is acting as assistant to day Gaoler Mitten.

W. C. T. U.—A plan of work for the next six months was roughly drafted at yesterday's well attended meeting of the W. C. T. U. It was decided to have 500 copies of the paper on "Women in the Home," read before the Women's Council by Mrs. Cooper and published in yesterday's Colonist, printed for circulation.

Branching Out.—Messrs. J. J. Malone and Henry Thomas, proprietors of the Warwick saloon and wholesale liquor dealers of Tacoma, are in the city, guests at the Victoria. They leave shortly for the North—Mr. Thomas for Atlin and Mr. Malone for Minook creek, in both of which places they intend to establish branches of the Warwick. They already have branches in Wrangel and Rampart City.

Committed on Four Charges.—Kenneth J. Finlayson, late teller in the Dominion government savings bank, was yesterday committed for trial on four charges of theft, viz., stealing $40, $150, $50 and $100. The evidence in each case was identical, Mr. John Fraser, superintendent of the bank, and Mr. McLaughlin, the manager of the Victoria branch, giving the same evidence as on Wednesday, and the depositors of the sums alleged to have been stolen identifying their signatures on the slips found in Finlayson's cash box, and producing their pass books showing the entries. There are eight more charges against Finlayson, the hearing of which will be commenced at 10 o'clock this morning.

Complete Circuit.—When the telegraph line between Alberni and Cape Beale, tenders for the construction of which are now being invited by the Dominion government, is completed, there will be a complete telegraph circuit around the southern end of the Island. There is already a line from Cape Beale to Victoria via Carmanah, Otter and Rocky points, while a wire also runs from Victoria to Alberni, so that all that is necessary to connect the two lines is forty miles of wire between Alberni and Beale. It is the intention of the government to push the work to completion. Offices will be established at intermediate points should it be found that they are required.

Skins Sold Splendidly.—Yesterday was a red letter day in the history of the sealing industry, for practically the entire catch of the season just over was sold on the London market at prices ranging about 30 per cent. advance over those obtained last year for Behring sea skins and over 5 per cent. on Northwest skins. The Alaska furs last year brought about 80 shillings, so that this year's prices at Lampson's sales range in the neighborhood of $25—a figure that has not been approached in many years. There were between fifteen and twenty thousand of these skins offered, and sealers can hardly realize the great improvement in the market. Until later advices arrive several will take the cipher cable message received concerning the prices to mean three instead of thirty per cent. As for the Coast skins, of which there had been about 20,000 sold, the prices secured run between 40 and 50 shillings. At the Hudson's Bay Company's sales an average price of 47s. 2d. was obtained, being an advance of 7½ per cent. on last January's.

Experts to Decide.—The question as to whether the site for the proposed rifle range at Oak Bay is a safe one is to be decided by experts. Major Ben. Williams and Mr. Robert Cassidy, who have had a long controversy on the subject, have agreed to go over the range with experts and abide by their decision. Mr. Cassidy has selected Mr. Wilkinson, C. E., and Capt. Livingstone Thompson, and Major Williams Capt. Rant. The question will be decided by these gentlemen.

Death of John Bowker.—John Sylvester Bowker, a resident of British Columbia for upwards of 30 years, died yesterday at his residence, Oak Bay farm, after several months' illness. The deceased was a native of Gardner, Mass., and was 77 years of age, although he appeared very much younger, being quite active up to four or five months ago, when he was taken ill. Mr. Bowker was one of the early settlers of San Juan island, where he was farming as early as 1858. A few years later he removed to Vancouver Island, and for many years had one of the best farms on the island, the property where he resided up to the time of his death. He leaves a widow, a daughter of the late John Todd, and one son. The funeral will take place on Sunday from the residence, Oak Bay farm.

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ON VICTORIA'S SCHOOLS

City Superintendent Eaton Presents His Semi-Annual Reports and Recommendations.

Grading Examinations, Percentage Marking and Rank Lists Are Condemned.

Intelligent Education for Citizenship Advised—Also Revision of Text Books.

A very comprehensive, interesting and instructive report is that of City Superintendent Eaton, presented to the public school board on Wednesday evening, dealing with the progress and condition of education during the past six months and now. To summarize some salient features of the report, it condemns as antiquated and undesirable the grading examinations, percentage markings and rank lists; maintains that children to be educated for citizenship must have positive, definite and systematic instruction in morality; holds that revision of the text books is essential to progress; and argues that merit should count in the fixing of teachers' salaries. The complete report follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen,—In the report which I had the honor of presenting to you last June, I discussed at length the general character of instruction given by your teachers in several of the leading subjects of the school curriculum. In this report I shall not refer to that matter, beyond expressing my gratification that during the present term there have been clear indications of an honest effort in many of the class rooms to carry out the suggestions I made at that time; and that in consequence considerable improvement is manifest. Nevertheless, in respect to the essential subjects of reading and writing, and the use of language, oral and written, there is still ample room for advance in the character of the work done. There are a number of other matters conditioning the further improvement of your schools to which your attention is now invited.

THE COURSE OF STUDY.

Next after the appointment of a competent staff of teachers there is no other feature of the internal organizaion of the city schools as important as the cirriculum. An excellent teacher may be seriously handicapped by being obliged to follow closely a poorly devised course of study; and even an inferior teacher may be helped to secure fairly good results under the guidance of a well arranged course. The worst use to which a "limit table" can be put is to set tasks to teachers and pupils for a term or year. The quality of work to be done in a given time is of little importance; while the kind of work and the manner of doing it are of supreme importance. The true purpose of a prescribed course of study is not to determine the quantity of work that must be undertaken and accomplished by each teacher in a given time, but rather to serve as a guide to the proper sequence and corelation of studies and to the best methods of presenting them. Its provisions should be elastic enough to permit good teachers considerable latitude of judgment and discretion, and at the same time be constraining enough to keep the less competent in essentially right lines of work. And, lastly, it is by no means necessary or desirable that it should be absolutely identical for all the schools under the same general system; rather, the general plan should be susceptible of modification and adaptation to suit the peculiar conditions of each separate school for which it is to serve as a model. The preparation of such a study plan is not the task of an afternoon. During the year past I have been carefully studying the local conditions and the published school courses of some of the best city systems, with a view to a comprehensive revision of the course under which your schools are now working. This revision I hope to present to you with my next semi-annual report in the confidence that its adoption will put the Victoria schools in this feature of their organization on a thoroughly modern footing.

CLASSIFICATION AND GRADING.

The school exists for the pupil, not the pupil for the school. The interests of the individual child are paramount; and all provisions regulating the internal economy of the school must recognize the fact. In order to bring the administration of the Victoria schools into line with the doctrine and practice of the best systems in Continental Europe and in Great Britain, in the United States and in Canada, the system of grading now in operation must be modified in several particulars, with the aim of making it flexible enough to adapt itself more readily and more completely to the individual requirements of the pupils:

1. Instruction should be specialized to some extent for different sections of the class, particularly in lower grades. In some of the classes this has been done during the present term, but the practice should be general.

2. Reclassification should take place oftener than once a year; in fact, pupils should be promoted whenever they are ready for promotion. While the child of average ability may require eight years to complete the elementary course, and the duller pupils longer, opportunity should be given to brighter pupils to accomplish it in less than the average time.

3. Special examinations set to determine what pupils are ready for promtion should be abolished. Such examinations are both useless and pernicious: useless because they determine nothing in this respect that is not already known to the teacher of the class; and pernicious, because they foster bad methods of teaching and bad habits of study.

A plan of grading embodying these principles will be submitted to you, with the revised course of study at the end of the ensuing term.

MONTHLY REPORTS.

In my last report I called your attention to the serious misdirection and waste of energy which the "marking system," followed quite generally in your schools, involves. The principle of competitive ranking is almost universally condemned by modern educationists, and is being gradually eliminated from the organization of the best schools in Canada and the United States. In Germany, where, if anywhere in the word, education is a science, one never hears of per cents. and rank lists. Pupils should be educated into habits of faithful, systematic and zealous study, not through an appeal to the lower motives of mutual rivalry, but to the higher motive of genuine desire for self-improvement. The incentive should be to excel their own past record, not the record of their class-mates. If this is sound doctrine, than the rank lists, monthly and terminal, should be abolished, and at least all scholarship prizes. This could hardly be done in the Victoria schools without substituting for the form of pupils' monthly report now in use, a form which does not involve the giving of numerical values to the pupils' work.

Briefly stated, the argument against the present system is: It involves a great deal of school bookkeeping and entails a large amount of purely clerical work upon the teacher, whose energies ought to be conserved for the legitimate work of the schools; the aim of the school is the mental and moral growth of the child—the development of character—and progress in these respects is not susceptible or percentage valuation; and, lastly, under this system of marking, the teacher is held responsible for the tabulation of the number of correct answers to certain test questions given to the children during the month, rather than for a constant study of each individual child in all the daily manifestations of his developing individuality.

In view of these considerations I have prepared draft report forms, the use of which I am satisfied tend to mitigate the obvious evils of the present system. They are herewith submitted for your approval, with a view to their adoption, provided the consent of the department of education can be obtained.

The doctrine emphasized in the foregoing remarks on the course of study and methods of classification and marking is that the school is neither a mill nor a factory. Such institutions are operated with a view to uniformity at the expense of individuality. The school may, but should not be, so conducted.

NEGLECTED SUBJECTS.

For the past twenty years on this continent, and for as least twice as long in Europe, three branches of study, until the past years generally neglected in the Victoria schools, have had an established place by the side of the three R's in the common school cirriculum, namely, drawing, the study of nature and singing. For the last two terms drawing has been regularly taught in your schools by nearly every one of your grade teachers, with, on the whole, very satisfactory results. Though the instruction given has not in every case been of the highest order, the interest of both pupils and teachers has been most gratifying; and I regard the introduction of the subject as a great step in advance. With increasing experience, the teachers will gain in confidence and skill; and the subject will, I am sure, become one of the best taught in the list of studies. The prescribed drawing course seems to me defective in not giving more attention in the earlier numbers to obeject drawing. Elementary lessons in geometrical drawing should be given to all first division pupils. They would form the best possible introduction for the theoretical study of geometry in the High school, and, especially for the pupils who complete their education in the graded schools, the knowledge and skill acquired through such instruction would be of inestimable practical value.

What is known as nature study has in the past been too generally neglected in the Victoria schools. The importance of observation lessons in this department is now, however, quite generally recognized; and during the present term in a large number of the class rooms they have been given a fair share of time and attention. In order that the teachers might have a chance to qualify themselves more fully for this work, Saturday morning classes in natural science were organized for the month of September for their benefit. Of these classes I will speak a little further on. A systematic course in nature study must form a part of the reconstructed cirriculum, and this comparatively neglected department of knowledge be given the attention in every class that its importance demands.

I believe that some years ago an attempt was made to introduce the teaching of singing by the Tonic Sol Fa notation, but up to the present practically no regular instruction in singing has been given in your schools. Of course teachers who cared to do so have always had more or less rote singing in their classes, and at present in all but one or two of the schools all the classes have singing once a week or oftener. But more should be required; children should be carried through a progressive course of instruction in singing by note. In many of the United States cities the staff notation is taught, but from its greater simplicity the Tonic Sol Fa notation has acquired a very wide popularity. In England and other European countries it is practically the only system used. There is the same initial difficulty in regard to the introduction of musical instruction—as obtained in the case of object lessons, the lack of the necessary qualifications on the part of the teachers. But I am confident that, once it is resolved that singing shall be taught, this difficulty also will readily resolve itself. The general and long established use of the Tonic Sol Fa notation, because if its remarkable simplicity and the equally good results in musical culture, is sufficient warrant, I think, for its adoption in preference to the staff system.

I should mention in this connection that Mr. Wm. Gregg has within the last three weeks undertaken as a labor of love to instruct the children of the South Park school in Tonic Sol Fa on Saturday afternoons. But some provision should be made during the coming term to form regular classes for the teachers.

I have not considered it necessary to argue the importance of these three departments of instruction. Their imperativeness has long since been demonstrated; the only thing we have to do it to devise ways and means for affording systematic and efficient instruction in them.

MORAL TRAINING.

The function of the public school is to prepare children for future citizenship. Literacy is, to be sure, a better condition for the well being of society than illiteracy; but unless the public school undertakes to give more than the elements of a merely intellectual training, to that extent its aim is defective. Three of the factors which enter into competent citizenship are intelligence, morality and vocation. The error of the public school has been not that it has laid absolutely too much stress on the first of hese, but relatively too little on the other two.

In the sphere of morals, it has been too often content if the personal influence and example of the teacher have been good, and the discipline wholesome; with the chance that the incidents of school life may suggest opportunities for occasional bits of ethical instruction. Nothing more definite has been prescribed for our schools than that "the highest morality shall be inculcated, but no religious creed or dogma shall be taught. The Lord's prayer may be used in the opening or closing of the school."

Positively, definitely and systematic moral teaching should form an integral part of the lesson programee in every class. As an illustration of the least that should be undertaken, I quote the requirements under this head of the programme of studies of one of the other provinces of the Dominion:

(a.) Duties to Self.—Self-culture, self-respect, self-control, purity in thought, word and deed, industry, economy, truthfulness, courage, etc.

(b.) Duties to Others.—Courtesy, including all forms of politeness in school room, home, society, public, public meetings, school ground, street, respect for parents, teachers, benefactors and those in authority.

(c.) Duties to the State.—Civil duties, including respect for law as the means by which the innocent are protected and the guilty punished; tax paying, patriotism, support of government, etc.; political duties, voting, public office a sacred trust.

(d.) Duties to Animals.—As beasts of burden, as food, as sport.

Though I have thus emphasized the importance of more definite and more comprehensive ethical teaching in our schools, I wish at the same time to state that the general moral tone of all of your schools is good, and that some at least of your teachers took no little special pains to train their pupils in good manners and right principles of conduct. I must mention, too, with glad satisfaction, the growing interest among the boys in school athletics, an interest which tends altogether within reasonable limits in the direction of good morals, as well as of a good physique.

MANUAL TRAINING.

As I have already intimated, vocation cannot be divorced from the idea of citizenship. It is often charged against the public school that its training gives a bias towards clerical and literary pursuits and away from the industrial callings. I do not believe that the tendency of elementary education is to create a prejudice against manual industry; but I am of opinion that your schools might do more, and ought to do more, in the way of directly qualifying Victoria boys and girls for those occupations in which manual dexterity in some form is essential, for by far the greater number of pupils must sooner or later find themselves engaged in such occupations.

Manual training properly includes all systemized school exercises, the aim of which is to develop the constructive power of the hand. To this department belongs drawing for all grades; clay modelling, paper cutting and folding, cardboard modelling and the like for junior grades; sewing and cooking for girls; and wood and metal working for the boys of the upper grades. In making provision for the last of these, the object would not be to teach special trades any more than instruction in elementary bookkeeping is intended to qualify pupils for positions as expert accountants. I think the introduction of manual training in wood into the city schools of sufficient provincial importance to justify a special government grant for the purpose.

Sewing is now voluntarily and regularly taught in the Girls' Central and Spring Ridge schools—in the latter to the boys as well as to the girls. I see no substantial reason for not requiring that the girls of all the other schools shall have equal advantages in this respect.

Several months ago in a special report on the desirability and practicability of teaching cooking to the girls of the upper classes, I suggested conditions under which the board might properly make provision for such work. I trust that the public interest in the matter at that time manifested has not exhausted itself, and that the conditions under which the board resolved to take action may be fulfilled before very long.

In order that you may have a more definite idea of the cost of providing instruction in wood working for the boys of the highest grades—metal working is left out of the consideration—I submit the following estimate, given me by an experienced manual training teacher. The figures are, of course, based on local prices. Benches for twenty boys would cost $150, and the necessary tools for a like number would cost $175. Allowing an additional $25 for a margin, the permanent equipment would involve an outlay of $350. With a work room house equipped, a special teacher would be enabled to give one-half day lesson per week to two hundred boys in classes of twenty each. The wood material would cost about $150 annually. A salary at least equal to that of one of the first assistants would be required to secure the services of a competent instructor.

INCREASING ATTENDANCE.

On several occasions during the past year, when the overcrowded condition of some of the classes seemed to demand the appointment of additional teachers, you have been able to avoid this expense by a better distribution of the pupils. So that with an enrollment during the past term of some 250 greater than during the first term of 1897 only one additional teacher has been required. Now, however, in the four largest schools the number of children assigned to each teacher has reached a limit, which should not be exceeded. It is not improbable, therefore, that the usual influx of new pupils at the beginning of next term may call for a further increase in the teaching staff.

THE HIGH SCHOOL.

Three present conditions limit the success of the High school—insufficient and unsuitable accommodation, the half-yearly admission of pupils, and the lack of any objective in the selection and arrangement of High school studies.

The first of these will probably some day be removed by an awakening public spirit. The second would occasion no difficulty if there were more than four teachers and class rooms. The third is one, I respectfully submit, which the council of public instruction must deal with before secondary education in the province can be put upon a satisfactory basis. True, the department now issues a High school diploma; but no definite course of study leading up to it is prescribed. If this were done there would be no difficulty in securing the recognition of the diploma by universities and professional bodies as protanto sufficient guarantee of qualification for entrance upon the various higher courses of study. Besides, the department does not accept its own standards set for the High school admission, or for the diploma, as of any value in determining the scholarship of candidate for teachers' certificates. The result is that the teaching resources of the High school are insufficient to provide the special classes called for by the indefinitely diversified aims of the pupils.

In respect to discipline and efficienty of teaching, subject to the limitations I have mentioned, the present condition of the High school is most satisfactory.

PUPIL TEACHERS.

The training of pupil teachers under the amended regulations of the board has been carried on during the past term in the following manner: Every day from 9 o'clock till half past two each pupil-teacher has been subject to the direction of the principal of the school to which she was assigned in her appointment, except that five afternoons in each month were given to practice work, observation and criticism under my supervision. At three o'clock every afternoon, except during the week of practice, I have met the class for one hour for instruction in pedagogy. Of course this plan has sometimes been interfered with by the demands for substitute work during the occasional illness of regular teachers. The benefits of this training to the prospective teachers who constitute the class cannot be questioned; but it is to be hoped that the necessity of local provision for it will soon be removed by the establishment, in some form, of a provincial Normal school. It is hardly possible that British Columbia can much longer enjoy the unenviable distinction of being practically the only country in the civilized world that makes no provision for the training of teachers for the public schools.

TEACHERS' MEETINGS.

To give the grade teachers an opportunity for instruction in natural history Saturday classes in zoology, botany and mineralogy were organized early in the present term. These classes have been conducted, respectively, by Principal Paul, Mr. Pineo and Miss Watson, of the High school staff. Most painstaking care has been bestowed upon the preparation of the lectures; and those of the teachers who have followed them regularly have found them most interesting, as well as profitable. In connection with these lectures I have held discussions on educational topics, so that, in all, four courses have been carried on, two of the classes being held from 10 to 12 on one Saturday, the other two, the next. In addition to the regular lectures, Mr. Arthur Tomlinson, of Manchester, England, addressed the teachers on the subject of manual training as taught in the English public schools, and on another occasion Mr. W. F. Best delivered a physiological lecture, illustrated by a large number of microscopic slides.

The attendance, which, of course, was voluntary, has not been as large as it should have been in view of the conditions which the organization of these Saturday classes was designed to meet. Some of those who attended regularly did so, I am aware, at considerable personal inconvenience, but I am sure they have been fully repaid in the quality of the instruction received.

Not to lay too heavy out of school burdens on those who were thus giving up every Saturday afternoon to essentially school work, I thought best to suspend the regular monthly grade meetings of teachers. These, however, should be resumed next term.

The monthly meetings of the Teachers' Institutes have not been as largely attended since the provision for compulsory attendance was withdrawn by the board; but this is not an indication that they have been less interesting or profitable. The voluntary organization of teachers for mutual improvement is entitled to the highest commendation and encouragement; but there is an obvious incongruity between voluntary organization and compulsory attendance.

The conditions under which the meetings of the institute are now held are, I am sure, more favorable to its success than those that obtained before your recent action in the matter.

GRADUATION OF SALARIES.

The relative salaries paid to assistants in the graded schools seems to be based on no very clearly defined principle. There are, however, traces of a formed system, which, though not entirely equitable, was at least easy of application, that, namely, by which the salaries formed and ascending scale corresponding to the grades taught. There are, no doubt, differences in the qualifications required for successful work in successive grades, but these differences are hardly well enough defined to determine alone the graduation of the salary scale. At least three other features should have appropriate recognition, viz., scholarship, length of service and efficiency. The last, which should include fidelity, professional enthusiasm, disciplinary power and command of the best methods of instruction, should be chiefly influential.

I have prepared for your consideration a plan embodying the foregoing conditions, which with due regard to existing circumstances seems to me to be fairly equitable.

COST OF TEXT BOOKS.

In order that you may judge whether or not there are good grounds for the complaint sometimes heard that the cost of text books and other school material required by pupils in the graded schools is unnecessarily great, I offer the result of my inquiries into the matter. Though the course of study is substantially the same in all the schools, yet, owing to the fact that the department has prescribed more than one text book in several subjects, teachers of corresponding grades do not always make the same choice from the list, and so the cost of this item varies slightly for the different schools. There is also some variation in the number of exercise note books required by teachers of similar grades. The following estimate is based upon the actual requirements in all the grades of one of the schools:

Text books, one copy each	$ 9.15
Ink, pens and exam. paper assessed by teachers	3.00
Copy books, drawing books, blank books, etc., bought by pupil	8.35
Total cost to each pupil for the whole course	$20.50

On the assumption that the average length of time taken by a child in covering the whole course is eight years, the average cost per year would thus be $2.64.

The complete list of text books covered by the above estimate is as follows:

Readers, one copy of each number in the series	$2.25
Spelling book, 30c.; bookkeeping text, 65c.	95
History, Collier's English, 75c.; English history notes, 15c.	90
History, Robertson's Canadian, 30c.; Canadian history notes, 25c.	65
Grammar, smaller text, 35 c.; larger, 75	1.10
Arithmetic, elementary, 30c.; advanced, 60c.	90
Geography, Campbell's 75c.; Gage's 40c	1.15
Physiology Pathfinder No. 1, 35c.; do. No. 2, 50c.; Cutter's text, 50c.	1.35
	$9.15

It will be noticed that the list includes two text books each in the subjects of English history, Canadian history, grammar, arithmetic and geography, and three text books in physiology. Of these the English history notes and Canadian history notes are not authorized. The Collier's history is not necessary, because the Canadian history text contains also a sufficient comprehensive history of England; so that one text book in history, covering both English and Canadian, should suffice at a cost of 30 cents, instead of $1.45, as per above list. In grammar it may be questioned whether any text book is desirable; but certainly the elementary book prescribed is comprehensive enough for the graded school course. The advanced grammar is adapted only for High schools. Similarly the elementary arithmetic is the only book necessary on that subject. Nor is there any justification for the use of both the geography texts; there is not the excuse even that the two form a progressive series. Of the two, the Campbell is preferable and quite sufficient. Of the three physiology texts the Pathfinder No. 2 is the only one the pupil should be required to buy. If the use of the books above designated as superfluous were discontinued, the total cost of the outfit of text books alone for a pupil going regularly through all the grades to the High school would amount to the very moderate sum of $6, or an average of 75 cents a year for eight years.

In the foregoing remarks I have refrained from any judgment as to the merits of the text books prescribed, but it may not be out of place for me to state my opinion that some substitutionary changes are desirable.

It will be observed that this report deals mainly with the questions of administrative policy. I have endeavored to suggest such reforms and lines of development as are necessary to bring the Victoria schools within measurable distance of modern educational ideals. I have done so in the absolute assurance that the members of the board desire such a standard of excellence to be attained as speedily as possible. I have a reasonable confidence, moreover, that in this desire they have the support of the community at large. Fortunately an up-to-date school system costs no more, necessarily, than one which is a decade or two behind the times.

I submit herewith my semi-annual confidential report upon the individual efficiency of the staff. My estimate is based upon the observations of daily visitation throughout the term.

Yours respectfully,
FRANK H. EATON,
City Superintendent.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 14, 1898.

THE LUMBER TRADE

Important Results Achieved at the Recent Conference of Mill Men.

How the United States Aims to Control Commerce on the Pacific.

As a result of the recent conference in San Francisco of the Pacific coast lumbermen, from which Mr. W. A. Ward has just returned, the majority of the mills have agreed to maintain a price for logs of $9, the Chemainus mill staying out of the arrangement. The action of the millmen in this connection has been made possible by the large number of orders on hand, and also through the anticipated heavy demand from China and Siberia. The combination now practically perfected includes all the leading mills of Puget Sound, as well as the Moodyville mill, which alone among the British Columbia lumber producers is in for the export trade. The question of grading was also discussed at the just-concluded conference, a 12.26 foot basis of length being adopted as standard, with an increased price for over length. The general price it is proposed to raise from $8 to $9 per M, while $9.50 is suggested as the figure for over lengths. The schedule of lengths and prices is now being drafted by the San Francisco people, and will no doubt be generally accepted without further discussion in conference.

Owing to the costs of pilotage in British Columbia waters and the consequent extra towage charges of the Puget Sound tugs bringing shipping here, American lumber carriers at the present time ask 1s. 3d. extra to take carge at a British Columbia port as compared with Puget Sound. It was maintained at the San Francisco conference that some extra charge was legitimate. The representatives of the mills of this province held that they should be entitled to a differential, and it was finally agreed to allow the British Columbia mills to pay either the 1s. 3d. or an actuality of the increased fees, to put them on an equal footing with Puget Sound in the matter of charges.

Mr. Ward vigorously maintained, and is still of the opinion, that this is a matter in which the government should take immediate action, so that the Canadian mills may compete on even terms with their American rivals. The consideration involved by the extra towage and pilotage costs is a very important one in the calculation necessitated by keen competition.

Nowhere is a finer appreciation of the advantage to be derived from the protection of home trade and industry to be found to-day than in the Pacific coast states. Not only does this apply to the lumber carriers, but to all classes of shipping. Forced to the conclusion that Britain's hold upon the carrying trade of the Atlantic is too firm for it to be wrested from her, America has apparently decided to wage an aggressive war for the commerce of the Pacific. Shipping charges, wrecking and coasting laws and every other factor are made to contribute to the building up of a great mercantile marine on these western shores of America; tonnage is everywhere being brought under the flag; trade is being created for the American ships; and building is being encouraged by every possible device, some United States senators going so far as to father a proposal now under consideration to bonus at the rate of $3 per ton for 20 years every ship built of a required rating. This in itself would be material interest on the investment, and while $3 may not be the figure adopted, a substantial bonus is fairly certain to be decided upon.

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE.

The Fifty are Preparing A Platform to Present to the People.

Some of the North Warders Want the City Limits to Be Curtailed.

The Citizens' Committee had another important meeting last night when besides receiving several reports from subcommittees the members had a resolution presented embodying a progressive platform with the idea of thoroughly discussing it and submitting it to a mass meeting of citizens in time for the municipal election campaign. The idea of Mr. Renouf, who drew up the resolution, was to embody in it broad principles, for there is not time this year to go much into detail. Part of the proposed platform was considered and adopted with amendments, and another meeting will be held to-night with the intention of completing that particular subject.

