

Worthy

New Satins and Silks for Christmas

ERTY SATINS, soft finish for in cream, lavender, sky, lemon, rose shades. Per yard.....**\$0.90**
POPLINS, 27 in. wide, in Copeland, wisteria, moss, olive, reseda, old coupe shades. Per yard.....**\$2.50**
U DE SOIE, a new, soft silk, of colors, apple green, dark cardinal rose, sky blue, myrtle, reseda, navy. Per yard.....**\$0.90**
Rich Quality 20-inch Paillette Silks, in wisteria, deep sky, emerald, grey, heliotrope, mauve.
ATAVIA SATIN, \$2.50 yd. evening gown. Deep sky, pale dark mauve, mid brown, reseda, rose. Per yard.....**\$2.50**
K PAILLETTE SILK.....**\$1.00**
QUALITY.....**\$1.50**
K PAU DE SOIE SILK, a very fine for suits and coats, standard wearing yard.....**\$1.50**
VERY OF FANCY ORIENTAL SATIN
dow shot stripes, several shades of intermingled, 21 inch. Yard.....**\$2.00**
en and brown shot effects. Per yard.....**\$2.00**
ks that wear good and make a most
SILKS for Christmas. Most suitable. Checks, stripes, spots, plain effects, 4 yard ends. From, each.....**\$5.00**
NE SILKS, XMAS SPECIAL AT 25c yd.
ly: Mauve, taupe, lemon, plum, in navy, reseda, green, dark old night grey. Special, per yard.....**25c**

Slippers for Christmas

WOMEN PATENT LEATHER DRESS SLIPPERS.....**\$2.00**
MEN'S ALL WOOL SLIPPERS, Jaeger style.....**\$1.00**
MEN'S CROCODILE SLIPPERS, felt soles.....**\$1.00**
MEN'S TAPESTRY SLIPPERS, leather soles, \$1.50 and.....**\$1.00**
WOMEN'S ALL FELT SLIPPERS, 75c.....**75c**
WOMEN'S ALL FELT SLIPPERS, 75c and.....**40c**
WOMEN'S FELT SLIPPERS, leather soles.....**75c**
WOMEN'S FELT OR VELVET JULIET SLIPPERS.....**\$1.50**
GIRLS' AND BOYS' FELT JULIET SLIPPERS, 75c and.....**65c**
GIRLS' AND BOYS' WOOL PLAID SLIPPERS, strap, 90c, 75c and.....**95c**
GIRLS' WOOL PLAID SLIPPERS, with collar.....**90c**

Slippers for Christmas

DOYLIES, round and square, small make centers. Each.....**25c**
WOMEN RUNNERS OR DRESSERS, assorted designs. Each.....**75c**
OR DRESSER COVERS, size 14 inched. Each.....**75c**
ERS, 17 in. x 54 in. and 18 in. x 56 in. Each.....**75c**
PIECES, nicely embroidered scalloped. Each.....**1.00**
EMBROIDERED DOYLIES, circular. Each.....**75c**
EMBROIDERED DOYLIES, circular. Each.....**1.25**
ERS, hemstitched and embroidered, 18 in. x 45 in. Each.....**1.25**
ERS, hemstitched, embroidered and each.....**1.75**
EMBROIDERED TEA CLOTHS.....**\$5.50**

Cut Glass

cut in the elaborate and beautiful patterns so much admired.
SHES, in various shapes.....**\$1.75**
1/2 inch.....**\$2.75**
3/4 inch.....**\$4.50**
1/2 inch.....**\$2.75**
3/4 inch.....**\$2.00**
1/2 inch.....**\$6.75**
3/4 inch.....**\$8.75**
1/2 inch.....**\$2.75**
3/4 inch.....**\$3.50**

Nothing More Tasteful Than Our Chocolates at 60c

MUCH PROFIT FOR ZELAYA

Nicaraguan Dictator Obligated to Leave Comfortable Situation

VAST STEALINGS FROM HIS COUNTRY

Exactions and Peculations Net Him a Very Large Revenue

CORINTO, Nicaragua, Dec. 24.—Former President Zelaya arrived at Corinto on a special train from Managua, whence he departed at three o'clock this morning on a train for Montomonte. He was accompanied by a guard of fifty men with a Maxim gun.

FIERCE BATTLE IN NICARAGUA

Estrada's Defeat of Zelaya's Forces Costs Hundreds of Lives

BLUEFIELDS, Dec. 24.—The details of the battle of Rama are now known. The story of the insurgents was as complete as has been claimed by them. After two days of fighting, the fiercest that Central America has seen, General Estrada on Tuesday wiped out the army of Zelaya's 3,000 men, but 500 escaped. The killed and wounded on both sides before reported.

Thorough System of Theft. On the Atlantic side, Zelaya has operated through the business house of Lopez and Martinez. Lopez is a cousin of his, and is now a house revolutionary. The contract for five months received profits of five million dollars.

Injured While Playing Santa Claus CHARLESTOWN, Dec. 24.—Putting on the garb of Santa Claus last night on the children of Charlestown at a public entertainment, Miss McGorry drew too near the candles of the Christmas tree and the beard she wore caught fire. She is today in a serious condition from burns.

EXPULSION OF DR. COOK

Governors of Explorers' Club Find Him Unfit For Membership

MOUNT MCKINLEY STORY WAS FALSE

Committee's Report Declares Him Guilty of Barefaced Fraud

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The board of governors of the Explorers' club met today in executive session, and standing in silence, voted with bowed heads that Dr. P. A. Cook be dropped from the club, for a fraud practiced on the public. Hard upon the heels of the crushing verdict lately rendered by the University of Copenhagen, the action of the Explorers' club today is nevertheless the result of investigation which in no way touched upon the polar controversy, and the weight of its disapproval is borne by the fact that the board extends such distinctions on his birthday, January 22nd, and that it has as a special mark of confidence, approved of Von Bernstorff's recent Philadelphia speech, his intention of further colonial expansion met with some criticism by a certain element of the German press.

DEAD IN MINE

Searchers Recover Bodies of Six Men Who Were Killed Through Careless Use of Open Lamps

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—Messages from Herrin, Ill., tell of the recovery early today of the bodies of the six men whose open lamps caused a gas explosion in the colliery last night, eight deaths resulting. The bodies are those of W. T. Pierce, his two helpers, Eugene Barrett and Gordon Schaffer and Thomas Williams, one of the assistant managers of the mine.

WRITS ISSUE JANUARY 10

Approach of Christmas Brings Lull in British Election Campaign

SOME HOT SHOTS FROM BOTH SIDES

Several Members of House of Lords Declare in Favor of Reform

LONDON, Dec. 23.—It is officially announced that the writs for the general election will be issued on January 10. A general truce has been declared, as people are too busy preparing for Christmas celebrations and the relief in the fight for the moment has given way to the holiday spirit. The truce will last until Tuesday, when the writs will be renewed with eagerness and vigor.

PUZZLE OVER INTERVIEW

Guesses at Identity of Canadian Minister Supposed to Have Offended

UNIONISTS RESENT ALLEGED UTTERANCE

Inquiry at Ottawa Fails to Reveal Correspondent of the Man Interviewed

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The political puzzle of the hour is the identity of the Canadian minister, who, as the Unionists declare, openly violated the first principles of autonomy, has joined in the British domestic fight in the attack on the Liberal Unionist, Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. W. S. Fielding, no one suspects, but suspicion fastens on two of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's leading colleagues, who on recent visits to England talked in a wild fashion on British home affairs, and which puzzle the most experienced British statesman.

SWITCHMEN MAY RETURN TO WORK

Only Point of Difference Now is Re-Employment of All Strikers

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 24.—Only one obstacle remains in the way of a settlement of the switchmen's strike. The conference between the railroad officials and the representatives of the American Federation of Labor in Governor Eberhard's office today and yesterday, both sides agreed on all questions save as to the time when the striking switchmen should be taken back to work.

RUSSIAN ROBBER

Forces Two Countrymen to Give Up Money at Point of Revolver in Hotel in Vancouver

BIG PORTLAND DEAL

Options on Property Worth Two Millions Secured by Hill Group of Railways

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 24.—Options on North Portland property to the value of practically \$2,000,000, have been secured by the James J. Hill interests according to an article in Oregonian today. The deal has been in progress for a week past, the paper says. The options were secured by the Hill group, by Jerome B. Gossage, and include 14 blocks, or about 12 acres of land.

Winnipeg Bank Clearings

WINNIPEG, Dec. 24.—With a three million dollar increase in the second week of the year the bank clearings continue to increase in record figures. The total for the week ending yesterday was over a hundred million dollars greater than last year. The figures for the week ending yesterday are: total for the entire month of December, 1918, when the clearing house was first started.

WEATHER VAGARIES

Sudden Advent of Warm Weather in Europe Brings Temperature to Summit

TRADE FLOURISHING

Holiday Business in Canada Exceptionally Heavy Increases in Bank Clearings

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Broadstreet's state of trade tomorrow will say: Canada holiday trade has been of very heavy proportions, not only in the city but in the country in general. It is but in the country in general that a record volume has been done everywhere. Business fell during the week ending with Thursday with \$3 for last week, and \$2 for the like week in 1918.

FARMERS BUY FINE GOODS

CALGARY, Dec. 24.—The prosperity of the farmers results in the values of their holdings is evidenced by the Christmas business of the merchants. From all quarters, come reports of very extensive buying of goods. The provisions bought with high grade goods, making a most profitable one for the merchants.

N. T. R. Dispute Settled

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FOR INCREASED HARBOR WORK

G. H. Barnard, M.P. for Victoria Striving For Increased Expenditure

COMPARES AMOUNTS EAST AND WEST

Notes for Victoria and Vancouver Meagre Compared With Eastern Harbors

G. H. Barnard, M. P. for Victoria, who has returned from Ottawa for the holidays, is making a fight for their expenditure by the Dominion in harbor improvement, which is needed for the port of Victoria. In a recent speech in the House of Commons in this regard, he called attention to the meagre amounts spent in British Columbia for this purpose in comparison with the expenditure in Eastern Canada.

He said: "Last session I gave to the House some figures as to the general expenditure by the government on harbors east of Port Arthur as compared with the expenditure on harbors on the Pacific Coast. In those figures I find that in the period from 1898 to 1909 there have been expended on eastern harbors \$7,396,446, while during the same period there have been expended on the west coast of the Dominion only \$256,174. I find from Halifax, up to the year 1908 had expended on the harbor the sum of \$1,895,732, and that the city of St. John had expended on its harbor \$983,442. In the year 1909 St. John harbor received a further appropriation of \$475,000, and in the estimates for 1909-10 there is a sum made up of three items amounting to \$538,600 for that harbor; so that at the end of the year 1910 there will have been expended on the St. John harbor the sum of \$1,993,142. In the estimates for the present year I find that the province of New Brunswick is to receive in addition to the \$528,500 for the harbor of St. John, a total amount appropriated for harbor improvements generally. I find also that there is provided for the two provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick a sum of \$750,000 for dredging, and assuming that one half of that will be spent in each province, the total amount appropriated for the province of New Brunswick in the present year for this service amounts to \$1,241,850.

