

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Third Session of the Seventh Parliament. TWELFTH DAY. WEDNESDAY, Feb. 24.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. Prayers by Rev. Dr. Wilson.

The private bills reported that the rules are not being complied with in the petition of the Cottonwood River mine. The report was received.

Mr. Semlin moved, seconded by Mr. Semlin, "That in the opinion of the house no charter giving any right of expropriation for the purpose of building a railway, or giving power to appropriate water should be granted without its being stipulated therein that the powers so conferred are subject to the condition that sufficient security either in cash or approved bonds be given within at least three months after the passage of the act, that the works authorized shall be completed within the time and under the conditions specified in the act."

The mover did not think the object of his resolution would need much explanation. When the motion was granted some provisions should be made that the work would be carried out, otherwise these charters would be a detriment instead of a help to the colony. His resolution, if carried out, would do away with any tendency to charter mongering.

The Premier remarked that on its face the resolution appeared very desirable, yet in the present shape of development the provisions which should be taken that nothing be done which might have the effect of stopping the introduction of capital. He did not think that the resolution would be beneficial. He had followed the granting of charters hitherto, for in the case of all the charters as far as he knew great efforts had been made, though sometimes with little success, to carry them out. He could quite understand that in some cases this provision might be of advantage, such as in the case of a railway where a loan was granted, but in the case of electric power companies or others of that sort a limit of time might be made.

Mr. Semlin favored the resolution, the giving of security as provided in it being, in his opinion, a good thing and an evidence of good faith on the part of the promoters. It would be in the interest of the public that the resolution pass. Hon. Col. Baker agreed with the spirit of the resolution, but hardly thought it would be beneficial in practice. It was not the capitalist but the local man as a rule who knew the project well enough to see the advantage of promoting some enterprise. When that man went to the capitalist the first question asked was "Have you got a charter?" and if he had not then capital was not forthcoming. He feared that the passage of the resolution would be harmful rather than beneficial.

Mr. Huff maintained that when the necessity existed for a charter, capital would be forthcoming. He feared too much of the water rights and other privileges had been looked up by speculators through the granting of too many charters.

Mr. Booth thought it would be wiser to leave each case to itself, and not to house to put some such provision as suggested, in bills when thought necessary.

Dr. Walken favored reasonable security being given, and thought the bill would be difficult in obtaining it if the enterprise for which a charter was sought were not of a high order.

Hon. C. E. Pooley did not think the resolution would be beneficial. It was too cast-iron and mandatory, whereas he believed in every individual case the house should have opportunity to express an opinion. In the case of bills now, unless it was shown that a charter applied for was for a bona fide purpose the application was refused. Each case should be dealt with on its merits and a blind resolution like this before the house should not be passed.

Some gentlemen had spoken of charters that had been extended. That was very true, but where such extensions had been made the applicants had not been able to carry out their charter and that they had acted in good faith.

Mr. Kennedy spoke in sympathy with the resolution, which he pronounced a step in the right direction.

Mr. Rogers wanted to give all the opportunity possible to bring capital into the country, and hoped that the resolution would not pass, as it would prevent in some cases very important work being taken up.

Mr. Forster held that the province had passed the stage when promoters were necessary, for capital was seeking British Columbia investment and charters would only stand in the way. Perhaps the resolution was a little too strong, and he moved in amendment to put the word "some" in place of the word "sufficient."

Mr. Cotton, while in sympathy with the resolution, thought due consideration should be given to the fact that the province had not been in the house for some years now that people who had held a charter for years had not been able to carry out their work, yet interposed opposition to subsequent applications on the ground of vested interest. Still it was desirable to pass a resolution that might possibly be a bar to the introduction of capital, and he would move for an adjournment in the hope that some arrangement agreeable to all might be arrived at.

Mr. Kellie did not see the need of any delay. In fact the Provincial Secretary had been negligent in not bringing down a bill when the house first met to deal with this water question. Anyone who wanted to should have the right of appointing a committee of the house to deal with this water question.

Hon. Col. Baker replied that Mr. Kellie was apparently not very well acquainted with the law on the subject now, or he would know that by present acts the rights of those who take up water are restricted to what they use. If the bill member would only look into the matter he would find he was in his premises. The charge that Mr. Kellie had made against him of neglect was unfounded.

Mr. Kellie said that it did not reflect credit on the Minister of Mines that he had not a bill laid before the house when the house met and good, but the discussion was plainly out of order.

The Premier said, in reference to Mr. Cotton's remarks, that his complaint that the committee could not see the amount of water that any company should be granted, was equivalent to saying that the private bills committee had not the pluck to put their foot down

when exorbitant demands for water were made. If the present water acts were not sufficient to protect the water privileges of the province, the consolidation of the acts could be made to meet the case this session.