The first thing to come before the meeting was the following communication in regard to the proposed reductions of the present limits of the city:

"To the Citizens' General Committee of Fifty:

"We, the undersigned property owners in the North ward, beg to bring the following to your particular attention: We are desirous of having the property owned by us separted from the city of Victoria and placed outside the limits and for the following reasons:

"1. On account of the greater part of said land being used for farming purposes only and on account of the revenue (if any) derived therefrom being much less than and out of all proportion to the present assessment and rate of taxation thereon.

"2. On account of the utter lack of attention paid to us by the different councils since our incorporation with the city, and more particularly on account of the difference between the moneys paid in by us in the shape of taxes and the improvements granted us.

"3. On account of the want of proper fire protection, there only being a volunteer hose reel company organized by us for our own protection. And on account of no police protection whatever.

"We have seen from the report of the sub-committee on reduction of the city limits that they recommend making the eastern side of the city, and eliminatern boundary of the city, and eliminating Victoria West from the map of Victoria city. Evidently the reason of this is, that more money has been expended in Victoria West than has been received in the way of taxes, this suburb thus having been a burden to the city, although its own vote was responsible for its being taken into the city of Victoria. We are of the opinion that this is most unjust towards us who have paid a great deal more than has been expended on our property; it has been argued that no farming should be conducted inside the city limits and that the present holders of such should sell and remove outside the limits. We beg to state in reply that the very fact of our land being inside the city limits is not only a detriment to us, but also a preventative to our selling as was recently shown in the case of one of the signers hereto. We therefore beg your particular attention to this matter and would strongly request that, if the present city limits, at least as far as our property is concerned, are not reduced to what they were some years ago, that a considerable reduction be made, and thus enable use to escape what we consider a great injustice, and allow us to paddle our own canoes."

This petition bore 43 signatures for individual property owners and estates, Oaklands figuring most prominently and other sections represented being the Work Estate, Hillside avenue, Gorge road, Lansdowne road, extension of Quadra street, and Cloverdale.

In regard to the letter from North ward property owners Lieut.-Col. Prior wished to say that while he was in sympathy with the men whose names were attached to it, he had not signed because if he had people might have accused him of having an axe to grind in moving in the matter of a citizens' committee. He did not go so far as to say that he was in sympathy with these people because he did not want his land taxed; for he was perfectly willing to pay on any land that was really city property. But out on the other side of Sea View the land was all farming land, which was not even divided up in lots and yet had to pay taxes at city rates. The same thing applied to the North and to the South, as for instance out in the direction of Mr. Shotbolt's. From Tolmie to Topaz Ave. he defied anyone to show where the land brought in enough rent to pay for half its taxes. He simply made this explanation to show his position, for he was quite sure that any one who knew him would not for a moment think that he had anything but the good of the city at heart when he took up the idea of the citizens' committee.

Ald. Bragg was of opinion that while everybody had favored the extension of the limits some years ago, the extension had been a mistake. He believed that the petition was a good one and the committee should examine it carefully.

Some discussion followed on the matter in a general way and it was decided to lay the matter on the table to be considered with the committee's report on the reduction of city area.

Sub-committee interim reports on internal economy and on mayor and aldermen's qualifications were read and laid on the table and several other committees asked for further time to report.

Mr. C. E. Renouf, realizing that the time betwen now and the municipal elections was short, said that he believed that the committee should draw up a general platform which could be presented for approval to a citizen's meeting. He had prepared a draft of a resolution which he hoped would meet the case, but he would cheerfuly accept any amendment. He wished also to say that an idea seemed to prevail in some minds that the committee should choose a ticket for mayor and aldermen. He did not believe in that, for the committee should steer clear of anything that would lead people to believe there was politics in it.

Lieut.-Col. Prior quite agreed with Mr. Renouf's remarks regarding the undesirability of the committee suggesting a ticket, for that would mean the introduction of politics and if such were the case he would resign from the committee.

Mr. Renouf then read his resolution, which, after reciting in a preamble what the committee had already done, went on:

That the date for the election of mayor and aldermen for the coming year is near at hand; that it is essential that the board of 1899 should be composed of men who are pledged to establish reforms in municipal government on well defined lines. That in the limited period which remains between this and the 9th day of January, it is impossible for the committee to reach an intelligent conclusion as to the details of any subject under their consideration; that from the information already gathered they agree upon the main principles which should be embodied in a progressive platform, and recommend to the citizens the following platform:

1. Responsible municipal self government.
2. That aldermen's functions shall be legislative, not administrative.
3. Fair representation.
4. That energy and a desire to benefit the city are more to be sought after in an alderman than a mere property qualification.
5. Continuity of office.
6. Efficient officials in charge of all public and departmental work and responsible for the matters under their charge.
7. Paving the streets under an equitable local improvement system.
8. Permanency in all public works.
9. A more rapid extension of the sewerage system.
10. Improvement of our water system. Improved filtration and perfecting its distribution.
11. The consolidation of that portion of the city debt that is practical and may be found advantageous.
12. To press for a settlement of the Songhees reserve question.
13. To seek for advantageous connections with transcontinental railways.
14. That the city's credit shall only be pledged for permanent works.
15. To levy all rates and taxes fairly and according to the benefits which those taxed derive.
16. To pay as we go and to pay for what we get.
17. Day labor on public works.

Any your committee ask that the citizens in general meeting do declare that they will only accord their support to such candidates as do accept this platform and who pledge themselves to carry it out, so far as it lays in their power, during their term of office. And your committee ask that further time be granted them to discuss and elaborate plans to effectually carry out the suggestions embodied in the various planks of the platform before mentioned.

Some discussion ensued on plank 1 of the platform, which was finally changed on the suggestion of Mr. Gordon Hunter to read "Fuller and more extensive powers of municipal self government than are now possessed by the city."

Plank No. 2 came in for its share of discussion, too, the general feeling being that the main idea which it was desirable to express was more to keep the aldermen from interfering with the officers of the city in carrying out their work.

The plank was made to read "That aldermen's functions shall be legislative not executive, and that the office be honorary."

Plank 3 was made to read "Revision of the ward system."

Then as the hour was getting late, the meeting adjourned till to-night at 8 o'clock.

WARDS AND THE COUNCIL.

Continuity in Office Proposed, and New Scheme of Qualification and Election.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 14, 1898.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee of Fifty:

Gentlemen,—We, your Sub-division Committee No. 2, beg to suggest the following as an outline for your consideration:

WARDS.

That there be not less than four wards, numbered as follows, viz., 1, 2, 3 and 4, and others, either by division of present wards or by the creation of new wards by the council on the following basis:

Land assessment, voters and acreage, and that the enclosed map showing particulars be submitted for consideration as a working basis.

ELECTION OF ALDERMEN.

That there be not less than two nor more than three aldermen to each ward.

That if two aldermen be chosen, it shall be for two years, one retiring each year. A is elected for two years by the largest number of votes; B is elected for one year by the second largest number of votes.

That if three aldermen be chosen it shall be for three years, one retiring each year. A is elected for three years by the largest number of votes; B is elected for two years by the second largest number of votes; C is elected for one year by the third largest number of votes.

Second election example for one ward. C retires and D is elected for three years.

Qualification for aldermen shall be $1,000 real estate or $5,000 personal property; shall be a British subject over 21 years of age, and shall have been 12 months resident in the city and shall have paid all rates due by him to the corporation.

The duties of an alderman shall be legislative.

That full powers be given to the council to make and carry out its own by-laws.

That there be two committees elected from the council on nomination of the mayor, and there shall be at least one alderman from each ward.

The committee shall be styled as follows, viz., Executive.

Board of works, consisting of water, sewerage, streets, pounds, cemetery, lighting, etc. The above committee shall consist of six members, including the mayor.

Finance, consisting of finance, parks, bridges, railways, harbors, etc., and shall consist of six members, including the mayor.

The chairman appointed by each committee may be mayor, deputy mayor or late mayor.

The appointment of all commissioners and officers of the corporation shall be subject to the council and carry out the work of the executive.

The qualification for mayor shall be as follows: British subject, over 21 years of age, $2,000 real estate or $5,000 personal property, and otherwise duly qualified as a municipal voter.

Election of mayor may be firstly by the council from the aldermanic board; or secondly, the council may go outside if found convenient so to do.

The mayor shall not, on account of taking the position of mayor, lose his seat as an alderman during the time for which he was elected to serve, and may by courtesy be the deputy mayor on his retirement.

The mayor shall be chief executive officer of the corporation.

All of which is respectfully submitted.
WALTER MORRIS,
Chairman Committee No. 2.

INTERNAL ECONOMY.

Suggested Re-arrangement of Duties of the Various Municipal Offices.

Your committee have made diligent enquiry into this subject, and are unable to recommend any reductions, either in the number of the employees or in the salaries paid on the basis of the present arrangement of the departments. There is one office, however—that of the city engineer—that your committee consider is greatly underpaid, it being the unanimous opinion that the city should employ only a first-class engineer at a salary not less than $2,500 per annum.

The committee beg to point out that the present method of assessment of real estate, the isolated arrangement of the departments, and the collection of licenses, poll, statute labor and dog taxes make the city service far too costly. We therefore recommend:

1. That power be obtained to use the assessment roll of each previous year for the assessment of real estate, or in the alternate to cause that the assessment be made biennially.

2. That all licenses be declared due and payable the first month of each term at the city hall.

3. That the whole of the city staff except the engineer's office, be located in one large central room, so that each official may, if required, assist in the general work of the office, the treasurer being declared the official head.

4. That the hours of duty be declared to be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; the hours to the public being, as heretofore, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Your committee believe that such changes would enable a smaller staff to do the present work, and obviate the necessity of often employing additional help.

Police.—Your committee would further point out that the police force should be required to assist the treasurer, tax collectors, market superintendent and pound-keeper in their respective duties. We believe that much revenue is lost to the city through the laxity of the police in enforcing the by-laws. Each constable should be assigned a portion of the city and, as in the cities of Great Britain, should be required to see that each dog has paid its license; that every person liable to special taxes or licenses has paid them. All summonses for non-payment of taxes should be issued by the chief of police.

Although the question of police and licensing commissioners may be deemed as outside the scope of your committee's enquiry, yet as intimately connected with the foregoing, your committee recommend the reconstruction of these bodies so that they may be brought more into active connection with the city council.

It is therefore suggested that:

1. The police and licensing commissioners form one body and consist of the mayor, police magistrate and three persons appointed triennially in rotation by the council.

2. That the duties of the police be clearly set forth, and that each constable be required to pass a written examination upon those duties, the by-laws of the city, and a moderate scholastic examination, before being placed on the permanent staff.

Real Estate Taxes.—Your committee recommend that all real estate taxes be made due and payable on or before March 31 of each year, with a rebate of 15 per cent., and also payable on or before October 31, with a rebate of 10 per cent.

Lighting.—Your committee recommend that an additional dynamo be purchased, so that the lighting of the city hall, fire halls, market, isolation hospital, schools, and all public buildings be done by the same officials and other plant now operated by the city.

The committee append a list of the salaries paid to city officials:

	Per Month.
Treasurer	$150 00
Treasurer's assistant	75 00
Collector of poll labor and dog taxes, commission of 7 per cent.	
Collector of water rates	90 00
Market superintendent	70 00
Auditor and water commissioner	115 00
City clerk	110 00
City clerk's assistant	50 00
City engineer	150 00
	Per Day.
City engineer's assistant	$ 2 50
	Per Month.
City engineer's clerk	$ 80 00
City barrister	83 33
City solicitor	125 00
Police magistrate	100 00
Clerk of police court	60 00

It will be observed that by the co-operation of the police and a re-organization of the departments, the civic inner service may be reduced to some extent and larger revenue obtained.

Respectfully submitted.
W. H. BONE, Chairman.
W. MARCHANT, Secretary.
W. J. DWYER.
THOMAS A. BRYDON.

JUBILEE HOSPITAL.

An Open Letter to the President and Directors.

Gentlemen:—Some time since, a communication was received by your honorable body, referring to the manner in which a member of the medical staff had been treated by one of your employees. Three meetings of the board have passed and no definite conclusion has apparently been reached.

It is in no spirit of vindictiveness I write, but if this matter is not dealt with at your next regular meeting I shall take steps to make the public acquainted with certain facts.

ERNEST HALL.

CORONERS AND INQUESTS.

Sir:—In your local of this morning in which you condemn the mandate of the attorney-general to coroners, and cite the instance of last Sunday where a man was found dead in a ditch beside his own house, apparently drowned while intoxicated, there being no sign of violence, and on a doctor holding a post morten he finds the man died from drowning, and from the presence of alcohol in the stomach would suppose intoxication the cause.

Yet, sir, in commenting on the above, you say any man of common intelligence would know that an inquest was necessary in such a case.

Now, sir, for the benefit of my poor intellect, would you kindly explain why the examining doctor can not tell the cause of death directly to the coroner, instead of telling it to twelve jurymen, and having them report it to the coroner and at the same time falsely call it a verdict?

The above, I claim, was a case where a jury was not necessary, and a coroner should have power to so decide.

W. J. HANNA.

OLD ENGLAND'S FLAG VS. DR. W. A. CHASE.

The virtues of Dr. Chase's remedies are known the world over and like old England's flag the sun on them never sets.

Dr. Chase's Ointment, Kidney-Liver Pills, Catarrh Cure, Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine and Liver Cure enjoy the the confidence of everybody They have won their way into the public favor on merit. Their sterling qualities and high standing and purity have made them the household word all round the world. All dealers sell and recommend them.

The Colonist.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1898.

THE MUNICIPAL PLATFORM.

The criticism, which most people will make of the platform adopted by the Committee of Fifty, is that there is rather too much of it. It contains seventeen planks—rather a considerable array to be considered at a municipal election. When, however, the platform comes to be analyzed, it will be found that some of the subjects are of such a nature, that there will be no difference of opinion upon them, and that their inclusion in the platform is more because it is desirable that they should not be lost sight of than for any other reason. Among these are the following:

5. Efficient officials in charge of all public and departmental work, and responsible for the matters under their charge.

7. Permanency in public works.

9. Improvement of our water system, improved filtration and perfecting of distribution.

10. Consolidation of that portion of the city debt that is practicable and may be found advantageous.

11. To press for a settlement of the Songhees reserve question.

12. To seek for advantageous connection with transcontinental railways.

13. That the city's credit shall only be pledged for permanent works.

17. Harbor improvement.

These eight propositions are hardly matters of public discussion in the abstract, although there will doubtless be considerable difference of opinion when it comes to settling the details. They ought to find a place in any municipal platform, because they are matters upon which in a general way we are all agreed, and in regard to which we look for any city council to take action.

We have, therefore, nine matters left, which may be called the issues of the next municipal campaign. These are:

Fuller and more extensive powers of municipal self-government than are now possessed by the city.

That the aldermen's functions shall be legislative, and not executive, and that the office be honorary.

Revision of the ward system.

Continuity in office.

Paving the streets under an equitable local improvement system.

A more rapid extension of the sewerage system.

To levy all rates and taxes fairly and according to the benefit those taxed derive.

Day labor on public works.

Candidates for municipal honors to pledge themselves to the better enforcement of the laws relating to the liquor licenses, gambling houses and houses of ill-fame.

All these propositions call for discussion, and it is right to expect those advancing them to be prepared to explain what they mean by them. The columns of the Colonist are open to correspondents who desire to deal with any of them, but we have to request that letters shall be as brief as possible. It is better to write twice briefly than once at length. The Colonist will itself have something to say upon each topic. At present it feels itself only called upon to say that it is in hearty sympathy with what it understands to be the meaning of the whole seventeen planks in the platform.

THE BENCH AND THE PUBLIC.

In delivering judgment in the contempt case, Mr. Justice Drake used this language:

"His objection is a sentimental one and one that is answered by the article itself."

We think the principle upon which this observation is based ought not to pass unchallenged. The Colonist had spoken of the undesirability of one of the judges acting in certain cases, because of the effect upon the public mind, but also stated its belief that the judge would do his duty if he did act. Mr. Justice Drake thinks that the fact that a judge might do his duty in a case an answer to any representation that public opinion would condemn him for hearing it. We do not think this position can be sustained. No court and no judge of it is above the controlling influence of public opinion, as to the propriety of his exercise of his judicial functions in cases where he may be presumed not to stand indifferent between the parties. It has been well said that the only check upon a judge in such cases is the law of his own conscience, and the rule that it is wise to shun even the appearance of evil applies as well to those who wear the judicial ermine as to little boys in Sunday school. That "dignity which doth hedge about a king" and which encompassed the court of the sovereign with a species of halo, has vanished in "that fierce light which beats about a throne." From Shakespeare to Tennyson is a long step in years and almost as great in the responsibility of courts to public opinion. It was a contemporary of Shakespeare, who, when reproached with taking bribes, said "I have sold justice, but never injustice." Would any member of the British judiciary in Tennyson's day have dared avow such conduct? In these times, when the schoolmaster is abroad, and subjects are "loyal to the royal" which dwells in the character of the sovereign, the courts cannot afford to disregard public opinion. Judges must pay regard to what Mr. Justice Drake calls "sentimental objections." If they fail to do so, the courts will lose the confidence of the people and than this no greater calamity could well befall a British country. It will be unhappy day for British Columbia, if it ever shall be declared that a judge may disregard the voice of public opinion with impunity in matters touching his judicial conduct. In regard to his discharge of his judicial duty, when once he has undertaken it, he ought to be absolutely fearless of popular clamor. So far the judges of this province will always receive the strongest support that the Colonist can give them, although they will hardly ever need it, for, in a British country, duty courageously done is its own vindication. But in regard to the propriety of a judge acting in an official capacity in any case, the Colonist claims and will continue to exercise the fullest right of discussion, whenever it considers that the public interests demands. This is the point for which the Colonist has been contending, and its contention has been borne out by the action of Mr. Justice Martin in declining to hear any more applications in the election cases, and by Mr. Justice Drake declining to make any order upon Mr. Duff's application and his observations on the Colonist's articles.

THE OFFICE OF ALDERMAN.

Two planks in the municipal platform naturally go together. One is that providing that the office of alderman shall be honorary; the other that declaring its functions to be legislative and not executive. If aldermen are expected to devote a portion of their time to carrying out public works of any kind, it is reasonable to pay them something for their trouble; but if the only call upon them is for the better performance of what are called legislative duties, for want of a better term, it is reasonable to think that competent men can be found who will be glad to give their services to their fellow citizens without pecuniary recompense. When the expression "legislative" is used in this connection more is implied than the mere making of by-laws and ordinances. The idea, as the Colonist understands it, is that the aldermen shall determine what shall be done, but that there shall be a staff of permanent city officials who will see that it is done. We suppose that this will call for the creation of two or more new offices, so that there will be no money saved by doing away with the salaries of aldermen. The municipal service naturally divides itself under two heads—Public Works and Public Safety. The former includes the maintenance of roads, streets, bridges, buildings, waterworks, sewerage and the property of the city generally. The latter includes the fire department, the police, the sanitary arrangements, the lighting of the city, and other matters of this class. Possibly two departments, presided over by officials named by the city council, would be sufficient for the present needs of Victoria. If so, the two departmental heads and the mayor would form an executive board for the city, and the carrying out of all matters determined upon by the council. We have not embraced under either of the above heads the assessing and collecting of rates, or the auditing and payment of accounts. These constitute the department of finance, and we suggest that the mayor might be specially charged with the supervision of it. He ought also to have the direction of the city's legal advisers. It might be thought advisable to create other chief departments; but we think it clear, if the council is to be relieved from exercising executive functions, that it will be imperative to have at least two executive officers, responsible directly to the council.

It is perhaps sufficient to-day to throw out this suggestion. It touches the proposed reforms in a fundamental way. The voters of the city are not told in the platform—they could not very well be told in it—what the separation of the legislative and executive functions of the council means. We offer the above as an explanation of it, and suggest to the members of the Committee of Fifty that they ought to let the public hear from them as to whether this is their understanding of it. We think such a plan would be found highly satisfactory.

A SMALL PIECE OF BUSINESS.

Mr. Thomas W. Shotbolt and Mr. Charles Hayward have been the selectors for jurors for Victoria for some years. Mr. Shotbolt was appointed so long ago that he has forgotten when it was. Mr. Hayward's appointment is more recent. Both have discharged their duties in an entirely satisfactory manner. The emoluments of the position are nominal, Mr. Shotbolt says they amount to about $10 a year. These gentlemen were relieved from office yesterday. This is a little the smallest piece of business that can well be imagined. Mr. Shotbolt's case is specially an exhibition of littleness. He has been in office for nearly a quarter of a century, or at least for two decades. He did not value the position for the trifle of money there was in it, but simply as a mark of confidence from his province. Every right thinking person will say that he ought to have been allowed to keep the place as long as he wanted it, or until he became incapable of attending to its very modest duties. It was given to him simply as a mark of respect, and because some one had to be named for it. It is taken from him for no imaginable reason, except the extreme littleness of the ministers now engaged in peddling out partizanship. There is a report that the Lieut.-Governor has given his advisers to understand that he will not assent to the removal of any officials, when his approval is necessary for their decapitation. But the guillotine must be kept in working order and so Messrs Shotbolt and Hayward have been picked out as victims. Their dismissal is simply beneath contempt.

We understand the reason put forward for relieving these gentlemen of their duties, and substituting Mr. Dalby, is that the law only contemplates the appointment of one selector. This being the case, it would have occurred to most people that the proper thing to have done would have been to have notified the later of the two appointees of this fact and permitted him to retire, and then to have continued Mr. Shotbolt in the office. But people have ceased to expect from the present government any regard to the amenities of ordinary life.

A SERIOUS PROPOSITION.

The United States aims at military power, and is going to pay pretty dearly for it. General Alger, Secretary for War, wants $166,726,500 to pay the expenses of the army next year, and Secretary Long, of the Navy Department, wants $50,000,000 for that branch of the service. The pension list calls for over $140,000,000 a year, so that the country will have to pay next year, if the appropriations asked for are made, about a million dollars a day for military and naval purposes. To state it another way, the tax for these services alone will be equal to $5.00 per head for every man, woman and child in the country. There is nothing like this in any other country, and we doubt if there ever was anything like it. The expenditure of Great Britain for these services is less than half that proposed for the United States. The total expenditure of Great Britain and France together for military and naval purposes falls short of this amount; Germany and Russia combined do not call upon their people for so much money for these services. It is true that probably no people in the world can bear taxation better than those of the United States. A burden, which would be crushing in Continental Europe, would not be regarded as oppressive by our neighbors, yet the prospect which the new demands upon the people of that nation opens up is not reassuring. The rate of taxation requisite in so great a country cannot fail to have a profound economic effect upon the world at large.

It is a startling fact that every dollar of money in the United States, gold, silver, greenbacks, national bank notes and every other sort, passes through the hands of the tax collector, either federal, state or municipal, every year, and some of it more than once. Of course each coin does not actually so pass, but for every one that does not some other coin does double or treble duty. The government in effect says to the people: "You must give us some time during the year every dollar you have to pay the expense of governing you, and this will not be enough, for after we have spent it, we will need to have some of it a second time." Fortunately for the people, by far the greater part of the expenditure is for purposes within the country, and the money goes out into circulation again. There is little or no drain upon the aggregate resources of the country. What happens is that there is a compulsory diversion of money from the channels in which it would naturally flow, if it were not for the demands of the government. The office-holding class in the United States is out of all comparison in numbers to that of any other country, and the cost of maintaining it is greater than anywhere else in the world. The career upon which the country is entering is freighted with tremendous consequences in every direction.

RELIGION AND SCIENCE.

Not very many people read Draper's book, entitled "The Conflict of Religion and Science"; but the time is not very remote when it was the talk of the whole English-speaking world. The book is really not what it professes to be. In point of fact it is chiefly an arraignment of the Roman Catholic Church for its attitude towards scientific discovery and investigation. There are many things in it which shock the sensibilities of the people who revere church organization, but nothing that is antagonistic to the Sermon on the Mount or to St. Paul's rhapsody on charity. At the time the book appeared there was a general opinion in all the churches that science was undermining the foundations of Christianity, and a very great many people were under the impression that at any day an explosion might come, which would cause the whole fabric of religion to fall to the ground in a ruin past redemption. It is proper to say that the class which are usually called scientists made no such pretensions and avowed no such aims. No true student of natural phenomena asserts more than he has actually proved. He may suggest more, but he askes no one to accept his suggestions. Science is not pushing God out of the Universe. It is not even so much as touching religion.

To show the nature of the work done and being carried on by science, let us take the case of electricity. It is not so long ago that all men believed thunder and lightning to be a special mark of Divine displeasure. To-day more than one tribe deifies these phenomena. It was, and to many is yet, a profound and awful mystery, and even though we have learned something of the laws which govern it, few persons can suppress the feeling of awe inspired by a battle-royal between the artillery of heaven. When Franklin sent his kite into the skies, his neighbors believed him more likely to bring down the wrath of heaven on his head than anything else. But note how we have gained in knowledge since his day. The power that flashes in the lightning and roars in the thunder is our every-day servant. It is a toy with which even children amuse themselves. The ancient world was so amazed because Ajax defied the lightning that a statue was made to celebrate the deed. We do not take the trouble to defy it. We make it in such forms and in such quantities as we require it, and use it for anything that suits our fancy. The transition from the Greek warrior, standing in a heroic attitude with his arm raised in defiance against the bolts of Jove, and Bridget in the kitchen, frying a sausage by an electric stove, is great, but, because science has made the latter possible, shall we say that it has, even in the most infinitesimal degree, lessened God's place in the Universe? Has it weakened by so much as the strength of the slightest cobweb thread the obligations of religion?

When men first began to learn, that is the men of Christendom, for there is reason to believe that centuries ago the fact was well known that the world was round and the starry vault of blue was not a solid dome, on the other side of which were the Elysian fields of Heaven, a cry went up that the very foundation of religion was being taken away. But science on the ladder of light has mounted to the realms of space inconceivably remote. It has not found Heaven. It has found no place where Heaven is any more likely to be than upon this little atom, which we call the earth. Does not this the better enable us to understand the words of Jesus, when setting a little child in the midst of His disciples, He said: "Of such is the kingdom of Heaven?" Has astronomy found a place where God is not? Quite the contrary. What science says is that if God is here, He is likewise everywhere; if it is true that he touches the affairs of man and the earth, it is certain that "He upholdeth all things by the word of His power."

But some may object that science does not tell us that there is any God at all. This is true, and what is more, it never will tell. It cannot tell. The question propounded centuries ago: "Can'st thou by searching find out God?" commands, and ever will command, a negative answer. It is as true to-day as when the words were spoken by One who "spake as never man spake" that "God is a spirit, and they that worship Him would must worship Him in spirit and in truth." The truth about created things can never shake the spiritual worship of the Creator. Do you object that science makes the mystery greater than ever? We reply that if it does, it likewise makes the majesty of man appear the greater, when we reflect that we are made in the image of the Creator. Do you dispose of this by saying that it is a mere fiction of superstition, preserved by ecclesiastics? We reply that it is more than this; it is an expression of the consciousness that is borne in upon us when we consider the marvels of the Universe. It is impossible to rise from a study of nature without feeling a kinship to nature's Author. When Herbert Spencer said he thought he perceived in matter everything necessary for the evolution of the Universe, he saw the reflection of his own great intellect, itself a reflected beam from the Supreme Intelligence which we call God.

