

Provincial Legislature

Debate on the Second Reading of the School Bill Continued

By Premier For Government and Munro and Murphy For Opposition.

Commercial Travelers Heard by Executive-Committee Work.

Wednesday, March 1. THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after prayers were read by Rev. Dr. Cochrane, the following was the order of business: Petitions.

Mr. Oliver presented a petition from A. Ohlson, secretary of the B. Assn. of Nurses, asking for amendments to the Horticultural Board Act.

Mr. Tanner introduced a bill to regulate the manufacture, inspection and storage of explosives.

The Finance Minister introduced a bill to amend the provisions of the Income Tax Act.

Mr. Oliver presented a petition from the Commercial Travelers Association, asking for amendments to the Commercial Travelers Act.

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A BREACH OF CONFIDENCE.

Maxim Gor'ky's Treatment by Authorities a Subject of Protest.

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Strychnine Administered to California Philanthropist on Both Occasions.

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Extensive Movement Gaining Head and Turkish Troops Deserting.

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WAR EAGLE COMPANY.

Annual Meeting Adjourned for One Month—Report of Progress.

Rossland, March 1.—The annual meeting of the War Eagle Company, Mining and Development Company was convened in Toronto today, only to adjourn for one month.

SIR HENRY IRVING'S HEALTH.

Great Actor Continues to Progress Towards Recovery.

London, March 1.—Sir Henry Irving, who has suffered from a severe chill at Wolcott, continues to make progress towards recovery, and no further bulletins regarding his condition will be issued.

TERRIBLE ARTILLERY FIRE.

Russians Bombard Japanese Position, but Are Driven Off.

General Okta's Headquarters, Feb. 28, 4 p. m., via Fusan, March 1.—Last night five companies of Russian infantry attacked Lashin, aided by a battery of artillery fire. After a hand-to-hand fighting, which lasted for an hour and a half, the Russians were repulsed, leaving sixty dead.

THE POLISH SITUATION.

Aspect of Strike Affairs Not Encouraging—Fears of Spread.

Warsaw, March 1.—The strike situation in Poland is not encouraging. A general strike of shop assistants is expected unless their demands are conceded. Seventy-five per cent. of the employees are on strike.

INEXCUSABLE CARELESSNESS.

Montreal Witness.

A story is told of a speech recently made by a trial barrister in a court of law. He was for the plaintiff, whose cows had been knocked down and killed by a train, and this was the contention:

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Revolt of the Peasants

Fear Movement May Spread to Seven Millions of Poles.

Subversion of National Language and Economic Questions the Grievances.

Daily Murderous Attacks on Police Cause Anxiety to Authorities.

WARSAW, Feb. 27.—According to reliable information reaching Warsaw today, the Polish peasants' revolt in view of the fact that the peasantry number 7,000,000—will, if it spreads, result in disorder far greater than anything that has arisen during the present agitation. The peasants hitherto have not figured to any great extent in this agitation, which is being led by the Socialists, who are working in the cities and towns. The Socialists recently sent emissaries into the country districts to stir up the peasants. According to reports, they met with speedy success. As the peasants are unable to read, they were easily led away by the Socialistic oratory. The movement began at Pruska and extended at once to Piotrk. It first reached serious dimensions in the district of Telle, where a majority of the Greek Catholics or Uniates reside. Embittered by religious persecutions, they quickly joined in the agitation and approached the landed proprietors with a demand for an increase of 50 per cent in their wages. Their demands being refused, they promptly struck. In many instances the peasants resorted to violence. Disturbances have been reported from nearly every village, where the strikers burned government alcohol shops, the authorities making no interference.

Peasants' Grievances. The peasants' real grievances are in connection with the language and economic questions. They smart under the methods of the local bureaucracy, which obliges the use of the Russian language, which they do not understand. It is stated that already 130 villages have declared that they will receive official proclamations in the Russian language. While there appears to be no danger of a revolt against the compulsory use of the Russian language is feared and the situation is regarded as far from reassuring.

The police in three districts have demanded an increase of pay, which was granted. The military in police duty in order to be prepared for further disturbances, and consequently most of the policemen are accompanied on their beats by soldiers.