\$1,076,900 for the province of Nova Scotia. But, when we come to the province of British Columbia, we find a very different condition of things; we find that the harbor of Victoria is receiving \$65,000; that the harbor of Vancouver is receiving \$90,000; that the province of British Columbia generally is receiving for dredging \$255,000; that there is a general appropriation for harbors and rivers of \$139,850, making \$418,650 in all for the province of British Columbia. This is a little less than twenty per cent of the appropriations for the provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. In trying to find out a reason for this, which appears to me unjust discrimination, I have examined the tonnage tables, and I find that the tonnage of sea-going vessels entered and cleared in 1909 is as follows:

Tonnage of Sea-Going Vessels Entered and Cleared, 1909. Nova Scotia 4,287,946 New Brunswick 2,099,139 British Columbia 6,886,315

"This shows that the province of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia combined have only 88,000 more tons than the province of British Columbia, and that the British Columbia tonnage is more than three times that of New Brunswick. But, notwithstanding that fact, the province of British Columbia receives for its harbors only forty per cent of the amount that is to be expended by the government in the province of New Brunswick. These figures are taken from the figures relating to the vessels engaged in the coasting trade, and I find the following result:

Tonnage of Vessels in the Coasting Trade. Nova Scotia 4,135,856 New Brunswick 1,727,930 British Columbia 8,320,616

"That is to say, that the province of British Columbia has a larger coasting tonnage than the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick combined by 2,955,730 tons, or the coasting tonnage of British Columbia is more than double the coasting tonnage of the provinces of Nova Scotia, and more than five times that of the province of New Brunswick. The sailing vessels are a very small proportion, and the foreign vessels, which I am not taking into consideration, only amount to ten per cent. The figures in connection with sailing vessels and foreign vessels make no change in the result.

"Now, it occurred to me that possibly this was a new condition of affairs, and, therefore, I thought it would be advisable to take the tonnage of ten years ago and to compare it with the tonnage of today, and see which province was increasing the most, and the proportion of increase. This gave me the following result:

Tonnage, Sea-Going Vessels. Nova Scotia 1899 1,490,242 1908 2,056,189 Increase 406,947 or an increase of 40 per cent

"Now, in these same estimates I find a general appropriation for the province of Nova Scotia of \$448,000, and adding to that the amount of the dredging and other work which will be a total of \$2,277,000, that will be a total of \$2,725,000.

1908..... 6,386,315 Increase..... 2,740,377 or an increase of 75 per cent.

"I find that the increase of tonnage for the province of British Columbia in that period is 2,780,377 tons, and it is not only greater than the increase of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick combined by some 600,000 tons, but the increase of tonnage for the province of British Columbia is more than the whole of the present tonnage of the province of New Brunswick. Now, in case it should be said that the figures which I have given are not a fair criterion of the amount of business that is being done at the ports of these provinces, I have spent the figures relating to the revenue received by the Dominion from imports and exports from the different provinces, and the following is the result:

Year 1908-9. New Brunswick, exports \$27,214,741 imports 9,508,306 Total \$36,723,047

"That is to say, the imports and exports of the province of British Columbia are six and a half million dollars more than those of the province of New Brunswick, and twelve and a half million dollars more than those of the province of Nova Scotia.

"Then, with regard to the duties paid by these different provinces, I find the following result:

Duties Paid, 1908-9. New Brunswick \$2,169,594 Nova Scotia 1,633,046 British Columbia 4,469,970

"That is to say, the province of British Columbia pays \$244,232 more than both the provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia combined, nearly three times as much as the province of New Brunswick, and four times as much as Nova Scotia. The postal transactions of the three provinces are as follows:

Net postal revenue \$996,531 Money orders issued \$2,308,230 Money orders paid \$1,732,103

"In other words, the total of money orders bought and paid in the province of British Columbia is more than it is in the provinces of Nova Scotia by \$3,166,241, and more than it is in the province of New Brunswick by \$3,794,023. I also took the trouble to obtain the clearing-house figures for the cities of Halifax, St. John, Victoria, and Vancouver, and found that the figures for Victoria and Vancouver exceeded those for St. John and Halifax, the largest commercial cities of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia by \$80,000,000 in one direction, and in the other by \$100,000,000.

"Previous to this fight I had met Bob Armstrong, the negro giant, in the East, and had been criticized because I did not knock him out in a hurry. When I trained for the battle with Fitzsimmons, I determined to go into the ring late, and better than I had ever been in my life, so I could do myself justice. I had never been in perfect shape, as I had carried too much weight.

"When I faced Fitzsimmons, I believe I was in the best condition I could possibly reach. For 30 days previous to June 9 I did not drink a drop of water, so anxious was I to take off weight. When my throat became parched I simply gagged.

"The conditions under which I fought were discouraging. I felt that some of my backers did not think without predicting a return, such as that for ice-breaking, because our ports are open the year round, and for any money the government will have a good asset. I can only attribute the attitude with regard to these expenditures to the fact that I suppose no one minister has time to read the blue-books issued by the department of another minister, otherwise they could not justify for one moment the contrasts to which I have drawn their attention. In conclusion, I trust that the government will take this matter into consideration, and see fit to make some further appropriations for public works in that province.

"LITTLE TIM" BURIED Funeral of Noted New York Politician Attended by Thousands of Friends and Followers.

JEFFRIES TELLS OF LOST LIFE UNDER HIS BEST SCRAP

Lanky Man From Australia Gave Boilermaker Toughest Fight of His Career

To my mind the best fight I ever made was against Bob Fitzsimmons on June 9, 1899, when I knocked him out in eleven rounds at the Coney Island Athletic club and became champion of the world.

"Previous to this fight I had met Bob Armstrong, the negro giant, in the East, and had been criticized because I did not knock him out in a hurry. When I trained for the battle with Fitzsimmons, I determined to go into the ring late, and better than I had ever been in my life, so I could do myself justice. I had never been in perfect shape, as I had carried too much weight.

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"The conditions under which I fought were discouraging. I felt that some of my backers did not think without predicting a return, such as that for ice-breaking, because our ports are open the year round, and for any money the government will have a good asset. I can only attribute the attitude with regard to these expenditures to the fact that I suppose no one minister has time to read the blue-books issued by the department of another minister, otherwise they could not justify for one moment the contrasts to which I have drawn their attention. In conclusion, I trust that the government will take this matter into consideration, and see fit to make some further appropriations for public works in that province.

"LITTLE TIM" BURIED Funeral of Noted New York Politician Attended by Thousands of Friends and Followers.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The funeral of "Little Tim" Sullivan attracted a large crowd to his home and was attended by many notables in every walk of life.

The Bowers and the east side were particularly affected by the death of "Little Tim." Of his followers he had more than 1,000 men on the city payroll, and he and his cousin, "Big Tim" Sullivan were known as the most liberal dispensers of charity to the poor of the Bowery district.

A feature of the funeral was the stop made by the cortege after leaving the church, at the club of the clubrooms of the T. D. Sullivan Association on the Bowery, which was "Little Tim's" headquarters, and where the many thousands uncovered their heads while the band played a dirge.

JEFFRIES TELLS OF LOST LIFE UNDER HIS BEST SCRAP

Lanky Man From Australia Gave Boilermaker Toughest Fight of His Career

To my mind the best fight I ever made was against Bob Fitzsimmons on June 9, 1899, when I knocked him out in eleven rounds at the Coney Island Athletic club and became champion of the world.

"Previous to this fight I had met Bob Armstrong, the negro giant, in the East, and had been criticized because I did not knock him out in a hurry. When I trained for the battle with Fitzsimmons, I determined to go into the ring late, and better than I had ever been in my life, so I could do myself justice. I had never been in perfect shape, as I had carried too much weight.

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We Wish You One And All A Merry Christmas Henry Young & Co. 1123 Government Street Victoria, B. C.

The firm that sells First Quality Groceries at live-and-let live prices is Copas & Young At the Corner of Fort and Broad Streets. No Specials, but our whole stock priced right. Patronize the boosters of free trade in food supplies.

ANTI-COMBINE GROCERS COPAS & YOUNG Corner Fort and Broad Streets. Phone 94 & 95.

Our Hobby Again Proud of our fine All-Wool English Shawl Rugs: a large consignment just arrived. The appearance of your turnout would appeal to the close observer if it was equipped with one of these, or one of Chase's Genuine Mohair Rugs. Call or write for prices. B.C. SADDLERY CO., LTD. 566 YATES STREET.

ARMY'S FATE IS UNKNOWN

Mystery in Connection With Zelayan Force Holding Greytown

MAY HAVE JOINED REVOLUTIONISTS

President Madriz Held Responsible for the Safety of Americans

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Secretary Knox has sent formal notice to President Madriz of Nicaragua that the United States government will hold him strictly accountable for the safety of American citizens in the sections of that country.

The United States consul at Managua was directed to report what there was for apprehension for troops on the part of American residents that part of the country, and especially Granada.

The State Department is in a state of a quandary as to what to do with the small army, which has become a thousand men, belonging to the Nicaraguan forces, which at accounts had possession of Greytown. This force was until recently commanded by Gen. Toledo, who was reported as having arrived at Managua.

The report received yesterday from the Canadian Embassy at Managua, said the defeat and capture of the Zelaya forces disposed of all the armed forces of the Greytown contingent, which had joined the Zelayan forces at the time of the capture of Greytown. It is in doubt, if not it is assumed, that this force will be expected before East town may be expected before East town takes up its march for Managua.

Labor Bodies Amalgamate OTTAWA, Dec. 23.—The amalgamation of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees with the Canadian Federation of Labor, which has been pending since the convention of the latter body here in September, has been completed. Final arrangements were made for the Federation of the railway men into the Canadian Federation of Labor, which will be held between J. W. Patterson, president of the Federation, and A. M. Broderick, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Employees. The railway men will continue to be organized under the old name, but will pay a per capita tax to the Canadian Federation of Labor, which will be the governing body.

MARK TWAIN AFFLICTED His Daughter Found Drowned in Tub at His Home—Death Caused By Epilepsy.

REDDING, Conn., Dec. 24.—Jean Clemens, daughter of Mark Twain, was drowned in a bathtub at her home here today.

On Her Way to Be Married NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Miss Helen of Italy, who is being married to Queen Helena of Italy, painted her through the Messing tour, arrived here late in the afternoon. Princess Irene Genoa. She was met by a relative of the Italian embassy in Washington and left today west. She is on her way to Francisco to be married.

One German's View. BERLIN, Dec. 24.—Writing Kreutzer, Reuters, Prof. Schlemann, says that in the colonies very little attention to the antagonism of Great Britain and Germany. Never has there been more clearly demonstrated that Great Britain is a country having grown into separate nations with their own interests. Canada was becoming felt more and more as a Canadian and corps to represent Canada throughout the world.

Farmer's Buy Autos DETROIT, Dec. 24.—J. C. Saskatchewan farmer, dropped Detroit. Sunday he bought thirty automobiles for his friends of the automobile club. He told his friends he was going east and they thought he was joking. He had just received a letter from his wife and aggregated nearly \$100,000 for his own use. His cars were all high grade, ranging in the \$4,000 and \$5,000. Bumper wheat crops in the west were the cause of so many perils.

The Colonist.

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27 Broad Street, Victoria, B.C.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

One year \$1.00
Six months 50
Three months 30
Sent postpaid to Canada and the United Kingdom.

INTERESTING FIGURES.