Science and religion can never be at war. They are the twin teachers which labor for the betterment of humanity. The one watches the physical side of our nature; the other the spiritual. The domain of each is limitless. The wisest and best of us can only, like Paul, "know in part," and yet we know enough, for both our teachers tell us love, that is perfect harmony, is the fulfilling of law.

There are rumors afloat to the affect that Mr. Sword's determination to run in Cowichan in the interests of the government at the approaching bye-election is not viewed with favor by Attorney-General Martin. In political circles it is well known that the bitterest enmity exists between Mr. Martin and Mr. Sword. Mr. Sword's advocacy of Mr. Semlin's claims for the leadership of the party with which he is identified on the occasion of the caucus at Vancouver a few months ago is known to have been particuly displeasing to Mr. Martin; and it would not be surprising if the latter should seize the present occasion to give Mr. Sword "what he needs" by repudiating him as a candidate in the government interest in Cowichan. Mr. Sword has chosen to commit political suicide by running in Cowichan; and if it should occur that Mr. Martin considers it expedient to give him his quietus at this particular time by publicly spurning his support, it can only be said that the inevitable has occurred.

The suggestion is made that the Southern States are likely to become formidable competitors in the wheat market. We hardly thing this likely. Wheat does not yield as well to the acre in the South as it does further north, and the flour made from it is not so good as that made from northern grown wheat. If the South can supply its home demand it will do very well.

President Hill of the Great Northern has been on a flying visit to Nelson, and the people are wondering what he came for. The Miner says he seemed to want to make himself as disagreeable as possible and expressed his lack of interest in everything pertaining to British Columbia. It therefore naturally asks why he came. Mr. Hill has not a reputation for doing things without some definite object.

The Colonist is to the News-Advertiser like a red rag to a bull. The Vancouver paper is a little the cheapest specimen of a political disputant in North America. It is incapable of serious argument. It knows no other weapon than sneers and slurs. True these hurt no one but itself; but they render political controversy needlessly disagreeable. There are certain small animals, whose defence is their offensiveness, and the News-Advertiser represents them in political journalism.

A Russian grand duke has gone to Constantinople for the purpose of seeing what he can do to offset the missionary work of the Kaiser. The Sultan will become more enamored of himself and his political importance than ever. We have not heard of any British embassy for the purpose of winning his friendship. The message from Great Britain was delivered by Admiral Noel, with the decks of his ships cleared for action. Not only the Sultan, but the whole Turkish Empire, will understand that sort of a message.

Eastern exchanges just coming to hand show that a direct appeal was made to the voters of Bagot to support the Liberal candidate on the ground that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is a Catholic, while Sir Charles Tupper is a Protestant. If it was by this means that Bagot was turned from its old-time political allegiance, the Liberal party will find that they have paid very dearly for a small triumph. The people of Canada will not tolerate the introduction of religious cries into politics. They will have nothing to do with a party that will resort to such expedients. The people of Quebec will readily see that no province has as much to lose as theirs by the adoption of such tactics.

A Mrs. Howland, of Boston, complains that at Dawson a man would be arrested for exclaiming on the street, "To —— with the Queen." We suppose he would be likely to be arrested for exclaiming in the street: "To —— with Mrs. Howland."

The United States battleship Texas came near going to Davy Jones' locker a few days ago, and the battleship Massachusetts came to grief on some rocks off New York harbor. Our neighbors' fleet is more dangerous to itself in peace than an enemy was to it in war.

It is alleged that Lord Salisbury has given notice to the Belgian government that the lease of the region between the Bahr el Ghasal and Uganda, made by the British government in 1894, will be terminated. This is the first step towards drawing a red line from Cairo to the Cape. Here's a prediction that in five years the Congo Free State will be British territory.

The resignation of Sir William Vernon Harcourt from the leadership of the Liberal party emphasizes the point made in the Colonist some time ago, namely, that the Liberal party in Great Britain and Gladstone were synonymous, and that the party would not survive its great leader by a very long period. A new party, with new issues must rise to take its place, if indeed we are not on the eve of an era in British politics in which partyism will remain in abeyance.

It is not a matter for surprise that the Vancouver World should seek to defend as best it can the administration of the Yukon, but it makes a mistake when it endeavors to create the impression that there is nothing in the charges that have been so freely made. It is hardly conceivable that the World has not been put in possession of material sufficient to convince it that there is something seriously wrong somewhere in connection with the Yukon officials.

The News-Advertiser, referring to Mr. Sword's candidature in Cowichan, says the Colonist has overshot the mark in suggesting that Mr. Sword will vote to abolish the constituency, for it says no man would seek a constituency if he proposed to vote to abolish it. How sweetly simple this is. It is worthy of a cooing infant. Did the News-Advertiser ever hear how the legislative council was abolished in New Brunswick? It was done by men who sought the position expressly for the purpose of abolishing it. Mr. Sword's candidature is a part of a general scheme for the curtailment of the influence of Vancouver Island, and the game is being so coarsely played that. Attorney-General Martin is in a towering rage over it.

Mr. Sword has tried to explain what he said at Duncan. There is one thing that he might explain while he is about it, and it will be very pertinent to the Cowichan contest. It is the reason why his former constituents, who had eight years' experience of him, turned him down?

Just what is to be the future of Crete is uncertain. A late despatch says that Great Britain's occupation of the island will be permanent; but as yet the British government has acquired no territorial rights there. We may feel very sure, however, that if Great Britain does not occupy the island, no other first class power will.

There is just $19.999 worth of gold in a United States $20 gold piece. This will show why gold is usually shipped abroad in ingots instead of in coin, and why when it is shipped in coin, the amount is always calculated by weight and not by number.

If you are tired taking the large old-fashioned griping pills, try Carter's Little Liver Pills and take some comfort. A man can't stand everything. One pill a dose. Try them. *

FIRST-CLASS OPENING—To one who can afford to wait a little. Let or sale very cheap. $2,000. The Cowichan Lake Hotel, Vancouver Island. Has warranted a good rent ($1,000) for several years, and will again, when the logging starts. Charter for railway applied for. Good opening to combine stock farming, having 160 acres, with lots of feed. Apply L.D., 33 Birdcage Walk, Victoria, B.C.

FOR SALE, CHEAP—Leaving the country. One of the most beautiful homes on Vancouver Island; on the Quamichan Lake; two miles from railway (Duncan); 69 or 113 acres, as desired; nearly half cleared; 13-room house (hot and cold water); large double barn and other buildings; close to first-class trout and salmon fishing, shooting, etc., also to good tennis club. Apply to L. D., 33 Birdcage Walk, Victoria, B.C.

Oct. 20.

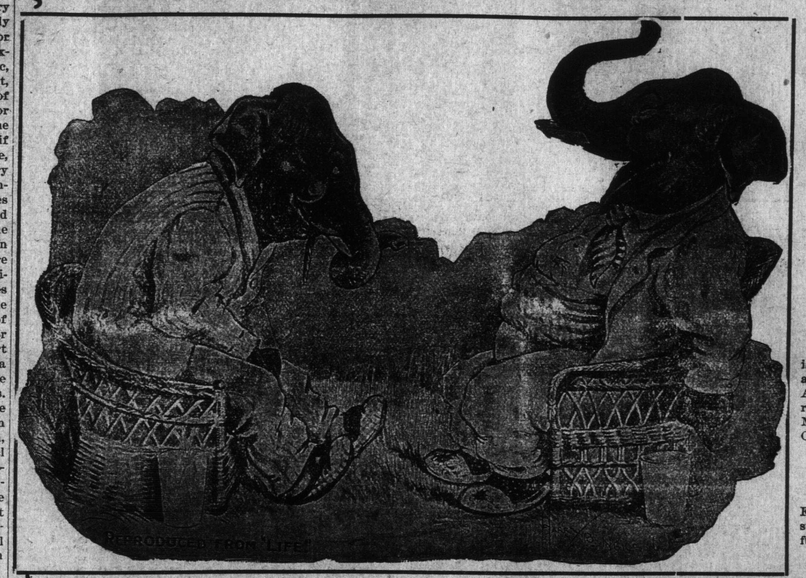
WANTED—Housekeeper; view to marrage; accustomed to farm preferred; good references required. Further particulars on application to "Farmer," Colonist office. d18

NOTICE is hereby given that I, Peter Herman, of Port Essington, British Columbia, merchant, have deposited with the Minister of Public works a plan and description of the site of a wharf proposed to be townsite of Essington (commonly called posite to lots 1 and 2, of block 3, in the townsite of Essington (commonly called Port Essington) in the said province, and have deposited a duplicate of each in the Land Registry Office in the city of Victoria, in the said province; and that I have applied to the Governor-in-Council for approval thereof.

Dated at Port Essington, B.C., this 6th day of December, A.D. 1898.

PETER HERMAN.

SOME GOOD THINGS



Genuine Elephant White Lead

is a good thing because of its
1. Great Body.
2. Durability.
3. Density and covering power.

"ELEPHANT" BRAND READY MIXED PAINT

is another good thing for the inside and outside of cottages, it LEADS ALL OTHERS for beauty of tint, richness of lustre, durability. Made in 60 magnificent Shade Our

LIQUID IRONITE

For floors and oilcloths cannot be surpassed. Put up in seven beautiful shades.

THE CANADA PAINT CO., LTD., Sole Manufacturers of the Celebrated "AMBERITE" Varnishes Largest Paint, Color and Varnish Works in Canada MONTREAL TORONTO VICTORIA FACTORIES:

Please Don't

bother the captain, for we are busy. Come and see our fine

ENGLISH GOODS...

just in. Keep a sharp lookout on this space, or you may miss bargains. Don't forget that prices are good only while they appear in this advertisement.

DIXI H. ROSS & CO.

White Dress Gloves, . 50c. 75c.
Lavender Dress Gloves, 75c, $1.00
White Dress Bows, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c
Dents' Dog Skin Gloves, . $1.50
Dents' Dog Skin " Silk Lined, $1.75

Silk Mufflers, Smoking Jackets, Dressing Gowns, Fancy Cord Vests, Stylish Neckwear. Etc.

B. WILLIAMS & CO. Clothiers and Hatters 97 Johnson Street

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1898.
TER HERMAN.

PUBLIC OPINION.

Partyism in Provincial Politics—Iniquities of the Spoils System.

Premier Semlin's Straightforward But Undesirable Statement at Cowichan.

Sir:—There has been during the past year a disposition to introduce partyism into our provincial political affairs. With all due respect to the parties now recognized in the governing of this and other countries, party government is not ideal and there are a great many people who desire to see our provincial government managed without any endeavor to distinguish government and opposition by the party lines now prevailing in Dominion politics.

We have, however, fallen on troublous times. The present government no sooner got into power than political decapitation began, and public officials of various degree are (not) resting quietly in the political graveyard. It is not to be understood that all such executioin has not been pleasing to many adherents of the opposition. But the spoils system is upon us with all its infamy. While we have been casting slurs upon our republican neighbors, we have been allowing a system to creep in which is infinitely worse in many respects. Much better in every way to elect from premier down to lighthouse keeper, than to suffer the iniquitous practices indulged in by our politicians, who count it a most trifling matter to do away with worthy officials in order to make room for their chosen friends. We need to cry Halt! on such methods.

When a man has been appointed to an office in the gift of the government of more or less importance, that man should hold that position until he disqualifies himself by incapability, immoral conduct, active participation in elections, or senile inability. Any dismissal outside of this is dishonorable and unjust.

There is this following danger ahead. Nothing is more calculated to define party lines than such exhibitions of favoritism as have been given by the present British Columbia government. And the more this method is carried out the more blunted will the moral sensibilities of our politicians become, and, instead of conserving that political strength necessary for the proper discharge of the duties to which the developing interests of our fair province call, there will result an emasculated political life—the laughing stock of the world.

Yet, again. The recent remarks of Premier Semlin in Cowichan district, as reported in the Colonist, call for a most vigorous protest from every voter who demands as marked purity in politics, the basis of political confidence, as purity of individual character in social intercourse or commercial enterprise. The announcement that "Mr. Sword has the ear of the government,"—a bait to the Cowichan constituents, is, to say the least, honest on the part of the premier, but the history of many years of electioneering will fail to produce a like instance. The people of this province now know that, in order to obtain what is necessary for the PUBLIC GOOD, the constituency must have "the ear of the government."

Such a declaration of political ethics(?) by the present premier is certainly a violation, and, as a prostitution of political virtue, will cost the government many votes at the next general election. The first of Broom's legal maxims is "that regard he had to the public welfare is the highest law." The man who enters the parliament of this country with any other determination than that every political act shall embody the principle of the above mentioned maxim, is a political robber, a perjurer under his oath, and unworthy the name of citizen.

Our province needs now, if ever, men of might who are men of right, men whose political careers we can hold with pride before our children for their example and emulation, men whose passing away will be the signal for our province's tears.

NOTREVAL.

HOME INDUSTRY.

Sir:—As has often been pointed out in the columns of the Colonist, it is a matter of immense and far reaching importance, that the wants of this great country should be supplied by itself as far as possible in an extended cultivation of the soil, and the encouragement of our home industries. Apart altogether from patriotism and the claims one's own country has on his support, it is surely a short-sighted policy for a buyer to go to a foreign country for an article that is produced as good and as cheaply at home, yet strange to say this is done by men who would resent any doubt cast upon their business capacity, or their status as good and loyal citizens. If the manufacturers of Victoria had to depend on the citizens alone for their support their output would be considerably curtailed, and yet the articles produced are as a rule superior to the imported goods selling at the same prices. The wholesale merchants are largely to blame for this state of affairs, in sending to the States for their stoves, shoes, cigars, soap, rolled oats, hams and bacon, etc., instead of buying from the producers of those articles in this city. The amount of money sent out of the country for goods which can be better bought here must be considerable, and if it were expended here as it should be in helping our home industries, it would go a long way towards improving the general business of the city.

CITIZEN.

DR. WATSON'S STATEMENT.

Sir:—Permit me, with your usual courtesy, to correct a mistake in the otherwise fairly accurate report of the opposition meeting at Alberni on Tuesday night, which appeared in this morning's paper, and which was circulated here in Alberni this evening. In my opening remarks as chairman I am reported to have expressed a preference "to be ground down by the Dunsmuir company." Now I have no desire to be ground down by anybody, and have no personal knowledge and do not believe that anybody has experienced that treatment at the hands of that company. What I said was that in the grinding of the political machinery at Alberni elections past and present, other matters were almost crushed out by the reiteration of facts and figures concerning the two corporations and an unfair comparison of their actions, and I alluded to the fact that after all, here in Alberni, our interests were more allied with the Dunsmuirs than with the Vancouver Coal Co. and corporation. Miss Watson took no part whatever in the meeting beyond being with other ladies present. Thanking you beforehand, I remain

A. M. WATSON, M.D.
Chairman of Mr. Ward's Committee.
Alberni, Dec. 14, 1898.

THE CITIZENS' PLATFORM.

Sir:—Since the presentation of a petition to the Committee of Fifty suggesting certain municipal reforms a great deal has been written as to the moral condition of Victoria. In the first place from personal observation I am in a position to state that the moral condition of our city compares favorably with that of any of the Canadian cities—not even moral Toronto excepted. I am of opinion that it is a great mistake to herald forth to the world that Victoria has sunk into such a state of vice and corruption as alleged in the petition presented to that committee. Will people who contemplate taking up their residence in this province decide to bring their families into contact with so much iniquity? I think not, and I submit that it is to the city's disadvantage that so much has already appeared in the newspapers on this subject.

In these discussions Chief Sheppard has appeared prominently and the blame for the alleged moral condition of Victoria has been placed on his shoulders. Without a murmur the Chief has, martyr-like, continued to do his duty without taking notice of the statements which have appeared about him, well knowing that if the police commissioners were not satisfied with his conduct or had any complaint to make in regard to his nonperformance of duty he was accountable to them. The police commissioners appear to have the utmost confidence in Chief Sheppard. Why should they not? Has not the Chief when any violation of the law has been brought to his notice, immediately suppressed it in so far as he was able? Did not Chief Sheppard in the year 1891 very cleverly break up what was known as the Turf Club and arrest about twenty gamblers who were indulging in games of chance? Did not the Chief also confiscate and destroy the gambling furniture and contrivances amounting to about $2,000?

Chief Sheppard has held the position for many years and has been an obliging and courteous official. He stands high in the community not only as a private citizen but in secret societies, and I defy any citizen to say that Chief Sheppard has been derelict in his duty.

D. McDONALD.

ON TOUR OF INSPECTION.

United States Lightship Officials Pay a Short Visit to Victoria.

The United States lightship tender Columbine, Capt. Richardson, came into the harbor yesterday to spend the night. She is on a tour of inspection of the lighthouses of Puget Sound and the Washington and Oregon coasts and has on board some of the chief officials of the United States lighthouse service. The party includes Mr. J. G. Kelly, superintendent of construction; Mr. C. W. Leick, chief architect, and Mr. W. Wiltshire, master mechanic. They have spent five weeks visiting the Sound lighthouses, all of which have been put in thorough repair to stand the rough winter weather. The work was carried out under directions from Col. W. L. Fisk, engineers' corps of the United States army. This morning the Columbine leaves for the Columbia river, calling at Cape Flattery and Grays Harbor en route. Before the cruise is completed Uncle Sam's aids to navigation in the Pacific Northwest will be in splendid condition, Messrs. Kelly, Leick and Wiltshire taking great pride in the stations under their care and at all times having them equal to the best.

Capt. Richardson of the Columbine is always a welcome visitor to Victoria, where he has many friends. He is looked upon as one of the best mariners in the government service, particularly well fitted for the perilous service in which he is engaged, he and his little vessel being called upon to visit the most dangerous places on the coast in all kinds of weather. Before coming to the Pacific Coast, Capt. Richardson was in the government service on the Atlantic seaboard.

CANADIAN EGGS IN ENGLAND.

It will be of interest to all engaged in the egg trade to learn what great improvements have lately taken place, both in quality and magnitude, in the Canadian importation. In the week ended the 5th inst. a single Liverpool firm imported 8,517 cases, each containing 300 eggs, and all were promptly sold, the demand for the better brands considerably exceeding the supply. Great credit is due the Canadian shippers for the manner in which the eggs are now put up for the British market. The eggs are securely packed in paper in separate compartments. Although this process is more expensive in the first instance, the freedom from breakage and the avoidance of mustiness and other objectionable flavors which arise from straw or wood shavings, or sawdust packing more than compensate. So long as we have to import eggs, it is only fair that our own most go-ahead colony should be fully encouraged to send us the best they have, as against continental competitors.—Birmingham Daily Post.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

Mrs. W. Rowe, of Woodstock, Tells a Thrilling Story.

Prostrated by Female Weakness, Kidney and Liver Troubles—Her Doctors Gave Her Up to Die Saved by Dodd's Kidney Pills.

Woodstock, Ont., Dec. 16.—Mrs. W. Rowe, who keeps a grocery store at No. 311 Dundas street, here, and who is known to and respected by a very large number of people in the town, had a very narrow escape from an untimely death recently.

To our reporter, who called on the lady, and asked for particulars of the incident, Mrs. Rowe said:

"I have had an experience such as fall to the lot of very few women. Twelve years of my life were made almost unendurable by 'Female Weakness,' together with Kidney and Liver Complaints.

"My physicians did all they could for me, but they could not give me either relief or cure. They finally announced to me that I could never get better.

"Then I began to try what the various proprietory medicines that were advertised in the papers would do for me. I took a good many bottles of one remedy and another, but my case continually grew worse.

"One day I was advised by a friend to try Dodd's Kidney Pills. 'They will cure you, I know, for they saved my daughter's life, and she was worse than you are.'

"Well, I took her advace. In two days a wonderful change for the better had occurred. I felt myself growing stronger daily. My appetite returned, the dull, heavy, weary ache went out of my back; the terrible leaden weight from my legs, my headaches vanished, my sleep became sound and refreshing. To-day I am healthier, stronger and better every way than I have been for twenty years.

"Dodd's Kidney Pills are the best medicine on earth for weak, sickly, suffering women."

VICTORIA AND VICINITY—A portfolio of six beautiful water-color photographs—the best Xmas card you can send your friends. Ask for it at the bookstores or this office. Price, 75 cents.

THE FIRST OF MANY

Big Order Placed With Victoria Merchants for White Pass Railway.

First of a Series of Shipments Sent Forward by the Steamer Danube.

On the steamer Danube, which sailed last night for Alaskan ports was the first of a series of big shipments of goods to be supplied by Victoria merchants for the construction party on the British Yukon or White Pass railway. The road has now been completed to within two miles of the boundary line on the summit of the White pass, and the company propose moving their construction party of 1,200 men, across the boundary immediately after the first of the year to push work on the main road from Log Cabin to Lake Bennett and on the branch line to Atlin. In a rough country like that it takes an immense amount of provisions and warm clothing to keep 1,200 workingmen in good health, and the bulk of the necessary goods are to be supplied by Victoria merchants.

Last evening's shipment by the Danube was only a small lot compared with what is to be sent as soon as the Atlin rush commences, and even it was not a small one, being composed as it was of fully 200 tons of provisions and groceries for which the railway company paid Victoria merchants about $15,000. The orders for the goods were divided among several firms in the city. To the 200 tons from here there will be added 50 tons of flour from the Enderby mills, which is awaiting the steamer at Vancouver, but is part of the order given to a Victoria firm.

Within two weeks the shipment on the Danube will be duplicated, the present calculation being that this second large shipment for the railway company will be ready to be sent North on the steamer Amur, sailing on December 28. This will make 400 tons in all to go forward for the company in December, and Mr. J. H. Greer, the commercial agent of the company, yesterday said that the same amount would be required every month during construction, and this is likely to go on all next year, although the road will be completed to the head of navigation by May 15.

Besides the big shipment for the company there are several smaller ones going forward for private parties, including one of six tons of provisions from Mr. Thomas Earle. These goods are going right through to Dawson. They will be taken as far as Log Cabin by railway and from there will be sent down the river and taken by dog team.

Included among the passengers on the Danube are J. H. Brownlee and a party of provincial land surveyors, who are on their way in to Atlin for the government; J. D. Graham, the commissioner for the Atlin district and party; Mrs. Spencer, Mr. Nodek, A. O. Lewis and Miss Hunt. On this trip the steamer will call at Wrangel, Juneau and Lynn Canal ports. She will touch at Vancouver to-day.

SOLAR STATISTICS.

Facts About the Great Orb Which Warms Us and Gives Us Light.

The sun's distance from us is 92,700,000 miles. Its diameter is 865,000 miles. Its volume is 1,300,000 times that of the earth. Its mass, or weight, determined from the strength of its pull upon the planets, is equal to that of 332,000 earths.

The sun's surface temperature, according to the determination of it made in 1884 by Messrs. Wilson and Grey, is 8,800 degrees centigrade, which is more than twice that of the electric arc, and this temperature may, perhaps, be deemed low by contrast with the fires that rage within.

The dazzling surface of the sun—its "photosphere"—consists of matter in a solid or a liquid state. This is proven by the spectroscope. This shining envelope is not, however, a solid or compact shell, but it seems rather to be cloud-like in its character, and it is subject to violent disturbances. According to the view now taken of it by astronomers generally, the matter which forms the sun's photosphere is mostly, if not wholly, carbon in a finely divided state—lampblack—hot enough to be intensely incandescent, but not gaseous.

Above the photosphere is an atmosphere some 5,000 miles in depth, made up of various gases and the vapors of metals. It is in this atmosphere that the spectroscope finds the field of its explorations. The existence of these gases and metal vapors is indicated by dark lines in the solar spectrum.

About one-half of the seventy and more "elements" known to terrestrial chemistry have been found by means of these indications to be present in the solar atmosphere, and astronomers have very little doubt that the rest of the elements are in the sun, though hitherto they have not revealed themselves.

Among the elements the most easily recognized in the sun are iron, calcium, sodium, aluminum, carbon, hydrogen, helium, this last being an element only recently found upon the earth, and for a number of years known only as one prominent constituent of the solar atmosphere, found also in many of the stars and in some of the nebulae.

Helium is a gas of about twice the density of hydrogen. It is found absorbed in cleveite, broggerite and some other rare minerals, but, like hydrogen, it is too light a gas to exist in a free state in the earth's atmosphere.

Of the elements which have not yet been found in the sun, the most notable are oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur, phosphorus, and the newly discovered gas, argon. No lines belonging to any of these elements have yet been found, either in the spectrum of the sun or in those of the fixed stars.

The amount of light which we receive from the sun is 600,000 times that of the full moon, and 182,000 million times that of the average star of the first magnitude.

Upon these last given figures may be based a very instructive calculation bearing upon the probable distances of stars of various magnitudes. Thus:

Were the sun to be removed to twice its actual distance from us, it would become one-fourth as bright as it now is; at three times its present distance, it would be one-ninth as bright, and so on, its brilliancy diminishing as the square of its distance increased. To become a star of the first magnitude, the sun would need to be removed from us to 426,000 times its present distance, and its light, instead of coming to us in eight and a quarter minutes, as it now does, would require 67 years to flash across the intervening space.

At ten times this distance, or at a distance of 67 "light years," the sun would become a star of the sixth magnitude; at ten times that distance, or 670 light years, it would be reduced to the eleventh magnitude, and still another removal, sufficient to reduce it to a star of the sixteenth magnitude, which is that of the faintest telescopic stars, would place it at a distance from us such that its light, travelling at a rate of 186,000 miles a second, would be 6,700 years in making its way to us.

Were all stars the equals of the sun in size and intrinsic splendor, these results of the calculation would enable us at once to estimate their distances from us. But the truth undoubtedly is that there are among the stars very great differences in these respects, so that we get from these figures nothing more definite than a vague notion of the immensity of the stellar universe.

THE WOOD OF THE TRUE CROSS.

Myths and Legends Appertaining to the Sacred Tree.

From Household Words.

The prevalence of relics purporting to be the wood of the true cross has long afforded matter for cheap jesting. Such impositions are not likely to deceive any but the most ignorant or the most credulous. The fact is, that while the supply of "genuine" relics is likely to be coexistent with the demand, we do not really know of what wood the cross consisted. There is an endless store of myth and fable, dating from the earliest Christian ages. Symbolism has attempted to prove that the wood used was of symbolic quality; and for one reason or another, many different species of tree have been selected to the position of honor. One ancient legend, referred to in the apocryphal book of Nicodemus, says that the wood was taken from the tree which grew from the grave of Adam. It is said that the father of mankind, being one day sick, sent his son Seth to the gates of the Garden of Eden to pray its guardian angels for a few drops of oil of mercy, distilled from the tree of life. This was denied by the angel, but a twig of the tree was granted; and this, when planted on the grave of Adam, grew into a tree from which the cross was afterwards constructed. There are many variations of this story. Some say that David transplanted the tree to the side of a fountain in one of his gardens, and under its branches he composed those magnificent outbursts of inspired devotion which are familiar to us as the psalms. All this is sufficiently poetical, however mythic. But the general superstition was that the cross consisted, not of one tree, but of several; and the credit was usually given to the palm, cedar, cypress and olive. Certain of the fathers tell us that the upright beam was of cedar, the cross beam of cypress, the tablet of olive and the foot piece of palm. Various meanings were read into this. The four woods were taken to represent the four quarters of the globe; and a further special significance was given to the choice of woods. Cedar is symbolical of faith, palm of victory, olive of peace, cypress of mourning. Some think that the cross was formed of one of these woods alone. But the privilege has been given to other trees; in different countries and different ages we find differing beliefs. Many have believed that the cross was of aspen and that is why the aspen still quivers perpetually. It is thought that the tree is still regretting the enforced part that it had to play.