Mr. Helmecken explained that the private bills committee were not anxious to shirk their responsibilities. It seemed to the committee, however, that the matter might be met by adopting some section reserving the crown rights to the water.

Mr. Speaker then interposed ruling the report out of order but saying that the discussion which had arisen was a most important one and furnished some very valuable ideas on the subject of water privileges.

Mr. Semlin asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works: "What reply has been given to the petitioners from Shuswan, Tappan Sidling and Netch Hill asking for construction of a railway from Netch Hill and from thence to Shuswan?"

That was the date of such reply? Hon. Mr. Martin replied that the petition was acknowledged to John Mitchell on the 30th January, 1896.

The report of the road superintendent's report was sent to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works: "The road superintendent's report was sent to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works: (a) The number of such tenders submitted; (b) The names of tenders, with amount of tender; (c) The name of the tenderer to whom the contract was awarded."

"Yes." (d) Wm. Ridd, \$231; L. Collinson, \$325; C. E. Beddie, \$350; The Bennett, \$405; Wm. Gillespie, \$425. (e) L. Collinson."

Another question was asked by Mr. Cotton, while not wanting to take up time in discussion of the act, thought the provision that made the minimum number of incorporators seven, instead of three as at present, was unnecessary and gave really no additional security. It was essential, too, to know if it was essential to refer the question to the house. The report read:

That in view of the large number of applications made at the present session for water privileges, and the importance of the subject, your committee would respectfully recommend that the government should introduce legislation dealing with the question of the appropriation and utilization of water."

The Premier was quite willing to allow the resolution to be adopted, even though it might not be quite so important, and it was the intention of the government to give the bill the same treatment as the bills already in existence and dealing with the question. Still he thought the committee should take the ordinary course with private bills and refer them to the house if there was anything objectionable in them. Let the private bills committee insert in the bills that they should comply with the public acts on the subject. For his part he would like to see all these companies pay a fee for the water they were to be granted.

The Speaker ruled the report out of order on the ground that there was no objection to a committee to instruct the house in public policy, but that the committee must instruct the committee that they should comply with the public acts on the subject. For his part he would like to see all these companies pay a fee for the water they were to be granted.

Mr. Cotton argued that the committee did not wish to instruct the house but desired an expression from the house to the committee to act upon in dealing with the bills. This was the more needed because of the declaration by the Premier that at a later period of the session a policy in water rights would be brought down.

Hon. Mr. Eberts corrected Mr. Cotton. The Premier had not said the government would bring down a policy on the water question. What he had said was that a bill would be brought down consolidating the existing laws on the subject and with such amendments as were in the interests of the country.

Mr. Cotton's question was a policy. Hon. Mr. Eberts—"No; it is more a question of details." He could not see why the private bills committee could not be asked to bring down a bill on the subject. Mr. Speaker explained that the report was out of order there by some error of the difficulty—by some mistake in the house moving that the private bills committee be instructed in line with the report.

Mr. Cotton pointed out that the committee wanted instruction because until a company had its act of incorporation it could not take advantage of the rights to use water.

Hon. Mr. Eberts explained that under the law at present a company could be formed under the ordinary Companies Act and obtain permission from the gold commissioner to use water for any mining or other purpose, but not, of course, power to expropriate land.

Mr. Cotton argued that it was impossible to deal with each bill separately in a satisfactory way as if the committee had some general rule to go by as to the amount of water they could grant. He was not asking for an experiment, but what had been tried successfully in other countries. What he wanted to see was a general rule whereby every one who came along might have the right to use all the water needed as long as it was for the beneficial use of the country, and that no one had given to them any special right to look up water power which they did not have.

Mr. Speaker again drew attention to the discussion being out of order. If the government wished to make an amendment well and good, but the discussion was plainly out of order.

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STRANDED AT OAK BAY

The Tug "Vancouver" Goes Ashore While En Route for Coal Cargo.

The "Eleanor" in the Market—"Topeka's" Rough Voyage—Sailors Convicted.

In attempting to avoid a strong ebb tide, the force of which all navigators realize in rounding Trial Island, and to cut short a circuitous passage, the tug Vancouver came to grief on a reef off Mary Todd Island yesterday morning and for the remainder of the day lay with her nose high out of water, defying all efforts to float her. She hereupon was bound for coal cargo, for which a crew of about thirty men were on board.