The figures given by Mr. G. H. Barnard, M.P., in his speech on the "Budget" have a direct bearing upon a question of very great importance to the people of Victoria. Just at this particular time, we need harbor improvements here on an extensive scale, and Mr. Barnard has shown conclusively that we can make out a very strong case for a large appropriation. While we invite special attention to his own way of stating the case, we think it advisable to summarize the points here. The verbatim report will be found elsewhere in today's issue. In ten years ending 1908 the sum of \$7,396,416 was expended on harbors in the eastern provinces, and only \$256,178 on a like service on the Pacific seaboard. We concede that there are more harbors in the East requiring attention and more people who want and wish them to be met, but the disproportion between the two sums is unreasonable. Like Mr. Barnard, we do not raise any objection to the amount expended in the East, assuming it to have been well spent on works really in the public interest. Our objection, like his, is that we have not received enough in the West.

Mr. Barnard points out that, including the sum in the Estimates received by the parliament, St. John has before 1910, \$1,999,142. We do not suggest that this was not money well spent; we prefer to assume that it was, because it shows that Victoria can with good precedent urge upon the Finance Minister that a more liberal line shall be followed in respect to our harbor. We are to receive this year \$65,000. This is enough, we understand, to keep the present plan in operation for a year. But our point is that this policy is niggardly. We do not want to have to wait for a quarter of a century for harbor improvements that will be needed next year.

The data in respect to the trade of British Columbian ports, presented by Mr. Barnard, must have been a surprise to those who save them consideration. Sometimes when we speak of the large tonnage of shipping resorting to our ports we are told that they are in part ships in transit to other points and in part the regular ferry services to United States ports. This is true to a certain extent, but a vessel that comes into the port of Victoria, if she goes out again in the course of the next hour, requires just as good accommodation in the way of depth of water and room to move round as if she waited here to discharge a cargo of merchandise.

We are exceedingly pleased that Mr. Barnard has brought this matter to the front in the way he has. He could not have done it on a more timely occasion. His data will be of great use to those who are about to urge that a large sum for the immediate improvement of the harbor on a larger scale than has been followed heretofore.

THE BRITISH CONTEST.

There is a tradition that the British people are phlegmatic and that nothing can disturb the majestic claim of their demeanor. To many people on the western side of the Atlantic an Englishman is a fellow with an eye-glass and a drawl who on the Day of Judgment will look around him and say in an indifferent tone: "Bah Jove, this is somewhat unusual. What? A story is told of an Englishman who was in San Francisco at the time of the earthquake, that is the earthquake par excellence. He was stopping at a hotel, and he said to a Victorian that he was awakened by the trembling of the building and got up and looked out of the window. He saw a lot of people running out into the streets, but he said it did not seem to be any of his business, and he went to bed again. Presently he was awakened by some one knocking at his door and shouting that the end of the world had come. "I got up, took my bath" he said, "and took my suit case and went to the street, where I found things a good deal mixed up." This story illustrates what many people on this Continent think of the Englishman. The performances of these good folk after making rather upset some of our preconceived ideas; but it takes a good deal to eradicate deep-rooted views, and so the Western World relapsed into its previous notion of the unemotional Briton.

We will all have to admit that, as the boy in the street says, "we have another thing coming" for the way in which the election campaign is being conducted can hardly be described as unemotional. If that pugacious Welshman, Mr. Lloyd-George alone had indulged in pyrotechnics, or even if only Mr. Winston Churchill had shattered the air with invective, we might not be very much surprised; but poets and commoners alike, every shade of politics between and including My Lord Duke and Comrade Blank of the ultra-Socialists is represented in the great talk-fest now in progress and it is hard to say which has the better of the other, when it comes down to calling hard names or imputing unworthy motives. Compared with the

present election the wildest contest we have ever had in this supposed wild and woolly West looks like a Quaker meeting. All of which seems to show that underneath the veneer of indifference the average Englishman hides a lot of passion, and that he loves to fight as dearly as his fellow subjects across the Irish Channel are alleged.

FIVE YEARS HENCE

In less than five years from today the Canadian Northern will be completed. In less than five years the Grand Trunk Pacific will be finished. In about five years the Panama Canal will be completed. How many people will there be in Alberta in five years hence? How many people will there be in Interior British Columbia? The importance of these interesting things and of those equally interesting questions lies in the fact that in five years from now the trade of the Pacific Coast of Canada will be revolutionized. Instead of having only one transcontinental line in the Dominion we will have three, and possibly a fourth, for the V. V. & E. with its proposed eastern connections may supply another. Instead of having to bring goods by water around the Horn or by way of Suez, we can get them promptly and cheaply by way of the Canal. Railway freights will then come tumbling. Mr. J. J. Hill realizes this and he is preparing the Great Northern so as to reduce all grades to a minimum and make all curves as easy as possible. The realization that freights must be reduced has led the Grand Trunk Pacific to seek to get as near a level grade as possible and the Canadian Northern to do the same thing. With cheaper freight rates the trade of the Coast will be revolutionized, for we can expect with good cause to supply a large part of the merchandise used on the Prairies. Thanks to the provision of the Canadian Northern contract, which secures service to Victoria as an integral part of the Canadian Northern's transcontinental service, our merchants will be able to enjoy a full share of the good time coming.

DEFENDING CANADA

The reference herein is not to the defence of the Dominion with men or ships, but what can be done in that way with the pen. There are yet some people in the world who are unwilling to admit that Canada is a full of natural resources as she really is, and they write to the papers about it and try to take the conceit out of us. This is all very well, we suppose; and sometimes it is a blessing in disguise, for it causes some one to spring to the defence of the country's fair name with the result that what was intended to do an injury results into benefit. The following from the Lyttelton Times, of Christchurch, N. Z., illustrates this:

"The Canadians are nothing if not patriotic, and of course they have reason to be proud of their country. If the big dominion is attacked in print there are a dozen Canadians ready to defend it, and the London Journals ventured to disparage Canada's resources recently only gave the country an excellent advertisement. It was mildly suggested that, after all, Canada's resources did not compare very favorably with those of the United States. 'The principal natural resources in which Canada does really fall short,' stated an indignant Canadian, 'are yellow fever, destructive tornadoes and earthquakes.' The coal beds of the dominion, the authority tells us, embrace in all an area of 100,000 square miles, an area nearly equal to the whole extent of the British Isles. The richest deposits of coal are along the coasts, both east and west, as if put there by a wise Providence to supply the immense fleets of great ships which will soon be necessary to carry Canada's vast output of corn and other natural products to the Old World and to Asia. It is estimated by experts that the Crown's New Pass beds in the Rockies are capable of yielding 400,000,000 tons each century for the next 6000 years. The province of Alberta is 150 miles long by 400 miles wide, and the entire province is underlain with coal. Canada's richest areas in three times that of the United States. She has the greatest nickel mines in the world, and her rich wheat-growing areas are vastly greater than that of the United States. There is a great deal more of the same purpose in this 'letter of protest.' Canada has a land area of 3,618,818 square miles, and a water area, exclusive of the territorial seas, and the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes, of 125,758 square miles. Including Alaska and Hawaii, the total land and water area of the United States is 3,567,582 square miles. Canada, of course, has a big belt of territory that is not likely to be settled for a century to come, but in comparing the neighbors, it is worth remembering that the United States had a start of a century in the race of development.

HEALTH IN SCHOOLS

A great deal of attention is being given in many parts of the world to the medical inspection of school children. It has been ascertained that very much of what is thought to be dullness, and inattention on the part of pupils is the result of ill-health. We

find a very excellent article on this subject in the St. John Sun, from which we take the following extracts. Our cities are taking up this problem with vigor and intelligence. But much will have to be done before we even reach the ground that has long been passed over by many European cities. As usual Germany leads. She is first and the rest almost nowhere. A severe German led up the measles inspection is so thorough that, beginning with a child's entrance into the public schools, a record is kept of its physical condition up to the time of leaving. Parents are advised as to diet and other matters of home care. Children suffering from cardiac weakness, for example, are not permitted to join in violent games; teachers are urged to protect them from agitation; they are excluded from the usual physical exercise of the school and parents are warned of the danger to which they would be exposed by violent exercise or undue agitation. Children showing signs of pre-disposition to tuberculosis are provided with medicine and rest. Defective teeth are responsible for a great deal of pain among children of all classes but especially among the poor. They are the cause of serious diseases, troubles which handicap the children during their school life. Strabismus, Germany, has established dental clinics for the children and has treated free of cost to themselves, teeth filled, cleaned, extracted as they may require. Strabismus has carried this work further than any other city in Norway and Sweden the children are regularly examined and those needing it are provided with medicine and tonic free of charge. In Brussels the children are regularly examined once in ten days as to their eyes, ears, teeth, and general physical condition. Physical defects, experts assure us, are the real trouble in most cases which we inaccurately call stupidity, inattention, indifference to study, silliness, truancy and "general clumsiness." What the child fails to keep up, who drops out and takes to the street and to crime—what he often needs by way of punishment is not extra tasks, the birch, or the Industrial Home, but glasses to correct astigmatism, the removal of adenoids, or the service of a dentist.

We are quite in sympathy with the Sun when it says that the cost of carrying out such a system is a secondary consideration. The good that must result to the community at large will far outweigh any expense that might be incurred. The treatment of children is a new art. We are learning that many things can be explained on the ground of physical condition that were formerly attributed to mental weaknesses or moral perversion. We are learning that prevention is not only better than cure, but infinitely easier; and that the proverb that as the twig is bent the tree is inclined applies to the human mind and body quite as well as to such minor matters as tastes and habits.

It looks as though we may have something like a navy after all. Whatever else comes out of the British political crisis, the House of Lords will never be quite the same again.

The St. John Presbyterian declined to pass a resolution in opposition to the establishment of a Canadian navy. It would be an extraordinary thing if it had passed such a resolution.

The Daily Graphic, a strong Conservative paper, does not like the outlook. It complains of a lack of speaking ability and political tact among the leaders of the party. If a Canadian paper should say this, all manner of things would be charged against it by some people.

Mr. Balfour is unfortunate in being practically out of the campaign for the present at least. He may not wholly regret it, for things have got into such a shape that he would hardly know which way to turn. Mr. Balfour is not an extremist and this is a campaign of extremists.

Clear Up. Bewilderment was written in the face of the richly gowned lady that hurried into the elderly physician's office.

"Doctor Swallow," said she, "this morning I received your bill for ten dollars, and I can't understand it. Some time ago I settled our account and have had no occasion to consult you professionally since."

"Did I not call at your house one day since that?"

"Only at my guest at dinner, doctor! That was four weeks ago."

An apprehensive shade overspread the dignified physician's countenance, as quickly he withdrew his notebook from his pocket and rapidly fingered over the leaves.

"Here it is," said he, stopping at a certain page. "Dinner at Mrs. Penelope's. Invented. Eked out the hour by giving hostess my opinions on the digestibility of mustard pickles, scalloped oysters, and plum cake," and added the physician, "without thinking I annexed the amount of the bill which you have received. Madame, it should have been twenty-five."—Life.

Consolidated Leases. Notice is given in the current issue of the Gazette by Wilson & Bloomfield, of the intention of clients to apply for a special act at the coming session of the House consolidating certain valuable dredging leases on Willow creek, an auriferous affluent of the Fraser River.