Murderous Attacks Daily. Murderous attacks occur daily on solitary policemen or small parties of them in the streets of Warsaw, causing the gravest anxiety to the authorities, who are at a loss to know how to protect the police. The force of police is entirely inadequate, consists of only 1,000 men to a population of 800,000, of whom at least 500 are known to be conscripts. Reports are current today that the murders will continue until the number of policemen killed reaches the number of persons killed in the January disturbances.

The employees of the suburban tram railroads have struck and the city firemen announce that they will strike on Saturday unless given higher wages. The grave-diggers and Jewish cemetery have made similar demands.

TALE OF A THIRST. Soggy Soldiers and Their Things While Transported to the Barracks. Sudden with deep that two soldiers of the garrison piled up a list of demands which the military court will demand satisfaction, now that the military police have taken them from the lock-up where they were held for safekeeping.

A soldier had bought a new bicycle. He valued the bike. The two who share more money than any other class, carry, stole the wheel and rode toward Esquimaux, taking turns. The wheel, carrying the weight of the man and the load he carried, wobbled and finally, having more to put up with than a respectable wheel could stand, it broke—badly by the handle.

The soldiers, unable to get it to go, and having all the cargo they could carry without a cab, spent a night atop, gave it away to some children.

Now the owner wants his wheel, and the soldiers, having slept off the bundle of the previous night, cannot recall the circumstances, nor find the children.

When the couple reached Government rest house, they spent all their money, but their thirst remained. It was a long thirst which refused to be assuaged. Like a hen the thirst cried for beer and the soldiers do not give beer without tickets, so they began peddling the long boots they wore to all and sundry, and the money, belonging to King Edward and Hon. Mr. Brodrick for two round Canadian dollars, was used to buy beer. If they did go barefoot, the climate was not so bad as the stay-at-home Britisher thinks—and they could have forty long tubes with foam at the top, located them, and, after a strenuous time—for they showed fight—lifted them into the patrol wagon and they were held for safekeeping yesterday.

A bluejacket also had trouble in assuaging a deep thirst. He was begging for ten cents—"Just to get home to Esquimaux, Mister." His story was that he had rented a cab and bought a pair of blankets, which he had left with a barkeeper for safekeeping. When he returned for the blankets the keeper refused to know anything about them, and he had his choice of going back to the ship or sleeping on the boards. He wanted ten cents to get back to the ship. He got several ten-cent pieces—likewise several schooners of beer, and was last seen making a circuitous course toward Esquimaux.

There were also two fights on Sunday, each of which hit the headlines. One fought with a street car conductor and was hampered with the fact that another exchanged a few blows with a civilian in an alleyway, the smiles of a lady—which the constable, ignorant of the rules of the old days of chivalry, quickly stopped.

THE LADY AND THE LAW. New York, Feb. 27.—A writ of habeas corpus, calling for the appearance of Ivan Paterson, the show girl accused of the murder of Cassius Young, before Justice Gaylor in the Supreme court in Brooklyn, was issued to counsel representing Paterson today, on the application to Justice Gaylor. At the same time the justice granted an application by Miss Paterson's counsel for a writ of certiorari to be issued in her case before she is deprived of her constitutional right to speedy trial. Miss Paterson is now in the Tombs, prison pending another trial.

THE RED CRUSADE.

Ithica, N. Y., Feb. 27.—At the invitation of President Schurman of Cornell University, Commander Miss Booth of the Salvation Army, will conduct a special "red crusade" here next Sunday, when nine services will be held, the last in the evening in one of the large university buildings.

JAPAN'S DOMESTIC LOAN. New York, Feb. 27.—Mr. Uchida, the Japanese consul-general, received today word that a domestic loan of \$4,000,000 was announced in Tokio today. The bonds will bear 6 per cent, will be payable in seven years, and the issue price will be 90.

PETITIONS TO PARLIAMENT. Toronto, Feb. 27.—At the close of the services in the Church of Christ, Cecil street, last night, a large number of those present signed a petition to parliament against the establishment of separate schools in the Northwest provinces.