When off Oak Bay Captain Marchant believed he could get the tug closer to shore and taking advantage of a current which flowed alluringly through the passage in which the tug was stuck, he ordered the tug to be moved. The tug, however, was unable to return without accomplishing any good, as being too deep draught she was unable to approach near enough to the Vancouver to be towed. Later in the afternoon the tug was moved by the tug Constance and will, if the necessity demands, be on hand again this morning with wrecking apparatus. It is probable that the vessel will be towed in the locality this morning, as a telegram from the Mount Baker hotel last night stated the vessel's list was lost to view. This may mean that the agents, Messrs. Spratt & Macaulay, had been unable to get the vessel's list, and that the vessel had been towed to the wharf. The tug was towed to the wharf by the tug Constance and will, if the necessity demands, be on hand again this morning with wrecking apparatus. It is probable that the vessel will be towed in the locality this morning, as a telegram from the Mount Baker hotel last night stated the vessel's list was lost to view. This may mean that the agents, Messrs. Spratt & Macaulay, had been unable to get the vessel's list, and that the vessel had been towed to the wharf.

Mr. Kellie gave an exhibition of this tug's bitter personal attack upon records on matters of policy, which neglect in failing to prepare the necessary legislation. Col. Baker and Mr. Kellie's contention by showing that everything, which he complained had not been provided for, was already in the Statute book.

If the gentlemen of the opposition are not very careful they will get themselves into a most embarrassing position, but they will not be in a rather peculiar light before the voters next summer. It may be good fun to try and embarrass the government by making resolutions, but when these resolutions come to be put together in the form of a platform the result may be different.

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WATER RIGHTS.

To THE EDITOR:—Sir—Your contention in Tuesday morning's paper upon the subject of Water Rights is no doubt theoretically correct, at the same time it is possible that you may have overlooked some facts, in a new country such as this, where small towns are daily springing into existence, it is essential that there should be a supply of water and light. Very often this becomes necessary before these towns are incorporated, and even after, under the Municipalities Act, they may not be able to borrow the money necessary for the construction of works to give them a sufficient supply. In this case it is very important that private enterprises should be encouraged. Take, for instance, such places as Nelson, Trail, Kamloops and Rossland—none of these towns would have a supply of water if it had not been for the enterprise of private individuals, who have, without a charter, instituted a service. Now, you contend that in such cases, which you admit are necessary and advantageous, that it would be sufficient encouragement to investors to place their money in the construction of works that the cities should have the right to take over the plant at any time without paying anything further than the cost. You surely do not suppose a man of business, that anyone could be expected to invest his money in any venture which is so very speculative, with the expectation that he would have to recover his property at actual cost, and that in the event of his not doing so, he would be found to place his money in a place sufficiently large to support a water works? The city would lose his money; in other words, your contention is that people can be found to invest their money in the construction of waterworks for a town, and should the town not develop the investor should expect to lose his money, but in the event of its being a success he should be compelled to turn over his business at cost to the city. It must be evident that no sane person could be found to place his money in any enterprise of this kind. I think it only right that municipalities should be enabled to buy out any rights in water works, and that a company supplying water or light to a town, but I certainly think that the original inventor, who takes all the risks, should be allowed to recoup his purchasers, who only exercise their option to buy after his success is assured. Should legislation be conducted on the lines suggested by yourself and Mr. Cotton it will prevent any of the small towns which, as I have before stated, are daily springing into existence, being supplied with water and light.

F. S. BARNARD.

February 23, 1897.

WILD WINDS AND WAVES.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—All the Atlantic liners coming in to-day report exceptionally rough weather—the captains of the St. Paul and the Arctic agreeing that the storms passed through had no parallel in their experience. The Adriatic had an especially narrow escape from foundering in a gale on Wednesday when her cargo shifted and the engines became disarranged. This was the chief cause of a six days' struggle with the elements. The crew worked with desperate action. All available men were set to work carrying cargo. When it was nearly finished the machinery became unmanageable. The destiny of the vessel was shifted from the crew to the men of the chief engineer's department, and for six hours, during which time the Adriatic was hoisted, its fate hung in the balance. On Wednesday, while the sea was very making a mill race of the decks, the machinery was repaired and the vessel again shaped a course for this port.

NO COLONIAL CONFERENCE.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—The secretary of state for the colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, in the House of Commons today said that there is no question of holding an imperial conference to attend the Queen's diamond jubilee. But he explained that of course the government will take the opportunity of discussing any matters of common interest which any of them may desire.

A MISSION TO MENELIK.

LONDON, February 24.—It is announced that a British mission will shortly start for Abyssinia. Mr. James Rennell Rodd, C.M.G., being named as the leader of the expedition, and an autograph letter to King Menelik from Queen Victoria.