MAKE THE MOST OF THIS LAST DAY FOR BUYING

JUST today left for the Christmas buying—start this minute to make your final purchase. The earlier you shop the better for yourself and us, and though we shall be open until late tonight we advise that you come in this morning. Yesterday was a big day in our China Store and dozens of lonely pieces testify to the big run on many assortments. These have been placed on the special value counters to clear today. Don't miss these counters—10c, 15c, 25c, 35c and 50c—values to double that amount are to be found on them. It'll pay you to come here first.

LADIES SHOULD USE OUR REST ROOM TODAY
Ladies—when you are tired from the rush and worry of shopping, come in and rest in our rest room on the second floor. You are welcome to make free use of this convenience whether a shopper at this store or not. Comfortably furnished with easy chairs, dressing-room, etc. Yours—so use it.

Big Show of Brass Goods
BRASS GOODS—A magnificent collection of brass goods this season—and such brass as this makes splendid gifts. Don't miss seeing these today.
POLISHED BRASS VASES, from 25c
HAMMERED BRASS FINGER BOWLS 75c
HAMMERED BRASS JARDINIERS \$4.50
MAHARADBAD COBRA CANDLE STICKS—quaint and artistic, at from, each \$1.25
BENARES BRASS TRAYS, for tea table use. Very handsome. Each at \$14.00

Ladies' Companions, \$3.00
These useful articles are rightly popular as gifts. The outfit consists of scissors, thimble, knife, bodkin, stiletto, etc. These are in a lined linen case of attractive appearance. From the famous Joseph Rodgers & Sons' factory. Set \$3.00

Sets of Scissors in leather cases—same make. Three pairs in case at \$3.50

Dinner Gongs, at \$6.00
This \$6.00 Gong is of very stylish design. Finely polished oak frame—silver-mounted with silver plated gong. Priced at, each \$6.00

Chafing Dishes, from \$7.50
What better than a Chafing Dish for a homekeeper or some young lady? Hundreds of dainty dishes easily and quickly prepared—after-theatre suppers, etc. Nickel-plated. At, from \$7.50

Meteor Coffee Percolators, \$10.00
These make a most delightful coffee clear as wine. A grand gift for a director of coffee. We have them in nickel-plated, brass and copper. Prices start at \$10.00

Art Electric Portable Lamps
We show some very handsome Art Mission Electric Portable Lamps. These lamps are great values at the prices marked. We have them from \$6.50

Mothers Would Like These:
Cotton Comforters, from \$1.00
Down Quilts, from \$5.50
Hearth Rugs, from \$1.25
Carpet Sweepers, from \$3.25
Art Table Covers 50c
Bed Spreads, from \$1.25
Tea Cloths, from \$1.00

Sideboard Scarfs 75c
Lace Curtains, pair 75c
Couch Covers \$3.75
Dining Table Covers \$2.50
Cushion Tops 50c
Linen Table Cloths \$2.00
Linen Napkins, dozen \$1.00
Reed Chairs \$3.50

Wicker Work Basket \$1.00
Hassocks, fr. \$1.50
Bedroom Rockers, at \$1.00
Morris Chairs, at \$9.00
China Cabinets \$20.00
Parlor Tables \$3.25
Tea Sets—40 pieces, at \$10.00
Carving Sets—3 pieces, at \$3.00
Camphor Wood Trunks, moth proof, for woollens and furs, at \$7.50

Mexican Drawn Linen 75c
Plant Stands—Weller made—strong, suitable for heavy plants \$3.50
Cake Curates \$2.50
Dinner Gongs \$6.00
Electric Lamps \$6.50

THE GIFT MOST DESIRED BY MOTHER

Silver Mounted Oak Trays \$3.25
MOST EVERY WOMAN—Homekeeper—has use for one of the stylish oak tea trays and we know of nothing more certain of a hearty reception. These prices make the choosing easy, \$6.00 down to \$3.25

Silver Fern Pots, \$2.50
NO OTHER STORE IN THE CITY can show such a wonderful choice of silver fern pots and none can show better values than are offered in our re-arranged silver department. Here is a gift that would be appreciated by any homekeeper—a stylish gift that would grace any home. And the prices will surprise you in their fairness. Come in and see the offerings at \$12.50 down to \$2.50

Napkin Rings, \$1
SOME OF THE NICEST and newest designs in Napkins—heavily silver plated—we have yet offered and at remarkably low prices. These are styles that will please you and make ideal Christmas gifts. Special value at each \$1.00

Silver Mugs for Children
WE SHOW some very attractive Silver Mugs that would delight the heart of a youngster, and the prices are so low that your purse will find it easy to let you have the pleasure of bringing such joy to some little one. Visit the Silver Shop and see what we can offer you at \$1.75, \$1.50 and \$1.00

WELLER'S
FIVE FLOORS OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS
THE MECCA FOR HOLIDAY SHOPPERS

Are you puzzled what to give?

There is no gift that is so acceptable and lasts so long as good silverware. That's the kind we sell. We guarantee every piece. We would like to show you some of our newest designs in tea sets, berry dishes, salad bowls, sugar bowls, cake plates, baking dishes, etc. CITY'S BEST VALUES

Wedgwood Salad Sets, at \$4.00
A gift suggestion worth investigating. Some very attractive Salad Sets from this famous pottery, 14-piece set—bowl, platter and 12 plates—from, per set \$4.00

Wedgwood Broth Sets, at \$3.50
These Broth or Beef Tea Sets would make a splendid gift for some invalid friend. From the Wedgwood pottery. Consists of salt, pepper, covered bowl, plate and tray. Per set \$3.50

China Pudding Bowls, \$5.00
We have some very handsome China Pudding Bowls in the Dresden and Saxe decorations. Prices start at \$5.00

Embroidered Pillow Slips
A pair of these dainty Mt. Mellick Hand-embroidered Linen Pillow Slips would make an acceptable gift to some homekeeper or some prospective keeper of a home. Very fine. Per pair \$9.00

Embroidered Top Sheets of same quality at, each \$5.00
Down Comforts for Babies, \$2.50
Give the baby one of these Down Comforts—send it to the mother and she'll bless you. Famous Mellock made—none better. Hand-somely covered \$2.50

Three-Piece China Tea Sets, \$1
FOR THIS FIGURE and also at \$1.25 per set, we show many dainty sets. The china is of excellent quality and the decorations are very artistic and attractive. Few gift things at the price equalled. Set consists of teapot, sugar and cream. Priced at \$1.25 and \$1.00

Dinner Sets from \$7.50 to \$230
SEND HOME a Dinner Set today and delight the heart of your wife and your guests. Price needn't prevent you, for we make that matter easy. And the choosing is easy too—from this magnificent collection of beautiful dinner sets in and see what we can offer from, per set, \$130.00 down to \$7.50

Salad Bowls, from \$7.00
A very popular style for the salad bowl. These are attractively silver mounted. Choice of porcelain, oak highly polished. Complete with servers. Priced at from \$15.00 to \$7.00

Liquor Frames at \$8.50
Many attractive styles in liquor frames. These frames have 3 bottles, and the frame is so constructed that a lock securely protects the contents. Priced from \$18.00 to \$8.50

Oak Butter Dishes, \$3.00
In these we have some splendid examples. Such ware has been popular for this use. You'll have to come lively to get one. Prices are easy. We have them at \$3.50 and \$3.00

Biscuit Barrels, \$3.50
In Biscuit Barrels we show some very attractive pieces and the price range permits much choice. Stylish designs and finely finished. These are priced from \$6.00 to \$3.50

Silver Fern Pots, \$2.50
NO OTHER STORE IN THE CITY can show such a wonderful choice of silver fern pots and none can show better values than are offered in our re-arranged silver department. Here is a gift that would be appreciated by any homekeeper—a stylish gift that would grace any home. And the prices will surprise you in their fairness. Come in and see the offerings at \$12.50 down to \$2.50

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CHRISTMAS

Not very many people selves today about the how the date corresponds season of the year when least of all the children to of us devote the day. What Christmas was, but be, as the wise people of tion of an ancient heathen poses of the Christian C felt it wise to engraft tices of heathendom, wh harmless, upon the new the occasion to the com birth of its Founder, the new converts altogether, early fathers were not be exact in fixing the da things are proper eno other times, but not at do not make the least way or the other, but the excellent folk, who every straight-edge and all th have no use for curves but just as Hogarth to curve was the emblem, everybody knew it bef in those things which w we must make use of best results. In long ce been taken out of thing very way line that we if we would trace Chr when there was born i hem a Baby Boy, whos makes it all the more we trace it, we would course the sentiment of Highest, and on Earth Men." Even in the rug our rude, but virile an nut-brown ale, while th the hearth; or in later ers, with clanging of shi zy, hurled defiance at whom they sought to the Child of Bethlehem later, when monasticis tanism had robbed the outward evidences of Perhaps there were tim love found the dark d manity difficult to pe sun was there; ever in earthwards, and ever in a glow of its divine fir days, when the altar finds an echo in the bre Day is the season of L sure there is sorrow, su malice in the world; b rolling before the splendou finally away. The divi ting more and more of years roll on, and we fidence to the glory of ciple for which Christm the world.

Christmas Day is a of them are sad, but m Even with the former ness, for when on this who have left us forev was good about them for our memory of ot of grief never fell into barren. Christmas Day men without hope," f religious faith may be, cular religious faith at in the atmosphere, at touches and sanctifies are unconscious of its ing nowadays many t generation would have ings. We know that We may not try to na as well that we should they are active forces wireless telegraphy b that there is a that sways human mi that nothing dies; th energy is not confine and we are beginning of the human soul are as eternal as the forced ial world. So we ar that the sentiment th of Christmas is having upon mankind, and th it, is steadily growin improvement may not us would like-it-to-be, lible rule whereby it's ated, namely, that eac him or her lies to an ought to be and to ke hearts until the next s

There are some peo to whom Christmas They are not so nume but they are too num chiefly people who h were once children much that they punishment for t refusing to believe Claus. But the most mas, and you good s club today, and you light your cigar a let your memory go b the first grey hair sh long before you kn matters, to which you

Anniversary with the Editor

Are you puzzled what to give?



Give Silverware

There is no gift that is so acceptable and lasts so long as good silverware. That's the kind we sell. We guarantee every piece. We would like to show you some of our newest designs in tea sets, berry dishes, salad bowls, sugar bowls, cake plates, baking dishes, etc. CITY'S BEST VALUES

Wedgwood Salad Sets, at \$4.00
Suggestion worth investigation. Some very attractive Salad from this famous pottery. 14-cup set—bowl, platter and 12 spoons—per set \$4.00

Wedgwood Broth Sets, at \$3.50
Broth or Beef Tea Sets would be a splendid gift for some in-ly friend. From the Wedgwood factory. Consists of salt, pepper, red bowl, plate and tray. Per set \$3.50

China Pudding Bowls, \$5.00
Have some very handsome China Pudding Bowls in the Dresden and decorations. Prices start at \$5.00

Embroidered Pillow Slips
For of these dainty Mt. Mellick and-embroidered Linen Pillow Slips would make an acceptable gift to some housekeeper or some spective keeper of a home. Per pair \$9.00

Embroidered Pillow Slips
For of these dainty Mt. Mellick and-embroidered Linen Pillow Slips would make an acceptable gift to some housekeeper or some spective keeper of a home. Per pair \$9.00

China Tea Sets, \$1
Also at \$1.25 per set, we show many sets of excellent quality and the artistic and attractive. Few gift things can offer from, per set, \$230.00 down to \$1.00

from \$7.50 to \$230
Set today and delight the heart of a friend. Price most reasonable, for easy. And the choosing is easy too. A collection of beautiful patterns. Come can offer from, per set, \$230.00 down to \$7.50

Oak Butter Dishes, \$3.00
In these we have some splendid examples. Such ware has been popular for this use. You'll have to step lively to get one. Prices are set at \$3.00

Biscuit Barrels, \$3.50
In Biscuit Barrels we show some very attractive pieces and the price range permits much choice. Stylish designs and finely finished. These are priced from \$6.00 to \$3.50

Painted Oak Trays \$3.25
Homekeeper—has use for one of these and we know of nothing more certain. These prices make the choosing \$3.25

Fern Pots, \$2.50
THE CITY can show such a wonderful pots and none can show better values re-arranged silver department. Here be appreciated by any housekeeper—d grace any home. And the prices will fairness. Come in and see the offerings \$2.50

Polkin Rings, \$1
Best and newest designs in Napkins and we have yet offered and at these. These are styles that will please Christmas gifts. Special value at \$1.00

Mugs for Children
Attractive Silver Mugs that would delight a youngster, and the prices are so little and it easy to let you have the pleasure to some little one. Visit the Silver can offer you at \$1.75, \$1.50 and \$1.00

CHRISTMAS.