CARDS AND THE REVOLVER. Toronto, Feb. 27.—As the result of a shooting affair over a game of cards Saturday night, Luigi Ramondi is in the hospital, probably fatally injured, and Leonard Montecarlo, who shot him, is under arrest. Both men are Italians.

GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS. Last Supply Measures at Washington Carries Total of \$31,322,259.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The general appropriation bill, the last of the appropriations for the fiscal year, was passed today by the house committee on appropriations. The measure carries a total of \$31,322,259.

WHO HATH EARS TO HEAR. May Now Enjoy Church Worship by 'Phone in Calgary.

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 27.—At the Methodist church in Calgary last evening, Rev. Mr. Kirby inaugurated his telephone system by which members are able to attend church services in their homes by means of a large receiver placed in front of the pulpit and connected with the central office. A number of citizens taking advantage of it.

SAN DOMINGO CONGRESS. President Morales's Message Generally Satisfactory to Petite Republic.

San Domingo, Feb. 27.—Congress was opened in ordinary session by the president, Don Morales today. The president said the American-Dominican convention will be submitted for the approval of congress. In his message he recommended that the government should establish a place of martial law, and provision for assistance to agriculturists; he also declared that the relations between Santo Domingo and all other countries are cordial, and that quiet prevails in the republic. The message was well received.

FISHERMEN MISSING. Boat in Which They Started for Victoria Washed Ashore at Mill Bay.

Two fishermen who set sail from Cowichan for Victoria during the gale of Friday the 17th, in a strongly-built Colvett river fishing boat, were believed to have been drowned. The boat in which they set sail was washed ashore on Tuesday last at Wilkinson's ranch at Mill Bay and no trace of the fishermen or of the craft. The names of the two men were learned, though it is understood that one was known as "Louis the Fisherman," he being of French descent, his companion was a tall man. The boat which has since come ashore, was marked H. A. 635 at the bow, while at the stern was F. 10. It is now on the beach at the Mill Bay ranch.

A REMARKABLE VOYAGE. British Steamer, With War Stores for Port Arthur, Has Strange Luck.

New York, Feb. 27.—The British steamer Carlisle, chartered by the Russian government for safekeeping, when 300 miles from Vladivostok, reported to sail, drifted before the contrary wind and currents to the coast, and anchored on February 10 in San Miguel Bay off the southern end of Luzon, whence it was towed into the port of Manila. At the time of arrival in San Miguel Bay the vessel was 85 days out from Vladivostok with cargo of war stores.

A Russian super cargo is now in charge of the Carlisle, whose cargo consists of powder, shells and other munitions of war.

Customs officers have sealed down the hatches and the Carlisle will probably be detained until the conclusion of the war.

HIS PRIVATE OPINION. Paris, Feb. 27.—Dr. Mandelstamm, one of the Russian counsellors during the North Sea equity, writes as follows: "Regarding the view point of humanity alone, the commission's work has immense importance. The admirals' report is the result of common efforts and mutual concession to save the sinking of the honor of the general configuration. The names of the officers and the ministers who brought it, weighed the evidence, deserve entry in the 'golden book'."

JAPANESE CROSS SHAKKE. Drive in Russian Pickets, but Reinforcements Stop Advance.

Makden, Feb. 27.—The Japanese crossed the Shakke river last evening, and the Russian pickets, the Russian vanguard, Russian supports came up and stopped the Japanese advance. On the right flank all is quiet, but the movements of the Japanese indicate an intention of attacking the Russian camp, at least in the form of a demonstration.

Heavy firing continued today to the eastward.

Soldiers of the Thinkoehen division are in good spirits in spite of the heavy losses they have sustained and the necessity which compelled them to retreat. They are encouraged by the execution they wrought upon the Japanese, whose bodies were piled in heaps outside the redoubts at the Herenshoff hill and the trenches at Thinkoehen.

Yesterday evening there was a violent storm of heavy and wet snow. The temperature during the night moderated.

ST. PETERSBURG, FEB. 28 (2 P. M.)—According to the Associated Press, Mukden, the Japanese, Sunday evening, crossed the Shakke river, but the place of crossing was eliminated by the censor. The advance was checked by Russian reinforcements. This is the most important news from the scene of war tonight. Fighting is continuing on the Russian left flank, with indications that the Japanese are planning a strategy against the centre, but the Russians believe their positions are impregnable.