One singular legend says that at the time of the crucifixion all the trees quivered with emotion except the aspen, and that the doom of that tree has been to tremble ever since. It is certainly true that the aspen flourishes in Jerusalem. The gypsy belief is that the cross was made of ash wood. Perhaps this credit given to the mountain ash has led the Welsh to plant it so frequently in their graveyards, though more likely that practice derives from some superstition earlier than the Christian era. The elder tree also, which bears a very contrary distinction of being supposed the tree on which Judas hanged himself, has been believed to have supplied the cross. We read in "Notes and Queries" that a clergyman was once asked: "Pray, sir, can you tell me if there is any doubt of what kind of wood our Lord's cross was made? I have always heard that it was made of elder, and we look carefully into the faggots before burning them, for fear there should be any of this wood in them." It is touching to think that poor people, however short of fuel they might be, have refused to burn the elder for this pious, though superstitious reason. Even a superstitious faith is better than none at all. In Scotland the elder is known as the bour tree, and there is a popular ryhme as follows:

> Bour-tree, bour-tree, crooked rung,
> Never straight and never strong,
> Even bush and never tree,
> Since our Lord was nailed on thee.

So strong is this belief, or was, that the peasants thought the lightning would never strike any one who stood under the elder tree. Other legends have attributed the cross to the oak, the pine, the fir, the box. The festival called the invention of the cross, held on May 3, celebrates the supposed discovery of the true cross by St. Helena, but it does not appear of what wood it consisted.

Another festival connected with the wood of the true cross is celebrated on the 14th of September, called "Holy Cross day," or "Exaltation of the Cross," a festival which is said to have been instituted about the year 622, under the following circumstances: Chosroes, King of Persia, having plundered Jerusalem, took away a great piece of the true cross which St. Helena, the Empress, had left there. Heraclius, the Roman Emperor, invaded the Persian kingdom, in turn; defeated Chosdoes, and recovered the cross. The relic was brought back in triumph and ever after its recovery has been celebrated on the appointed day.

Will Plead Guilty.—On Monday Kenneth Finlayson, late teller of the Dominion government Savings Bank, will appear before a Supreme court judge, elect to be tried under the Speedy Trials act and plead guilty on the twelve charges of stealing on which he was committed for trial. He decided to take this course on the advice of his counsel, Mr. J. H. Lawson.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

CURE

Sick Headache and relieve all the troubles incident to a bilious state of the system, such as Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, &c. While their most remarkable success has been shown in curing

SICK

Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint, while they also correct all disorders of the stomach, stimulate the liver and regulate the bowels. Even if they only cured

HEAD

Ache they would be almost priceless to those who suffer from this distressing complaint; but fortunately their goodness does not end here, and those who once try them will find these little pills valuable in so many ways that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all sick head

ACHE

is the bane of so many lives that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.

Carter's Little Liver Pills are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not gripe or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents; five for $1. Sold by druggists everywhere, or sent by mail.

CARTER MEDICINE CO., New York.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

MUNICIPAL POLITICS

Miss Agnes Deans Cameron Discusses Woman's Duty In Civic Upbuilding.

An Interesting and Well Considered Paper for the Women's Council.

One of the brightest and best thought-out of all the papers read at the recent meeting of the Woman's Council was that of Miss Agnes Deans Cameron on woman's part and place in municipal politics. It is not such a paper as can advantageously be condensed, and is therefore given Colonist readers in its entirety:

Miss Cameron's theme was "The Idea of True Citizenship—How Shall We Develop it?" She said:

"When Mary Stuart, half in pride and half in petulance, asked John Knox who he was that dared to question her actions as Queen of Scotland, came back the answer firm, even and dispassionate: 'Madame, a subject born within the same.' Should you demand of me by what right I presume to speak of matters municipal in our (if somewhat bedraggled) beautiful city, I cannot do better than quote the sturdy reformer of Scotland: By what right do I speak? Madame, that of a subject born within the same.'

"My subject is a large one and must of necessity be suggestive rather than exhaustive. I shall try briefly to touch upon:

"First—The responsibility of each individual, as an individual, to himself.

"Second—The idea of citizenship, how it was evolved, the various standards of citizenship in times past.

"Third—The standard of true citizenship to-day.

"Fourth—How shall this idea of citizenship be implanted and fostered in the home, the school, in society, from the pulpit and by the press? and,

"Fifth—Some local needs, aims and possibilities.

" 'Before man made us citizens, great nature made us men' and women and children. As individuals born into this world we all have duties that we cannot get away from. Should fate by flinging us up on a shipwrecked spar to an uninhabited island, decree that our whole life thereafter should be spent alone, the duty of making the best of it would still remain. We dare not violently end that life, nor must we sink to the level of the brutes around us. Nor would it be brave to sit idly on the shore, a shipwrecked sailor waiting for a sail. A philosophic mind would turn inward, and, like the banished Duke in Arden, find sermons in stones, books in the running brooks and good in everything. But with ourselves in this case our duty would terminate. There is then an individual responsibility born with each one of us, whatever our environment, a duty to one's self from which we cannot get away. And it seems to me that our right conception of this ideal and adherence to it largely determines our estimate of our duty to our fellows and our true value as citizens—i.e., members of the commonwealth.

"We are all born into families, and so have family rights and privileges, with corresponding duties and responsibilities. It is a wish to get away from these family claims which are not of our seeking that has in all ages sent hermits to their caves, monks to their monasteries, and the world's John Storms to their various retreats. The persons who have individual responsibilities only are so few that we need not discuss them. Crusoe's responsibilities ceased to be individual the moment that Friday's footsteps appeared upon the sand. And we cannot free ourselves from duties by running away from them. When we bring people together into communities we realize the truth of the paradox that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, mutual duties arising out of action and reaction become apparent to the most casual thinker. God intended us to learn the great lesson of mutual helpfulness, interdependence, and so we are born into families. The family (if large enough) will furnish opportunities for the exercise of all virtues and the restraint of all vices, and so allow for the highest and fullest individual development; and so it is in the family that the first and most lasting lessons in citizenship must be learned. These lessons must then widen out until they take in the whole body politic. 'Man joined to man that they are brothers.'

"The three great nations of the past to develop the idea of citizenship were the Hebrews, the Greeks and the Romans. With the Hebrews the idea of citizenship began with the family, and it really never got away from the patriarchal or family idea. While this is true, it is also true that the maxims of political economy in the Hebrew commonwealth have never been surpassed and never annulled. It is the inherent rightness of the Jewish laws of filial duty, of personal purity and the sacredness of all life that has given a permanence and pre-eminence to them. The Greeks and Romans based their citizenship idea on the family, but expanded it till the city, the state became the great cause for the welfare of which all, shoulder to shoulder, stood. Greek and Roman men were not men first and citizens afterwards. They were citizens first, last and for all time, and in this was their greatest glory. The boys were not sons and brothers, but rather citizens in embryo; and the matrons claimed respect and consideration only as mothers of future citizens. So we find Roman boys taken by their fathers to the Senate House that they might by listening learn how their elders made laws and administered justice; and it is not without interest as a sign of those times to note why this practice was discontinued. The little boys returning home full of what they had heard, told all to their mothers, and that the women should know of state affairs was not deemed fitting. There were no Women's Councils in Roman times.

"Among the Spartans the idea of citizenship dominated all else. Spartan youths were taken from their homes at the age of six and placed in public institutes to be taught. And what was taught to the children of these old days? Greek and Roman youths learned, first, the history and laws of their own country. So they found out that the nation had become great by the sacrifice and devotion of the individual, and that theirs was a glorious heritage; secondly, from this was deduced the great central idea of patriotism; thirdly, they were helped to the most perfect physical development, so that they might as soldiers be most effective guardians and conservers of the national greatness. In Greece and Rome the one thing to be considered was the good of the whole, the preservation of the state, and herein lay their strength and their weakness. Their strength, because selfishness was crushed, and a field opened for the noblest acts of heroism where a man couldd evote himself to some cause outside his narrow personal interests. Their weakness, because they fondly believed that a state might become great by the strong crushing out the weak of its own members, so in Sparta we find sickly infants killed off, Helots tortured, and even theft and treachery on the part of the individuals, exalted if for the apparent advantage of the state.

"The early days of Christianity set a new standard. Then for the first time was preached the importance of the individual. Then men began to learn that people were not by God considered in the mass; that as individuals they had lives to live and souls to save.

"Greeks and Romans in building up the state ignored, or rather subordinated all claims of the individual to lead a full and true life as an individual. In the early years of the Christian era in the struggle for individual salvation, enthusiasts often retired from the world to lead lives of prayer and fasting, losing sight of or ignoring the fact that they had duties to the great human whole of which they formed a part.

"Now it seems to me under my third head, the standard of true citizenship to-day, that in forming the ideal citizenship which shall fulfil all the needs of the present we must recognize the good in both these standards and eliminate the bad. With the Greeks and Romans we want national greatness, and we plead just as earnestly as did the early Christians for the salvation of the individual. But I claim that not only are these two not antagonistic, but it is to me the great inspiring thought of the age that each is the mathematical complement of the other. The welfare of the whole is not complete until each individual lives his fullest and truest life, and it is only through unselfishly serving the whole that the individual can attain his own true good. In the final resolution of things, nothing which is selfish can last, [illegible] that selfishness national or individual. b[illegible] spending our life only can we save it. By [illegible] you say, is the great recognized underlying This, [illegible] principle of all Christian society derlying [illegible] is necessary though that it to-day. [illegible] remain underground. It must should not r[illegible] the surface and be made be brought to [illegible] lives. You can't make to fit into our dai[illegible] making a citizen. With a Christian without [illegible] all begin, our first our own homes we mus[illegible] is our influence duties are here and here [illegible] us not only greatest. But too many o[illegible] such people begin here, but end here. [illegible] to everyone are good to their own and kind [illegible] circles one whom in social or business [illegible] they individually touch. All responsib[illegible] beyond this they ignore. If you approach these people on any question of municipal reform they say loftily: 'Oh, I never meddle with such things; I never did take any interest in politics.' If you persist you will be told virtually that they 'leave politics alone,' and 'attend to their own business,' and very likely they will politely intimate that it wouldn't be a bad plan for you to do the same.

"In a great conflict between good and evil forces, what would we think of the soldier nominally enrolled on the side of right, whom you (when hot, dusty and stained with combat) should come across, standing with sword unsheathed, idly watching the course of events? Should he be allowed to participate in the privileges so dearly bought by his fellows? As citizens we must be filled with the idea that we are parts of a self-governing whole, and as such have duties which we can neither ignore nor delegate to others. We cannot stand aside from that of which we are a part and say we will take no interest in it. It is not enough that we should lead moral and helpful lives ourselves. We must get such city government and administration that shall help the weakest, the frailest, to live up to the best that is in him. If snares and open temptations assail the young, the ill-disposed and those that are halting between two opinions, we are responsible We need to realize that in the deepest and truest sense we are our brothers' keepers. Under British government every citizen is at once subject and ruler, and it is his highest privilege by his own life, by his personal influence, and by the exercise of the franchise to create an environment that shall be wholesome and helpful. City politics may seem small affairs, but each city stands for so much of the nation, and every decade draws closer the connecting cords between civic and national affairs, between national and universal.

"And this brings me to my fourth head—How shall the idea of citizenship be implanted and fostered in the home, the school, in society, from the pulpit and by the press?

"And first the home. If babies could only choose their parents, what an immense advantage it would be to them! We have all our lives been taught that the sins of the fathers are visited upon the children to the third and fourth generations. It remained for Charles Dickens to ask, in his own inimitable way, if it is not also true that the virtues of the mothers do occasionally descend in direct line. Recognizing and intensifying this law of heredity, Bible pictures of men's lives usually begin before birth; the parents, and especially the mothers, are made to stand out clear upon the canvas that is about to become the illuminated text of their children's lives. So it was with the Christ-child, in honor of whose birth 'the belfries of all Christendom' will soon 'roll along the unbroken song of peace on earth; good will to men.'

"The first scene of that old yet ever new story of the Annunciation in the poor Galilean home, the rapt face of Mary turned heavenward, and the humbly acceptive words, 'Be it unto me according to thy word.' Between this scene and the manger in Bethlehem come the sweet strains of the Magnificat, 'He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted them of low degree.' Then draw near to the manger the shepherds, bringing with them the echo of the angel's song of that peace on earth, good will towards men, the ideal citizenship, for the coming of which we all work and wait, nothing doubting—keeping all these things, and, like Mary, pondering in our hearts that strange mystery by which an immortal soul is sent to dwell in a mortal body. And as we look at the last scene of this first Christmas picture, we see the kings of the East laying down at the manger cradle their threefold gifts of gold, typifying that He is King; incense, that He is God, and myrrh that He is also man, and doomed to the bitterness of death. May we not in this see that every baby born into the world has within him god-like possibilities, which if he learn to use them aright will triumph over his lower nature and open out to him the wider and fuller life of which this is the beginning, 'on earth the broken arcs, in heaven the perfect round.'

"What can I hope to say or write of the high privileges of motherhood that has not been set forth repeatedly by far abler pens than mine? It is just one aspect of a mother's responsibility that I would look into for a little—that for which Roman matrons were chiefly esteemed. The mother should look upon her children, not as belongings of her own, or as personal appendages. They are her children first, but long after the parents have passed away the children will belong to the state, and their value as citizens is largely determined in those early days in the home where they learn, or fail to learn, the great lessons of truth and justice and love, of faithfulness and altruism, that regard for others that is to be at the base of their true citizenship in the after-days. Sir Thomas More in his Utopia (the quaint diction of which always charms me), says: 'For they use with very great endeavor and diligence to put into the heads of their children, while they be yet tender and pliant, good opinions and profitable for the conservation of the weal public, which when they be once rooted in children do remain with them all their life after, and be wondrous profitable for the defence and maintenance of the state of the commonwealth.'

"From the home to the school is a natural gradation. In those earliest and only years in which the child entertains absolute and unquestioning faith in human life, it is his mother first and then his teacher who represents to him the law of life. We regret our inability to choose our parents. Do we begin to realize that as citizens we have the choice of teachers in our own hands, and to get even a faint glimmering of all that this means? When you through your agents (the school trustees) consider the application of a candidate for a teacher's position, you ask him several questions; you ask him what certificate he holds; you ask him if he is a married man; you ask him if he is a good classical scholar; you may ask him what salary he would be contented with; and you might go so far as to inquire what church he attends. I have spent all my life in a school room and I never yet heard these questions raised concerning a would-be teacher: 'Is he brave, aspiring? Does he believe in anything? Is he capable of human emotion? Is he sympathetic? Has he the gift of insight into children's hearts? Has he a heart of his own?' We fail to realize that education is nine parts inspiration and one part drill.

"The main point of education is the teacher; he alone has his finger on the pulse of future citizenship. His scholarship is an important matter, but two qualifications must be considered before that:

"First—His conception of the great aim of all human life; that is, to make character and not merely to make a living.

"Second—His ability to get close enough to the child to plant in him his own high ideal;

"To think, to reason, to feel nobly, to see the relation of things to their causes, to discern the sources of power, to see the moral as governing the intellecutal, and both as dominating the material, such is the education that will fit for truest citizenship. Socrates and Dr. Arnold had this high ideal and also the close inspiring sympathy with their pupils, and it is this combination that made them truest teachers.

"We hear much these days of technical education—the so-called practical education. The enthusiasts among the crusaders would teach every boy to be a carpenter, and every girl to be a cook. The age cries, 'Teach us how to get a living!' Let us as teachers listen rather to the still small voice calling from the deep heart of humanity itself. 'Teach us how to live.' And if the materialism of the present misjudge us, we must turn our hungry hearts back to the men of old for the inspirations, without which we cannot live. How much better an opportunity we have than had the teachers of the past. Plato, perhaps the greatest teacher of them all, built an ideal republic and pronounced its doom, because, idealist as he was, he did not reconcile the life of the individual with that of the corporate life of society.

"'Do you mean to teach politics to children?' I hear some one ask. Yes and no. We must teach, the School Act says, 'the highest morality' in school. We must not inculcate any more of our own peculiar ideas of public questions than we can possibly help. We as teachers must not teach children to pronounce judgment on the theories of Tolstoi or Henry George, to decide between free trade and protection, high license and prohibition, chiefly because we cannot arrive at a finality on these matters ourselves. We may not by any means, directly or indirectly, inculcate our own religious creed or unbelief, but we must show those large and simple principles upon which all religions rest; we must teach our future citizens that all questions must be settled not by self-interest, but by justice, by merciful considerations, and not mercenary ones.

"How is this to be done? Many never cease to lament that the Bible is excluded from our British Columbia schools. The Bible, without a true teacher behind it, would not educate. Are not the moral laws revealed in the Bible also impressed on the hearts of men? These laws were in full force and effect before the Bible was written. As soon as men begin to live in communities these laws begin to act. The facts of morality are stated in the Bible because they are true; they are not true because they are stated in the Bible. Every law of the decalogue is a natural law, and as such scientifically verifiable. Moral laws and their workings can be as easily and conclusively taught as the laws of motion or of gravitation, or the trade winds. They can best be taught through and in the teaching of history. The most perplexing questions of to-day will be in the hands of our children for solution after we 'are dust and our good swords rust.' Can we help them better than by implanting in their minds the truth that righteousness exalteth a nation? Some will say that the teaching of what our American cousins call civics in our schools is what is needed for future citizenship. These are the people who think that the ballot in itself is the key to all reforms. We must first know what is right (and that is a matter of education), and we must next earnestly desire it (and that is a matter of education and of inspiration) before any real step in advance is taken. I do feel though that a true conception of the working of our present system of government should be given to every child of over ten years in our schools. He should know the leading features of monarchial government, of responsible government, of federal government, because Canada affords the unique example of a state ruled at one and the same time by these various forms of government; and yet it is forcibly true that with all this we are eminently a self-governing people. Show the future citizen the working, too, of the municipal government, for with that he will have first to do. Bring to his notice those features of Canadian government which are in advance of those of the United States, namely, our non-political and permanent civil service; the crown-appointment of judges; and the independence of the judiciary.

"So much for the home and the school. Then comes the pulpit. Could the pulpit do more than it is doing towards the preparation of our future citizens? Without wishing to arouse opposition, I think it could by being often more simple and direct, and more insistent on the plain duties of man to man. We want something on Sundays that we can take with us to our work on Mondays, and that will remain with us during the whole of the week's trivial round and common task. When I was young many a score of sermons did I hear, many a learned discourse on justification by faith, on apostolic succession and verbal inspiration, but I never remember to have heard a sermon on school girl-honor, or play ground ethics, or a plain discourse on those primitive commandments that lie at the root of good citizenship, 'Thou shalt not lie;' 'Thou shalt not steal.'

"How can the press promote good citizenship? Can we begin to put a limit on the power of the press? So many people take their thoughts at second hand and adopt the opinions of others ready-made. The conversation of most people, especially their political conversation, is just the reflex of their own party paper. How can we all, then, parents and preachers, editors and teachers, and society at large, help our future citizens?

"First—By keeping carefully all the laws of our country, just because they are laws. To be specific—don't ride your wheel on the sidewalk and then boast about it; your son will do the same thing on his very first opportunity. Don't smuggle a pair of shoes in from Seattle the next time you visit the Sound, and follow it up by saying in the presence of your own family that there is no sin in cheating the government. Your action, no doubt, will have little effect on the public credit, but it will have an effect on the standard of right and wrong in your home. If you are a man, don't violate the game law and slip the illegal brace of grouse or string of trout under the seat of your dog cart and send your boy to gather ferns with which to cover it up. If you do, and your boy is caught red-handed next week robbing an orchard, be manly enough not to read him a moral lecture about it. If you are an employee of labor don't compound a felony by conspiring with the young men under you in their dishonest efforts to avoid paying the poll tax. Don't send your five-year-old boy to school labelled six to evade the School Act, and then mourn with the teacher over Johnny's untruthfulness.

"This is what we must not do. How can we positively help? I don't think it would be a bad plan to form a law and order league of 50 women to supplement the new men's committee of fifty. What would be its scope? Well, I should say such a league should first sharply restrict its operations to the enforcement of existing laws. We have good laws, not a few of them that are now set at naught by the vicious classes, while the virtuous and well-disposed, with the law on their side, are not aggressive. Much grumbling and plenty of good sentiment is a poor off-set to the positive and strenuous active force of the lawless. It is not necessary to make sweeping assertions against the police. The police must and do reflect public sentiment. If we want existing law enforced, we can have it. The police will act along the line of least resistance.

"How can we all, then, help our future citizens? Clearly not by showing them the steep and thorny path to heaven, while ourselves the primrose path of dalliance tread; but by being like that kindly old man who allured to brighter realms and led the way. Some local possibilities I will leave with you to think about, without remark:

"First—A number of our future citizens attend no school. Are we responsible?

"Second—A number of our future citizens are putting in time in a so-called reformatory. Is their environment calculated to in any way reform them?

"Third—Small boys are on our streets nightly, sometimes long past midnight. As they see the citizens of to-day coming out with unsteady steps from music halls, gambling houses, saloons, what lessons in citizenship are they learning?

"To conclude:

> 'There shall come from out this noise of strife and groaning
> A broader and a juster brotherhood;
> A deep equality of aim, postponing
> All selfish seeking to the general good;
> There shall come a time when each shall to another
> Be as Christ would have him—brother unto brother;
> There shall come a time when knowledge wide extended,
> Sinks each man's pleasure in the general health,
> And all shall hold irrevocably blended
> The individual and the commonwealth.' "

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

Roman Catholics of Cuba and the Philippines Will Be Protected in Their Faith.

London, Dec. 16.—The Rome correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says: "In response to the Vatican's enquiry on the subject, Mr. McKinley has sent an assurance that the Roman Catholics in Cuba and the Philippines will enjoy the same ample liberty as the Catholics in America. The Washington government has also promised the Pope that measures will be taken to prevent provisional government's despoiling convents or seizing ecclesiastic property. The Pope has sent his warmest thanks to President McKinley."

THREE STRONG PAPERS

Mrs. Cooper of Wellington Discusses "Woman's Work in the Home."

Miss Cameron and Mrs. Davie on Citizenship and Municipal Reforms.

Not the least interesting feature of the recent annual meeting of the Council of Women of Victoria and Vancouver Island were the papers on "Woman's Work in the Home," "Citizenship" and "Woman's Interest in Municipal Reforms," read respectively by Mrs. Cooper, of Wellington, Miss Agnes Deans Cameron and Mrs. A. E. B. Davie. These were very briefly referred to yesterday, but it is unfair that the information which they contain should be restricted in its presentation to the Women's Council. Two papers are here produced, the other being unavoidably held over:

Mrs. Cooper, in discussing woman's natural sphere, said:

"This subject was suggested to me, and I readily chose it, although I must confess my incapacity for doing justice to so high a theme; I shall therefore beg your forbearance towards me if you feel that the subject chosen is too exalted for my pen, pleading as my excuse both that it is one so attractive and also that it has been my privilege to know many homes, which, though perchance not perfect, were at any rate adorned and enriched by much that was noble and beautiful; so that although I confess with shame that I do not make my own home the ideal at might be, I have at least a consciousness that the home is a most noble sphere for the work of women, who should be

"'No angel, but a dearer being, all dipt
In angel instincts, breathing paradise,'

Interpreter between the gods and men. And also that our home life is altogether precious and should be both wisely and carefully cherished, more especially in these days of greatly and blessedly increased freedom for women, of widely extended spheres for work, of quickened stimulants to activity, of multiplied facilities for travelling and amusement, and of more widespread book learning. (I say advisedly book learning rather than education), whence there is a danger of our home life being neglected or even dissipated in external activity. Even in England—that home-loving land—this danger is making itself apparent, and in America I am told that there is much living in hotels or boarding houses, or taking meals at restaurants. This, altogether a tempting expedient where servants are scarce, is greatly to be deplored, as it must break up the sacredness and sweetness of home life. To sustain or to restore this sacredness and sweetness is especially the duty and the privilege of women.

"There are four classes of women who are little likely to fulfil this duty, to grasp this privilege, besides the simply indolent or selfish of whom I am not at present concerned to speak.

"First come the devotees of fashion—those who crave constantly for excitement, who cannot be happy unless every day have at least a luncheon party or a tea on hand, and find every evening ennuyant which is not spent at the theatre or a reception. These, although they may be careful that their drawing rooms should be elegant and their dinners served in the most approved fashion, can hardly be said to have realized the true dignity and beauty of home life.

"Second is the literary woman, who flies, note book in hand, from one lecture to another, or who has taken up reporting and consequently spends her time driving from one public entertainment to another, or in preparing her notes for the press. Such a one is hardly likely to make home what it should be to the hard-worked husband, or to the growing sons, who will so readily seek their pleasure away from their parents' nest.

"Third is the hard-worked, over-anxious woman who is trying, it may be to keep up appearances beyond her means, and to make five cents not only do its legitimate work, but worries herself in a ceaseless endavor to make it serve for ten cents, or at least seven and a half. Poor soul! She is rather to be pitied than blamed for her hard lot and fruitless struggle; nevertheless, we shall look in vain in her household for the peace and joy which should be the true characteristic of the ideal home; and one might suggest to her for her help that word of Bishop Westcott's, I believe: 'The vision of the ideal prevents monotony of work from becoming monotony of life.'

"Fourth—There are the women engaged in works of philanthropy and public benefit; and here I must carefully guard myself from misapprehension. As some members of the Woman's Council I rejoice to know that I should speak in vain, if I condemned philanthropy, or suggested that woman's work did not extend beyond the four walls of her own home. Far from it; if I feel that true life is infinitely precious and lovely, and altogether sacred, I am quite sure that, as a noble woman worker once said, in effect to me, our duty is not to keep this treasured home life to ourselves, but to try to make others sharers in the same bless, by going forth to them, carrying spiritual and material medicine and food, righting the wrongs of the oppressed and trying to lead those who are in darkness out into light and liberty. At the same time there is a danger concomitant to our philanthropy in our spending our lives in rushing after other people's sons and daughters to the neglect of those whom God has given us.

"Someone has sarcastically described a family where the daughters of the house were on some days like char-women, with their bonnets never off their heads, because they were tearing from one good meeting or service to another. Nevertheless, to my thinking, if the home is to be truly noble and happy, there must be—unless under exceptional circumstances—care for those outside of it. Chiefest among these exceptional circumstances is that of a sick member of the family; in that case it might probably be a woman's highest duty to devote her best energies to the tender care of the invalid, using her leisure time to brighten and cheer the sick room. The presence of an invalid in the house (if looked upon rightly), must assuredly have the sanctifying and ennobling influence on the home life, which the care for the suffering members of the one body, whether within or without our own homes, should bring.

"Let us then keep before us the ideal of a home full of sunshine, nobility and peace. Perhaps we may take as the three great foundations of such a home—love, discipline, order. I put love first, the master chord which resolves all the would-be discords of life's music into harmony, the light and warmth without which no home is worthy of the name; without which discipline is apt to become tyranny, and order rigidity.