Not very many people will trouble themselves today about the origin of Christmas or how the date corresponds with the probable season of the year when Jesus was born, and least of all the children to whose pleasure most of us devote the day. The great thing is not what Christmas was, but what it is. It may be, as the wise people tell us, only an adaptation of an ancient heathen holiday to the purposes of the Christian Church, whose leaders felt it wise to engraft some of the old practices of heathendom, which were in themselves harmless, upon the new religion, and devote the occasion to the commemoration of the birth of its Founder, than to antagonize their new converts altogether. It may be that these early fathers were not especially careful to be exact in fixing the date of the event. These things are proper enough for discussion at other times, but not at Christmas Day. They do not make the least bit of difference one way or the other, but there are a lot of super-excellent folk, who are never quite satisfied unless they have everything drawn with a straight-edge and all the angles exact. They have no use for curves in history or religion, but just as Hogarth told us that in art the curve was the emblem of beauty, although everybody knew it before he said so, so also in those things which make for our happiness we must make use of "curves" if we want the best results. In long centuries the angles have been taken out of things. Doubtless it is a very wavy line that we would have to follow, if we would trace Christmas back to the day, when there was born in the stable in Bethlehem a Baby Boy, whose influence is the most potent factor in the world today; but that makes it all the more beautiful, for wherever we trace it, we would find lying along its course the sentiment of "Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth Peace, Good Will to Men." Even in the rugged days of old, when our rude, but virile ancestors drank deep of nut-brown ale, while the Yule log blazed upon the hearth; or in later days when the Crusaders, with clanging of shields and shouts of frenzy, hurled defiance at the Saracen foe, from whom they sought to rescue the place where the Child of Bethlehem was buried; even yet later, when monasticism and later still, Puritanism had robbed the day of many of its outward evidences of joy, it was the same. Perhaps there were times when the sunlight of love found the dark clouds hanging over humanity difficult to penetrate; but ever the sun was there; ever its beams were directed earthwards, and ever in men's hearts there was a glow of its divine fire. And in these latter days, when the anthem of the Angel Choir finds an echo in the breasts of us all, Christmas Day is the season of Love Triumphant. To be sure there is sorrow, suffering, hate, envy, and malice in the world; but like the mists, which are fly before the splendour of the dawn, they are rolling away. The divine sunshine is illuminating more and more of the dark places as the years roll on, and we look forward with confidence to the glory of midday, when the principle for which Christmas Day stands will rule the world.

Christmas Day is a day of memories. Some of them are sad, but most of them are joyous. Even with the former there is a little brightness, for when on this day we remember those who have left us forever, we recall only what was good about them. The world is better for our memory of our sorrows; if the rain of grief never fell into our lives they might be barren. Christmas Day bids us sorrow "not as men without hope," for no matter what our religious faith may be, or if we have no particular religious faith at all, there is something in the atmosphere at this season, which touches and sanctifies everything, even if we are unconscious of its influence. We are learning nowadays many things that to a former generation would have seemed foolish imaginings. We know that there are occult forces. We may not try to name them, and it is just as well that we should not; but we know that they are active forces. We know there is a wireless telegraphy between human hearts; that there is a spiritual hypnotism that sways human minds. We have learned that nothing dies; that the conservation of energy is not confined to inanimate things; and we are beginning to realize that the forces of the human soul are as real, as efficient, and as eternal as the forces that control the material world. So we are justified in assuming that the sentiment that inspires the rejoicings of Christmas is having a permanent influence upon mankind, and that the world, because of it, is steadily growing better. Perhaps the improvement may not be as rapid as some of us would like it to be, but there is one inflexible rule whereby its progress can be accelerated, namely, that each of us will do what in him or her lies, to make Christmas what it ought to be and to keep its fires alight in our hearts until the next season comes round.

There are some people, one is sorry to say, to whom Christmas means but very little. They are not so numerous as they used to be; but they are too numerous yet. They are chiefly people, who have forgotten that they were once children. They miss so much that they provide their own punishment for their foolishness in refusing to believe in the spirit of Santa Claus. But the most of us believe in Christmas, and you good sir, who will sit in your club today, and vote the rest of us absurd, just let your memory go back to a day long before the first grey hair showed itself in your head, long before you knew anything about those matters, to which you look for your pleasures

nowadays, and recall a little fellow you used to know. Fine little chap he was. He did not know much, but he believed a great deal. He was only certain of a few things. One was that Father was much the greatest man in all the world; another was that angels must be something like Mother, only not quite so good, and that there was a good spirit called Santa Claus, whose performances were a thousand times more wonderful than all the marvels of modern science about which you read in the papers and magazines. You remember that little chap. You remember how he could hardly go to sleep on Christmas Eve, so full his heart was of what tomorrow would bring forth, and yet feared to stay awake lest he might see something that he ought not to. You remember with what tremors of the heart (tremors of joy of course), he went downstairs in the morning, to see what the glorious night had brought forth. You remember the little chap wanted to love everyone, and that for the time being the world was resonant with joy. That little chap was you; yes, sir! You, who now sit over the fire and watch the smoke as it curls from your cigar. Now, be honest with yourself, and confess if all you have done and got and learned since then make up for what you have lost because you have let the spirit of Christmas die out of your heart. But this is not all there is to say to you; for you will not have learned the lesson of memory aught if you do not feel within you a glow of something like that which made all the world seem bright in those far off times.

There is no need to say anything to parents and children who make of Christmas what it ought to be. They know more about it than words can put on paper. They know that of all our institutions Christmas is the one that could be least spared, not only for what it is, but for what it implies. They know that in proportion as they enter into the spirit of the day, they become more like Him, whose nativity it commemorates. They will join with us in saying, Long live Christmas; may its hold upon the hearts of the people grow stronger and stronger until the time shall come when its message will be the greatest influence upon all our lives.

THE CHRISTIAN ERA.

The Christian Era was established in Italy sometime in the Sixth Century, by Dionysius the Little, a Roman Abbot. It did not come into general use in Christendom until a century or more afterwards. Dionysius reckoned backward to fix the year of the birth of Christ, and his investigations led him to the conclusion that this took place in the twelfth month beginning on January 1st, in the fourth year of the 194th Olympiad, which corresponded with the 753rd year after the legendary founding of Rome, and the 4714th year of the Julian period. It is hardly necessary to say that the Olympiads were the periods between the Olympic games. The Julian period was devised by a statistician named Scalizer, in 1582. It is based on certain astronomical facts. Previous to the institution of the Christian Era, and after the disuse of the Olympiad and the Roman system, date in Latin countries were fixed by what was known as in the Cycle of Indiction, which was a period fixed for the performance of certain judicial acts by the Emperors at Constantinople. This was not established until the year 313. Therefore, it follows, that there is no measure of time previous to the Sixth Century of our era, by which dates can be settled without more or less calculation.

Indeed, for a very long period after the invention of the Christian Era a great deal of disagreement existed as to when it ought to be considered as beginning. Dionysius, its inventor, fixed the beginning at the Feast of the Annunciation, which was March 25. This prevailed universally for some time, and in some parts of Italy it was followed as late as 1745. Other ecclesiastical authorities held that the year ought to begin at Easter, others preferred March 1st. In France Easter was regarded as the beginning of the year as late as the Sixteenth Century. In Germany and in some parts of Italy the year was regarded as beginning at Christmas as late in some places as the Fifteenth Century. In England Christmas was regarded as the beginning of the year up to the Thirteenth Century, when Annunciation Day was established as the beginning, and it was so continued until 1752, when January 1st was fixed as the time. A relic of the ancient practice in regard to the beginning of the year is shown by the fact that the Church of England dates its ecclesiastical year from the First Sunday in Advent. English historians always have reckoned the year as beginning on January 1st. An illustration of the confusion arising out of this uncertainty as to when the year begun is afforded by the invasion of England by William of Orange. This is popularly called the Revolution of 1688. Stated in terms of our existing chronology, it took place in 1689.

The Christian Era had not been long in use before it was observed that the Equinoxes did not always fall on the same dates. Pope Sextus IV commissioned an astronomer to adjust the Calendar, so as to make the years coincide with the Equinoxes, but the latter died before he completed his work, which remained in abeyance until Pope Gregory XIII appointed Aloysius Lilius, an astronomer and physician, to complete it. The result was the establishment of the Gregorian Calendar, which is that now in use in Christendom.

Gregory, after the necessary calculations had been completed, ordered that October 5, 1582, should be considered to be October 15, 1582. The Gregorian Calendar is a very remarkable piece of work. It provides for leap year, so as to adjust dates to astronomical events; but

this leaves a margin of error, and to obviate this, certain years, which would otherwise be leap years, only have 365 days. The year 1900 was one of these. The next will be 2100.

Other eras than those above mentioned have been used. Among them are: The Era of Creation, which has been arbitrarily fixed at 4004 B.C. There is not the slightest reason for supposing this to be correct. Over two hundred separate calculations have been made from Biblical records, and they vary from 3483 years before Christ to 6984 years.

The Jewish Era begins from a date assigned to the Creation, which was 3760 years before Christ. This calculation was made in the Fifteenth Century.

The Era of Constantinople, which is the ecclesiastical year of the Greek Church, and was the civil year in Russia until the time of Peter the Great, begins at the supposed time of the Creation, which for the purposes of this era was estimated to have occurred 5509 years before Christ.

The Era of Alexandria was that used by the Alexandrian Christians, and dated from what they supposed was the time of Creation, or 5503 years before Christ.

The Mundane Era of Antioch was of the same nature, but it placed Creation in 5492 B. C.

The Era of Nabonassar, was of ancient origin: It began on Wednesday, February 26, 747 B. C. It was a scientific Era, based on astronomy.

The Macedonian Era dated from 311 B. C., with the Macedonian Seleucus conquered Babylon.

The Era of Alexander, that of Tyre, the Caesarian Era of Antioch, the Caesarian Era of Spain, the Era of Actum, the Augustan Era the Era of Diocletian, and of the Armenians have all had a temporary vogue.

The Mohammedan Era dates from the flight of the Prophet from Mecca to Medina in A. D. 622. The Era of Yezdegard, in use in Persia, dates from June 16, A. D. 632.