The mission to Abyssinia is planned for the purpose of establishing diplomatic relations with that country. Russia and France have already sent various missions aiming at obtaining influence in Abyssinia.

Emperor William is confined to his room by an illness on his right knee. He will probably be unable to leave the palace for some days.

Scott's Emulsion is Cod-liver Oil prepared as a food.

At the same time, it is a blood maker, a nerve tonic and an up-builder. But principally it is a food for tired and weak digestions; for those who are not getting their ordinary food; for children whom nothing seems to nourish; for all who are fat-starved and thin.

It is pleasant to take; at least, it is not unpleasant. Children like it and ask for more.

Some druggists have a "just as good" kind, but the kind all others try to equal good for you to buy.

A CLOT ON THE

Engineer McArthur's Death to Have Been Due Natural Causes.

A Blow on the Back Thought to Have Fatal.

The supposition that "It was the correct explanation of McArthur's death on John Saturday night was emphasized by the testimony at the coroner's inquiry yesterday of the details of a vessel based upon the untimely

The City Health Officer yesterday after the fact as to the finding of the body. He briefly explained of the post-mortem and stated that several bruises and the surface of the body, of a well-nourished man, were small bruises on the left side of the left arm, which had been caused by a fall, and a large bruise on the neck, just below the throat, which might have been caused by a blow, or by a fall. The organs of the thorax were healthy and showed the exception which showed a tendency to emphysema. The organs of the stomach were healthy and showed a tendency to emphysema. The organs of the stomach were healthy and showed a tendency to emphysema.

On opening the head, a clot of blood was found in the brain and also at the base of the brain, which was not a fatal condition. The coroner's jury returned a verdict that the death was due to natural causes.

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THE EDITOR:—Sir—Your contentment Tuesday morning's paper upon subject of Water Rights is no doubt... I have a supply of water and light... the city should have the right to take over the plant at any time...

A CLOT ON THE BRAIN.

Engineer McArthur's Death Proves to Have Been Due to Unnatural Causes.

A Blow on the Back of the Head Thought to Have Proved Fatal.

The supposition that "heart disease" was the correct explanation of Engineer McArthur's death on Johnson street last Saturday night was emphatically contradicted by the testimony of Dr. Fraser at the coroner's inquest yesterday...

The City Health Officer was the first witness examined by Coroner Crompton yesterday after the formal testimony as to the finding of the body had been received... He briefly explained the process of the post-mortem and stated that he had found several bruises and abrasions on the surface of the body...

No blows were struck in the bar-room; sounds as of a struggle or scuffle were heard proceeding from the card-room and McArthur is seen lying on the ground... Witnesses on Tuesday who were sitting in the card-room did not see the blow, but see this, and for the purpose of elucidating the facts in reference to this part of the case, the police have summoned as witnesses all of the dozen persons who were in the card-room of the Clarence hotel on the night in question...

ROYAL TEMPLARS.

At the Sir William Wallace hall last evening a dinner was given by the Royal Templars of Temperance to Mr. W. H. Buchanan, of Hamilton, Ontario, and the delegates who arrived by last night's steamer... The lecture was divided into five heads: Character and cost of traffic. Aneuridism and injury of the line.

COLONIAL CONFERENCE.

On Feb. 24.—The secretary of the colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, in the House of Commons today that there is no question of an imperial conference while colonial premiers are in the midst of a diamond jubilee... He expressed the opportunity of discussing matters of common interest which they may desire.

MISSION TO MENELIK.

On February 24.—It is announced that a British mission shortly start for Abyssinia, under the command of Mr. G. M. Cameron, C.M.G., being led by Mr. G. M. Cameron, C.M.G., and bearing an official letter to King Menelik from the British government... The mission to Abyssinia is planned for the purpose of establishing diplomatic relations with that country...

WATER RIGHTS.

Mr. William is confined to his bed by an abscess on his right knee. He probably is unable to leave the palace today.

Mr. Henley's find at Clover Point turns out to be valuable it will be the old story of a prophecy coming true after many days. It seems that eighteen or twenty years ago an old miner, potter and prospector, the name of which was not given, was at the site of the Clover Point mine...

DR. CHASE'S CATARRH CURE.

CURES cold in the head in ten minutes. CURES incipient catarrh in from one to three days. CURES chronic catarrh, hay fever and rose fever. Complete, with blower free.

DR. CHASE'S CATARRH CURE.

TEMPLARS IN SESSION.

FROM THE DAILY COLONIST, Feb. 23.

Affairs of the Order Shown to Be Flourishing by the Year's Reports.