"It seems almost trite to insist upon the paramount necessity of love in the home. We all of us remember the wise man's saying, 'Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith' (Prov. xv-17); and if anywhere we look for love it is under our own roof-tree. Nevertheless, I think many of us miss, at any rate, the flowers and fruits of love, which make the sweetness and richness of life, if we have not lost its root.

"Some of us are so confident that we love our nearest relations that we never condescend to any expression of our love; we reserved people are apt to fail in giving such expression to our tenderest feelings, because we have a positive shyness and dislike for such self-revelation, but we must remember that any quality which is not freely exercised is apt to wane or even to deteriorate. Others more sadly kill love through heedlessness by our acid or contemptuous remarks, or by our bad temper or irritability. Professor Drummond speaks forcibly of how bad temper devastates homes and destroys the most sacred relationships.

"But, apart from this obvious destroyer of love, our homes should exhibit the activities of love in unselfishness and consideration for others. How easy it is to speak of, how difficult one finds it always to practice that consideration for others which shows itself in unfailing courtesy to all our home-mates and in willingness to relax our routine for others, as well as for ourselves. Once more from love should spring what I may call active sunshine in our homes. Let our motto, our conversation, even, if possible, our thoughts, be bright. Some of us may have grinding care or real sorrows, or feeble health, any of which make brightness a triumph of grace, but how many of us without these real reasons for them allow ourselves, through thoughtlessness or mere indolence in gloomy looks, frowns, dreary talk or dreary silence; yet in the daily meetings for meals alone what wasted opportunities there are for happy intercourse and hours of sunshine.

"I thing teetotalers, and, I suppose most of us are teetotalers, have a special advantage in that, having no alcohol in our systems we are less inclined to be gouty, and therefore less inclined to depression than our respected brethren, the moderate drinkers. The brightest, cheeriest dinner table I ever knew was in a teetotaler's house. There is one thing which should not be forgotten—if our table talk is to be really sunny, that is, it means taking pains about it; pains which will apply repay itself, and part of this pains is self-culture.

"Too often we let the days and weeks slip by without reading (exclusive of devotional reading) anything worth reading. Shakespeare, Tennyson, Wordsworth, lie neglected on our shelves, while even with the newest and freshest biographies we are content to satisfy ourselves with the review or the newspaper. No wonder then that our talk becomes vapid or gossipy; or, I was going to use a shockingly slang expression, which I will replace by a periphraesis exclusively devoted to the work in which we are engaged.

"We have spoken of sunshine—a pleasant subject. We must not forget our two other foundations of the ideal home—discipline and order. The word discipline at once suggests the discipline of children. Dare I as a childless woman say a word on this subject? At any rate I was once a child myself, and it is sometimes said that onlookers see most of the game. It does seem to my old-fashioned ideas that there is too little discipline of children nowadays. Children rule their parents, which appears to me an inversion of the right order of things. Surely it would be happier and better for the children if they were taught, as soon as they could toddle, or rather long before that, to yield their masterful little wills to higher authority. It is what we all have to do sooner or later. The great secret of such training seems to me to lie not in punishment, but in consistency, by not saying one minute to Master Baby, 'Do not do so,' and the next allowing him to do it before our eyes, and also in not allowing ourselves to be vanquished by baby's only, but most powerful weapon, a lusty roar.

"But discipline does not apply to children only, but also to ourselves, with this difference, that now we have to exercise that discipline for ourselves. When I think of my own shortcomings in this, as, alas, in all home duties, I feel ashamed to speak of it. Assuredly, however, self-discipline is needed if our homes are to be ideal, self-discipline in the matter of rising betimes, punctuality, not scamping our housekeeping because we have some more interesting work at our desk, and in many other ways that will suggest themselves to us.

"Order—our third foundation—will follow naturally from self-discipline in one of the homes. Much of the joy and blessedness, which it is our duty to secure, either by our own hands or vicariously. Order extends to our servants, to caring for their comfort and well-being, setting them a good example, keeping them up to their work, correcting their shortcomings. My consciousness of my own failures in these matters teaches me to look back with more admiration than ever before on the well-ordered, bright, and, above all Christian homes I have known. Among these one specially stands out, illumed by a divine radiance—a little five-roomed house, a narrow staircase leading to a bedchamber, spotlessly clean, though simply furnished—where lay a sick daughter, suffering untold distress, while a little honest mother wears herself out in service of love which knows no weariness. In that hallowed chamber no jarring word is heard, no murmurs, no self-pleiding, but all is brightness and peace—with that peace 'which passeth all understanding.'

This brings me to the true secret of the ideal home. It has been suggested that our blessed Lord's words on Calvary to His blessed Mother and the disciple, 'Woman, behold thy son,' 'behold thy mother,' have taught us that in evry home the cross of Christ should be uplifted. That cross which is the consummation of love, and both the inspiration and exponent of all true discipline and self-sacrifice."

"Women certainly are interested in the progress and welfare of the cities in which they live and bring up their families," said Mrs. Davie in considering woman's interest in municipal reforms. "Should they not therefore use all their power of influence to promote the best management and orderly control of the city? Are women not interested in the number and efficiency of the police, who are to keep order in the streets and protect life and property; in having good streets, sidewalks and safe bridges over which those near and dearest to them have to pass daily on the way to and from business and from school; in sewering and sanitary arrangement; in the class of play bills and posters distributed about the town, where children pass daily; these flaming bills which attract the attention and imagination, and too often are unfit for children to behold. Are they not interested in the fire departments? We hear that the fire apparatus at present is not sufficient for the size of the town. Can we wish to see our city laid low in ashes, like New Westminster? We who have homes and families, can we not rouse ourselves and help in these matters?

"In this fair city of ours, where nature has with a lavish hand bestowed so much in climate, trees and flowers and scenery, we are often mortified to have to show to visitors the streets, sidewalks and, alas! the bridges. When we consider the age of the town and the expenditure yearly, we must wonder where all the money has gone to and left so little to show for itself. The present Point Ellice bridge is hardly any better than the old structure erected in the early sixties, when there was not a fifth of the population now present in the city, and certainly not a fifth of the money.

"Look at the years that have been spent and money expended over the city water works, and to-day we have water no better than the first year it was brought into the town. Are we women not interested in this matter, to even not care for the lives of the children? For it is true that yearly in the months of August and September, when the water is very bad and the drains around the town in a bad condition—then the little mounds in the cemetery increase very fast. Are we not to blame if we make no protest?

"Sewerage and good water, and plenty of the latter, are two of the great needs of our city—matters of vital importance to women and children. It is true that some of us can take our families into the country, but some have to remain in the town, and see our children suffer from the impure, unpleasant water and bad drains.

"Oh! my friends, you who live in comfortable homes, and can afford to have the best sanitary arrangements, and would refrain using your vote because you see no necessity for reforms, or think that one vote of little use, will you not consider others and help them by your influence and votes?

"At the present time there is a movement on foot in the town for some reforms and progressive measures to help this city to take her place among the first of the cities of the West.

"We may ask, 'How can we further such a movement?' Women can assist by using all their influence to help the measures brought forward by registering their votes and using them in favor of the men selected to carry out these measures. Cooperation and determination will carry the day. Surely this city is worth all our efforts.

"In this town women have the right to vote at municipal elections, and they should endeavor to unite forces and secure the election of men who will bring forward vigorous progressive measures and let us see our town keep pace with other towns of the Coast—a busy, populated city with good shipping facilities, good streets, safe bridges, manufactories and industries of all kinds—then with its natural beauty Victoria will be a city to be proud of as a city of happy homes."

CATTLE SHIPMENTS.

Winnipeg, Dec. 13—During the season just ended the C. P. R. shipped about 40,000 head of cattle East. For stocking purposes, 20,000 were taken into the Northwest Territories, and about 20,000 were shipped to the South. This showing is about the same as that of last year.

MR. MARTIN'S METHOD.

Uses His Official Position to Throw Fees to a Political Friend.

The Inner Secret of a Change of Counsel in a Recent Estate.

The reason of the attorney-general's recent order to the public administrators with reference to the employment of solicitors, appears to be fairly well illustrated in the case of the Kaye estate, which the Times quotes editorially to its own destruction. Dr. Richard Morrison had put in a bill for some $700 against the estate which the evening paper asserts was not in its entirety at all events a proper claim. It was opposed on behalf of the estate and abandoned, and the Times endeavors to convince the public that if Attorney-General Martin in his wisdom had not set the wheels of the law in motion, the claim would have been paid without protest, and the estate or the public suffered accordingly. As a matter of fact, Hon. Mr. Martin's part in the affair was very different indeed. The firm of Davie, Pooley & Luxton had been acting for the estate; they had called in Mr. Monteith to administer the estate; they had advised resistance to Dr. Morrison's claim; and they would have thoroughly protected the estate had not the attorney-general, with questionable regard for the ethics of his profession, taken the case out of the hands of the firm of which Mr. Pooley happens to be a member, in order to place it with Mr. Frank Higgins, a political supporter and friend of M. D. W. Higgins, M.P.P.-elect for Esquimalt. The facts of the matter are very conservatively and dispassionately set forth in the following letter to the editor of the Colonist:

Sir:—My attention has been called to a leading article in the Evening Times of yesterday headed "Claims Against Intestate Estate."

The assumption is that the article was written to apprise the public of the protection by the attorney-general to the interests of the next of kin in intestate estates where the official administrator acts as administrator. Or is it intended to reflect on those who formerly acted in the matter of the estate in question?

"The application to the court for the appointment of the official administrator as the administrator of the estate of Frederick Kaye, deceased, was made by my firm, and since he has been appointed I have acted as solicitor of the estate. Quite recently Mr. Frank Higgins informed me that he was instructed to act for the administrator and that the official administrator had consulted him in obedience to instructions from the attorney-general's department.

No previous communication or intimation whatever was made to my firm by the attorney-general of his intention to request the official administrator to consult any other solicitor in the matter of this estate, or of any proposed change, and the action of the attorney-general appears to me, and will, I think, to any solicitor, most unprofessional conduct, and an unwarranted interference with the property of the next of kin of F. Kaye, deceased, with the solicitors of whom in England my firm have been in correspondence for some time, and which solicitors I have already personally interviewed in the matter of this estate generally.

Personally I do not care who acts for them or the administrator.

The claim of Dr. Morrison referred to in the article was sent in to the administrator, who consulted me as to whether it should be paid; enquiries were made and he was advised in the matter months ago. The fact that it has not yet been paid clearly shows the stand the administrator and next of kin took in the matter before the present attorney-general was in a position to give the benefit of his protection to the estate.

The article asks: "What is the inference to be drawn from this case in point?"

There is only one inference the public can draw, which is that the attorney-general is making use of his position to put costs in the pockets of his political supporters out of the estate of next of kin of intestates.

Any one cognizant of the practice would conclude that the application to the court referred to was withdrawn because the procedure adopted to procure payment was not the right one, and could only be dismissed with costs, and (although I think the practice adopted by Dr. Morrison's advisers in making such an application was contrary to their own opinion) it was stated to have been made at the suggestion of the official administrator, acting no doubt on the instructions of the attorney-general's department, or their nominee.

The article further states that "affidavits were procured," etc., presumably to meet the application. No doubt it will be sought to throw the costs of procuring these affidavits on the estate. The application could not have been granted and the incurring of such costs by the official administrator's solicitor was unnecessary and useless.

In general it must not be forgotten that the official administrator is often appointed for convenience at the suggestion of the next of kin. The official administrator is a public officer creater for the convenience of the public, and though the office is filled by the government it will, I think, be conceded (at any rate by all lawyers in this province), that the next of kin would prefer to obtain advice in connection with their affairs from some professional man acquainted with them and not from whomsoever it may please the attorney-general to nominate.

It would seem superfluous to ask, in whose interests Attorney-General Martin has acted?

Yours truly,
A. P. LUXTON.

Victoria, B.C., Dec. 15, 1898.

WEIGHING THE WORLD.

How the Astronomers Calculate the Heft of This Old Globe.

By Sir William Hendee, F.R.S.

While the actual "birth" of the earth is a subject upon which scientists differ, placing it further back than any of the religions of the world, yet the fact that the year's "birthday" is now celebrated upon a certain date constitutes an interesting time upon which to base computations.

"How much will the earth weigh upon its "birthday?" is a question asked not only from a scientific standpoint but from a popular one.

On being asked to "weigh" an article the mind naturally reverts to a pair of scales upon which the object is placed with weights opposite. When the scale "balances" the weights are read and then the result is known.

But when the object is larger than any available scales, or of a nature that it can not be lifted upon a scale, then the task becomes more difficult. How are you going to weigh something without a scale and without the power of moving the object?

Suppose you were asked to weigh a very large hogshead of water upon a 25-pound pair of scales, no larger than needed for a baby's weight. What would you do? It would seem simple to you. You would take a small given quantity of water and weigh it. Then, knowing the contents of the hogshead, you would multiply your small weight by the quantity in the hogshead, and this, with the added weight of the hogshead itself would give you the weight of the whole.

So in weighing the earth! You know that the earth is made of sand. You would, therefore, weigh a certain amount of sand and would multiply it by the number of cubic feet in the earth. But here you would have trouble. If the earth were of sand through and through—a solid mass of sand—your computation would be correct, but unfortunately for your figures, it is composed largely of minerals and water. There are rocks, ores of all kinds, clay and the lighter substances. All these have their own weight. Compare the relative weight of a handful of sand and a handful of iron ore. One is light; the other perhaps all you can carry. Wood, water and coal are lighter than sand, but iron, lead, copper and in fact all metals are heavier.

The difficulty would be obviated if we could obtain a cubic yard of material, combining an average of all the substances of the earth, but, unfortunately, this is not obtainable, therefore we are compelled to resort to other methods.

The best method used to-day for determining the weight of the earth is the Airy method, so called because first used by Prof. Airy when he was the first court astronomer of England.

The Airy method is based upon the principle that the attraction of the earth at any point below the surface is the same as if all that part above the point were removed, or, in other words, as if the world were that much smaller. The difference in the earth's attraction is ascertained by means of a pendulum, as the rapidity with which the latter oscillates depends upon the intensity of the earth's attractive force.

The greater the force, the quicker the movements of the pendulum. By locating two pendulums of the same length, one at the surface of the earth and the other at the bottom of a deep mine, the difference in the time required to make an oscillation will show the difference in the attraction of gravity. In that way the attraction due to the portion of the earth below the bottom of the mine and that due to the shell surrounding it can be ascertained.

Then, by calculating the cubic contents of the shell, and its density, we can get its weight, and, having found the weight of the shell, we can determine the weight of the interior globe, and thus the whole earth. This is a method that was employed about forty years ago, though in a crude way.

The method of obtaining the density of the outer shell is interesting, but too lengthy for discussion here.

The results by this method show that the average weight of the earth is about six and a half times as great as that of water.

As a cubic foot of water weighs 62 1-2 pounds, the weight of a cubic foot of the earth would be 375 pounds. As one cubic mile contains 147,200,000,000 cubic feet, the weight of one cubic mile would be 65,200,000,000,000. The total volume of the earth is about 259,800,000,000 cubic miles; the total weight therefore amounts to not very far from 16,938,960,000,000,000,000,000 pounds or 8,469,480,000,000,000,000 net tons.

These figures look very large, but when we consider that the sun weighs 352,280 times as much, we realize that they are only comparatively large.

It is a fact that astronomy possesses great attraction for the majority of people of an inquiring mind; but the astronomer descends from his mountain of esteem and stands upon the ordinary level when he explains the simple laws by which his almost incomprehensible reresults are obtained.

THOSE CONTEMPT PROCEEDINGS.

The application made by Mr. Duff on behalf of Mr. Prentice, to have Messrs. Ellis and Lugrin committed to gaol for contempt of court, having failed, it is now proper to refer especially to the articles upon which the proceedings were based. It would have been proper to have done so before, but while the proceedings were pending, the Colonist had not the least intention of doing anything which might be construed into an apology for exercising the right of free discussion.

It now desires to say that the article of October 22, far from being intended as a reflection upon Mr. Justice Martin, was simply a piece of passing comment on the news of the day, written without any ulterior motive or object whatever. In regard to the article of November 17, in which the expression, "The certain loss of the seat for Lillooet by Mr. Prentice" occurs, this had no reference to any proceedings then pending, but was simply an expression of the Colonist's belief that Mr. Prentice would not be able to retain his seat. The Colonist was of the opinion that, quite irrespective of any decision that might be made in the election court, Mr. Prentice would not take his seat as member for Lillooet, and with all the deference that is due to Mr. Justice Drake, it declines to believe that any court in the British Empire has any power by any process, which the ingenuity of counsel can invent, to prevent a newspaper from expressing an opinion upon a public question of that nature. The article of November 22, entitled "A Judicial Anomaly," had no reference whatever to any proceeding then pending before Mr. Justice Martin, but was written in consequence of many representations made to the Colonist by members of the community, and for the purpose of strengthening Mr. Justice Martin in the position, which he was understood to desire to take, and which he afterwards did take in refusing to hear any further applications. Mr. Duff on making the application made special reference to the caption of this article, "A Judicial Anomaly," but the Colonist desires to say that in seeking to apply this term to Mr. Justice Martin, Mr. Duff unwarrantably associated that gentleman's name with an expression which, if applied to anyone personally, would be one of contempt and worthy of censure, unless supported by grave facts. The expression, "judicial anomaly," referred only to the unprecedented circumstances of election petitions being disposed of by a judge, who had been a very active partizan in the election. We think that this explanation is due to the court, to Mr. Justice Martin, and to the Colonist itself. It is the explanation which would have been given to the court, if the opportunity of making it had been afforded.

We may be asked why the explanation was not offered in reply to the motion made by Mr. Duff. The answer is that to have made it then would have been to have admitted the right of the court to take cognizance of the matter at all. Mr. Hunter, who appeared as counsel for the respondents, expressly stated that his clients desired to be heard on affidavit, if the preliminary objections were overruled. It is true that an observation made by Mr. Justice Drake conveyed the impression that he did not propose to allow such affidavits to be made in any event, but we decline to think that this would have been His Lordship's mature judgment in the matter. We beg to direct the attention of Mr. Justice Drake to the course pursued in the case of John v. Ellis. In this case the court, before making any adjudication in the matter, caused interrogatories to be submitted to Mr. Ellis, in which he was examined as to the meaning of the expressions upon which the proceedings in contempt had been taken. Mr. Justice Drake has undertaken to condemn an expression, without asking the party responsible for it to explain it.

We think it proper to direct attention to the extraordinary consequences which will follow, if the opinion expressed by Mr. Justice Drake in regard to the article of November 17 shall be considered to be the law of British Columbia. Replying to the Colonist's article, the News-Advertiser not only disputed the Colonist's general proposition then laid down, but proceeded to discuss at considerable length the nature of the order which the judge would make in the Prentice case, affirming its opinion that in any event Mr. Stoddart would not get the seat. Surely if the Colonist was guilty of making "a most improper remark," the News-Advertiser was ten times more guilty; surely if the Colonist was guilty of what Mr. Justice Drake calls a technical contempt, the News-Advertiser was guilty of an actual contempt. But our Vancouver contemporary is not alone in this particular. Every newspaper in the province, which has attempted to forecast the complexion of the legislature, has been guilty of a contempt of court, according to the doctrine just laid down. When Premier Semlin goes upon a public platform, and claims the seat for Lillooet for Mr. Prentice, he is guilty of a contempt; and when the opposition papers assert the contrary, they are also guilty of contempt. All that is lacking is some busy-body of a solicitor, with an eye to a possible bill of costs, to institute proceedings to fill the whole calendar with notices of motion to commit people, for he would be even represented the parties in any of the petitions. Under the judgment of Mr. Justice Drake, it is a contempt of court for which the editor, manager and proprietor of a newspaper may be imprisoned in the discretion of the judge, or at least put to the expense of retaining counsel, to publish a list of the members with Mr. Prentice's name on it, or with his name left out of it, and we suppose the same rule applies to Mr. Booth's name, and to Mr. Deane's, because petitions are pending against these gentlemen and it is surely as much an attempt to forecast the result of the petition to place their names in a list of members, or to leave them out of it, as it would be to assert that either of them would lose his seat.

With all respect to Mr. Justice Drake, we take the position that there is no such thing as a technical constructive contempt. There are technical contempts, such as a neglect or refusal to obey an order of the court. The refusal may be made for the purpose of raising the question of jurisdiction, and may be everything else than of a contemptuous nature. Yet the only way in which the validity of the refusal can be tried is by treating it as a technical contempt. If there is a new doctrine that there can be a technical constructive contempt. If an article in a newspaper is calculated to interfere with the due course of justice, it is a constructive contempt—that is, it is technically called a contempt, although in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred no contempt is intended. Yet the law calls it a contempt, and it therefore becomes technically contemptuous. But if it does not interfere with the course of justice, it is not a contempt at all, technical or otherwise. Mr. Justice Drake declining to make any order in the case, demonstrated that in his opinion the course of justice had not been interfered with, and therefore no contempt had been committed. We believe this position to be unassailable.

It is proper also in this connection to refer to the articles which appeared in the Times, the News-Advertiser and the Province in regard to the application against Messrs. Ellis and Lugrin. These were all calculated and intended to prejudice the case of the respondents. That of the Province was less so than that of the News-Advertiser, and that of the latter infinitely less so than that of the Times. The latter was a gross attempt to prejudice the case of the respondents, and it went so far as to point out to the court that Mr. Lugrin was specially a mark for its displeasure, because he is a lawyer. By the rule just laid down, and by the rules followed in the courts of the United Kingdom, these articles were as contemptuous as they are contemptible, but as to direct the attention of the court to them would have been to call for an interposition of authority, the possession of which by the court it had decided to dispute, the articles were allowed by the Colonist to pass without any further notice being taken of them than by referring to them in the columns of the paper.

It is also proper to refer to the conduct of Mr. Prentice's solicitor in instituting these proceedings. It is worthy of note that he did not undertake to place upon the files of the court any affidavit that his client had been prejudiced in the remotest way by anything which appeared in the Colonist. He did not venture to insinuate that any judge of the court was in any wise whatever influenced or could be influenced by anything which appeared. He came before the court without offering by affidavit or otherwise the slightest reason to justify him in so doing. He offered the affidavit of a boy as to what the political attitude of the Colonist always had been, although the paper had a political record before that boy, or Mr. Duff either, was out of swaddling clothes. He had another affidavit from a boy that he had asked a clerk in the Colonist office who the editor was. When Mr. Duff undertook to charge the manager and editor of the Colonist some months before with contempt, and succeeded in obtaining a bill of costs because an unintentional contempt had been committed, he sent his boy to the office of the editor, and he asked in a manly way of Mr. Lugrin if he was editor and was answered in the affirmative. Why Mr. Duff saw fit to take another course in this application, he perhaps can explain to his own satisfaction, but he will find it difficult to do so to the satisfaction of unprejudiced men. He can hardly congratulate himself upon the result of his application. Mr. Justice Drake refused to accept his views of the articles referring to Mr. Justice Martin, thus leaving Mr. Duff alone in the suggestion that Mr. Justice Martin could be influenced by fair comment upon his public acts, and he also failed to get a bill of costs against Messrs. Ellis and Lugrin.

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE.

A Platform of General Principles for the Coming Municipal Elections Adopted.

It Will Be Presented to the Electors at a Public Meeting.

The Citizens' Committee of Fifty spent their meeting last night in duscussing and agreeing upon the platform that should be offered to the public meeting for approval. This platform is the one offered the previous evening by Mr. Renouf, but a number of amendments and additions were made to it before the committee finally agreed. In this platform it is sought to embody a set of general principles which the citizens in public meeting will have placed before them with the request "that they will only accord their support to such candidates as accept the platform and who pledge themselves to carry it out so far as it lies in their power, during their term of office."

The first thing that was done at the meeting was the reception of the following report from the committee on railways and Songhees reserve:

"Your committee No. 5 had an interview this afternoon with Mr. Cleminson, the solicitor for the Port Angeles and Eastern Railway Co., and have been informed by him that this road is now being constructed, the company fulfilling the requirements demanded by the city council of Port Angeles as far as construction work to date is concerned. We are also informed by Mr. Cleminson that the head of the construction department of the P. A. & E. Ry., Mr. Lehman, will upon his arrival in Port Angeles during this month or early in January immediately thereafter visit Victoria and confer with your committee re railway connection."

Mr. Cleminson was present at the meeting and by invitation made a few remarks in line with the report. He was cordially received and when he had finished his remarks the report was received and filed.

Next came the consideration of the platform published yesterday.

At the outset Ald. Bragg wished to reconsider plank 2, which read "That aldermen's functions shall be legislative not executive and that the office be honorary."

The motion to reconsider being voted down Ald. Bragg said that he would reserve his right to oppose it and to state his objections on a future occasion.

The platform as finally amended is as follows:

1. Fuller and more extensive powers of municipal self government than are now possessed by the city.
2. That aldermen's functions shall be legislative not executive, and that the office be honorary.
3. Revision of the ward system.
4. Continuity of office.
5. Efficient officials in charge of all public and departmental work and responsible for the matters under their charge.
6. Paving the streets under an equitable local improvement system.
7. Permanency in all public works.
8. A more rapid extension of the sewerage system.
9. Improvement of our water system. Improved filtration and perfecting its distribution.
10. The consolidation of that portion of the city debt that is practical and may be found advantageous.
11. To press for a settlement of the Songhees reserve question.
12. To seek for advantageous connection with transcontinental railways.
13. That the city's credit shall only be pledged for permanent works.
14. To levy all rates and taxes fairly and according to the benefits which those taxed derive.
15. Day labor on public works.
16. Candidates for municipal honors to pledge themselves to the better enforcement of the laws relating to the liquor licenses, gambling houses and houses of prostitution.
17. Harbor improvement.

Some exception was taken to section 4 in the original platform, "That energy and desire to benefit the city are more to be sought after in an alderman than a mere property qualification." It was thought that the section was too academic and Mr. Renouf though in favor of it withdrew it.

When the section relating to continuity of office was reached, some of the members thought that the reports already handed in should be discussed before the platform was arranged, but it was pointed out that the platform was only an interim one of general principles, not details, and therefore it would not interfere with the reports.

Ald. Humphrey moved to lay the whole platform over, to await the discussion of the reports, but this was voted down.

The sections then passed along rapidly, until Mr. Shakespeare moved that candidates be required to pledge themselves to the enforcement of the laws relating to liquor licenses, gambling houses and houses of prostitution. He spoke very strongly on the subject, taking the line that at present these laws were not nearly well enough enforced. People were alive to this, and would demand reforms. He was not foolish enough to believe that all these evils could be crushed out altogether, but they could be reduced so that the boys and young men would not have the same temptations flaunted before them as exist today.

Mr. Morris seconded this, saying he believed a very large section of the people feel very strongly on the subject.

Mr. Pendray and others spoke along the same lines, while Mr. Hunter warned the committee of not going to extremes in the matter. He advised making the section read: "Better and more vigorous enforcement of the laws."

Mr. Renouf thought this suggestion good, for there were many other laws that were not properly enforced by the police, as for example in regard to street obstruction, for which some people were summoned for leaving a box on the sidewalk, while others not a block away were allowed to take up unmodested a large part of the street.