Chinese definite Chronology begun in 2000 B. C., they measure time by astronomical cycles of sixty years each. This cycle has also been used in India since 3185 B. C.

TO THE LONELY ONES

Contributed.

A Happy Christmas to "You." "You" may only have arrived in this big, sparsely populated-country within the last few weeks, and have not yet found your niche among your "own kind." To "You," a Canadian born and bred gives hearty greeting. . . . Would that "you" out in your lonely lodging or shack, as the case might be—and say "come and have your Christmas dinner with us, and talk about" my people "to your heart's content."

There is an element of sadness in Christmas in this new land, so engrossed are its people in the process of building. . . . Why can't one fling convention to the winds, and seek out those who are lonely and friendless! Perhaps you are here because you "made a mess of things, at home," but if we could unearth the story which led to the migration to Canada of some of our own ancestors we might find that the finest among them, the men who struggled against overwhelming odds, through loneliness and discouragement, and who won our heritage for us, were the scape-graces of some English county family, who had been "sent down" from Oxford, only to be sent out to Canada! Don't pay any attention to the arant nonsense that is talked about the prejudice against Englishmen in Canada. . . . For the truth is that Canada is not only the melting-pot of Nations but the forge where conflicting elements in the way of social castes are moulded into one. . . . and the process is rather trying to the material under the anvil, at times! but it all resolves itself into the good old maxim, "A Man is a Man, whatever his class." . . . To misquote a Scotch saying . . .

Will "you" believe that in one home at least, the toast of the "lonely one" is given, by a Canadian who realises what the making of our country exacts from individuals? If "you" are the lonely one, this Christmas, know that a greeting, sincere and tender, is winning its way to "You."

One knows that it has taken a pretty stiff resolve on your part to come all this way from the old home, and family ties, to start out on "Your own." Luck may appear to be against you are nothing but a round peg, trying to fit into an extraordinary square hole! But pluck up courage. "Right Oh!" is the word, your niche will be found before long, another Christmas and you will be the welcome guest, of those, whose only regret will be that it was not your first Christmas in Canada which was spent in their home.

Perhaps you are expecting letters which have not arrived, but they are on their way—and they have many miles to travel and many hands to pass through. Sweethearts and mothers don't forget. Your tobacco may have an acrid flavor, and the chimney may smoke as hard as you do! Rations may be scanty and thoughts of other Christmas days many. Never mind, it will all be over in a day or two, and in the rough and tumble of the fight you will forget. Here in this far outpost of a great Empire a prayer goes heavenward from one who has seen "your sort win out in the end, that strength may be given for independence."

"Stick it out," "You" are not forgotten, you are only ungettable.

A Century of Fiction

XIII.

(N. de Bertrand Lugren)

CHARLES DICKENS.

Many of us believe that the personality of a strong man or woman can have no real death, but must continue to exist as a potential agency in some form or another long after the body has been buried and reduced to dust. To us it seems an incredible, nay, more, an impossible thing, for death to end the almost unlimited energy that animates the mind and the body of the greatest of our thinkers and actors; and we feel sure that the energy, which during the lifetime of the body that contained it wielded an influence upon the world, must still hold a place in it. The stronger, the nobler the personality, the more deeply and for the greater length of time must this influence last.

This is true of all the leaders of the various great religious cults. To their followers, in many cases, the master still exists; and, because the disciples have felt the nameless force of a personality, the likeness of which has long since vanished, they implicitly and unquestionably believe in the existence of him they reverence, though they have no proof that they are right beyond that furnished by the undeniable force of their own convictions. For example those of us who have taken Jesus Christ as the model by which we try to pattern our lives, can say, without compromising ourselves in the least, that Jesus lives, for to us he does live, inasmuch as the influence he exerted while he was here has grown steadily wider and stronger.

While this is true of the greatest of our teachers, the wisest of our leaders, it is no less true of those, who, if of not quite so mighty a calibre, nevertheless stand out from among the enormous rank and file of humanity in the white light of justly earned fame. Among those we number our famous composers, our soul-stirring musicians, our statesmen, our poets, our painters and our novelists. In this latter class there is one the spirit of whom, to those who know his works well, seems to especially preside over some of the simplest, the holiest, the best of our pleasures, and of those pleasures we, who though old in years can yet thank God for the youth in our hearts, number Christmas time as the happiest, the brightest, the merriest of them all.

There have been greater writers than Charles Dickens, more scholarly, more rhetorical writers; but among the scores of them there is not one who has succeeded in touching our hearts quite so surely, as this man who wrote only of sane, simple everyday affairs, and sane, simple everyday people; and never forgot for a moment that heaven-born faculty of us all to see the humorous side of things, the faculty that helps to carry us over the roughest places in life. Moreover he showed the just balance that always exists between happiness and sadness, between smiles and tears, helping us to believe the very best of our fellow-men, and inspiring us with a stronger desire to trust in God.

Dickens did not write of sex problems, probably never thought of them. His characters had no complex emotions, that led to inextricable complications. His stories are stories of real life, as happily the most of us know it, and his characters are real men and women with feelings and instincts totally unperverted by abnormal desires; quite unlike those men and women with whom we meet in our modern novels, who, satiated by sensations, rack their bodies and brains to find a new one at the cost of health and sanity.

So we choose Dickens today as the one writer among the many who has best typified the Christmas spirit, who, in fact, has been given the credit of inventing the modern Christmas, such a lover was he of little children, such a sympathetic brother to the suffering, such a believer in the innate kindness and goodness of everybody. "Half an hour of him," said an able critic, "is worth a lifetime of his self-conscious analyzers, and the world is a more cheerful and sympathetic world, because of the loving and lovable presence in it of Charles Dickens." And the time of the great novelist's death some one wrote in the public press in regard to his Christmas tales as follows: "He has not only pleased us—he has softened the hearts of a whole generation. He made charity fashionable; he awakened pity in the heart of sixty millions of people. He made a whole generation keep Christmas with acts of helpfulness to the poor; and every barefooted boy and girl in the streets of England and America today fares a little better, gets fewer cuffs and more pudding, because Charles Dickens wrote." Surely no epitaph could be better than this.

Dickens was born at Landport, in Portsea, in February, 1812. It was of his own unhappy childhood that he wrote when he described the sorrows of little David Copperfield. In fact, most of his characters were drawn from real life, his own father and mother and his wife figuring in many of them. His descriptions of Marshalsea prison were taken from his own experience while his father was imprisoned there for debt. Those were very hard times for the Dickens family, and Charles, who was a delicate, sensitive lad, felt the disgrace and the humiliation very poignantly. They lived in a miserable quarter of the town, and the boy used to wait on his father in prison. These words from David Copperfield exactly describe the conditions of the young Dickens:

"No words can express the secret agony of my soul as I sunk into this companionship—

would not be here to spin the yarn to incredulous shore folk. When it cleared we learned and distinguished man crushed in my breast. The deep remembrance of the sense I had of being utterly neglected and hopeless, of the shame I felt in my position; of the misery it was to my young heart to believe that, day by day, what I had learned, and thought, and delighted in, and raised my fancy and my emulation up by, was passing away from me, never to be brought back again, cannot be written. My whole nature was so penetrated with the grief and humiliation of such considerations, that even now, famous and caressed and happy, I often forget in my dreams, that I have a dear wife and children; even that I am a man; and I wander desolately back to that time of my life."

But good fortune came to him later, and when he was nineteen he began his career as a journalist. Four years after this he published his "Sketches by Boz," which won him instant recognition; and when two years later his "Pickwick Papers" appeared, it brought him fame to its author and a goodly sum of money as well. The year previous he had married Miss Catherine Hogarth, who was the original Dora in David Copperfield, and in later years became the Flora in "Little Dorrit." From this period for forty-three years Dickens never ceased to write until his death, which occurred very suddenly, without the least warning, on the 9th of June, 1870. He left behind him an uncompleted novel, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."

On page 3 will be found some quotations from the writings of this master appropriate to the day.

THE COSMOPOLITAN SANTA.

By C. L. Armstrong.

Now children, gather near the fire
And I will tell you how
Old Santa Claus goes 'round the world
And makes his merry bow
In every land where boys and girls
Are good as they can be;
For this old saint speaks ev'ry tongue
Unknown to you and me.
In Germany, the Fatherland,
"Kris Kringle," he is called.
'Tis there his toys are made for him
Which 'round the world are hauled.
In Holland, where the children wear
Queer Sabots, made of wood,
They call him "Sunder Klass" and old
"Sint Niklaas" the good.
In Switzerland, where mountains high
Are piled, all topped with snow,
They speak of "Samilliklaus" and hang
Thick stockings in a row.
Heiligland knows "Sonner Klas,"
Voralberg "Zemmglass" knows,
While "Elka" (fir tree) is his name
Amid the Russian snows.
Alsace-Lorraine—a funny name—
Refers to "Knecht Dupreck."
Bohemian children know him, too;
They call him "Jerick."
In La Belle France, "Le Bon Papa"
Brings toys, and good things, too.
In Austria he is "Niklo,"
Which sometimes is "Nigloo."
In Italy, where sun and flowers
Enrich the Christmas cheer,
They hail him as "Babino" and
Watch for him ev'ry year.
"Givaskas" (little star)
By Polish babes is seen;
While Scandinavian boys and girls
Are watchful for "Kristine."
'Juuenissen" in Denmark gives
The youngsters joyful cause
For merry-making. Irish children
Know "Niamb Nicklaus."
And thus, you see, the good saint all
About the world doth run,
Dispensing Christmas cheer; and now
My little tale is done.

THINK BEFORE YOU STRIKE.

Many are familiar with an old story of a merchant travelling on horseback, accompanied by his dog. He dismounted, and accidentally dropped a package of money. The dog saw it, the man did not. The dog barked to stop him, and as he rode farther, bounded in front of the horse and barked louder and louder. The merchant thought he had gone mad and shot him. The wounded dog crawled back to the package, and when the merchant discovered his loss and rode back, he found the dying dog beside the package. Another tale is told which adds force to the thought—Think before you strike any creature that cannot speak.

When I was young and lived up in the mountains of New Hampshire, says the narrator, I worked for a farmer who gave me a span of horses to plow with. One of them was a four-year-old colt.

The colt, after walking a few steps, would lie down in the furrow. The farmer was provoked, and told me to sit on the colt's head, to keep him from rising while he whipped him "to break him off that notion," as he said.

But just then a neighbor came by. He said, "There is something wrong here. Let him get up and let us find out what is the matter."

He patted the colt, looked at the harness, and then said, "Look at this collar. It is so long and narrow, and carries the harness so high, that when he begins to pull it slips back and chokes him so that he can't breathe."

So it was; and but for that neighbor we should have whipped as good a creature as we had on the farm, because he lay down when he could not breathe.

THE VICTORIA COLONIST

PROVINCIAL HAPPENINGS

Dr. H. Young is the new coroner for Prince Rupert. Ladysmith bachelors are giving a New Year's ball. Burnaby has formally organized a district board of trade.

The Crown's Nest company payroll for November, exceeded \$170,000. Vancouver's "newspapers" are to be formally dined today as the guests of the Terminal City's three daily papers.

Scores of valuable dogs at Whitehorse have been destroyed of late by a poisoner. Tobacco Plains swashes are to celebrate New Year's with a big potlatch and war dance.