Winnipeg, Feb. 27.—Lord Strathcona has given \$1,000 to the Royal Jubilee hospital at Rat Portage.

GORKY REARRESTED.

Unfortunate Russian Released on Bail and Immediately Arrested.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 27.—Maxim Gorky had but a short glimpse of liberty today, following on \$5,000 bail, he was immediately rearrested and conveyed to a place of confinement pending deportation. Some distant city or province, where his continuing residence, it is thought, will be less dangerous to the welfare of the government than it would be here.

The release of M. Gorky was effected by order of Governor-General Trepoff, who after the friends of the writer had overcome obstacles after obstacle and won the grudging assent of hierarchy officials, signed the mandate admitting him to bail. The arrest was the act of an all-powerful governor-general, who unwillingly to allow such a firebrand to be at large in the capital of which practically he is the supreme ruler.

M. Gorky knew nothing of the governor's decision when the doors of the cell which was his home for the past five weeks swung open. His disappointment, therefore, was pitiable when, just as he was passing out of the great gate of the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul, he again was arrested.

Health Has Suffered. His appearance indicated that his health had suffered from the effects of his confinement, even though the rigors of prison life had been relaxed in his favor.

In the custody of two officers of the department of secret police, which is charged with the protection of members of the imperial family, M. Gorky was placed in a closed carriage and conveyed to the headquarters of the secret police, in a house formerly belonging to the poet Pushkin, where he will spend the night, pending the receipt of orders assigning his place of future residence.

Disappointed as was M. Gorky at the outcome of the day's business, he has no more sad than were his wife and children, who, having been informed of the decision to release him on bail, awaited his return home for hours.

When the Associated Press tonight visited the apartments occupied by the author's family, the windows were brilliantly lighted in honor of the anticipation of his appearance. Madame Pleiskoff was at the door of an adjoining room. She concealed her disappointment bravely when informed of the result of the day's business, but she herself to smile as she discussed the probable place of his exile, saying she hopes it will be where the climate is such that the husband's health will not suffer, as it did in his former exile, when he was forced to appeal for permission to visit his residence, to the milder climate of the Crimea.

Collapsing of Auditorium. The congregation was waiting in silence for the arrival of the body, and Pastor James was standing at the altar awaiting the summons to meet the funeral procession at the door, when a sharp cracking of timbers was heard, and in an instant the half of the auditorium nearest the door collapsed, carrying down more than 100 persons, of whom the majority were women.

A great volume of dust for a few minutes hid the view of the victims. They themselves cut out from the doors and expecting every instant that the rest of the floor would collapse under them, fought madly to reach the windows, and in some instances persons leaped from them and sustained serious injuries.

Thirteen Dead in Church Ruin

Flooring of African Methodist Mission Collapses With Fearful Results.

Congregation Awaiting Funeral Procession When Accident Occurs.

Hundreds Are Precipitated Into Basement and Many Are Mangled.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—Thirteen persons were killed and upwards of fifty others injured, some fatally, by the collapse of the flooring of the Fleet street African Methodist Episcopal church at Brooklyn tonight. Of those killed ten were women, two men and one child. The building was an ancient, ramshackle frame structure, erected sixty years ago in the heart of the colored section of the city, in Fleet street near Michael avenue.

Arrangements had been made tonight to hold the funeral services of Sydney Tainter, one of the older members of the church, and the auditorium, which was the second floor of the building, and the ground floor, being used by the Sunday school was crowded with an audience of upwards of 300 persons, of whom the majority were women.

The congregation was waiting in silence for the arrival of the body, and Pastor James was standing at the altar awaiting the summons to meet the funeral procession at the door, when a sharp cracking of timbers was heard, and in an instant the half of the auditorium nearest the door collapsed, carrying down more than 100 persons, of whom the majority were women.

A great volume of dust for a few minutes hid the view of the victims. They themselves cut out from the doors and expecting every instant that the rest of the floor would collapse under them, fought madly to reach the windows, and in some instances persons leaped from them and sustained serious injuries.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE. (From Tuesday's Daily.)