In the discussion that followed, the mayor pointed out that in the matter of saloon licenses the licensing board had only the granting or refusal of licenses and to enforce the regulations made by the city council. So far the council had refused to make any regulations, and consequently it was hard to get a conviction. For example, although the commissioners could punish for the selling of liquor during prohibited hours, it was no offence to be in a saloon in such hours. For the last two years at least the commissioners had not granted a new license.

The motion by Mr. Shakespeare was carried.

The section regarding harbor improvements was added on Mr. Brydon's suggestion.

The platform will be offered to the electors at a public meeting to be held in the city hall on December 28.

LIGHTNING CREEK MURDER.

Particulars of the Killing of the Three Chinamen in Cariboo.

The report of Provincial Constable Anderson, with more particulars of the killing of the three Chinamen on Lightning creek, has been received by Superintendent Hussey with the announcement that the coroner's jury after inquiry into the facts came to the conclusion that the man found hanging had committed suicide, ofter killing the two others. As a result Chunk Yon and the other Chinese arrested on suspicion have been released. Some of the Chinese up at Quesnelle do not, however, seem satisfied with this and wired down to ask that further steps be taken. On receipt of this telegram a message was sent to Provincial Constable Anderson, who replied that he agreed in the finding of the jury. Mr. Hussey is looking into the matter and if he finds any grounds for making further investigation will at once take the necessary steps. According to Mr. Anderson's report he was informed that Ah Quon attacked Chung Yon with a shovel and Yon defended himself with a pickaxe, with the result that Quon fled. Chung Yon told his story to the authorities and a search was made for him up Lightning creek. Near Quon's cabin a dead Chinaman, Ah Li, was found badly chopped and hidden under a piece of a tent. A little further away another dead Chinaman, Mow Wan, was discovered fearfully cut on the temple with an axe. Further up the trail Ah Quon's body was found hanging from a tree with every evidence that he had committed suicide, for his hands were not tied nor was there any more than one man's track leading to the tree. From all the signs and the evidence that could be secured it was apparent that Quon had, after attacking Chung Yon, attacked the other two men killed them and then hanged himself.

(From Daily Colonist, Friday, Dec. 16.)

SCHOOLS CLOSE TO-DAY.

And Much as They May Protest, Scholars Must Take Holidays.

Great Improvement in the Needlework Classes—Little Prize Winners.

To-day at the public schools all the good little boys and girls—and just before Christmas all little boys and girls are good—will bid a sorrowful farewell to one another, to their dear teachers, and to the well-loved class-rooms, separating for the holiday play and pleasures. To take away as much as possible the sting of poignant regret, some of the schools have arranged nice little concerts and other attractions, while everywhere the character and pleasures of the approaching holiday will be emphasized and dwelt upon—the holiday nearest and dearest of all to the heart of childhood—for it's

"Merry, merry Christmas," the happy children sing,
"With its glorious plum pudding"—
And then care away they fling—
Before dinner.
"That horrid! horrid!! feeling," the
Wretched youngsters roar.
When some one cold-wobbles makes
Their little stomachs sore—
After dinner.

The Boys' Central school has its closing in the forenoon at 11 in the Pembertonn gymnasium, when the friends and parents will be treated to a first-class entertainment. The High school closes in the morning without formality; and the Girls' Central in the afternoon at 2. At Spring Ridge the closing performance begins at 10 o'clock, and Fairfield Park and Victoria West also have their troubles over in the forenoon; while the North Ward has examination in the morning and its closing in the afternoon.

The judging of the needlework at the Girls' school took place yesterday, the ladies' committee upon whom this difficult task devolved being composed of Mrs. Charles Hayward, Miss Lawson, Miss Carr, Trustee Mrs. Grant and Trustee Mrs. Jenkins. The work of the little folk was found worthy of all commendation, a vast improvement being observable in all the classes. The articles made by the children during the term approximate in value more than $50, while great care, neatness and attention is everywhere evidenced. Special thanks are due to Mrs. Leiser, who not only gave the flannel material, but also contributed one of the prizes. The list of successful ones in this eminently practical branch of study follows:

Division I (Miss Williams, principal)—Prize awarded to Amy Wilson; honorable mention, Emma Vigelius, Mabel Lyall and Jessie McKilligan.

Division II (Miss Barron, teacher)—Prize awarded to Juanita Hastings; honorable mention, Elizabeth Rolfe, Grace Wilson and Florence McNeil.

Division III (Miss Keast, teacher)—Prize awarded to Maud Lyall; honorable mention, Josie Wollaston and Ruby McLarty.

Division IV (Miss M. Lawson teacher)—Prize awarded to Winnifred Bucket; honorable mention, Gladys Drake, Alice Moss and Adelaide King.

Division V (Miss L. Barron, teacher)—Prize awarded to Mabel Coles; honorable mention, Ethel Woodill, Edna Rendall and Lily Sims.

Division VI (Miss Christie, teacher)—Prize awarded to Lillie Smith; honorable mention, May Lossee.

Division VII (Miss Shrapnel, teacher) Prize awarded to Bessie Wills; honorable mention, Margaret Le Page, Zola Zabery and Violet Deakin.

Division VIII (Miss Russell, teacher)—Prize awarded to Lizzie Malcolm; honorable mention, May Wagg, Evelyn Wagg and Violet Deakin.

The work of the little folk is to be distributed among three deserving local charities, the Jubilee hospital getting the pillow-slips, the undershirts going to the Friendly Help, and the Protestant Orphans' Home taking the handkerchiefs.

Labor Paper Endorsed—A very largely attended special general meeting of the trades and labor council was held yesterday evening, when Dr. J. deC. Hathaway's proposition looking to the establishment of a weekly paper devoted to the interests of labor, was vigorously discussed, it being finally decided to endorse the prospectus as presented, and have 1,000 copies printed for immediate circulation. During the evening committees were named to canvass the various trades in the city, and organize into unions all not at present represented.

New Members.—Columbia lodge No. 2 I. O. O. F. received two new members last evening—one by deposit of card, and one by initiation. The team officiated at the latter ceremony, and acquitted themselves creditably, though showing a lack

YELLOW RIVER FLOODS.

Widespread Devastation Caused by the Overflow of a Vast and Fertile District in China.

Hundreds of Villages Destroyed and Walled Towns Surrounded by the Waters.

A few brief lines in an American or Canadian paper is usually deemed sufficient to satisfy the world as to any flood or other great disaster that may have overtaken the inhabitants of China or some other equally distant, and therefore uninteresting part of the world. Similar catastrophes on this continent or even in Europe would fill the American press with columns and pages of precise particulars and harrowing details. The Japan Advertiser of the 1st instant, copies of which were received by the Empress of India, tell of a flood rivalling in scenes of terror the memorable inundation of Johnstown and its environments, the Yellow river having run mad and the rich agricultural districts suffered to such an extent that whole villages have been swallowed up, walled towns had been surrounded by rioting waters, and thousands of unfortunate people have either been killed or rendered homeless. The account referred to is from the pen of Rev. H. D. Perler, originally contributed to the North China Daily News. It reads as follows:

"The appalling calamity of the Yellow river floods of the present year cannot be emphasized too strenuously. Only those who have been in the midst of the scenes presented can estimate the terrible devastation caused by the vagrant river. Whoever has been an eye-witness can best appreciate the terrible force of the stream which now for the third time has left its original bed and has wandered freely over populous villages and plains.

"In the autumn of 1887 the river left its course west of Kaifengfu. The Empress Dowager determined that its wanderings should be restrained. At vast expense this was accomplished. It is now about two months since the river broke away on the south side and began to work its fearful havoc among the peasant villages of this province. I have travelled both across and down the course of the new streams, and it may be well to give, briefly, the testimony of an eye-witness.

"The great river broke its banks first on the north side of Yuchou, in the district of Tungchou. The waters from this break poured themselves along the low ground of the Teihhai river, passing Wutingfu and Chaohua. The great road south crosses this stream at Yucheng. The waters here are 50 li broad and frequently 12 feet deep. The stream of travel is scarcely interrupted, however, hundreds of small boats being supplied by the villagers who have no other source of subsistence.

"The villages on the north of the river have suffered far less, having been prepared by many previous experiences. But the autumn crops are well nigh a total loss. The break on the south side begins about 60 li northeast of Chinanfu. Here the break is at least seven miles long, the whole course of the stream flowing through it upon the vast region eastward. On the 4th of October I took a small house-boat at Chinanfu and travelled to the sea, southeast a distance of 440 li. The main line of travel was the course of the canal built by Sheng Taotai.

"But the canal is practically obliterated. It seems likely that the Yellow river will henceforth make this canal its permanent course, reaching the sea at Yangchiaokon, 100 li east of Tiehmenknan. One meets the vast overflow about 70 li east of Chinanfu. From thence to the sea the destruction is continuous, with an ever broadening waste of waters. One crosses the main current of the stream many times, as it pours in a deep, swift tide, now to the south and again to the north. The banks of the original canal are forced through in scores, if not hundreds, of places, and the sound of the rush of the flowing and falling waters adds especial melancholy to the sight of destruction. The villagers have apparently fled, both north and south of the waters, everything being submerged.

"The flow of water is 60 li broad soon after its start. Going towards the sea, one can scarcely descry the edge of the stream, which finally broadens out over the once fertile plains to nearly 100 li. It is a strange sight to see the large walled towns loom up from the surrounding waters, and to take in the view the wrecks of hundreds of once prosperous villages. The overflow is in districts hitherto free from the devastation. On the narrow banks of the canal, for some 300 li, one sees only a few refugees. These have built neat sheds of a temporary structure.

"I saw scarcely 2,000 people on the whole trip. It is reported that a camp of 30,000 people is formed on the south side of the waters. It should be said that many of the refugees are prosperous farmers and gentry, as well as the poorer peasant people. Nine districts are nearly entirely flooded. Where the people can go and what they can do to avoid famine, fever and increasing sorrow is as yet unknown. The government proposes to do everything possible to assist."

SCHOONER WRECKED.

Halifax, Dec. 13.—The Canadian schooner Saxon, from Wallace for Boston with a cargo of stone, is a total wreck on Green island, off Shelburne.

TROUBLE IN DRY GOODS.

Montreal, Dec. 13.—John McLean & Co., wholesale millinery and dry goods merchants, are in business difficulties.

A GREAT BOOK FREE.

When Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y., published the first edition of his great work, The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser, he announced that after 680,000 copies had been sold at the regulare price, $1.50 per copy, the profit on which would repay him for the great amount of labor and money expended in producing it, he would distribute the next half million free. As this number of copies has already been sold, he is now giving away, absolutely free, 500,000 copies of this most complete, interesting and valuable common sense medical work ever publishedJthe recipient only being required to mail to him, at above address, twenty-one (21) one-cent stamps to cover cost of mailing only, and the book will be sent post-paid. It is a veritable medical library, complete in one volume. Contains 1,008 pages, profusely illustrated. The Free Edition is precisely the same as that sold at $1.50 except only that the books are in strong manilla paper covers instead of cloth. Send now before all are given away. *

THE CONTEMPT CASE.

Failure of Attempt to Commit the Colonist's Manager and Editor to Gaol.

Mr. Justice Drake Makes No Order and Each Side to Pay Its Own Costs.

Mr. Justice Drake yesterday delivered his judgment on the motion to commit the editor and manager of the Colonist to gaol for contempt of court. The judgment finds that the articles published cannot be construed as a contempt in so far as the references to Mr. Justice Martin are concerned; but that a technical contempt has been committed by the paper in prophesying that Mr. Prentice will lose his seat. This technical contempt, however, he finds does not call for the extreme measure of committing to gaol and accordingly he makes no order; each side paying its own costs. The full text of the judgment is as follows:

This motion is to commit Mr. Ellis and Mr. Lugrin, the manager and editor of the Daily Colonist, for contempt based on the publication of three articles in their paper. There has been a general election in the province which has resulted in a large number of election petitions. Since the elections and since the filing of these petitions a gentlemen has been raised to the bench who was alleged to have been an active partisan in the political issues raised at the election and in the fulfilment of his duties as a judge of the Supreme court he has been called upon to adjudicate and make orders in a number of election cases. On the 22nd of October the newspaper published an article pointing out the embarrassment which such a position entailed on the judge but at the same time indicating that the duty which devolved on him precluded him from refusing to adjudicate in cases brought before him. There is nothing in this article which in my opinion can in the slightest degree be considered as a contempt, or which in any way scandalizes as the term is the judicial office. Contempt consits in any conduct which tends to bring the authority and administration of the law into disrespect or prejudices the parties litigant, or their witnesses. The courts and the judges of the court must have the power to deal with questions of this sort in a summary way, otherwise the administration of justice would be impossible and the trial of cases would be relegated to an irresponsible tribunal and the judicial office degraded. On the 17th November, while the election petition of Stoddart v. Prentice was pending and the judgment of the learned judge who tried the case was reserved on certain points raised by the parties to that petition, the newspaper took upon itself to determine the result and boldly asserted that the seat for Lillooet was certainly lost by Mr. Prentice. This was a most improper remark to make under the circumstances. It does not matter whether or not the facts worranted any assumption or whether or not the court would be likely to be influenced by any such prophetic utterance. The public press are not entitled to express an opinion on the result of a matter which is reserved for judicial consideration. They are, it is true, entitled to discuss and comment on judicial decisions as matters of public interest but not to prejudice matters which are sub-judice.

With respect to the article of November 22, headed "A Judicial Anomaly," I do not consider this a reflection on the court. It merely points out that in the opinion of the writer some other mode of dealing with election cases would be more satisfactory. But at the same time the writer carefully makes his meaning clear, that he has no doubt but that the cases will be decided according to the law and facts; thus practically showing that his objection is a sentimental one and one that is answered by the article itself. Mr. Duff relied very much on this article as falling within the Shipworth case, 9 L.R.Q.B., but on examination of that case the language used by the defendant was a direct charge that there was no chance of justice being done by the four judges who were to sit and that the lord chief justice was not a proper person to try anything in connection with the Tichbourne case. Blackburn, J., in rendering judgment, points out that when statements are made to the obstruction of justice, it is a contempt of a serious character, although the language used may not have the slightest effect on the result. The court does not consider whether the allegations are true or false; it only has to see whether there is an attempt to interfere with the course of justice. A judge cannot meet his traducer in the columns of the press; it is not a question of his own dignity, but that of the court of which he is a member. Lord Justice Cotton in Hunt v. Clark, 37 L.R., says: "In my opinion no application to commit for contempt ought to be made unless the offence was of so serious a nature as to render the exercise of this summary power necessary to prevent interference with the course of justice." Applying his language to the case before me, I do not see anything in the articles referred to which can be said to fall within the scope of this language. It is true a technical contempt has been committed, but not of such a character as calls for the extreme measure of committing the parties to prison. I think the case will be fully met by making no order on this motion; the result of which will be that each party will have to pay their own costs. I have to notice the objection taken by Mr. Hunter. His first argument is that tthe contempt being of a quasi criminal nature should be proceeded with by indictment. Blackburn's, J., exhaustive discussion of the reasons why courts have the power of dealing with questions of contempt in the Shipworth case is a sufficient answer. He next contends that sections 290 et seq. of the criminal code show that the proceedings should be by indictment. Those sections refer to libel and not to contempt. He then contended that Mr. Justice Martin was not properly appointed, as he was not of the standing indicated by Sec. 10 of Cap. 55. This is a subject which I cannot discuss. The appointment having been made by the Governor-General-in-council cannot be reviewed by this court and as to the status of the person raising a question of contempt, it is clear from the authorities that any person can bring to the notice of the court any alleged contempt. The objections are therefore overruled.

M. TYRWHITT DRAKE, J.

DREADFULLY NERVOUS.

Gents:—I was dreadfully nervous, and for relief took your Karl's Clover Root Tea. It quieted my nerves and strengthened my whole nervous System. I was troubled with Constipation, Kidney and Bowel trouble. Your Tea soon cleansed my system so thoroughly that I rapidly regained health and strength. Mrs. S. A. Sweet, Hartford, Conn. Sold by Cyrus H. Bowes

SAVED OFF LONDONIAN.

Captain and Seven Members of Ship's Comany Brought into Baltimore.

Doomed Steamer Sighted by German Ship Soon After losing the Vedamore.

By Associated Press.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 14.—Eight additional survivors of the crew of the lost steamship Londonian were brought into this port to-night by the North German Lloyd steamship Maria Rickmers. They are Capt. E. B. Lee, third officer Joseph Cottier, boatswain T. Behm, quartermaster F. Carlsen, able seamen J. Webb and W. Carness, second steward D. Darnell and second cook W. Martin. These, with 45 rescued by the Johnston Line steamer Vedamore, complete the list of survivors, 18 having been lost in an attempt to leave the disabled ship in one of her small boats.

Of the latter two were cattlemen who perished and the balance were members of the crew. The names of the cattle men who were lost were Daniel Coventy, of Boston, and Thos. McCoy, of Worcester, Mass., and those of the crew who met the same fate were: Chief officer Murray, chief engineer Stafford, third engineer Wm. Slater, carpenter Weigmann, chief steward Harry Waterman, fireman E. A. Shaferd, seamen Johnson, Nicolson, Peterson, Hendrickson, Crowley, Williams, Hennessy, and Howard and a man whose name is unknown and who was working his way to England.

The Londonian left Boston on November 16 loaded with general merchandise and carrying 500 cattle, bound for London. How she became helpless through an accident to her steering gear and wallowed in the trough of the sea from November 22 to November 25, how she was sighted by the Vedamore who lay alongside for three days and after heroic efforts succeeded in taking off 45 of those on board, and how before the rescue of the balance was accomplished the two steamers became separated in the darkness and finally lost sight of one another, has already been told. On November 29 the Londonian was again sighted by the British steamer King Arthur and a close inspection of the wreck showed no signs of life. A few days later one of the Londonian's life boats with oars in it was sighted but nothing else was there to indicate the fate of its occupants.

A week has elapsed since the arrival of the Vedamore and during the interim but little hope has been felt that any of those who remained on board the Londonian when she and the Vedamore parted company would ever be heard from again. That another chapter of this tale of the sea is to be told seems little short of miraculous.

The thread of the narrative is again taken up on the night of Monday, November 28, just before midnight, when the Rickmers, bound from Bremen for Baltimore, sighted a steamer burning a flare light upon her bridge. Capt. Paul Grosche, of the German liner, altered the course of his vessel and in the moonlight made out a large steamer with such a list to starboard as almost to thrown her on her beam ends. A hail from him and an answering shout from the wreck showed that there was life aboard.

Second mate D. Lenz, of the Rickmers, with six men put off to the rescue. For more than three hours, owing to the heavy swell, futile attempts were made to reach the wreck which by this time was ascertained to be that of the Londonain.

Finally as a last resort the rescuers got in close to the stern of the disabled craft and shouted to those on board, all of whom were huddled on the bridge, to make their way aft and throw them a line. This being complied with, the shipwrecked sailors were instructed to make the line fast about their bodies and throw themselves into the water. One after another obeyed and were drawn aboard the life boat. When the rescuers and rescued reached the side of the Rickmers it was found that the sea was still so high as to make it impossible to bring the boat close alongside, and one after another the occupants of the little craft were hauled aboard with lines and the lifeboat set adrift.

The wreck of the Londonian drifted away in the darkness and those who had been aboard of her have little doubt that she ultimately sank. The Rickmers resumed her course and to-night brought to this city Capt. Lee and his seven shipmates, none of whom had ever expected to reach land after losing sight of the Vedamore.

HIGH PRICES AT AUCTIONS.

Zola's Table Is Not the Only Instance of Keen Bidding.

From Tit-Bits.

The Zola sale in France, at which a little table was sold for more than 250 times its value, recalls many instances of remarkable bids at auction sales. Zola's table was worth £4 16 s., but the first bid for it was £1,280, and the auction became probably unique in the annals of sales by being closed after a single bid.

It is not the first time that a table has been sold for such a remarkable sum, though it is probably the first time such an article has fetched such a big price. Cicero's table was put up to auction after his death, but the highest bid was £750. Another historic article, for which an enormous price was paid, was Cato's purple robe, which Nero bought for £6,800. The habit worn by Charles XII at Pultowa was sold for £22,000, and a cup used by Napoleon went for 37 guineas. The hat which Napoleon wore at Eylau was keenly bid for at auction by thirty-two persons, and was knocked down at £75.

Mr. Quaritch, the famous bookseller, recently advertised two of his rarest volumes for sale at £10,250, a sum which may seem ridiculous to most readers. Mr. Quaritch, however, bid £4,900 for a Latin Psalter and £3,900 for a Mazarin Bible at an auction sale.

Five hundred and forty guineas for a snuffbox suggests that the bidder was verging on madness, but a snuffbox from the emperor of Brazil's collection was once knocked down at that price. Another, supposed to have belonged to Marie Antoinette, sold for 320 guineas, bids of 50 and 100 guineas being quite common at snuffbox sales.

Toronto, Dec. 13.—A new yacht is to be built to defend the Canada cup in the contest arranged for August next with the Chicago Yacht Club. The boat will be built by a syndicate which includes G. P. Reid, general manager of the Standard Bank, and Frank M. Gray, of Toronto. She will be designed by C. H. Duggan and sailed by J. William Moore.

DEATH OF A PACKER.

J. E. Ferro' of Skagway Loses His Mind and Freezes on the Trail.

Snow Avalanches Cause Death of Many Workmen on Railway Construction.

The steamer Danube arriving from Lynn Canal ports last night reports a succession of fatal accidents on the construction of the White Pass railway, the warm Chinook winds having softened the snow, and blasting operations bringing innumerable avalanches down upon the workers. One of the officers of the Danube while at Skagway was told of six of these fatalities occuring within the week; he obtained no names as a railway laborer's death is not regarded as sufficiently important to command much attention, but he was assured that no fewer than fifteen or twenty had lost their lives on the railway line since the advent of winter. A number of deaths are also spoken of indefinitely as having occurred on the trail to Bennett, only one, however, being positively confirmed. In this the victim was J. L. Ferro, the well-known packer, who was found frozen to death on the summit.

Ferro was the man who brought to Skagway the news of the great strike at Atlin. The news of the death of the unfortunate man was brought to Skagway by C. W. Emery, who was with him on the trail. Ferro was on his way home from Bennett and Emery overtook him near Brook's camp and noticing he was exhausted gave him a horse. They travelled together as far as the Meadows, when there Emery suggested they take dinner. He said he would not eat as he had no money, but Emery insisted and he partook of a hearty meal. After dinner they started to make White pass. Shortly after leaving the Meadows, they met O'Brien's pack train and could then keep the trail without much difficulty. They were coming up the north side of the summit. Emery here met a friend and was detained in conversation and Ferro went on his way. Emery finally started in pursuit of him, but could get trace neither of him nor his horse, but after considerable time had elapsed he saw him on a high point near Summit lake, a good mile off the trail. He hailed him and asked about the horse. He said he had tied his blankets and gun on him and turned him loose, giving as a reason that the horse would not follow the trail.

Mr. Emery tried to convince the man that he was off the trail, but he insisted to the contrary. Emery was then satisfied that the man was bereft of reason, but he stayed by him and let his horse go. The next morning they started to summit lake, the nearest point where assistance could be had. Emery told Ferro to keep walking so that he would not get too cold, until his return. Fearing that the demented man might expire before his return he asked him: "What word would you send to your family?" "Tell my wife that I froze to death." Emery reached Camp 11 and there the assistance of five railroad men was secured, and when they reached Ferro they found him head, but still warm and limber.

The Danube left Skagway on Saturday three days later than the Cottage City, which arrived here on Tuesday night. A correspondent of the Skagway-Atlin Budget writing from the White pass on the 8th inst. says:

A severe snow storm has been raging on the summit for the past three days, while on this side, as far as the Ford, it has been arining, but has now turned to snow.

It is reported here that Tom Neilly and Tex, two railroad packers engaged in packing supplies over the summit to the camp, were to-day found under a slide, but the report lacks confirmation.

The trail between Summit lake and the Ford is filled with slides. The railroad company have a gang of men engaged digging them out so they can get supplies and wood to Camp 11.

Fifty men quit work at Camp 10, due to a reduction in hours, it is said. They had been working ten hours and had been cut to nine.

MR. SWORD'S CANDIDATURE.

Impropriety of the Premier Allowing His Salaried Clerk to Stand for the House.

From the Vancouver Province.

The reports from Cowichan indicate the likelihood that Mr. Sword, formerly member of the legislature for Dewdney, (savory name), and now a secretary in Mr. Semlin's office, will seek the suffrages of Cowichan in opposition to Mr. Robertson, whose technical and unintentional breach of the law has necessitated his resigning his seat.

It is regrettable that both Mr. Neill in Alberni, and Mr. Robertson should not have been allowed to go in again by acclamation. This journal is no friend of Turnerism or any of the crooked methods which such a name implies. On the contrary it supported and does support the Martin-Semlin government. But such a position does not prevent it holding that the two gentlemen mentioned would have been a credit to the legislature.

It is stated that the government had no wish to contest Cowichan had Mr. Neill's seat been left unattacked, but as the opposition determined to seize at every straw the government had no choice but to pick up the game. A fatal mistake, however, has been made we think by Mr. Semlin in appearing on the same platform and endorsing the candidature of Mr. Sword while the latter is a civil servant and in receipt of money from the government. In the name of all that is good. how can we denounce in Turnerism that which we do ourselves? The Province feels sure that neither Mr. Semlin nor Mr. Sword has dreamt for a moment that his action was improper, but all the same although this journal did all in its power to put Mr. Semlin where he is and Mr. Sword as one of his supporters, it would indeed deserve condemnation if, because it did all that, it remained silent when by an error of judgment Mr. Semlin has tripped.

Mr. Semlin should admit frankly that he has been wrong and withdraw from any further steps in this election; and in order to avoid even the appearance of evil Mr. Sword should withdraw also and leave the way open for some other to oppose Mr. Robertson.

A Warning to Boys.—A Coles, a boy thirteen years of age, has been summoned to attend court this morning to answer to the charge of smoking cigarettes.

Singing to the Sick.—The Arion Club have arranged to give their annual concert at the Jubilee hospital on the afternoon of the 26tl

The statement of Mr. Sifton, made in Winnipeg lately, to the effect that he will resign if the Southeastern and Rainy river railway is allowed to fall into the hands of the C. P. R., has a special significance in connection with the statement that the Dauphin railway is to be pushed through to Hudson's Bay within four years. Mackenzie, Mann & Co. are constructing the latter road and control the former, so that when both lines are completed they will have a through road from Hudson's Bay to Lake Superior by way of Winnipeg, a road which, it is needless to say, will be of the greatest value to Manitoba, if it remains under independent management.

The Times is quite wrong again. The Colonist did not attack the attorney-general for directing that all claims against intestate estates shall be referred to his department. It was not aware that such an order has issued. Is it to be understood that the attorney-general of British Columbia is to undertake the settlement of all intestate estates and say what claims shall be admitted and what shall be opposed?

The Vancouver World says that Vancouver is not yet known as a "wide open" town, but Victoria is so known from the Atlantic to the Pacific. This may be true of Vancouver, but it is certainly not true of Victoria. This city has some things which will not bear inspection too closely, but it is not a "wide open" town in the sense in which that word is used in the West.