Miss May Tully, a former Nanaimo girl, is making a marked success in Vancouver, on the stage. Hon. Justice Murphy is spending Christmas at his former home in Aschcroft.

Macdonald, Marpole & Co., of Vancouver are applying for a foreshore grant on False cove. Tramway service on the North Arm road, South Vancouver, was inaugurated yesterday.

Dangerous showers of rocks, the result of careless blasting, continue to alarm Prince Rupert residents. Vancouver's Mount Pleasant Baptists have laid the corner stone of a handsome new church edifice.

A change in temperature of 36 degrees in a single week is reported from Chilliwack, the result of a sudden chinook. The funeral of the late Carol Livingston took place in Quamichan last Tuesday, services being held at St. Peter's church.

Vancouver has received an expert report from Chicago that wood blocks are now favored by the best authorities as paving material. The E. C. Electric company has put on a double service between Vancouver and New Westminster during the holidays.

Representatives of the financial house of A. E. Melius Jarvis & Co., of Toronto are investigating the investments offering in New Westminster. The Kaslo-Slocan district mines have produced more ore tonnage during the present year than in any previous twelvemonth.

Negotiations are proceeding for the double-tracking of Columbia street, New Westminster's principal business thoroughfare. Frank Slavin of Victoria is organizing a company to exploit the Itardor country, where rich placer discoveries have recently been made.

Ellis Casley, local manager for the telephone company at Duncan, sustained painful injuries to his eye, by falling from the top of one of the line poles. Bert Taylor, a miner, had a narrow escape from death in an accident at the Venus mine, while carelessly handling the old story of drilling a missed hole.

Donaldu Burns is reported to have purchased the Byron farm at Ladner, paying \$230 per acre for 160 acres. The property adjoins the Past Burns ranch on the river. It is expected that a decision on the instant case of the New Westminster general hospital will be reached at a meeting to be held on the 27th instant.

trains will be run daily on the Chilliwack line. The farmers of Pitt Meadows met last evening to consider a proposal to replace the present wooden bridge with more substantial structures of concrete and wood.

G. R. Smith, popularly known as "Cap" Smith, for the past ten years prominently connected with the Granby mines at Phoenix, has left for Arizona. The Granby November shipments constituted a record—113,736 tons.

D. J. Matheson is opposing J. G. McKeown for the majority of Phoenix. January 13 is election day for the city of Revelstoke. \$50 has been collected of the \$500 required to finance the new Pentiction brass band.

The piling is now practically complete on the new Okanagan river bridge. New Westminster has sold \$104,000 worth of its bonds at par to George Stimson & Co. of Toronto. Gibson Yarrow, for twenty years a respected resident of Nanaimo is dead.

Nanaimo's city council has passed a bylaw to provide \$100,000 for a sewerage system. New Westminster's \$4,000 debenture issued for advertising purposes has been declared illegal. The Ratepayers' Association will meet next week to complete ticket in the field for the municipal elections.

A meeting to form a board of trade for the municipality of Burnaby was held at Burnaby last evening. A branch of the Bank of Hamilton is to be opened with the new year at Milner, Langley Prairie. The marriage was celebrated in Nelson last Monday of August E. Hanson and Miss Jessie Margaret Peterson.

Otto Kron and Miss Nellie Swanson were in Nelson last Monday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Kron, Rev. J. A. Levin officiating. W. H. May and William J. Dick have tied for the support of the Ratepayers' Association in their struggle for the majority of North Vancouver.

The marriage was solemnized in Cranbrook last Saturday of William Harlow and Mary Wilson Macdonald, Rev. C. O. Main officiating. Edward Bates charged with the theft of a gold watch and chain from H. N. Merriam of Field, is to take a speedy trial before Judge Wilson today.

Police Chief Cory Dew, of Cranbrook, demands an investigation by the local police commissioners of the charges preferred against him by "The Searchlight". The coroner's jury investigating the unfortunate death of James S. Hurst the aged Vancouverite killed by a Pender street car in the fog on Monday night, has returned a verdict of accidental death.

While suffering intense depression, as a result of continued illness, Mrs. Warrender Ross of Rivers Inlet, committed suicide last week by poisoning the unfortunate woman was a bride of two months. The Consolidated Mining & Smelting company of Trail is intending to build an aerial tramway to bring its ore down the hill to Boundary Falls, where a large concentrator is to be erected.

John Semko has been awarded \$1,200 damages from the B. C. Electric Railway Co. in consequence of the killing of his cow at Central Park some time ago. The company did not dispute liability for damages, but left the amount to be determined by the court. A petition hearing the requisite number of signatures has been forwarded to Ottawa to secure the establishment of a corps of engineers at a reserve case in the matter of the Vancouver unit of Canada's militia establishment.

The Provincial police had reports yesterday that an East Indian gambler was running a game in South Vancouver. It is alleged that there are more than one thousand idle East Indians in and about Vancouver, who spend the greater part of their time at this house, where over 100 have sleeping quarters. Prince Rupert is moving to secure a first class hospital, the urgent need for which is daily apparent. Last week an operation for appendicitis was of necessity performed in the hotel dining room. The patient, a lady, is making satisfactory progress toward recovery.

One more appeal has been listed for hearing by the new court when it sits in this city on the 4th proximo. Hon. Justice Morrison having granted a reserve case in the matter of the conviction of two Vancouver Chinese for chicken stealing. The appealing Chinese are represented by Sir Charles Hilbert Stupper, and have given cash bail of \$4,000. Charlie Dunn, whose home is in Victoria, and who for some time past has been employed as engineer on the coastal steamer Edith, has met death by drowning at Rivers Inlet, while enjoying a day's hunting. He was crossing an inlet in rough water, when his canoe capsized. Thomas Knowling had a thrilling and serious adventure last week when for three days he was wandering in the hills about the woods of Kalien Island. Cold, hunger and anxiety brought the lost man to a most unhappy condition. In the opinion of medical men, however, he has sustained no permanent injury. The B. C. Electric Railway company is to spend \$500,000 in New Westminster during the ensuing season—in new rolling stock, additions to the carshops, etc. Four electric trolley passenger and 100 extra freight cars are to be secured. Two milk

VICTORIA MEN BUY

Acquire Fifteen Acres of Land at Nanaimo for the purpose of Subdivision.

NANAIMO, Dec. 24.—A deal in real estate has been consummated whereby the late Mr. J. H. Brown has sold the city limits becomes the property of Victoria investors. There are some fifteen acres of land, and the site is situated between the Nanaimo cemetery and Wentworth street. It is understood that it will be subdivided into the early spring as city lots.

HOLD-UP AT NANAIMO

Young Man Knocked Unconscious With Revolver and Robbed By Some Unknown Thug.

NANAIMO, Dec. 24.—While returning home from Chase River on Wednesday evening, Alfred Wardell, of this city, was attacked by a highwayman, who, after knocking him unconscious, relieved him of \$38 in cash and a diamond watch. The man, who is a young man, was returning to the city after escorting his aunt, who lives at Chase River, safely to her home. The highwayman, who was wearing a dark coat and a cap, was seen by Wardell as he approached from behind him, and upon turning round he saw the man with a revolver in his hands of a tall, powerfully built man.

TEHUANTEPEC LEADS

Mexican Railroad at Present Carrying 100,000 Tons of Freight a Week.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Wm. E. Curtis, writing for the Record, says: "The Tehuantepec railroad, says Curtis, is the most important in the world, the railways owned by the Mexican government across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. It is the only one between the two oceans that the railroad owned by the government of the United States across the Isthmus of Panama. The Tehuantepec railroad is 190 miles long. The Panama railroad is 170 miles long. The Tehuantepec rates are the same, which is undoubtedly the reason for the difference. Another difference is that the Tehuantepec is a freight line, while the Panama is a passenger line. The Tehuantepec is maintained at present, and its ordinary commercial patronage is sacrificed for that reason, being maintained as a public service rather than for profit. When the canal is completed there will be little use for the Panama railway as a freight carrying railway."

BUSINESS-LIKE BURGLARS

Seize Vancouver Clothier's Finest Stock and Remove it With an Automobile.

Vancouver burglars early Tuesday broke into the furnishing store of J. K. Campbell, at 600 Westminster avenue, and moved out of a large amount of goods. The loss being estimated at more than \$1,000. From indications the thieves used automobiles to remove the stolen goods. The only clew left was a much-used straight-stem briar pipe which in the morning was found lying on one of the tables. Mr. Campbell arrived at his store about 8 o'clock, and he opened up about 8 o'clock. Before he opened up he was struck by the changed appearance of the show windows. He was certain that he had left the store with samples of his most select and expensive stock. Mr. Campbell saw that the window glass had been smashed and that the clothing and clothing strewn about. Thirty-three packages were missing. Several piles of trousers were gone, and about 16 fine overcoats, and a number of hats were also missing. A glance at the rear window, which is of heavy plate glass, showed that the window had been smashed with some heavy instrument and the force of the blow had scattered glass into the middle of the floor. Mr. Campbell lost no time in notifying police headquarters. On investigation detectives found a woman roomer over the store who said she was awakened about 3 o'clock by hearing a noise. She said she did not see anything, so believing she had been dreaming she fell asleep again. In the meantime the burglars found it easy to reach and in a few minutes they had broken through the lock. In order to carry out the plan of the thieves, the burglars were very dense and they probably took advantage of the fact that the store was closed for the day. However, the police are convinced that at least three men did the job. One undoubtedly stood on guard while his pals worked inside or carried the goods to the automobile. A careful inspection of the ground near the store showed no wagon wheel tracks, but there was a deep rut of oil, evidently indicating that an automobile had stood immediately outside the store on Kender street for some time. That the burglars took their time and did a job in such a business-like manner, for only the best of the stock was taken. It was necessary to remove several overcoats and suits from the show windows. The burglars evidently knew good clothing when they saw it. They selected a considerable time and trouble the best of my stock, leaving cheaper goods undisturbed. I recently moved to this place from opposite the Blackburn, believing it a better location. I have spent a great deal of money in this place, and I am convinced it is not for me at least. Captain Jack Green, who has been through perhaps better for the man who robbed me, is nonplussed. It is the largest burglary in years and so smoothly done that the officers have little if anything to show for an exploit on the street. It was a burglary committed at 1087 Granville street, but the thieves secured only

THE Magnet Cream Separator

Has a Double Bearing to the Bowl

This double support to the bowl enables John Douglas, Creekside, Saskatchewan, to skim his milk with the MAGNET sitting on the open prairie all last season. The double support to the bowl of the MAGNET prevents wobbling, and therefore produces smooth cream. The double support to the bowl of the MAGNET renders it impossible for the bowl to get out of balance. The double support to the bowl of the MAGNET prevents wear. It will surely last a lifetime. The double support to the bowl of the MAGNET makes it the easiest separator to turn. The double support allows the MAGNET brake to make a complete turn around the bowl, and the machine runs in 8 seconds without the slightest injury. Patent No. 103897. The double support on the MAGNET enables you for a few dollars to increase the capacity from the smallest to the largest size. You buy a MAGNET, and when you increase your herd of cows, you get a larger skimming device for your present machine. The double support on the MAGNET is protected by patent. The one-piece skimmer in the MAGNET takes all the cream out of the milk and separates the impurities from both. The one-piece skimmer in the MAGNET is easy to clean; three minutes only required after each operation.