Editor Buchanan of the "Templar" and His Modernized Fable Lecture.

The first session of the Grand Lodge of the Royal Templars opened in this city yesterday morning in the Sir William Wallace hall.

The report of the grand councillor was then presented, which reviewed the work of the several branches during the past year.

At the afternoon session appeals and grievances to the Grand Lodge were discussed, after which adjournment was made until 9:30 o'clock this morning.

There was a good attendance at the lecture in the Metropolitan Methodist church school room in the evening at which Rev. W. L. Clay was chairman.

The lecture was divided into five heads: Character and cost of traffic. Aneuridism and injury of the line.

Each head consisted of three fables with illustrations. The first fable in the second head was an excellent example of the entire lecture.

"The animals and beasts," said the lecturer, had formed themselves into a democracy, and a convention was called.

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HEARD IN THE HOTELS.

Wealth of the Kootenay Again The Subject of Enthusiastic Encounter.

Roseland's Ever Growing Population—An Opinion Aply Illustrated.

C. D. Rand, of Sandon, and H. G. Blackwell, of Spokane, came over from Vancouver last night.

Mr. Blackwell having just completed the purchase of a half interest in the Buffalo mine, on Four Mile, in the Slokan country, the deal having been put through by Mr. Rand.

Mr. Blackwell was formerly interested in the iron industry in the United States, but came West some months ago, attracted by the splendid opportunities offered by the mines in Kootenay, and since then has devoted himself to the Slokan country.

"It is the richest mining country I ever was in," he said, as he sat chatting in the Driad last night.

"You can feel the pulse of life throbbing right through it. It is simply wonderful to see the way they are digging money out of the ground."

Just imagine a vein three or four miles to three feet wide being worked, with ore running hundreds of dollars in value.

It was up through the Rio a few days ago, and he was being stopped out by a caution.

At the Slokan railway train the day we came up there were seven cars of ore, and all along the line were houses full of bursting waiting their turn to ship.

I suppose at least ten tons a day go out on this road alone. There are plenty of men with money there eager for a chance to invest and anything good does not have to go begging, for even if it is away up in the mountains, it is not so far from the coast.

There are men with money ready to climb the hills to get a sight of it and purchase."

Mr. Blackwell had something to say on the proposed company, and a somewhat novel way of illustrating his views.

He does not believe in the provision making it obligatory to put up 10 per cent of the capital before a company can operate.

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The Colonist.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1897.

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W. H. Ellis, Manager. A. G. Robinson, Secretary.

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More than one fortnight and not more than one month, 40 cents.

Not more than one week, 30 cents.

No advertisement under this classification inserted for less than \$2.50, and accepted other than for every-day insertion.

Theoretical advertisements, 10 cents per line each insertion.

Advertisements unaccompanied by specific instructions inserted till ordered out.

Advertisements discontinued before expiration of special period will be charged as if continued for full term.

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Births, Marriages and Deaths, \$1.00; funeral notices, 50 cents each.

Where cuts are inserted they must be accompanied by the original cut.

OUR CLAIMS ON THE DOMINION.

An article appeared in the Ottawa Citizen of the 16th inst., which calls for notice. It refers to the visit of Senator McInnes and his associates to ask for the construction of a railway from the Coast to Kootenay, and says that they "represent a movement which threatens danger to the Dominion."

It then tells us that the government is committed to the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass railroad, which will cost \$3,000,000 and "is to be built so that the Northwest territory may secure the supply of the trade of the twenty thousand miners and others in the south-east part of British Columbia," and it seems astonished that any one should ask a railway "to enable British Columbia to participate in the supplying of the Kootenay mining region."

Then it tells us that Mr. Foster four years ago, when prime minister, "informed parliament that the project of a railway from the Coast to Kootenay had about closed," and winds up its peroration by asking "Where do these British Columbia gentlemen imagine the money is to come from?" This sort of an article from a paper which was closely identified with Sir John Macdonald's policy of Canadian development discloses a reactionary tendency, that is, to say the least, a surprise. It will be noted that the Ottawa paper very frankly admits that the Crow's Nest Pass Railway is primarily, so far as trade matters are concerned, a work for the advantage of the Northwest Territories and Ontario, but this is as far as it goes. It is guilty of the phenomenal absurdity of supposing that any one will ask the Dominion government or that any government would ask parliament to spend \$3,000,000 to construct a railway for the sake of serving 20,000 people, who have already the Canadian Pacific on the north and the American railroads to the south, with a very excellent system of water communication between the different parts of the mining districts. If this were all there is to Southeast British Columbia every voice in this Province would be raised against the expenditure of \$3,000,000 on the Crow's Nest Pass or any other railway, and no man would have the hardihood to petition for aid for road from the Coast to Kootenay. In the first place the "twenty thousand miners and others" is a gross underestimate of the people whose trade the proposed road will secure to the Northwest and Ontario. In the two towns of Rossland and Trail there are half that many people already, and this is only one corner of Kootenay. Before the Crow's Nest Pass road can be built there will be more than 20,000 people in Rossland alone, and he would be a rash man who would attempt to limit the number of other progressive mining camps and towns, which by that time will count their population by thousands. The trade which the proposed road is intended to divert from American to Canadian sources of supply is not simply that of 20,000 people, but that of a community which by the time the road is ready to do business is likely to contain at the present rate of progress, more than 100,000 people.