One In Seven

DIES OF CONSUMPTION

This is proven by statistics. Two-thirds of all the cases of consumption begin with catarrh. From these facts you can figure out what chance you have of escaping death by consumption.

It is easy to neglect catarrh until it works its way insidiously into the lungs and becomes consumption.

It is easy to cure catarrh if you immediately resort to the use of Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure.

Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure is delightfully healing and soothing. It clears the air passages, makes breathing free and easy, relieves the pressure which causes headache, makes the breath sweet, and restores hearing.

Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure is a positive cure for catarrh. 25 cents a box. Blower free.

Dr. Chase's New Receipt Book, cloth bound, 500 pages, regular price $1.00, sent to any address in Canada on receipt of 50 cents and this coupon. Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto. 31.

Chafed Skins, Piles, Scalds, Cuts, Chilblanes, Chapped Hands, Sore Eyes, Sunburn, Earache, Neuralgic and Rheumatic Pains, Throat Colds and Skin Ailments are Quickly relieved by the use of . . . .

CALVERT'S

CARBOLIC OINTMENT

Large Pots, 1x1½ each (English Rate.) Editor "Household Words" says: "We are constantly appealed to for remedies which can safely be used in domestic practice for such ills as skin eruptions, burns, scalds, inflamed eyes, rheumatic and neuralgic pains, as well as colds in the chest. In all such cases, and, indeed, in a host of others, we have found Calvert's Carbolic Ointment invaluable."

F. C. CALVERT & CO., MANCHESTER

Awarded 75 Gold and Silver Medals, &c.

AGENTS:

Langley & Henderson Bros.. Victoria, B. C.

NO DENTIFRICE EQUALS

CALVERT'S

Carbolic Tooth Powder.

6d., 1s., 1s. 6d., and 1 lb. 5s. Tins, or

Carbolic Tooth Paste.

6d., 1s., and 1s. 6d. Pots.

For Preserving the Teeth and Strengthening the Gums

Each is prepared with CALVERT'S purest Carbolic the best dental preservative. They sweeten the breath and prevent infection by inhalation.

Avoid Imitations Which are Numerous and Unreliable.

From NEWTON CRANE, Esq., late United States Consul, Manchester: "Your Carbolic Tooth Powder is *the best I ever used*. In my opinion I am joined by all the members of my family."

The Largest Sale of any Dentifrices.

F. C. CALVERT & CO., MANCHESTER.

Awarded 85 Gold and Silver Medals, &c.

AGENTS

HENDERSON BROS., druggists, Victoria.

EPPS'S COCOA

GRATEFUL COMFORTING

Distinguished everywhere for Delicacy of Flavour, Superior Quality, and Nutritive Properties. Specially grateful and comforting to the nervous and dyspeptic. Sold only in ½-lb. tins, labelled JAMES EPPS & Co., Ltd., Homœopathic Chemists, London, England.

BREAKFAST SUPPER

EPPS'S COCOA

HOME WORK FOR FAMILIES

We want the services of a number of families to do knitting for us at home, whole or spare time. We furnish $20 machine and supply the yarn free, and pay you for the work as sent in. Distance no hindrance; $7 to $10 per week made, according to time devoted to the work. Write at once. Name references.

CO-OPERATIVE KNITTING CO., Toronto.

$500.00 will purchase, farm of 176 acres, situated on the beach at Big Qualicum; house, barn and stabling on the place; about fifteen acres partly improved; over half the place good bottom land; wagon road from Nanaimo to Comox runs through farm. For further particulars apply to D. A. McMillan, Parksville.

LICENSE AUTHORIZING AN EXTRA-PROVINCIAL COMPANY TO CARRY ON BUSINESS.

Companies Act, 1897."

Canada:
Province of British Columbia.
No. 121.

This is to certify that "The Mount Sicker and British Columbia Development Company, Limited," is authorized and licensed to carry on business within the Province of British Columbia, and to carry out or effect all or any of the objects hereinafter set forth to which the legislative authority of the Legislature of British Columbia extends.

The head office of the Company is situate at 196 Saint Vincent street, Glasgow, Scotland.

The amount of the capital of the Company is £125,000, divided into 125,000 shares of £1 each.

The head office of the Company in this Province is situate in the City of Victoria, and Henry Croft, financial agent, whose address is Victoria aforesaid, is the attorney for the Company.

The objects for which the Company has been established are:

(a.) To enter into and carry into effect, with such (if any) modifications or alterations as may be agreed upon, an agreement, dated 23rd and 26th August, 1898, and made between Fredreick John Smith, stock broker in Glasgow, for himself and as attorney for the parties therein mentioned, of the first part, and John Dickson Steel, of 196 St. Vincent street, Glasgow, chartered accountant, as trustee for and on behalf of this Company, of the second part, having for its object the purchase of mineral concessions, claims and options in claims or shares of claims in the Province of British Columbia, and relative supplementary minute of agreement between the same parties, dated 5th September, 1898:

(b.) To acquire mines, mining rights and auriferous lands in British Columbia, or elsewhere, and any interest therein, and that, conditionally or unconditionally, by purchase, lease, exchange or otherwise:

(c.) To purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any land, buildings, easements, leases, rights, privileges, concessions, machinery, apparatus, plant, stock-in-trade, and real and personal property of any kind necessary or convenient to the Company's business, and to erect, construct, lay down, enlarge, alter and maintain any buildings, works, apparatus and machinery necessary or convenient for the Company's business:

(d.) To apply for, purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire, or otherwise acquire or sell, or otherwise dispose of any patents, licenses, concessions and the like, conferring any exclusive or non-exclusive right in any part of the world which may seem calculated, directly or indirectly, to benefit this company, and to use, exercise, develop or grant licenses in respect thereof, or otherwise turn to account the rights so acquired:

(e.) To construct, erect, maintain and improve, or to aid in and subscribe towards the construction, erection, maintenance and improvement of railways, tramways, roads, wells, water-courses, aqueducts, waterways, reservoirs, shafts, smelters, wharves, moles and other works, undertakings and appliances which may be necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Company:

(f.) To promote, make, provide, acquire, take on lease or agreement, lease, let, grant running powers over, work, use and dispose of railways, tramways and other roads, ways and means of access to any part or parts of the property of the Company, and to contribute to the expense of promoting, making, providing, acquiring, working and using the same:

(g.) To search for, win, get, quarry, reduce, amalgamate, smelt, dress, refine and prepare for market, and to buy, sell, export and deal in auriferous quartz and ore and other mineral substances, whether auriferous or not, bullion, specie, coin, and precious metals and stones, and to carry on the businesses of miners, carriers by land and water, ship owners, warehousemen, wharfingers, barge owners, lightermen, forwarding agents, underwriters and insurers of ships, goods and other property, or any one or more of such businesses:

(h.) To search for, prospect, examine, inspect and develop mines and grounds supposed to contain minerals or precious stones, and to search for and obtain information in regard to mines, mining districts and localities:

(i.) To purchase, make, biuld, charter, affreight, hire and let out to hire, or for chartering or affreighting, and otherwise obtain the possession of and use, and dispose of ships, lighters, boats and vessels of all kinds, locomotives, wagons and rolling stock, and otherwise provide for the conveyance of goods and moveable property of all kinds:

(j.) To borrow and raise money for the purposes of the Company's business, in such manner as the Company may think fit, and also to invest the moneys of the Company not immediately required, upon such securities, other than the shares of the Company, as may from time to time be determined:

(k.) To mortgage and charge the undertaking, and all or any of the real and personal property, present or future, and all or any of the uncalled capital for the time being of the Company; to issue debentures and mortgage debentures (payable to bearer or otherwise), and to make, accept, endorse and execute promissory notes, bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments:

(l.) To issue any shares of the Company at a discount or premium, or as fully or in part paid up, with or without preference as to capital and dividend, or either:

(m.) To pay for any rights or property acquired, or agreed to be acquired, by the Company, either in cash or shares credited as fully or partly paid up, with or without deferred or preferred rights in respect of dividend or repayment of capital or otherwise, or by debentures, with or without a charge upon the property and undertaking of the Company (including uncalled capital), or any part thereof, or partly in one mode and partly in another and

(n.) To accept payment for any rights or property sold or otherwise dispose of or dealt with by the Company either in cash, by instalments or otherwise, or in shares of any company or corporation, with or without deferred or preferred rights in respect of dividend or repayment of capital or otherwise, or by means of a mortgage or any securities of any person, firm, company or corporation, or partly in one mode and partly in another, and generally on such terms as the Company may determine:

(o.) To enter into partnership or any joint purse arrangement, or any arrangement for sharing profits, union of interests or co-operation with any company, fund or person carrying, or proposing to carry, on any business within the objects of this Company, and to acquire and hold shares, stock, debentures, or other securities of any such company:

(p.) To establish or promote, or concur in establishing or promoting, any other company whose objects shall include the acquisition and taking over of all or any of the assets and liabilities of, or shall be in any manner calculated to advance directly or indirectly the objects or interests of this Company, with power to assist any such company, or business or undertaking, by paying or contributing towards the preliminary expenses, or providing the whole or part of the capital thereof, or underwriting or guaranteeing the subscription of any part of its capital or securities issued by it, and to acquire and hold shares or securities issued by, or other obligation of, any such company, and to lend money thereto:

(q.) To purchase or otherwise acquire and undertake all or any part of the business, property, and liabilities of any person or company carrying on any business which this company is authorized to carry on, or possessed of property suitable for the purposes of the Company:

(r.) To sell, exchange, let or rent royalty, share of profits, or otherwise grant licenses, easements, and other rights of, and over, and in any other manner deal with or dispose of the undertaking and all or any of the property for the time being of the Company:

(s.) To amalgamate with any person, firm or company whose objects are or include objects similar to those of this Company, whether by sale or purchase (for shares or otherwise) of the undertaking, subject to the liabilities of this or any such other company as aforesaid, with or without winding up, or by sale or purchase (for shares or otherwise) of all the shares or stock of this or any such other company as aforesaid, or by partnership, or any arrangement of the nature of partnership, or in any other manner:

(t.) To distribute among the members in specie any property of the Company, or any proceeds of sale or disposal of any property of the Company; but so that no distribution amounting to a reduction of capital be made except with the sanction (if any) for the time being required by law:

(u.) To exercise the powers of "The Companies Seals Act, 1864," and to do all acts necessary to procure the Company to be duly constituted or incorporated, and registered or recognized, as a Company, with limited liability, in British Columbia or elsewhere, where the Company may carry on business:

(v.) To remunerate the servants of the Company and others out of or in proportion to the returns or profits of the Company, or otherwise, as the Company may think fit, and to remunerate any person or company for services rendered in placing any debentures or other securities of the Company, or of any company in which this Company is or may be interested, or for guaranteeing the same:

(w.) From time to time, by special resolution, to modify the conditions contained in the Memorandum of Association, so as to increase the capital of the Company by the issue of new shares of such an amount as may by the Company be thought expedient, or to consolidate or divide capital into shares of larger or smaller amount than the amount hereby fixed, or to convert the paid up shares into stock, or to reduce the capital to such an extent and in such a manner as may by resolution be determined:

(x.) To do all or any of the above things in any part of the world, and either as principals, agents, trustees, contractors or otherwise, and either alone or in conjunction with others, and either by or through agents, sub-contractors, trustees, or otherwise:

(y.) To do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the above objects, or any of them; and it is declared that in this Memorandum the word "company" is to be deemed to include any partnership or other body of persons, whether corporate or incorporate, and whether domiciled in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.

Given under my hand and seal of office at Victoria, Province of British Columbia, this 1st day of December, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight.

(L.S.) S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

NOTICE.

TAKE NOTICE that application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, at its next session on behalf of the Kitamaat Railway Company, Limited, for an Act amending the "Kitamaat Railway Act, 1898," by conferring on the company power to construct the railway authorized by the said Act from a point at the head or the North end of the Kitamaat Inlet, thence North to the Copper River, and East to the Telegraph Trail by the most feasible route; thence South and East to the South end of Babine Lake; thence North and East to Germansen Creek at or near its confluence with Omenica River in the latitude, approximately, of 55.47 North, in lieu of the route prescribed by the said Act, and branch lines in connection therewith, and all necessary and proper powers, rights and privileges incidental thereto; and declaring that the provisions contained in the said Act shall apply to the line of railway to be constructed in substitution of that mentioned in the said Incorporation Act, and as if the same had been originally inserted therein; and declaring that the security required to be deposited under and by virtue of Section 22 of the said Incorporation Act is intended only to be deposited as security that the company will expend not less than $10,000 in surveys or construction of the railway within the time therein limited; and declaring that all moneys expended in surveys of the proposed amended route be allowed as work to be performed under Section 22 of the said Incorporation Act; and with power to change the name of the said company as they may be advised, upon first obtaining permission of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

Dated at Victoria this 15th day of November, 1898.

BODWELL & DUFF,
Solicitors for the Applicants.

NOTICE—Sixty days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 160 acres of land in Cassiar District, as follws: Commencing at a stake about midway of Wm. Fields' southline, thence south 40 chanis, thence west 40 chains, thence north 40 chains, thence east 40 chains to place of commencement.

THOS. TUGWELL,

August 24, 1898.

B. C. STEAM DYE WORKS.

141 Yates Street, Victoria.

Ladies' and gent's garments and household furnishings cleaned, dyed or pressed equal to new. se16-dy&w

No. 146.

COMPANIES ACT, 1897.

Certificate of the Incorporation of "The Molly Gibson Mining Company, Limited, Non-Personal Liability."

Capital, $2,000,000.

I hereby certify that "The Molly Gibson Mining Company, Limited, Non-Personal Liability," has this day been incorporated under the "Companies' Act, 1897," as a Limited Company, with a capital of two million dollars, divided into two million shares of one dollar each.

The registered office of the Company will be situate in the City of Victoria, British Columbia.

The Company is specially limited under section 56 of the said Act.

The objects for which the Company has been established are:

(a.) To acquire the "Molly Gibson," "Florence Fraction," "Florence," "La Plata," "Little Fraction," "Aapen," "Nashville" "Charleston," and "Westminster" Mineral Claims situated at the head of Kokane Creek in the Nelson Mining Division of the West Kootenay District of British Columbia, or any interest therein, and for that purpose to enter into and carry out either with or without modifications the agreements and trusts which have been recited in a certain declaration of trust made by Rufus Henry Pope, executed the twenty-fourth day of September, 1898, according to the true intent and meaning of the said declaration of trust, a copy of which declaration of trust is, for the purpose of identification thereof, endorsed with signatures of three of the subscribers hereto, and is set forth in the schedule in the Articles of Association for the Company And also to acquire any other mines, mineral claims and mining properties in the said mining division or elsewhere in the Province of British Columbia:

(b) To manage, develop, work and sell the mines, mineral claims, and mining properties of the Company:

(c.) To win, get, treat, refine and market the minerals from said mines, mineral claims and mining properties:

(d.) To do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

Given under my hand and seal of office at Victoria, Province of British Columbia, this 16th day of November, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight.

(L.S.) S. Y. WOOTTON,
no24 Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

In the Matter of the Estate of

STEPHEN DOWNES, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against Stephen Downes, late of Australia Ranch, Cariboo, farmer, who died on the 21st June, 1898, are required to send full particulars of their claims, duly verified, and of the nature of the securities (if any) held by them to J. A. Fraser, of Quesnelle, B. C., or to the undersigned, on or before the 20th day of January, 1899. All persons indebted to said estate are required to pay the amounts due by them to said J. A. Fraser, or to the undersigned forthwith. After the said 20th of January, 1899, the executors will proceed to distribute the assets of said estate among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have had notice.

Dated the 20th day of October, 1898.

CREASE & CREASE,
17 Fort Street, Victoria, B. C., Solicitors for the Executors.

THE CHAPMAN DIVORCE

Sensational Evidence Presented at the Trial Which Opened Yesterday.

The Husband Attempted to Tar and Feather the Co-Respondent, Who However Fled.

Some rather uncommon incidents developed during the taking of evidence in the Chapman divorce case, which opened yesterday before Mr. Justice Drake, and while divorce cases are particularly unpleasant subjects, the proceedings were at times decidedly interesting. Mr. Henry Hedley Reeves Chapman is suing for a legal separation from his wife, Nellie Blanche Chapman, the co-respondent named being Mr. Andrew Christian Martin. Mr. Chapman has for his counsel Mr. E. P. Davis, Q.C., and Mr. W. J. Taylor; while Mr. E. V. Bodwell appears for Mrs. Chapman, and Mr. Thornton Fell for Mr. Martin.

While the husband's side does not deny that any wrong-doing on Mrs. Chapman's part (if there was any) was condoned in September, 1897, Mr. Chapman maintains that there was cause given since then to entitle him to a divorce, and consequently evidence that might help to lay stress on this was put in of alleged wrongful conduct antecedent to that time.

Mr. Chapman, the husband, was the first witness, and in the course of his evidence related a couple of instances where he had had encounters with the co-respondent. This was before the condonation. On one occasion he said he returned home and was told that Mrs. Chapman and Mr. Martin were down towards the wood walking together. He followed, and meeting them attacked Mr. Martin with his stick, an encounter ensuing, in which the husband had also struck his wife. Mr. Martin retired from the scene, leaving his hat and cane, which Mr. Chapman carried to the house and consumed in the fire. On another occasion, Mr. Chapman said, he had one morning telephoned for Martin to come over to the house. A supply of tar and feathers had been prepared for his reception, and the intention was to capture Martin, tar and feather him, and then to force Mrs. Chapman to set him on fire. Martin came, but proved too agile, as he escaped from the window of Mr. Chapman's house on the Dallas road and fled to the seashore, again leaving a hat and cane in Mr. Chapman's possession.

Chapman deposed farther that his wife had admitted wrong-doing, but had promised to have nothing more to do with Martin—a promise that he claimed had not been kept. In regard to his hitting Mrs. Chapman in the encounter with Martin, the husband said he had apologized the next day to her.

The next witness was Mrs. Rogers, who had been formerly in the Chapman employ, but left a year ago last May. She had several times threatened to leave unless Mrs. Chapman discontinued receiving visits from Martin, because Mr. Chapman, before leaving for England, had forbidden Mrs. Chapman to receive visits from that young man. Mr. Martin had given Mrs. Chapman presents of collars and blouses, the witness stated, and one night after witness had gone to bed she became suspicious that Mr. Martin was in the house. Accordingly she got up and went to the kitchen, where she found the two. She then threatened to leave the house, but finally reconsidered this and promised not to let Mr. Chapman know of the occurrence.

In cross-examination by Mr. Bodwell, the witness stated that this occasion was one night after a band concert in the Drill hall, and that Mrs. Howard Chapman, who was then staying in the house, had returned home from the concert in company with Mrs. Chapman and Mr. Martin.

Mr. Taylor wanted to ask the witness about Mrs. Chapman telephoning, but as the witness could only have heard a one-sided conversation, without knowing who was at the other end of the line, the court declined to allow the questions.

Mrs. Howard Chapman, sister-in-law of Mrs. Hedley Chapman, said that her husband having temporarily given up his house, intending to visit England, from April 18 to May 5 they had resided at Mr. Hedley Chapman's with Mrs. Hedley Chapman, Mr. Hedley Chapman being then absent in the Old Country. Mr. Martin had given Mrs. Chapman presents of slippers and gloves, and once gave her—two years ago—a diamond ring worth $100. Mrs. Hedley Chapman had said she cared for Martin and not for her husband. During this time a letter came to Mrs. Hedley Chapman, stating that Martin had been seen to leave the Chapman house, whereupon Mrs. Chapman had said that it was all "up with her then."

This letter was put in as an exhibit and turned out to have emanated from Mr. Howard Chapman, who did a little private detective work while his brother was away. The letter read:

December 2, 1897.

Dear Madam:—When Mr. Chapman left for England I was instructed by him to keep an eye upon your movements I warn you against any further interviews by appointment or telephone with him and the next time he ventures upon Mr. Chapman's property I shall have him arrested and put in gaol upon a charge of burglary.

IVAN PERDUE,
Detective.

Mrs. Howard Chapman in her evidence said that at the time the letter was received she did not know it came from her husband, though she found out later that it did. Asked what Mrs. Chapman called Martin, the witness replied: "She called him Andrew."

Howard Chapman, who was next examined, went into his amateur private detective experiences in detailed form. Acting upon information he had received, one evening in November, 1897, when his brother was in England, he had gone to the Hedley Chapman house to shadow Mrs. Chapman and Martin. At first he supposed they were outside walking, and those of Mr. A. C. Martin. Acting upon his orders your house has been watched and yourself pretty well shadowed the past few weeks. Your movements with Mr. Martin are well known to me and also his visits to your house. but afterwards on going inside the grounds he was surprised to hear them laughing and talking in the breakfast room, and that at half past eleven at night. So he secured a ladder and laid it against the wall with the idea of trying to spy on them. But as he climbed he heard them make a noise as if Martin was going; so he abandoned the ladder and peered through the lattice work that gave him a view of the front door. Martin and Mrs. Chapman came to the door and kissed and parted, the witness shadowing Martin down several streets. Ten days before Hedl[illegible] Mrs. Chapman [illegible]y Chapman returned, was not goi[illegible]ad told witness that she more. S[illegible]ng to live with Hedley any was n[illegible]e loved Martin, she said, and wi[illegible]t going to blight her life by living [illegible] a man she had no love or respect for. She loved Martin, she avowed, and would go with him. She denied to witness that she had done any wrong with Martin. The witness replied to this: "Nellie, if you went down on your knees at your mother's death bed and took a solemn oath to that I would not believe you."

The witness had sent the letter already referred to, his idea being that Mrs. Chapman, if she had an idea she was watched, might cease her intimacy with Martin.

Amelia Lundgaathe, a Tacoma girl, testified that while she was acting as hall watcher of the Irving house in October last, Mrs. Chapman stayed at the place and that Martin came in to see her one evening, the exact day being October 13. She had come over to Victoria because she was asked to do so by a Mr. Duffield, whom she had known for a long time as a farmer, but she did not know he was a detective, nor did she know when she was coming over on the boat Thursday that she was going to be a witness.

Mrs. Keller, of Tacoma, had taken the position of housekeeper at the Irving house, the position being brought to her notice by Duffield. She knew he was a private detective, but she had not been acting as a private detective herself. Martin had visited the house on Thanksgiving evening and went into Mrs. Chapman's room, remaining there for some time.

The case was then adjourned till this morning at half past ten.

Yesterday's hearing in the Chapman divorce trial was mostly taken up with the evidence of the co-respondent, A. C. Martin, the close cross-examination to which he was subjected by Mr. E. C. Davis bringing out many things that seemed to be interesting to the spectators who crowded the court room. The case for the petitioner was closed by the examination of two witnesses, one of them Nellie Margaret Leason, being an employee of the Irving house at Tacoma. She said that Martin and Mrs. Chapman came to that house in the early part of September and asked about engaging a room. She took them to be a newly married couple. Cross-examined by Mr. Fell, the witness stated that she had been promised $3 a day and her expenses to come over and give evidence and that the girl Amelia and Mrs. Keller had also been brought over by Duffield for the same purpose, and on the same terms.

Wm. P. Allen, the gaoler of the Victorial city lockup, said that he had by arrangement with Mr. Chapman kept an eye on the house during Chapman's absence in England. He had once and he thought perhaps twice, seen Martin going into the Chapman house during that time. He had not told Chapman that Martin had gone there on an average of once or twice a week and in cross examination by Mr. Bodwell the witness said he had never had any suggestion made to him by Mr. Chapman that he would be paid if he gave favorable evidence.

This closed the case for the petitioner, and without any preliminary remarks by counsel for the other side the co-respondent, A. C. Martin, was put in the box.

Mr. Martin at the outset told of Mr. Hedley Chapman meeting him at the corner of Menzies and Belleville streets in 1895 and in reference to a former meeting Chapman saying it was a good thing that he had not a gun in his pocket at the time or Martin would be a dead man. Chapman said he would throw green vitrol in Martin's face and had a friend who would do it for him. Chapman asked him why he kept seeing Mrs. Chapman and Martin had replied by asking why Chapman did not treat his wife properly. To this Chapman answered it was none of Martin's business. Chapman had never charged him with doing wrong with Mrs. Chapman nor had Martin ever admitted it. Mr. Martin went on to tell about the tar and feather incident at the Chapman house. He went there on the morning in June, 1895, in response to a message that Mrs. Chapman wished to see him. He was shown into the breakfast room and then in came Chapman asked what he meant by "carrying on" with Mrs. Chapman. Martin replied that he had done no wrong, and Chapman calling in Mrs. Chapman asked if it was no wrong to kiss another man's wife. Chapman called out for some one to come in with a rope and a man came in with one. Chapman caught hold of him and told the other man to get the rope over Martin's head, but he (Martin) broke free before this could be done, and escaped through the window, Chapman calling out as he made off for the Chinaman to stop him. Afterwards Mrs. Chapman told the witness that she had been called in to set fire to him. As to the other encounter with Chapman, Martin said that about three months later he met Mrs. Chapman out walking and escorted her home. Opposite the house Chapman met them and made a cut at Martin's head with a stick, and he thereupon hit back. Chapman resorted to his nails next and scratched witness' face; Mrs. Chapman coming in between, Chapman hit, her knocking her on her knees. At this Martin called the husband a coward and Chapman opening a pocket knife stabbed him on the hip. Mrs. Chapman begged Martin to go away, and he did so.

"I said I would go for her sake and I did," he explained.

In going Martin picked up a hat and afterwards found that he had taken Chapman's hat and left his own by mistake. On another occasion Martin said he had gone one night to the Chapman house in response to a message and met Mrs. Chapman and as it was raining they adjourned to the wood shed for shelter and talked there five or ten minutes. He did not want to go into the house because there was some one there.

As to Mrs. Roger's story of the kitchen scene, Mrs. Howard Chapman and himself had walked home from a concert and they sat in the kitchen. In reference to one of the Chapman letters to him, the witness said the copy read in court seemed to have additions to it; he had not the original, however, for he destroyed it. In regard to the gloves he had offered Mrs. Rogers, that lady had not refused them as she said in her evidence, but had accepted them.

He did not know anything about the occasion when Howard Chapman had tried to peep into the window—it might have happened. He had only visited Mrs. Chapman as a friend and he made no secret of his going to the house. He was in Tacoma on September 7 to 9 last; October 2 to 6 and October 28 to November 1, but had been in Victoria on October 13, the day the girl Amelia said she saw him at the Irving house, Tacoma, and also on Thanksgiving Day, on which date Mrs. Keller had said she saw him in Tacoma. He saw Mrs. Chapman in the parlor of the Tacoma hotel on the first visit and on the last visit at the Irving house, one time in the hall and another time in Mrs. Chapman's room with the door open. The Irving house was a very respectable place.

Mr E. P. Davis, Q.C., in his cross-examination brought out at the start that Martin had kissed Mrs. Chapman—he could not say how many times. The witness, however, denied that he had ever done anything wrong.

"Would you admit it if you had?" asked Mr. Davis.

"I probably would," replied the witness, "or rather probably would not have appeared in court at all."

He had kissed Mrs. Chapman as a friend and after a little pressing he admitted that he had put his arm around her and squeezed her.

"As a friend, I suppose?" asked Mr. Davis.