Quite a number of Mainland delegates returned last night to attend the meeting of the Farmers' Institute today. Their names and the institutes they represent are: Mr. De Hart, Osoywood; Donald Matheson, Spallumcheen; James Evans, Okanagan; Andrew Noble, Kamloops; N. T. Baker, Kent; W. J. Harris, Maple Ridge; W.

SENSITIVE AS TO COLOR. Former Victoria Drayman Attempts Life Because Mistaken for Negro.

Word has been received from Dawson of the attempted suicide of Charles Bennett, a Peruvian, making his home in this city four years ago and employed by a local truck and dray company. Latterly he has been engaged as a cook, three years on Yukon river steamers and during the past four months working for the police barracks on Dominion Creek.

In the Yukon country, as he is, Bennett is a sensitive person, and he was mistaken for a negro, and caused the imputation with all the hot pride characteristic of the Latin and South American races.

The frequency of the occurrence of the mistake induced melancholia, and Bennett, finally sought to end his troubles with the bullet of a 38-calibre Smith & Wesson aimed at his own heart.

The bullet touched without piercing the cardiac organ, and at last advice recovery was secured by Dr. Bell as quite impossible.

GUY BOOTHBY NO MORE. London, Feb. 27.—Guy Newell Boothby, the novelist, is dead from complications following an attack of influenza. He was born in 1837.

The late writer of romances was a native of Adelaide, South Australia; the son of Thomas Wilde Boothby, some time member of the House of Assembly, and grandson of Mr. Justice Boothby. He had traveled much and in 1861 crossed Australia from north to south. He was the author of "On the Wallaby" and "In Strange Company" (1864), "The Marriage of Bashier," "A Lost Endeavor" and "A Bid for Fortune" (1866), "Beautiful White Devil" and "Dr. Nikola" stories (1866), "The Fascination of the King," "Sheila MacLeod," "The Trail of the Snake," etc. All his novels show an imaginative and creative power of high order, with magnetic—almost hypnotic—skill in psychological analysis. His work had all the charm of weirdness handled with compelling and convincing skill. The deceased author leaves a widow, the daughter of William Bristowe of Champion Hill, England.

TRIAL JUDGE SUSTAINED. Full Court Dismisses Appeal in Brown vs. Spruce Creek Power Co.

A judgment in which great interest will be taken by the Northern and Western mining districts of the province was handed down yesterday in the Full court here, in the appeal in Brown vs. the Spruce Creek Power Co. The company, the appeal being dismissed with costs. The subject matter of this appeal has been the litigation for many months and involves certain important questions of water rights in Atlin. The original trial was before Judge Henderson in Atlin, and the defendant was dismissed with costs, and the verdict of the trial judge sustained. Mr. A. D. Taylor (Vancouver) appeared for Brown; Mr. A. L. Boyle, K. C., for the company.

FACTS ARE FAR ASTRAY. Acquired Island Timber Lands Liable to Taxation and Export Duty.

A party of three gentlemen identified with the Everett Timber and Land Co. and in Alberta, New Brunswick, who recently acquired from the Dunsmuir interests large tracts of fir timber in townships 1, 2, 3, 4 and 9, Comox district, and in Alberta, New Brunswick, and near Cowichan Lake and Bright districts, are now in Victoria, making preparations to send working parties of special cruisers into the field as soon as weather conditions are wholly favorable. The timber of which they have secured possession is situated in tracts of land to include some of the best left standing on Vancouver Island, and the price paid, it is learned, for the source, averages about \$7.50 an acre.