But this is not the sole reason why the road ought to be built. A railway through the country from Lethbridge to, say, Grand Forks will open a mineralized country of remarkable promise, besides giving the smelters, now and to be erected in Kootenay, access to their complete success. This branch of the subject has been gone over time and again and the only surprise is that the Citizen has seen fit to ignore all that has been said about it.

The considerations above mentioned

place the request of the British Columbia delegation in a very different light from that in which the Ottawa paper regards it. We think that this is already very well understood by the ministers and it is hardly necessary to add anything further in regard to it. Yet it may be well to say for information of our contemporary and all others who take a similar view that a railway from the eastern border of British Columbia to the Coast along the general route favored by the delegation referred to would open up a district of very great value from a mining standpoint and of much importance agriculturally. We are not now advocating the construction of such a line by the Dominion government, but are simply protesting against a misrepresentation of the merits of such a project.

What Mr. Foster may have said or may not have said four years ago hardly counts very much of a figure now. He himself would be the first to repudiate the pretense that the course of the government in view of the great mining development which this Province has seen since he made the declaration referred to, should be governed by what appeared at that time politic. Mr. Foster has shown his faith in Kootenay in a practical way, and we do not believe that he will be found protesting in parliament against any well-considered plan for the opening of the country by railway.

"Where do these gentlemen from British Columbia think the money is coming from?" We will answer the question for the gentlemen from British Columbia. They do not expect it to come out of the pockets of the people of Ontario, or of Quebec, or of the Maritime Provinces, or of the Northwest. Let the Government of Canada promise the aid necessary to open British Columbia by railways, and this Province will repay the money into the treasury almost as rapidly as it is advanced. We are now paying to the federal revenue hundreds of thousands of dollars annually more than we are receiving. Open the Province with railways. Give capitalists a chance to get at our mines of precious metals; settlers a chance to occupy our fertile valleys and cattle-rangers to utilize our splendid pasture lands, and the excess of our contributions will be counted by millions annually. The Citizen seems to have outlived the "splendid audacity" of the great leader of its party, who, if he were alive to-day, would be the first to recognize the glorious possibilities of the Pacific Province.

CO-OPERATIVE BANKS.

Hon. Mr. Turner will, we hope, find some opportunity of further explaining the operation of farmers' banks so that what he says may be fully reported and sent broadcast over the Province. This is a good deal to ask of so busy a man as the premier, but his business faculty of getting at the pith of a matter and his concise way of expressing himself render it very desirable that he should do so. His remarks yesterday were listened to with the closest attention, and the house shared with him in the regret that the pressure of other matters prevented him from going more deeply into the subject. Mr. Turner is admirably equipped to deal with a matter of this nature, and his explanation of the working of these institutions in Europe will do more than any other single agency to direct attention to the provision in the Farmers' Institute bill for the formation of co-operative banks.

The remarkable results which have attended similar institutions in Europe furnish ground for hope that they may be equally successful here, although, as the Premier pointed out, the smaller population of this Province may militate against them in some measure. Mr. Turner referred to one objection that had been made to co-operative banking in this country—namely, that the standard of business morality is lower here than in Europe, but said that he did not believe the point was well taken. A more serious difficulty will be found in the comparatively unsettled character of the population. In Europe the people of a community belong to it in a sense that we cannot realize in this Western country, where people are gathered together from all the ends of the earth and are here to-day and away to-morrow, and are not tied to the land, so to speak. But even this can be overcome, although its existence will necessitate very much greater care and a closer supervision of these co-operative banks than may be necessary in Europe.

INCORPORATION OF NEW CITIES.