"Yes, as a friend," the witness admitted. He was very fond of her, and in fact was in love with her. It was probable, too, that Mrs. Chapman was fond of him, but he could not be sure, as he could not tell what passed in ladies' minds. On being questioned, the witness admitted that it was wrong to kiss another man's wife. He knew Mr. Chapman objected to his going with Mrs. Chapman and asked if he thought his action did not compromise her, he said that she seemed to have no other friend and she wanted him to confide in. He knew after the tar and feathers time that Mr. Chapman wanted him to keep away from Mrs. Chapman.

"That would be a pretty strong hint, would it not?" asked Mr. Davis. "There would be no mistaking that?"

Witness admitted this to be so.

"Why did you agree not to see the wife any more and then go back between June and September?" asked Mr. Davis.

"I don't know," replied the witness.

"Why did you not keep the promise you made?"

"I don't know why."

The witness had a regard for Mrs. Chapman and though he did think it safe to go and kiss her when she was alone in the house it occurred to him that it might come to something worse.

Mr. Davis wanted to enquire if during Chapman's visit to England the witness had hugged and kissed Mrs. Chapman as a friend during his visits to the house.

Mr. Bodwell objected to this as a compound question, when amid some amusement Mr. Davis said he would make a simple one by confining it first of all to the hugging.

"That is a peculiar question," said the witness.

Mr. Davis—"Yes and the circumstance is peculiar."

"Yes, I did," was the witness's answer to the question.

Mr. Davis then wanted to know if the witness had lived anywhere where it was looked upon as friendly attention to hug and kiss married women.

The witness created a laugh by saying he had often seen married men kiss single women. On further questioning he admitted that he had kissed other married women.

"Ah, a sort of practice of yours?" asked Mr. Davis.

The witness would not say that.

Mr. Davis—Well how many women would you have to kiss before it became a practice?

The witness not answering Mr. Davis remarked as he passed on to another question:

"Well, perhaps you don't know."

The witness had given presents to Mrs. Chapman of collars—samples he had in his place—slippers, a ring and other articles and he did not think it extraordinary to give her presents of this kind. In regard to the Dallas road incident he repeated that he had gone away for Mrs. Chapman's sake.

Mr. Davis—You didn't seem to have so much regard for her sake when Chapman was away.

The witness did not think there was anything strange about Mrs. Chapman receiving him in the wood shed.

Mr. Davis—Would you not be rather surprised if you went to call on a lady and she received you in the wood shed?

The witness admitted having kissed Mrs. Chapman farewell at the door. As to the Tacoma trips, Mr. Davis put a great many questions and elicited the information that the witness had met Mrs. Chapman there morning, afternoon and evening, and had made trips every day out to the various parks.

The only other witness examined was James Sharp, who gave evidence that Martin was in Victoria on Thanksgiving Day and had been here ever since.

The case was then adjourned till Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.

TERRIBLE TORTURES

Inflicted by Rheumatism on Young and Old.

How Mr. M. L. Hinchey, of Levis, P.Q. Vanquished the Monster—He Used Dodds' Kidney Pills, the Only Sure Cure.

Levis, P. Q., Dec. 16.—The climate of this province is such that Rheumatism is a very common disease.

Almost every family in the province suffers from its ravages. Young and old are victims.

Thousands of people are cripples for life by it.

A medicine that can cure Rheumatism is a God-send.

Experience has proved that liniments and oils are of no more value than is cold water rubbed on the cheek to cure toothache.

That Rheumatism is due to diseased kidneys allowing poison to remain in the blood, instead of filtering it out, has been abundantly proved by the remarkable success of Dodd's Kidney Pills, which act solely on the Kidneys, and which have cured every case of Rheumatism for which they have been used.

A specimen case is that of Mr. M. L. Hinchey, of this town.

Mr. Hinchey says: "I have for years been tortured by backache and Rheumatism.

"My case was very severe, and my sufferings very great.

"I tried several kinds of medicine, but they did me no good.

"I was induced to use Dodd's Kidney Pills, and I am happy to state that three boxes cured me, fully and thoroughly."

If Dodd's Kidney Pills cured this severe case of Rheumatism, they will certainly cure others.

Are you a sufferer from Rheumatism?

If you are, use a box or two of Dodd's Kidney Pills. They will certainly cure you.

Dodd's Kidney Pills are sold by all druggists at fifty cents a box, six boxes $2.50, or sent, on receipt of price, by The Dodds Medicine Co., Limited, Toronto.

A MERRY EVENING.

Duncan Residents Enjoy a Dramatic Entertainment Followed With Dancing.

Duncan, Dec. 16.—The Cowichan Institute held one of their pleasant entertainments last night at the Agricultural hall, when a fair audience viewed the force of "Poor Pillicoddy," and indulged afterwards in the mazy waltz. The following was the cast of the farce:

"POOR PILLICODDY."

John Peter Pillicoddy......Mr. S. Hadwen
Capt. Fitzgerald O'Scuttle....Mr. F. Lomas
Mrs. Pillicoddy....Miss A. E. Carmichael
Mrs. O'Scuttle............Miss A. Jaynes
Sarah......................Miss L. Jaynes

THE ALIEN LABOR BILL

Premier Semlin and Mr. Helmcken Speak Briefly of the Japanese Protest.

Trades and Labor Council Will Discuss the Question in the Near Future.

A few days ago a despatch from Ottawa stated that the Japanese government had entered an emphatic protest against what is known as the alien law, passed by the British Columbia legislature last session. This statute is intended to prohibit the employment of Chinese or Japanese on works carried out under charters granted by the province, and, with the other statutes passed during the session, was forwarded to Ottawa for the Governor-General's assent. This assent has not yet been received, nor has the bill been disallowed, and the year in which this action may be taken has not yet expired.

Premier Semlin, when asked for his views on the subject yesterday, said that his opinions were very strongly to the effect that the Japanese, as well as Chinese, were not desirable settlers, and he heartily approved of the bill. He had no idea yet as to the course that the Dominion would take with respect to the matter, for no decision had yet been announced by the Dominion.

Mr. H. Dallas Helmcken, M. P. P.-elect, who fathered the bill through the local house last session, wrote to the Japanese consul in Vancouver a few days ago in regard to the Japanese government's protest, and asked for copies of the protest and of any communication on the subject that might have been made by the Imperial government in forwarding the protest to Ottawa. Yesterday Mr. Helmcken received a reply from Hon. Mr. Shimizu, stating that he was unable to forward copies of the protest, but the grounds of the protest seemed to be that the Japanese subjects in Canada are not numerous; that they have been law-abiding, and have done nothing that might necessitate a legislative act adverse to their interests.

The consul added that such measures, if allowed to become law, cannot but injuriously affect the commercial relations between Japan and Canada, which have the prospect of extensive development in the near future.

Mr. Helmcken, in speaking of the matter yesterday, said that he was still of the opinion that the province had the right to pass the law, or that the question was within the power of the provincial legislature. However, if the Imperial government had any reason for asking its repeal on the ground of Imperial policy, their views could be considered at the coming session of the provincial house.

Mr. George Colwell, president of the Trades and Labor Council, said yesterday that the question of the Japanese protest was likely to come up very soon before the Trades and Labor Council for discussion. In the meantime he did not feel authorized to express the views of that body regarding it.

MAINTENANCE OF TOMBSTONES.—It will be news to most people that it is contrary to law to leave money in trust for the maintenance of a tombstone or grave. I obtained this news the other day from the office of the Charity Commissioners. In 1816 a lady who was the last of her family, left by her will the sum of £45 in consols, in trust to keep in repair the tombs of her relatives and herself. The money was duly applied to this purpose until 1890, when the Charity Commissioners took possession of the gift and diverted it from the original purpose. On inquiry as to the reason for this, I am told that a trust to keep up a tomb is void in law or equity, as being a trust in perpetuity. In this particular instance the residue of the income of the trust, after being applied to the repair of the tombs, was to be applied for the relief of the poor of the neighborhood; and the Charity Commissioners, on behalf of the poor, claimed that the poor were entitled to the whole of it, the trust for the repair of the graves being void. That, at any rate, is the account of it given to me, but I can not help thinking there must be an inaccuracy somewhere, for plenty of trusts can be found in all directions which are intended to endure soecula soeculorum.

Farmers' Institutes.—Mr. J. R. Anderson, deputy minister of agriculture, returned by the noon train yesterday from Alberni, at which point and Parksville institute meetings were addressed by Mr. J. T. Collins, of Salt Spring Island, and Mr. Anderson. Considering the the political stir at Alberni and the fact that the meeting at Parksville was only decided upon by the officers of the Nanaimo institute very late in the day, the meetings were well attended and much interest was evoked. Lengthy discussions followed the addresses, which were listened to with marked interest. The isolation of Alberni was commented upon as most detrimental to its prosperity from an agricultural point of view. This is no doubt the case, but with its natural resources, mining, fishing, lumbering and its magnificent facilities as a seaport there is no reason to doubt but that in the near future a local market will be created for agricultural products. The journey between Alberni and Nanaimo occupies about eleven hours, including about an hour's stoppage at McCarter's. The road is good and there is only a very small quantity of snow on the summit. Mr. Anderson left by this morning's boat for Okanagan to attend meetings at Kelowna, Armstrong and Salmon Arm.

The Result in Alberni.—Latest reports from Alberni indicate the re-election of Mr. Neill with a majority of 36, the details of the vote being:

	Neill.	Ward.
Alberni	80	57
Clayoquot	21	4
Ucluelet	8	12
	109	73

A STUDY OF MANKIND.

Some Odd Facts Connected With the Human Body.

London Mail.

Human beings are of all sizes, but the the tall man is least common than the short; only one in every 208 exceeds the height of six feet. For every foot of stature a man should weigh from twenty-six to twenty-eight pounds, a proportion that is not the lot of all of these hurrying, scurrying days.

An averaged-sized man weighs 140 pounds; a woman 125 pounds. Curiously enough, the mean weight and height of lunatics are below those of sane people. Another unexpected thing in this respect is that a negro's skeleton weighs more than that of an Englishman.

The vitalizing power is the blood, a drop of which takes but twenty-two seconds to go round to the body. There passes through the heart once in every three minutes an amount of this precious fluid equal to all that is contained in the body.

The mileage of the blood circulation reveals some astonishing and undreamed of truths. It is estimated that, assuming the average speed of the heart to be sixty-nine beats a minute, the blood travels 207 yards in sixty seconds; in other words seven miles an hour, 168 a day, or 6,320 per year.

The average weight of the brain of an adult is 3 pounds 8 ounces, of a female, 2 pounds 4 ounces. The woman's brain begins to decline in weight after the age of thirty, the man's not till ten years later. According to high authorities the nerves, with their branches and minute ramifications connecting with the brain exceed 10,000,000 in number.

The palms of the hands and soles of the feet are composed of cushions of fat, in order that sudden jolts and violent blows may be successfully resisted, and no injury done to the muscles and bones underneath.

The muscles—of which the tongue monopolizes eleven—and bones of the human structure in combination are capable of more than 1,200 different motions.

The teaching of experience indicates that accidents are far more liable to occur to the right leg and arm than to the left. Further evidence of this fact is supplied by the makers of artificial limbs; they dispose of many more appendages to the right side of the body than to the other. Statistics show that in fifty-four cases out of a hundred the left leg is stronger than the right.

If a man could move his legs proportionately as fast as an ant, he would travel not far short of 800 miles an hour.

THE BATTALION BALL

Non Coms. and Men of the First Entertain Their Numerous Friends.

A Great Gathering of Guests at the Ball in the Drill Hall.

The Drill hall is a fairly commodious building as everybody knows, but last night it was so crowded with people that there was little space to spare. It came about in this way.

The First battalion, Fifth regiment, Canadian Artillery, has a name for smartness and success that is certified to by the big silver challenge shield that the regiment won from the whole Dominion and hangs a trophy in their hall. Well, last year the non-coms. and men of the battalion made such a huge success of their ball that this year when over 1,900 invitations were sent out everybody was in a fever to accept and consequently the big hall was barely large enough to hold them all—that is when it came to dancing, although everybody was out for a good time and had it. In fact it was almost a pleasure to tread on the train of some lady's gown just to see her turn round and say with the sweetest smile: "Pray don't mention it," just as if the great clumsy male object had done it on purpose instead of being, as he was, consumed with confusion, and sorry he could not sink into his patent leather dancing shoes—which unfortunately were a size too small and cramping his pet corn unmercifully.

The hall looked "just elegant" as a United States lady visitor put it in her best American, and by the same token the fair visitor should have felt pleased for the First are strictly up-to-date and consequently had the Stars and Stripes hanging side by side with the good old Union Jack, here, there and everywhere around the hall, in token of the new brotherly feeling.

The decorations were decidedly military ones, for besides the flags there were "stars, beautiful stars," of the most innocent and bright new-fangled Lee-Enfield bayonets twinkling here and there the utmost innocence, just as if they would take perfect pleasure in poking their shining edges through a man's body on the least provocation, if he dared to look cross-eyed for a moment at the good old flag that hung over head. There was lots of work to get the hall looking so nice in its holiday attire, but even the grim cannon that usually look so solemn and business-like as if their duty was too serious for anything but one of those giddy, buzzing Maxims to look cheerful over, seemed to get a sort of grim smile on on their muzzles like good-natured bull-dogs who grin.

The sight from the galleries then as one may imagine was well worth seeing and there were hundreds of people who were there to get a glimpse of the fairy-like scene.

So much for the ball room, but that was not all, for at the upper end was a space partitioned off for a supper room and the sight of that was enough to make a small boy cry "O my eye," and to make a fellow of experience resolve in his own mind that it was strictly all right—and then to make a bee line to hunt a girl with a red ticket and secure her for supper—that is not to eat her, of course, but just to make sure she took him in. For be it known to all that the supper room was laid out with tables to seat four hundred—quite a symbolic number, a wrinkle learned from Ward McAlister of elite memory—and only the people with the red tickets were allowed to get a seat at the first table. There were no wall flowers among the girls with red tickets, though the yellows being but one remove from this were also in demand and the other two colors came along somewhere in the rear but still not unacceptable.

"Have you got a meal ticket?" a young lady asked a young barrister of a retiring disposition, and an innocent nature.

"What!" he ejaculated in surprise, "do you take me for the C.P.R?"

"Well, even the C.P.R. could not get in first without that red ticket"—happy red ticketers.

The men of the First looked particularly well last night for the same permission as was granted last year was again accorded, for the men to turn back the fronts of their tunics and face them with red in quite a natty style.

The Battalion orchestra played splendid dance music and the floor in spite of its being "new laid" an excellent thing in an an egg, but not desirable as a rule for a flood, was really good for dancing.

The quadrille of honor composed:

The Lieut.-Governor and Mrs. Geo. Langley.

Sergt.-Major Mulcahey and Mrs. McInnes.

Mayor Redfern and Mrs. P. AE. Irving.

Lieut.-Col. Gregory and Mrs. Redfern.

The committee who undertook the arduous work of looking after all this success was composed of Sergt.-Major Mulcahey (chairman), Sergt. Watts, Sergt. Nevin, Sergt. Hollyer (secretary), Gunner Stevenson, Gunner Williams, Gunner Howell, Gunner Lawrie, Corp. McTavish, Gunner W. Williams, Gunner. Stack, Bomb. Bodley, Gunner Anderton, Bomb. Short, Corp. Dickinson. Corp. Wilson, Gunner Black, Gunner Holmes and Gunner Vigor. Gunner Stevenson as head of the culinary department gained a reputation last night that even the great Vatel of happy memory might have envied.

MALAHAT SCHOOL.

Closing Exercises and Presentation of Christmas Presents.

At the closing exercises of the Malahat public school, Shawnigan Lake, Mr. Netherby, the inspector, was present, together with many of the parents of the children. After the classes had been examined by the teacher, the Inspector took charge, asking questions and giving information useful to the children. He exprsesed himself as very much pleased with the prompt and intelligent answers of the pupils. The afternoon session ended with the reading of compositions on the subject, "An Imaginary Trip Around the World," by the Misses Mary, Elizabeth and Gertrude Rivers, and which were highly complimented by the Inspector. The children were then sent home to admit of the tree being put in place and trimmed. The teacher, with the assistance of Messrs. R. Frayne, T. and L. Hooper, Mesdames Taggart, Cheals and Welsh, then prepared the tree for the evening. Presents continued to arrive until after the programme had commenced, and the tree fairly groaned under its beautiful load. When the programme began at 8 o'clock with a short address of welcome by Mary Rivers, the room was crowded. Mr. Netherby was chairman. During the last recitation Santa Claus heralded his arrival by several blasts of his trumpet, and after a few remarks to the children, Santa Claus and the teacher delivered the presents. After the tree, to her great surprise, Miss McIntyre, the teacher, was presented with a beautiful toilet and manicure set by some friends, and also a box by some of her little pupils.

After refreshments, which were in abundance, thanks to the kindness of Mrs. Koenig and others, a vote of thanks was tendered by the teacher to parents and friends for their interest and encouragement, and also to the musicians; a vote of thanks to the chairman was also passed, and with "God Save the Queen," to close, all went home well satisfied with the evening.

The following was the programme: Address, Mary Rivers; speech, chairman; recitation, Pearl Frayne; recitation, Ethel Rivers; recitation, Edith Freeman; song ("Birdie's Ball"), school children; recitation, Mary Rivers; recitation, George Taggart; recitation, Mary Burnham; violin and guitar, Messrs. Barry and Frayne; recitation, Olive Cheals; recitation, Gertie Rivers (best); mouth-organ duet, Messrs. R. Elford and G. Frayne; recitation, Daisy Freeman; duet (guitar ac.), Pearl and Bert Frayne; exercise song, school children; recitation, Willie Rivers; song, T. Barry; recitation, M. McIntyre; song (guitar ac.), Pearl Frayne; recitation, Lily Freeman; violin, Barry and Frayne; recitation, Alice Burnham; song ("Britannia"), school children; recitation, Lizzie Rivers.

CHRISTMAS CHEER.

Children's Donations of Food, Clothing and Money for the Needy.

The Friendly Help desire to thank all those kind friends who have so generously contributed Christmas cheer to be distributed amongst the poor and needy, especially the public school children of Victoria. These contributions as received from the different schools are as follows:

Spring Ridge School.—Clothing, two perambulators, seven books, eighteen pots jam, three packages raisins, one pound tea, two sacks rolled oats, apples, four loaves bread, one package rice and $1.90.

Victoria West School.—Thirty-six pots jam, fourteen loaves bread, one package raisins, one fruit cake, four cans salmon, one corn beef, three cornstarch, one tin corn, vegetables, apples, ten rolled oats, two flour, one rice, clothing and shoes, ten pounds beans, toy-books, two dozen boxes wax matches, cornmeal, twelve pounds tea and twenty pounds sugar.

South Park School.—Toy broom and clothing, doll's perambulators, doll and toys, eight cups and saucers, two pounds tea, one loaf bread, a few bags potatoes, onions, apples and oranges, seventeen bread tickets, three pieces soap, one package raisins, six jam, one tin preserved fruit, grapes, nuts, one package prunes, one can salmon, four packages candles, five sacks meal, one package flour, $7.30.

Boys' Central.—Two pairs new shoes, clothing, hats, five loaves bread, one piece bacon, ten pounds raisins, fifteen pounds tea, three pounds coffee, sixteen pots jam, one jar pickles, two jars honey, one jar syrup, two packages corn starch, two packages mince meat, eight cans vegetables, two cans salmon, two packages rice, one can baking powder, potatoes and vegetables, nine sacks meal, twelve pounds sugar, two pieces soap, wax, bluing, two toys, eleven books, $6.50.

North Ward.—Two 50-pound sacks flour, one 50-pound sack rice, nine sacks oatmeal, four cans salmon, one can corn beef, three packages corn starch, eight pounds tea, fifty pounds sugar, thirteen loaves bread, one pound butter, one box biscuits, coffee, cake, canned corn, three dozen jars fruit, seeded raisins, ten pounds dried friut, beans, two dozen cases matches, apples, potatoes, other vegetables, shoes, rubbers, clothing, order on grocery ($1), and $3.40.

The Girls' Central school sent about forty new petticoats that they had made themselves.

Captain Stevens sent one box macaroni, one box cornmeal, two sacks flour, one sack rice; and Mrs. O'Brien a sack of potatoes.

"SHAGGLES" IS DEAD.

Pet of the Victoria Fire Department has Barked His Last Bark.

"Shaggles," the ugliest dog in the city, but nevertheless a cherished pet of the members of the Victoria fire department, has barked his last bark. Yesterday morning he was found cold in death, the final alarm, as far as he was concerned, having been rung in during the night. "Shaggles" was sixteen years old and had been an active member of the department during the greater portion of the time, attending every fire, leading the way. The first tap of the bell sent him scurrying to the front of the fire hall, barking sharply as much as to say "Come on, boys; I'm here to clear the road for you." If it was a fire he went off in front of the first piece of apparatus to leave the hall, but for the usual midday alarm he contented himself with joining in the crowd of small boys who gather around the engine house.

"Shaggles" is the hero of many a story told by the members of the department. On one occasion the call men were engaged in a game of baseball at Beacon hill, "Shaggles" going along as mascot. Suddenly he was noticedmaking all haste towards the city. The men listened and sure enough the bells were ringing. The dog had sharper ears than they and was at the engine house to green them when they arrived. On another occasion a fireman took the dog home and locked him in a room. An alarm was rung in and "Shaggles" being unable to find any other exit, went through the window, carrying sash and all.

SELF-SACRIFICING.

"It's wonderful," said the credulous man, "simply marvellous!"

"Have you been to see that fortune teller again?

"Yes."

"Don't you think most of those people are animated by purely mecenary motives?"

"This one isn't. Just think of his being willing to go on telling fortunes at $1 apiece, when he could give himself a tip on a horse race or a lottery drawing and get everlastingly rich inside of 24 hours!"—Washington Star.

THE ISLAND INDIANS.

Population of the Twenty or Thirty Villages Less Than Two Thousand.

Effective Work of the Roman Catholic Missioneries — The Other Churches.

A report of much interest and more than passing value as a reference, is that which Venerable Archdeacon Scriven presented at the recent meeting of the ruri-decanal chapter, on the subject of the Indian work on Vancouver and adjacent islands.

"I have to report," he said, "that in order to obtain the information which the ruri-decanal chapter desired me to procure, to be laid before the conference, I visited the Indian office, and being referred by Mr. Vowell, the superintendent, to Mr. Ashdown Green, I was permitted by the courtesy of that gentleman to see a copy of the Indian report for 1897, from which and from himself I gleaned the following facts:

"In that portion of Vancouver Island south of a line drawn from Chemainus to Nitinat, which roughly corresponds to the southern deanery of this diocese, there are between 20 and 30 Indian villages, with a population of about 1,750. With the exception of 16 of the Songhees tribe, who are returned as Methodists, all the Indians from Chemainus round to Sooke are, at least nominally, Roman Catholics. At Pacheen-aht, or San Juan, there are 40 Roman Catholics and 31 Pagans; at Nitinat, 80 Roman Catholics, 30 Methodists and 92 Pagans. There are apparently no Anglicans in the whole of this district; and only these 123 Pagans, who are members of tribes among whom Roman Catholic and Methodist missionaries are already at work.

"It seems to follow that there is no work for our church to do among the Indians in this rural deanery; and I might here close my report, but I believe it will interest the members of the conference to hear one or two other bits of information which I picked up while making these inquiries.

"The Indians of Vancouver and adjacent islands are divided into three agencies—Kwawkewlth agency, in the north; Cowichan agency, in the south and east; and the West Coast agency. The Indians of Kwawkewlth agency are almost all Anglicans, falling, in fact, within the sphere of Rev. A. J. Hall's mission at Alert Bay. The Indians of Cowichan agency are all Roman Catholics, with the exception of the 16 Methodists above mentioned, and 20 Anglicans at Nanaimo. The West Coast agency contains the bulk of the Pagan Indians; but even these, in most cases, are simply the as yet unconverted members of tribes among whom the Roman Catholic missionaries are working.

"The Roman church has in fact, to our loss, but to her honor, entered into this field of mission work, and is occupying it with great zeal, and no small success. There is of course a live Presbyterian work being carried on at Alberni; but the work of the Methodists seems to have taken chiefly the form of proselytising among the Roman Catholics.

"I mentioned to Mr. Green the report of the northern conference that there were 200 Anglican Indians scattered along the east coast, which fact he explains as follows: Some time back the Indians of Cape Mudge emigrated to Nanaimo in large numbers to work in the mines, and lived there, not on a reservation, but as squatters on the Newcastle townsite. He supposes that they may have come under the influence of Canon Good, who at that time was doing missionary work among the Nanaimo Indians. The members of the Cape Mudge tribe afterwards returned to their home, carrying with them, it may be presumed, the Christianity which they had learned from the Church of England, and it is probable that some Indians of other tribes along the east coast may have gone through a similar experience.

"As to language, Mr. Green informs me that all the Indians of Cowichan agency (that is—roughly speaking—of this rural deanery) speak the same language, with variations so slight as to be practically immaterial. There does not appear to be any grammar or dictionary of this tongue published, and he suggested that the only way to learn it would be by getting Mr. Lomas to furnish a dictionary of the most necessary words, and then perfecting one's self to intercourse with the Indians themselves. Chinook, though sufficient for ordinary communication, is unsuited for missionary work.

"I add, by way of appendix, a list of Indian villages, with population and religion, between Chemainus and Nitinat:

Village.	Pop.	Religion
Tsussie	49	R.C.
Penel-a-kut	138	"
Lt-mache	24	"
Ly-aeh-sin	75	"
Kulleet	69	"
Sicameen	35	"
Hellett	30	"
Khenipsin	62	"
Koksilah	41	"
Quamichan	280	"
Somenos	105	"
Clen-clem-a-lit	141	"
Comeakin	71	"
Kil-pan-lis	6	"
Tsaw-out	91	"
Tsartlip	60	"
Panquechin	70	"
Tse-kum	20	"
Malahat	15	"
Songhees	116	R.C. 100, Met 16
Esquimalt	20	R.C.
Cheerno	57	"
Sooke	28	"
Pacheen-aht	71	R.C. 40, Pgn. 31
Nitinat	202	R.C. 80, Met. 30, Pgn. 92
Galliano, Mayne, Discovery I.	89	R.C.

Cure that Cough with Shiloh's Cough Cure. The best Cough Cure. Relieves Croup promptly. One million bottles sold last year. 40 doses for 25 cts. Sold by Cyrus H. Bowes.

Building Improvements.—The Douglas estate trustees are rebuilding the Merchants' and Cosmopolitan hotels, recently destroyed by fire at New Westminster. The plans for the new hotels, prepared by Mr. J. Gerhardt Tiarks, show a handsome front on Columbia street, in the half-timbered style of the sixteenth century. The contract has been let to George Bishop, and the cost of the building will be in the neighborhood of $10,000. Mr. Tiarks is preparing plans for the new Caledonian hotel, also in New Westminster, while in Victoria the contract for Mr. A. E. Haynes' residence at Oak Bay was awarded yesterday to T. H. Matthew.

Karl's Clover Root Tea is a pleasant laxative. Regulates the bowles, purifies the blood. Clears the complexion. Easy to make and pleasant to take. 25 cts. Sold by Cyrus H. Bowes.