To quote the British Columbia Lumberman: "The purchasers have made no announcement as to the extent of their interest with regard to their newly-acquired property, but it is generally supposed that they will simply hold it until such time as they can sell it at a profit. It is an increased demand for lumber causes a material advance in prices. On the other hand, it is stated that they will put in a large modern plant at a central point on their property and manufacture on a very extensive scale, to meet the demand which the building of the Grand Trunk Pacific is sure to create, besides securing a share of the Oriental trade. There are many who express the opinion that the new limits will be used as a feeder for the Washington mills, in which case the British Columbia will be practically a timber marking of a new era of prosperity in the lumber business. It is a positive detriment. The export tax on logs will not apply to this property, and consequently if the purchasers cut them the logs over to Washington, they can tow them, and then ship them to Canada, in the shape of rough lumber, and undersell the local market. That is the cheerful outlook presented to British Columbia lumbermen if the Dominion government will grant a special prayer for protection, for the case just cited is by no means a solitary one. The Dominion government has granted special timber lands of Vancouver Island are being bought up by big United States capitalists has aroused a suspicion—amounting almost to conviction—in many minds that the United States Lumber Trust, having secured all the timber worth having in their own country, are now quietly assimilating all the most available tracts of Canadian timber, so that in the near future they will absolutely control the lumber markets of North America and regulate prices as arbitrarily as the Standard Oil or the Beef Trust."

It will be noted that the Lumberman, or to speak more accurately the correspondent of the Lumberman hereof, has made a most pointed reference to a Victoria dateline—this is purely speculative as to the intentions of the new owners of the timber lands in question. He brings himself into disrepute, however, when he comes to statements of alleged fact.

For example it is stated that "the export duty on logs will not apply to this property etc., from which it is argued that the sale is like that of an extremely hurtful rather than beneficial to the lumbering interests of this province. The article was shown yesterday to Hon. R. F. Green, Minister of Lands and Works, and to Deputy Commissioner Gore, both of whom directly and positively contradicted the statement of supposed fact upon which rests the pessimistic argument.

Not only does the export duty apply to logs cut upon the acquired tract, but the lands also become liable to taxation in the same manner as other timber lands situated on the crown; and there is an important contributor to provincial revenue.

ALONE AND FRIENDLESS. Aged Woman Comes to Victoria Seeking Cousin.

At the police station yesterday was an unfortunate lady, Mrs. Neelington, seventy-five years of age, ill and without friends or funds. She is the widow of a former British army captain who was stationed for eleven years in India and served for some years before he died as an officer of militia in Lancashire. The unfortunate lady arrived on Sunday by the steamer City of Puebla from San Francisco, where she went in search of a Mr. Barnes, wife of a ship carpenter, whose cousin she is, and who she believed was in San Francisco on a sailing ship, having when she landed \$115, with which she proposed to pay her passage to England, and in the event of not finding the Barnes family, but she has lost the money. She does not know if it was stolen; probably she lost it, forgetting the little bag in which she carried it.

Failing to find her relative, she walked the streets, alone and friendless on Sunday evening until she found the police station, where she asked shelter. She is ill, suffering from a tumor, and without funds, seemingly also without friends. And she says she has never known of the whereabouts of her husband lived she had her servants—now she is destitute.

Last evening a conference respecting the case was held, and it was decided that the unfortunate woman should be returned to San Francisco, where possibly her money may be recovered. She was accordingly taken to the outgoing steamer Senator, which bears her back to California.

GREATLY EXAGGERATED.

Theodosia, Kaffa, Feb. 27.—The recent disturbance here have been greatly exaggerated. One Jew died as the result of street fighting growing out of anti-government demonstrations on the part of Jewish strikers.

INTERVENTION IS ASKED. New York, Feb. 27.—Attorneys for the New York and Bermudez Asphalt Company today representing to the American state department that they received advices showing that the receiver for the company's property in Venezuela had been ordered to ship a shipload of asphalt from the mines to New York. They point out that this means 13,000 tons of asphalt which has been taken from the company's mines under President Castro's orders, which asphalt is valued at a minimum price of \$11 per ton. The company asks what the state department intends to do to prevent this spoliation of its property.

FOR BREAKING PAROLE. St. Petersburg, Feb. 27.—Yielding to the demand of the United States, Russia has not only ordered the officers of the cruiser Lena who violated their parole to return to San Francisco, but has reduced them one grade as punishment. The only excuse offered was their youth.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The announcement that the Russian government has directed the three naval officers who broke their parole and escaped from the Lena at San Francisco to return to that city, and that they will be granted parole on the condition that they will principally because the Admiral McCulla will be relieved of abridging the parole in future. The state department is relieved from apologizing to Japan for permitting a breach of neutrality.

WIRELESS CUTS RATES. To Transmit Victoria-Seattle Commercial Messages at One-third Off.