A bill was introduced by the Attorney-General yesterday to provide for the incorporation of Nelson, Rossland and Grand Forks. Nelson is to include Lot 96-Group 1 in the Kootenay district containing 372 acres. Rossland is to include Sections 24 and 25 and the north half of Sections 26 and 27 in Township IXa in Kootenay containing 1,920 acres. Grand Forks is to contain 1,067 acres, and is described at length by metres and bounds.

The qualification for Mayor is the ownership for three months previous to election of \$1,000 worth of real estate in the city or over and above encumbrance, or of a lease for at least a year of real property within the city worth \$2,000, and the other qualifications required for voters. The qualifications of Aldermen

are the same, except that the value of the realty or leasehold may be \$500 or \$1,000 respectively. That the city is divided into Wards, the Mayor and Aldermen shall be elected at large. Male British subjects, who are 21 years of age, have resided in the city three months previous to the election and are registered, may vote at the election. The cities are authorized to borrow money in 1897 for works of immediate necessity, the amount in the case of Rossland being fixed at \$50,000, those in the case of the other cities being left blank for the present.

No municipal taxes shall be levied on mines, mining plants or land covered by a mineral claim, but where the surface right on a mineral claim passes from the crown in fee simple it may be taxed as any other real estate, except when actually used for mining purposes. The Act also authorizes taxes to be levied in 1897 for a full year, confers the necessary powers in regard to licenses and brings the cities under the operation of the general municipal acts.

Provision is also made for the incorporation of other new towns and cities which may come into prominence during the present year. The Act is not a very long one, but it appears to cover all the important points. It will probably be passed expeditiously and be brought into operation at once, as the several towns named in it are very desirous of acting on its provisions at the earliest possible day.

The Calgary Herald congratulates the people of that vicinity on the cut in O. P. E. rates on freight to British Columbia. Hay can now be shipped into Kootenay at a fair profit. Oats will be exceedingly profitable under the new schedule. On pork, poultry, potatoes, butter and cheese and general farm produce the rate from Calgary to Rossland is 95 cents per 100 pounds in carload lots and \$1.20 on less than carload lots. The rate on grain, vegetables and millstuffs from Edmonton, McLeod and other points north and south of Calgary to Trail is 35 cents per 100 pounds. On pork, poultry, butter, eggs and produce of this class the rate from these points is \$1.30 on carload lots and \$1.55 on smaller lots. The Herald thinks these rates mean much to the farmers of Alberta.

There will be a Canadian section in connection with the Victorian Loan Exhibition to be held at the Crystal Palace, London, this year. In this section will be exhibited the products and resources of Canada, and Harrison Watson, who is in charge, says he has only a limited supply of suitable objects at his disposal. The articles are only to be loaned, and the lender will be at no expense. Mr. Watson, whose address is Imperial Institute, London, S. W., would like to hear from those who may feel like helping to make the exhibit a success.

Mr. BARNARD's letter in regard to water rights is based upon a misconception of what the Colonist said. The reference was not to the franchise for laying pipes or stringing wires for supplying a town with water, light or power; but to the water right itself. We expressly used the words "the water franchise itself," meaning thereby the right to take the water of the stream.

The New York Times has very little patience with the Senators who are opposing the arbitration treaty. It calls them "gory savages of the stone age," and says they are now "disgracing the country in the eyes of civilization."

There is nothing quite so bad in the way of a legislator as a fire-eating United States Senator.

The Vancouver World seems to have become reconciled to a postponement of aid from the Dominion to any railway in British Columbia except the Crow's Nest Pass. We are inclined to think that the last word has not yet been spoken on this question.

BRITISH COLUMBIA's contribution to the revenue is fifth among the provinces in amount, but is first among them per capita. It was over \$10 per head in 1896. New Brunswick's contribution was a shade over \$8 per head.

Pompadour Jim and Fitz are both doing hard work for the great battle on March 17. Fitz's backers are confident that he will secure the verdict, and say that if the Australian lands but once, it will be all over but the shouting. Julian left Carson for San Francisco last evening, but will return on Wednesday. Corbett is not quite so loud in his talk, but tells the crowd to wait until the arrival of Brady, and then they will see some fun. He denies Sharkey's statement that Sharkey had a letter in his possession from him that would stamp him as a "fakir." James Kelly, of New York, is said to have placed \$100,000 even on Fitz, while Corbett money is scarce.

OUT OF THE TOLLS. Physicians Failed—Cure—Ails Failed—But the Great South American Kidney Cure, a Specific Remedy for a Specific Trouble, Cured Mrs. A. E. Young of Barstow, N. Y. Quickly and Permanently. This is her testimony: "I was taken sick in January, 1895. I employed several of the best local physicians and was treated by them for kidney disease until the autumn of the same year without receiving any benefit. I then began using your South American Kidney Cure, and derived great benefit almost immediately. I feel now that I am now quite cured. I have taken no medicine for some length of time and have not had a return of the slightest symptom of the disease." Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co. If you once try our Little Liver Pills or our Little Kidney Pills, you will never be without them. They are purely vegetable, small and easy to take. Beware of cheap imitations.