The Petrie Manufacturing Co., Ltd. HAMILTON, CANADA. Winnipeg, St. John, N.B., Regina, Sask., Vancouver, Drawer 91, Calgary, Montreal.

Some Xmas-Week Necessities

Table listing prices for various goods: FRESH EGGS, TESTED EGGS, BUTTER, PICNIC HAMS, DRY SALT PORK, PICKLED PORK, FRANKFURTERS, HAM SAUSAGE, PURE PORK SAUSAGE, SAUER KRAUT, SALAMI SAUSAGE, SUMMER SAUSAGE, DRIED BEEF.

OUR SPECIAL FOR TODAY AND WEDNESDAY, SUGAR CORN, 3 tins for... DIXIE H. ROSS & CO. Independent Grocers. 1317 Government St. Tels. 50, 51, 52 and 1990.

NO GRINDING NO HONING

Buy a "CARBO-MAGNETIC" Razor, shave with it thirty days, if you would then have your money back from the razor, we will refund it.

The Hickman Tye Hardware Co., Ltd.

Phone 59 Victoria, B. C. Agents. 544-546 Yates St. \$2.50 each

GOVERNMENT BUYS H.M.S. RAINBOW

Sister of Apollo to Come to Canadian Waters in the Spring. The operations at the mine in the Rossland area followed with great interest. The government is negotiating for the purchase of a vessel which will constitute the nucleus of the Canadian fleet in the second class twin-screw cruiser Rainbow, a sister vessel of the Apollo, and will be purchased outright by the Canadian government and not borrowed.

Kentucky Men Like Alberta

CALGARY, Dec. 23.—Kentucky horsemen have, during the past few years, acquired large areas in Southern Alberta, with a view to engaging in the breeding of racers. Negotiations are now pending whereby Keene Bros, horsemen, of Lexington, Ky., are endeavoring to acquire ten thousand acres in the vicinity of Calgary, for the purpose of raising high class horses. The arrangement of the city inspecting available areas. He became interested in the possibilities of Southern Alberta as a horse-raising district when he saw the performances of various Albertan-bred horses that have been travelling on the American circuits this year. The altitude of this district permits of wonderful lung development of the horse.

G. T. P. Bonds in London

LONDON, Dec. 24.—The London stock exchange has accepted and will list \$10,000,000 of Grand Trunk Pacific 3 per cent bonds, issued not long ago. Captain Wallace Langley, formerly of this city, now engaged in steamboat traffic on the Tanana, has purchased another steamship to add to his fleet. A letter received at White Horse from Capt. Langley tells of the hardships of a long rush from Port Gibbon, where the Tana, while on the way out for Fairbanks, was frozen in for the winter, to Valdez where he took a boat for Seattle. Langley writes that he has purchased another steamer, the Peep, which he will operate on the upper waters of the Inokki river in connection with the Tana in handling trade between Fairbanks and the Iditarod. Captain Jack Green, who has been with Langley for the past several years, remained in the Iditarod country for the winter. When the Tana was frozen in at Gibbon she was on the way to this place, left that city without effecting a reconciliation with her sisters, and that was done a year ago last fall. Captain Langley had a very successful season with his steamer.

Winning

Princeton has been a coal centre for at least fifteen years. At that time the Vermilion form went in, and acquired over several sections of land adjacent to a sufficient number of people to establish a community. Under the direction of Mr. Ar. Princeton had its own coal fields. These coal fields were proved. These coal fields were proved. These coal fields were proved.

Meanwhile, the surrounding area is being prospected in some coal deposits, and quite a number of coal lands have been discovered. In 1901 a coal seam of about 6 feet was discovered. This coal seam was proved. This coal seam was proved. This coal seam was proved.

Granite Creek

The discovery of the Granite Creek coal fields in the Rossland area followed with great interest. The government is negotiating for the purchase of a vessel which will constitute the nucleus of the Canadian fleet in the second class twin-screw cruiser Rainbow, a sister vessel of the Apollo, and will be purchased outright by the Canadian government and not borrowed.

Cobalt Feve

It is natural that British Columbia should be chiefly in the line of its own province. Cobalt Feve is a coal seam. Cobalt Feve is a coal seam. Cobalt Feve is a coal seam.

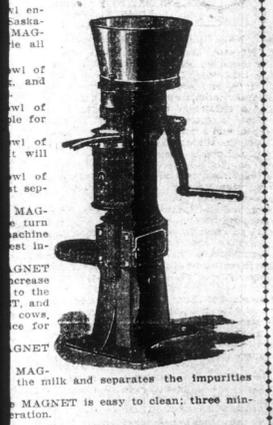
One of the striking

One of the striking features of the Cobalt Feve coal seam is its thickness. It is a coal seam that is a coal seam. It is a coal seam that is a coal seam.

King Leopold's Daughters

PARIS, Dec. 24.—A special from Brussels says that Princess Louise, the eldest daughter of King Leopold, has left that city without effecting a reconciliation with her sisters, and that was done a year ago last fall. King Albert's efforts to induce her to resume her place among the princesses have failed.

THE Tamm Separator



Manufacturing Co., Ltd. TORONTO, CANADA.

Mas-Week Necessities

- List of household necessities and their prices.

ROSS & CO.

157 Government St. 51, 52 and 1590.

NO GRINDING NO HONING

No Smarting After Shaving. Buy a CARBO-MAGNETIC Razor...

Ve Hardware Co., Ltd.

B. C. Agents. 644-546 Yates St.

GOVERNMENT BUYS H.M.S. RAINBOW

Sister of Apollo to Come to Canadian Waters in the Spring

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 23.—The Victoria despatch that the Dominion government has purchased a cruiser for the Canadian navy...

It is natural that British Columbians should be chiefly in the mineral deposits of their own province.

King Leopold's Daughters. PARIS, Dec. 24.—A special from Brussels says that Princess Louise...

Mining Department

EDITED BY WILLIAM BRADY, MEMBER CANADIAN MINING INSTITUTE, GOLD MEDALIST NORTH-WESTERN COLLEGE, VANCOUVER, B.C., 1912-13.

New Coal Fields—Princeton.

Princeton has been a coal mining centre for at least a century. At that time the Vermilion Forks company went in and acquired the lands and several sections of the Vermilion Forks...

Grand Lake Coal.

Good news is to hand with reference to the coal deposits of New Brunswick. After many vicissitudes in connection with the discovery of the seams and the uncertainty of the quality...

Learning the Lessons.

Evidence is not wanting that organized labor as well as capital, has learned a lesson from the financial panic of two years ago, and the period of trade depression which followed...

Granite Creek.

The discovery of the Vermilion Forks company at Princeton led to investigations a little further afield, and in 1900 some good out-croppings were found on Granite Creek and Slate...

Le Roi No. 2.

The operations at the Le Roi No. 2 mine in the Howland camp are being followed with great interest by mining men. This is due to the fact that the mine is being worked on a scale...

A Marvelous Tonnage.

But the most marvelous aspect of coal mining in Great Britain is the maintenance of so gigantic an output from so limited an area, and this is only effected by going deeper, and ever deeper, for the coal.

Conditions of Labor.

There is no industry which has made greater strides during the last forty years than mining. In the past, the conditions under which the miner pursued his avocation, and the wages he received, were such as to make it necessary to re-educate the public...

THE VICTORIA COLONIST

There have been notable extensions of known coal fields as the result of deep sinkings and borings during the last few years...

Conditions of Work.

It is equally interesting to study the conditions under which miners work in these days. The question of safety has been dealt with in these columns recently as well as the aspect of the work...

Some Unique Conditions.

Some unique conditions prevailed in mines forty years ago. For example, on the Howland camp, the case would be a slide, nor were there many wire ropes or cables...

U. S. Senator Dead.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—U. S. Senator A. J. McClaurin died suddenly at his home in Brandon, Miss. The fatal attack seized Senator McClaurin while he was seated at his desk in his library...

Large Land Sales.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Two of the largest land sales of the year in the Pacific Northwest were closed yesterday by the Canadian Pacific Irrigation Co. The first was a sale of 14,000 acres to a syndicate of farmers...

Boy Saves Train.

Finders Broken Rail and Saves Many Passengers From Danger of Wreck. OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 24.—Harry Hunter, a twelve-year-old boy, saved a heavily-laden Northern Pacific train from a disastrous wreck shortly after noon yesterday...

Hundred Millions.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—About \$100,000,000 is to be spent by the United States Steel Corporation and its subsidiary companies in the steel-making territory from South Chicago to Gary, Ind. The work is to be extended between plants and enlarging existing shops during the coming year.

Consolidated Company Acquires.

Word is to hand of the acquisition of one or more valuable mineral properties by the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. of Canada. The property known as the No. 7 group of mineral claims, situated in Central Canada...

Miners' Wages.

When one comes to consider the subject of wages, it is only possible to do so in the most general terms. In 1917, it must be borne in mind that the purchasing power of the dollar was at a point of no comparison, unless they are speaking in terms of the cost of living. It is a fact that the miners' wages have risen, and that they worked twelve hours a day...

APPLES

We have received another shipment of Apples from South Saanich and while they last we offer: Belle De Boscoop \$2.50 Per Box. Rhode Island Greening. Canada Reinette.

The Family Cash Grocery

Cor. Yates and Douglas Sts. Phone 312.

DO YOU NEED AN AEROPLANE?

Victoria Firm Appointed Agents For Sale of Blériot Article. So far as known to followers of aeroplanes in this city, Victoria has—or will have in the very near future—the first airship sales depot...

B. C. Copper Co. Profits.

A gratifying increase in profits accompanied by a no less satisfactory decrease in the cost of production, is shown in the reports of the B. C. Copper Co. for the month of November. The profit is stated to have amounted to \$24,000 as compared with \$18,000 in October...

LARGE LAND SALES.

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CHRISTMAS MERRIMENT

"Let the little Stockings be filled and let us all bear with equanimity the blowing on toy-trumpets and the tooting on mouth organs and the drumming on two-bit drums which are sure to follow! The boys can be boys only once, and what is a boy if he cannot make a noise?"

A RIGHT JOLLY XMAS TO ALL OUR PATRONS AND FRIENDS

FLETCHER BROS.

1231 Government St. Convenient and Comfortable. Although unfamiliarity at first blurs the suggestion that sales will be few and far between, such a prediction arises from a hasty and superficial consideration. There must unquestionably be many charms in aerial navigation, machines being, as it were, the most perfect of toys...

STUDY THE MATTER

of heat, and the quality and price of the appliances for producing both and then let us figure with you on PLUMBING AND STEAM HEATING. We can save you money. All our Heating Appliances are new in design and constructed to give improved performance. Do not pass up your order until you have secured our prices. We will be pleased to give you an estimate.

HAYWARD & DODS

Grates AND Mantels

IN THE GLOW OF THE FIRE THINK OF US. CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—About \$100,000,000 is to be spent by the United States Steel Corporation and its subsidiary companies in the steel-making territory from South Chicago to Gary, Ind. The work is to be extended between plants and enlarging existing shops during the coming year.

Raymond And Son

St. George's School for Girls. A BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL. 1157 Rockland Avenue. Easter term opens Tuesday, January 11th. Boarding fees monthly, January 1921, \$10.00. Principal, Mrs. Suttie. (At home Friday.)

Overdue Steamer Safe.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—The steamer "Rover" for which fears have been entertained, arrived at Holyhead, Wales, this morning.