A special wireless dispatch to the Colonist from General Manager A. L. New of the Pacific Wireless Telegraph Co. states that beginning tomorrow the rate for commercial messages over the Pacific Wireless Co.'s system between Victoria and Seattle will be 25 cents for the first ten words and two cents for each additional word, and that the existing rate of the wire-using companies of 40 cents for ten words or less, and three cents for each word thereafter. This shows a reduction by the wireless of the present tariff amounting to about 35 per cent.

"It is," says General Manager New, in his message, "our intention to reader first-class wireless service, and by making the reduction in the rate of the wire we believe we are entitled to a good share of the Victoria-Seattle business."

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BURGLAR WAS BUSY. While Residents Went to Church, Dishonest One Broke in to Steal.

While the occupants were at church on Sunday evening last a burglar broke into the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Markindale, No. 86 Kane street, and stole two rings. Entrance was effected by a window at the rear of the building, and the thief went through the residence systemically.

Whether or not he was disturbed is not evident, but he only took two rings, leaving the rest untouched. After looting the rings the burglar closed the window through which he had entered, and left by the front door. He left no trace which would aid the police to locate him.

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Day's Doings At Ottawa

Liberal Organizers Anxious to Manipulate Boundaries of New Provinces.

Number of Constituencies Will Be Referred to Judges of Supreme Court.

Union Label Bill Limited to Organizations That Are Incorporated.

Premier Haultain's Future.

Much interest attaches to Premier Haultain's selection of the province with respect to his future. Haultain, Hon. Mr. Haultain has represented the Macleod district in the Northwest legislature since the formation of the province in Regina since he became territorial premier. In October, 1897, it is fully expected that he will enter under the name of Haultain as a provincial member for Alberta, and while Mr. Scott would not be unwilling to perform a similar office in Saskatchewan, it is not known if Lieutenant-General Forget can ignore the present premier. Therefore it is expected that Haultain will be asked to organize a government for the province of Saskatchewan.

Sabbath Observance.

The Supreme court today handed down its judgment in the case of the Sabbath observance. The substance of the judgment is that the usual observance of the Sabbath of the Lord's day rests with the federal parliament rather than with the provincial legislatures. It is expected that the Dominion government will now renew its application to the Dominion parliament for the repeal of

Provincial Legislature

Nothing But Routine in House Yesterday and Little of That.

Notices of Motion, More Bills Coming Down This Week.

The House assembled at 2 o'clock, and after a reading of prayers by Rev. W. Leslie Clay, the following was the order of business.

Petitions. Mr. Munro presented a petition from J. H. Collinson and others opposing the bill to incorporate the Sumas Development Company.

Bills Introduced. Dr. King introduced a bill to incorporate the Ponging Valley Railway Company; also a bill respecting the Kootenay & Cariboo & Pacific Railway Company.

Questions and Answers. Mr. Evans asked: "Is it the intention of the government during the present session to introduce a bill dealing with the superannuation list, according to the promise made last year?"

County Court Act. The bill to amend the County Court Act was committed. Mr. Paterson in the chair.

Company Mortgages. The Attorney-General moved the second reading of the bill to provide for the registration of mortgages.

Notices of Motion. Hon. Mr. Tatlow gives notice of a bill to amend the Farmers' Unions and Co-operative Act.

Mr. Tanner gives notice of a bill to regulate the manufacture, inspection and storage of explosives.

The Attorney-General gives notice of a bill to amend the Provincial Elections Act.

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Blockade Runners Fast in Ice

Hopes Held That Missing Tacoma Is One of the Vessels in Ice-floes.

The Minnesota's Call at Victoria Proved Costly—Empress of India Due Today.

(From Tuesday's Daily.) "Nagasaki consul cables no information concerning Tacoma, but unknown steamer reported to be in Straits of Soya, Japan."

The above telegram was received in answer to enquiries being made by the anxious members of the Northwesters Steamship Company, whose steamer Tacoma is now considerably overdue on a blockade-running expedition to Vladivostok.