Special Gold Medal and Diploma AWARDED.

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder, CALIFORNIA MIDWINTER INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION.



In singling out Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder from all its competitors, and bestowing upon it a special Gold Medal, the California Midwinter Fair concurred in the verdict given by the World's Fair jury, which awarded both medal and diploma to Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder, declaring it superior to every other brand.

The victories won by it at all the great fairs, and its wonderful growth in popular favor, due to its purity, uniformity, wholesomeness, keeping qualities and excellence, have confirmed and emphasized it as

"THE FOREMOST BAKING POWDER IN ALL THE WORLD."

INTO BRITISH HANDS.

The Celebrated "Silver Bow" Property Acquired by a London Syndicate.

Short Rations but Not Starvation on the Yukon—Rich Ground Discovered.

Yukoners and Alaskan residents to the number of fifty-five were aboard the mail steamship City of Topeka on her return from the North, Wednesday. She berthed at the ocean dock at one, staying a little over an hour in port during which time most of those aboard made the trip up town, only to return immediately, however, as not more than half a dozen remained here. The Yukoners, of whom there were only three, are the most recent arrivals from Circle City. They confirm the reports of the shortage of supplies at the several posts of the interior, but maintain that no fear of privation need be felt, for while there is no great abundance of provisions at any place none are so scantily supplied that suffering will ensue. A wise recommendation is that every man entering the Yukon this season should carry in every pound of provisions he can possibly take with him. Mr. Hewings, one of the latest returned party, reports having seen Mr. James Macaulay, of this city, at Clondyke. The latter had taken the first horse into Circle City that have ever reached there and was now reported to be doing well at Clondyke. Of the late mining news in the Far North brought by the Topeka, that of the sale by Lane and Hayward to Captain Williams, a representative of a London exploration company, of the Silver Bow property is the most interesting. In the mines a 30-stamp mill has been in service for some time. Mr. Duncan, the manager of the treadmill, is concerned in the deal and believes that there will be nothing to surpass the property in Alaska, lying as it does only three miles from Juneau. The amount of capital moving in the sale was \$500,000, and it is understood that the present owners intend expending considerable money in developing the mines. The Topeka reports that the grand jury was convened at Sitka on Tuesday last for the setting of the trial of Birch and Shell, the two Alaskan desperadoes in prison on several counts of murder. Deputy Marshal Hale, who was shot in the abdomen while attempting to recapture the escaping convicts, continues to improve in health, while Davis, another of the victims, has almost completely recovered from the effects of a bullet wound in the leg.

In a letter to Mr. Stephen Jones, of this city, Albert E. McKay, of the new city of Dawson, on the Yukon, gives many interesting details of mining progress in those far northern parts. "We are purely vegetable, small and easy to take," says Mr. McKay.

THE RETAIL MARKET.

Table listing various goods and their prices, including flour, sugar, and other commodities.

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THIRTY-NINTH SALISBURY'S PROPOSAL.

It is Understood British Announcement Will Be Approved by the Powers.

Greece Wants to Administer Similarly to Austria's Agreement of Bosnia.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—The next the Cretan game is anxiously awaited. According to news from the Marquis of Salisbury's settlement of the difficulties yet formally endorsed by the British would not have made the announcement on the subject did in the House of Lords on last, by reading telegraphic in sent to the ambassadors of Greece at the courts of the great powers, and that to prevent a situation of the revolution to the Turkish Empire, imper peace of Europe, a stop must be put to the Greek action.

It was observed throughout the negotiations that neither Great Britain nor Germany and Italy were mentioned, but Germany was mentioned, and it was reported that she had called upon the British to withdraw all troops from Crete, and was accompanied by a statement of the motives actually underlying the proposal. It was observed throughout the negotiations that neither Great Britain nor Germany and Italy were mentioned, but Germany was mentioned, and it was reported that she had called upon the British to withdraw all troops from Crete, and was accompanied by a statement of the motives actually underlying the proposal.

Finally, according to this statement from St. Petersburg, Greece is to be entered upon the Greek side of the question. It is believed, will be asked to resign Crete. After the Greek action will then, under protection of the British, be entered upon the Greek side of the question. It is believed, will be asked to resign Crete. After the Greek action will then, under protection of the British, be entered upon the Greek side of the question.

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