At a meeting of the municipal committee yesterday morning attention was given to a report of the committee submitted, one of which, giving to municipalities the power to acquire telephone, electric light, water systems, and other utilities, was adopted at a previous meeting; and another increasing this power by giving municipalities the right to acquire such services where such a service was refused, being held in abeyance.

THE JAPANESE ADVANCE. Kuroki Now Holds Front Extending Several Miles East of Taitse.

Headquarters of General Kuroki, Feb. 28.—The Japanese army now holds a front extending from the Hun river to several miles east of Taitse.

The German steamer Romulus, which was being used as a blockade-runner, was captured by the Japanese on Feb. 22.

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Parsonage Rifled And Then Fired

Residence of Pastor of Metropolitan Methodist Church Looted.

Burglar Falls to Obtain Booty and Thereafter Fires House in Three Places.

Last night the Methodist parsonage on the corner of Blanchard and Paragon streets, the residence of Rev. G. K. B. Adams, pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist church, and his family were entered by a burglar, who ransacked the house and then fired it, attempting to burn the place down.

The burglar, who was seen by the pastor, fled with a quantity of booty, including a gold watch, a diamond ring, and a quantity of jewelry.

The fire department quickly extinguished what had threatened to be a serious fire, but the damage to the parsonage was considerable.

STATE SENATORS EXPELLED. Four California Statesmen, Accused of Bribery, Are Found Guilty.

Sacramento, Cal., Feb. 27.—State Senators E. J. Emmons, Harry Bunkers, Eli Wright and Frank French were expelled from the senate today for alleged receiving of bribes to aid in the passage of certain bills.

The investigation recommending expulsion was conducted by the committee on ethics and good government.

Senator Wright made a courageous plea for himself, declaring that he had not been given a fair hearing.

News of the Army and Navy. No Change This Year in Royal Engineers Stationed at Work Point.

Latest Evolutions of Britain's Fleets is Given Her First Commission.

From Our Own Correspondent. London, Feb. 28.—There will be no changes in the Royal Engineer companies at Victoria this year.

The detachment of No. 44 (fortress) company, and No. 48 (submarine mines) company will remain at Work Point.

The program of the Garrison Artillery corps has not yet been published.

No. 2 company has left Bermuda for Southampton, from where it will proceed on the 17th inst. on the steamship Dilwara to Alexandria, Egypt.

The cruiser Diamond was commissioned yesterday at Devonport for permanent service on the North American and West Indies station.

Major J. I. Lang-Hyde, C. M. G., Marine Engineer, a distinguished Canadian officer who designed the fortifications of Esquimalt and made the survey of 1887-90, has been appointed commander of the largest British gunboat, the H.M.S. St. Ignace.

He is no stranger on the West Coast, having made several surveys there, in addition to seeing service with the Attobuba expedition in 1888.

He was chief of the British section of the Anglo-French delimitation commission in Nigeria, 1900, and since he was decorated with the C. M. G.

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KUROPAKIN REPORTS RETREAT

Forced by Japanese, but Makes Stand at Passes.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 27.—(7 p.m.)—A despatch from General Kuropakina, dated February 26, reports that the Japanese are continuing the offensive against the front of our Tsinchinkai detachment, and has turned back its flank.

The Japanese have also advanced against Kante pass, turning our left flank. The Japanese have also advanced against Kante pass, turning our left flank.

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Sir Henry Crease Passes Away

Veteran Jurist of British Columbia Goes to His Long Rest.

Was Respected by the People and Honored by His Sovereign.

(From Tuesday's Daily.) At "Pentruel" Cadboro Bay road, the late residence, passed away yesterday morning, Sir Henry Crease, a veteran jurist of British Columbia, who died at the age of 83.

He was born in England, and came to British Columbia in 1858, where he practiced law for many years. He was a member of the Legislative Council of British Columbia from 1871 to 1873.

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EMBARRASSED BY STRIKE

Russian Military Authorities Eagerly Try to Break Tie-up.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 28 (2:15 a.m.)—How greatly the prosecution of the war is embarrassed by the internal situation is made manifest by the exceptional measures inaugurated to break the strike of the railway employees.

The Russian military authorities are eager to break the tie-up between the railway employees and the government. They are eager to break the tie-up between the railway employees and the government.

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